

2020 Term 3 Week 1

Newsletter

Contact Us

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Principal's Message

Welcome to Term 3! It was fantastic to see all our students and staff back to commence the new term. What a stark difference from the beginning of Term 2! We hope you all had a safe holiday period where hopefully you experienced a little bit of normality. It's always a happy time when students share their holiday moments with staff!

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a challenge for the entire community. At St Bernadette's our procedures to keep everyone safe and healthy remain unchanged. We are actively;

- encouraging good student and staff hygiene practices.
- restricting site access to limit the risk of an outbreak.
- encouraging parents to utilise the Kiss and Drop service as the primary means of dropping off and picking up children from school.
- encouraging all adults, staff and parents to maintain social distance protocols and to limit school access.
- displaying expectations throughout the school

We have maintained the provision of a cleaner every school day to sanitize all touch points on a regular basis. This is in addition to our normal school cleaning procedures.

These practices are all in place to help keep everyone safe and healthy. We thank all parents for their support in what is a challenging time. Special thanks to the parents who help with Kiss and Drop each morning and afternoon. Without your gift of time running these services would be extremely difficult.

Unfortunately at the end of Term 2 we had to make the tough decision to cancel;

- All off site excursions for all stages
- All sporting activities including carnivals and gala days

These were extremely hard decisions to make as we know they mean so much to the students and are a valuable part of our school culture. Unfortunately, the restrictions make these events extremely challenging to organise and run in a safe and cost effective way. Our primary concern is the health and safety of all students and staff. Most schools in the diocese have now taken similar steps. We understand the disappointment this has caused and as such Mrs Huntington is working with the Sports Captains on some alternative school based sporting activities that are safe to run.

Where We Learn and Grow Together

The Stage 3 camp is the only excursion that we have not cancelled. This is a unique opportunity for students in Stage 3 and we are waiting to see if this can still go a head. As it stands the operator of the camp is unable to commit. Cancelling this excursion may become a reality.

We had hoped to reopen the parent run school canteen this week. But, after many discussions it has been decided to postpone the opening for two weeks. This will give us the time and space to assess how the current resurgence in cases develops.

On a brighter note our playground reworks were officially finished this week with the installation of a rope balancing activity. This year has been a fantastic year in regards to improving the facilities at St Bernadette's. We have a new Adventure Playground, Breakout space, School garden and Library. These all add significant options for students at recess and lunch and throughout the school day. We look forward to the time when parents can see these spaces!

Over the holidays the student bathrooms in the Kindergarten learning spaces experienced a significant water leak that has damaged the carpet. As a result the students are working in the Library. Luckily the Library is brand new and waiting for increased student use. We are working with CEDP to resolve this issue and will keep parents informed.

The School Locker

Our new winter items have arrived! School gloves, beanies and scarves are now in stock. This consistent look will improve our winter school uniform. From 2021 these items will be the only acceptable gloves, beanies and scarves to be worn at school.

Items (except gloves) are embroidered with SBLP and are school colours.

The School Locker have added these items to their website for ordering.

Beanies \$10

Scarves \$12

Gloves \$4.95

Office Transformation

The school office has undergone a mini transformation with the addition of new cabinets and countertops. These complement the existing furniture. The office has lacked storage capacity for some time. This is the first time the office has been updated in over 20 years.

Staffing Announcement

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that Mr Crothers will be leaving St Bernadette's at the end of 2020. Mr Crothers has accepted a position as Head of Primary in a Brisbane Diocesan school.

Mr Crothers has been an integral part of the school Leadership Team and has worked diligently to reform school culture and build the capacity of all staff. Moving to Queensland has been a family goal for some time and we are all extremely happy that this is coming to fruition for Mr Crothers and his family. Mr Crothers will continue in his role of Assistant Principal for the remainder of 2020.

Mr Crothers is congratulated on his appointment and the brave decision to move states!

Have a great week.

Mr Phill Kapitanow Principal

Where We Learn and Grow Together

From Our RFC

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 3! We trust that everyone has had a restful break with your family and friends. Just a reminder from last terms note with regards to the New RE Curriculum.

As many of you may be aware, Religious Education in the Diocese of Parramatta has undergone much change in the last two years. Term 3 2020 marks the next step towards a new curriculum that will replace 'Sharing Our Story', the current curriculum that has been in place for over 20 years.

The process of developing a new approach, currently known as the Draft New Curriculum, has been a collaboration with students, parents, teachers, clergy and system leaders. This innovative and ambitious project has led to the development of Learning Cycles (one per term), that apply scripture and tradition in a meaningful way to the contemporary life of young people. This endeavour supports our students to grow in faith and understanding through prayer, reason and action in daily life.

In Term 3, using experiential learning through student inquiry, students in Stage 2 will engage with one Learning Cycle – 'Why do People sometimes do the wrong thing?' from the Draft New Curriculum. In preparation for the 2021 implementation, teachers are continuing to participate in extensive theological formation and professional learning.

This is an exciting opportunity for our faith community of St Bernadette's to further exclaim our commitment to empowering all our young people to discover a meaningful and flourishing life.

We look forward to sharing this journey with you throughout the term and will keep you updated about opportunities that will extend the learning experience further for students and their families.

Finally, a reminder to parents that Sacramental meetings and practice for Confirmation, Holy Communion and First Reconciliation will commence this term. For times and dates please refer to the school parent calendar on our website.

With Blessings,

Mrs Mabellynn Buenaventura

(REC)

Sports Days for Term 3 St Bernadette's Beanies, Scarves and Gloves are Early Stage 1 - Friday now on sale Stage 1 - Thursday through the Stage 2 - Friday **School Locker** Stage 3 - Wednesday website. SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES WHAT ARE YOU RISKING? **Bus Zone** No Stopping No Parking BUS \$330 \$183 \$330 Do not stop near 2 min to drop off Only a public a No Stopping sign or pick up, stay bus can stop in a within 3m of vehicle bus zone Help keep our children safe PENRITH CITY COUNCIL Blacktown City Counc 3

Where We Learn and Grow Together

Messages to all of our families from each Stage Group.

A Message From Early Stage 1

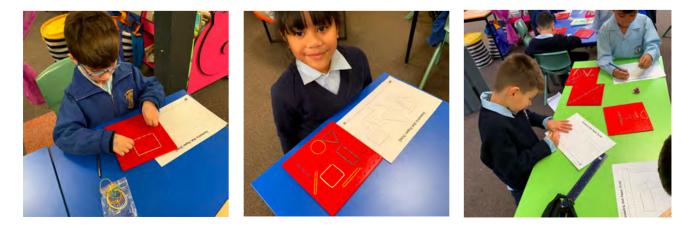
Welcome to Term 3 in Kindergarten. This week we have already been very busy with getting our learning underway! We have had a birthday party for Mrs Corrigan (History), a prayer circle and Scripture Meditation (Religion) and Kermit the Frog has been teaching us some music jargon! All of this plus reading, writing and Mathematics!

In Kindergarten we are looking forward to another term of learning and fun.



Message from Stage 1

Welcome to Term 3! We hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing holiday! It was great to see all the children come back to school, settled and ready to learn! This week in Maths, Stage 1 have been learning about 2D Shapes. They have been busy sorting and making a variety of 2D shapes using geoboards. Students have been working hard to come up with many solutions to sort their 2D shapes. It was also great to see the children be able to explain their thinking during reflection time.



Where We Learn and Grow Together

Message from Stage 2

Welcome back to Term 3!

The year is going by so quickly and we are officially halfway through. Although the year has presented many challenges and obstacles, they have also provided learning opportunities. Stage 2 has transitioned into using our online Google Classroom for homework now. We are hoping that it makes it more accessible for students and parents, as well as presenting it differently to engage the students. Students will still be receiving readers to take home and expected to be reading each night. These will need to be returned weekly.

Parents, we ask if your child still has readers at home from the remote learning period to be returned as soon as possible. Thank you to all that have done this already. We are looking forward to the term ahead and to continue observing the students grow and further develop their skills and knowledge. No matter what lies ahead, we are confident that we will be able to tackle it.



Stay safe,

Stage 2 Teachers.

Message from Stage 3

Welcome back to Term 3 Stage 3!

This term we have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned ahead!

In Religion, students will be exploring what some people might be thinking in times of crisis 'Why do bad things happen to good people?'

In Drama, we will be experimenting with puppets while answering the question 'What techniques can bring non-alive objects to life' In Geography, students will be thinking how we are connected worldwide while investigating 'What special connections does Australia have with other countries?'

Each week students will be completing tasks to help answer these questions. Stage 3 teachers

Schoo

Uniform Shop

The School Locker Uniform Shop is closed on site until further notice. You can still

visit the School Locker website and place on line orders. You have the option of having the order posted to you or collecting from the School Office. Uniforms can be returned as long as the packaging is in tact.

Thank you





St Bernadette's Facebook Page

Keep up with what's happening at school on the official School Facebook page.



Where We Learn and Grow Together

News From the Library

Premier's Reading Challenge 2020:

Congratulations to Arabella (ES1), Eva (Stage 2) and Zara and Ella (Stage 3) who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2020. Well done to these students!

Just a reminder that we have many books on the Premier's Reading Challenge booklist available to borrow in our school library. The Premier's Reading Challenge finishes on Friday 28th August, 2020.

Book Week 2020

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and to keep in line with the official Book Week being moved to Term 4, we have decided to move our Book Week celebrations to Term 4 as well. There will be more information about Book Week later in the term.

Thank you,

Mrs Monique O'Brien

Message from our School Counsellor

Before her move to Delany College, Mrs Kate Roberts (the previous school counsellor) committed her time and efforts in establishing a free breakfast for St Bernadette's students. By the end of Week 8 of Term 2, her mission was complete. With the help of food providers 'Hands & Feet', we're now able to provide our school with free fruit and bread for one day each week. The fruit is available to students throughout the day, while the loaves of bread are distributed directly to families at home time.

If you would like to request fruit or bread for your family, please contact me through the school office on 8869 6400.

Best wishes,

Emilie Cangy





Please note that as of this term students will be unable to bring glass or metal drink bottles to school. This is a safety issue and we would appreciate your assistance in complying with this request.

Student Banking

When restrictions ease at school and the Commonwealth Bank re-introduces student banking we will be looking for two



CommonwealthBank

parents to volunteer an hour or so on a Thursday morning to collate the banking. Please contact the school office if you may be interested. This has been advertised previously. If we are unable to get two volunteers to assist with this the school banking program will unfortunately cease.

Where We Learn and Grow Together

PBS4L

Welcome back to Term 3! Students have started the term positively and have been receiving lots of Blueys for being Safe, Respectful and Responsible learners.

This term the students will continue their class lessons with our Positive Behaviour Support for Learning Program (PBS4L). Our focus for the next fortnight is " **STOP, WALK, TALK**.

What is **STOP, WALK, TALK?**

It is a procedure to teach students how to stand up to behavior that they feel is offensive or not wanted. Ask them to:

Students will learn that at St Bernadette's, a good way to handle problem behaviour from others is using the **Stop Walk Talk** procedure:

Students ask them to **STOP**: Tell them to stop doing what they're doing and use the school's stop signal.

Then: **WALK** away from the problem behaviour.

If the behaviour doesn't stop: **TALK** to an adult.

What does **STOP, WALK, TALK** look like?

- Walking away calmly when the behaviour continues after you have said Stop
- Talking to the teacher on duty after you have said Stop and walked away but the behaviour is still happening
- Stopping as soon as someone says stop to you
- Changing the subject after someone has said stop to you.
- Explaining to the teacher calmly if you have had a problem
- Helping someone by doing "stand up" behaviour.

At the end of Term 2 Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3 celebrated receiving their class tokens.

We look forward to more celebrations in Term 3.

Stage 3 Pizza Party



Enrolling now for 2021 - You're welcome!

We're all about learning at St Bernadette's Primary School. We put safety first, and focus on



student wellbeing.

A reminder that places are still available for 2021 in Kindergarten. Please share this news with your friends, family and neighbours. For more information about joining our caring school community, please contact our school office on 8869 6400 or email us on the following link





Enrolment Enquiries

Where We Learn and Grow Together



St Bernadette's Garden

An end of term party in *Bluey's Patch* it was a fitting way to acknowledge and celebrate the role of the Term 1 and 2 *Environment Team* and their *Helpers!*

The students have done an amazing job on Crunch & Sip Buckets, weeding, harvesting, planting and watering and the new **Hose Support**

certainly makes watering easier ...*thanks Mr Fuller*! The **Team** has also shared their gardening knowledge

with other passionate students who are keen to learn the lessons which *Nature* teaches! Please note that photos from this week will be uploaded as soon as possible. Thank you





To be part of the learning and fun

make contact via: <u>claresgarden118@gmail.com</u> and visit <u>http://kitchengardensinschools.blogspot.com</u> or the school office on 8869 6400 or <u>stbernadetteslpark@parra.catholic.edu.au</u>

