



St Bernadette's Parish School, Lalor Park
18 Wheeler Street (PO Box 4161)
Lalor Park, NSW 2147
Phone: 8869 6400

Newsletter

Website: www.stbernadetteslalorpark.catholic.edu.au

2021 Term 1 Week 6

Principal's Welcome Message

Next week is Catholic Schools Week. This is a time when we celebrate the contribution Catholic schools have made and continue to make in the lives of children. The Catholic community celebrated its 200th year of continuous Catholic Education in Australia last year. In Lalor Park, St Bernadette's has been educating students for over sixty years. These are amazing accomplishments worth acknowledgment and celebration!

Next Tuesday we officially open enrolments for 2022. I encourage all our parents to invite members of your family or friends to come and see what St Bernadette's has to offer. Our enrolment evening will commence at 6pm and all prospective families are welcome. If you are enrolling your child for 2022 you are encouraged to do this immediately to ensure your child's enrolment.

Last Tuesday night both the Parent Executive and Parent Group Meetings were held. It was fantastic to see so many parents attend. I want to thank the parents who attended the meeting and acknowledge the Parent Executive for their additional work and time.

The Parent Group meeting provides parents with an opportunity to discuss and bring forward any issues or concerns. From this discussion changes in what we do can occur. This is not to say that we take on every suggestion. Our aim is to always ensure what we do is sustainable and in the best interest of what we are trying to achieve at St Bernadette's.

The following parent suggestions have been discussed with changes implemented immediately;

- Student lunch tubs used to store infant students' lunch boxes will now go inside learning spaces after recess and lunch boxes will return to student bags after lunch. This will protect student food from the weather between the two break periods.
- Staff have discussed Crunch and Sip and the importance of ensuring this takes place daily. Every effort will be made to ensure this happens, however on occasion due to extenuating circumstances this program may be missed. This should be limited to one off.
- As a staff we discussed staff wearing hats whilst on playground duty. Whilst wearing hats is not compulsory for staff we have increased awareness for staff.
- 2nd hand uniform sale has been organised

There were some other issues that were raised that we will continue to work through.

This term it has become apparent that parents are using Facebook as a means of communicating about issues at school. The various Facebook pages that are being used are not endorsed by the school as a means of raising issues or ideas. No staff member has access to these pages. Often we are unaware of issues that are being discussed. If they were discussed with school they would have been resolved quicker with less anxiety for the broader community. I would ask that parents consider what they post on social media and the impact it has on your school. We are working hard to ensure the broader community understands that St Bernadette's is a great school with a GREAT story to tell. We are not perfect, but we do listen and where appropriate we do respond.

Kiss And Drop

We thank parents for continuing to demonstrate a high regard for the rules and expectations of Kiss and Drop. It is credit to all parents that such a dramatic improvement has been made.

A few reminders;

- Please do not do U turns in Gardenia Grove. This is a dangerous practise for other drivers and pedestrians who are not expecting this maneuver. Please use the cul de sac to turn around.
- In the morning drop off drivers are asked to wait to drop off students when at the appropriate gate. Letting children out whilst in the line is unexpected by those in the line and local traffic.

Once again thank you for your ongoing support in making our community safe for all!

Student Birthdays

We are very pleased to announce that we are returning to our normal expectations for celebrating student birthdays. This means that families can send in cupcakes which will be shared with the class. Our staff will adhere to COVID hygiene guidelines when handing cakes out. Cakes should remain in their bought packaging. Some parents may choose to give out lolly bags. This is fine as long as all contents are individually wrapped. We are sure the children will love this change which will remain in place unless COVID restrictions change.

Cross Country

Next Wednesday we will be holding our School Cross Country. As this event is technically offsite we have completed a mandatory COVID safety plan. The following elements are essential for all parents or family members who attend.

- All spectators must remain in one of the designated spectator areas. There will be one area at the start / finish line for Cross Country and another to watch infants activities. Spectators cannot leave these areas until the students have returned to the school.

All spectators must;

- Sign in.
- Use sanitiser
- Adhere to social distancing regulations being 1.5 meters apart whilst in the designated areas.
- All spectators must leave the area once the event concludes.

We have tried our best to ensure this event continues for our students with parents in attendance. We hope everyone enjoys our first event that parents can attend in over a year and understands and complies with restrictions and directions.

School Improvements

This Friday work will commence on installing thirty two solar panels on the Stage 2 and library roof. This work will be completed during the day and is not expected to affect students.

In the following weeks all of the school's lighting will progressively be replaced with new LED lighting. This work will be carried out overnight and is not expected to affect students. It is anticipated that this will improve lighting throughout the school.

Both projects will help to reduce the school's energy consumption and return income to the school for alternate expenditure.

Have a great week

Phill Kapitanow, Principal

Numeracy with Mrs Buenaventura

Dear Parents, guardians and caretakers,

Welcome to week 6! Last Sunday my husband and myself took my son Ethan to the zoo and when we were making a purchase, I realised how we hardly use real money with the ease of tap and go! This made me reflect on how we could expose Ethan to using and exchanging money in our daily life to develop this life skill that consolidates whole number counting concepts in different forms.

This weekend why not try to have money on hand for your children to use when making a purchase. Exploring the various money combinations to make one dollar or higher values is a great opportunity to explore money.



Have a great week everyone.

With blessings,

Mrs Mabellynn Buenaventura



Teaching Money helps children become more familiar with money, recognising coins and notes, paying for objects, coins and notes of equal value and giving change.

Mrs Meg Stone - Religious Education Co-Ordinator

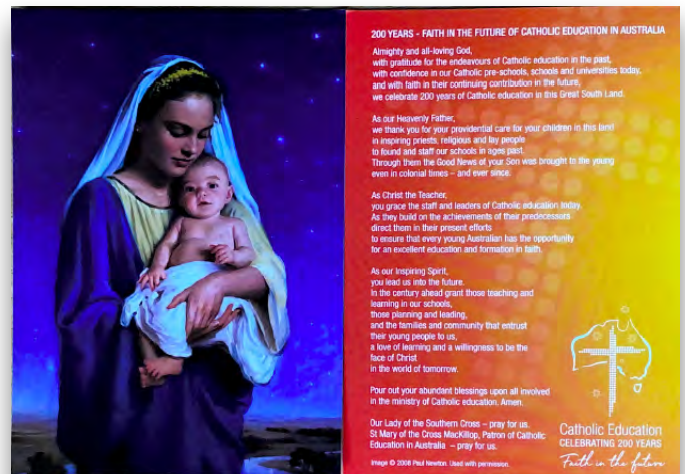
WELCOME TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

As we prepare for Catholic Schools Week beginning on Monday 8th March we are reminded that this week is a special time of the year where we can celebrate and give thanks for Catholic Education.

Throughout 2021 we will continue our celebration of 200 years of Catholic Education. In the spirit of this, each student will receive a prayer card that recognises 200 Years of Catholic Education in Australia.

On Thursday, 11th March we will be participating in a liturgy to recognise the innovative learning and teaching that continues to take place in our school and the rest of the Diocese. We will share photos and videos of this and other activities that the students will be involved in across the week.

With Blessings, Mrs Meg Stone REC



St Bernadette's Official Facebook Page



Contact Us



St Bernadette's Canteen



St Bernadette's Parent



St Bernadette's School



School Photo Gallery

ST BERNADETTE'S

Where We Learn and Grow Together

Dates For Your Diary

MARCH

- 7-14th Catholic Schools Week
- 9th Enrolment Information Evening
6pm - 7pm in our Library for any new families
- 10th School Cross Country
- 17th School Fees Due
- 18th Harmony Day
2nd Hand Uniform Sale in the school office
- 29th Gymnastics for all students - make up lesson Sports uniform to be worn (Monday)
- 31st Last day for Canteen



APRIL

- 1st Easter Egg raffle drawn
Last day for Term 1
- 2nd Good Friday
- 4th Easter Sunday
- 19th **Staff Development Day** - No School on this day
- 20th Term 2 starts for student - winter uniform to be worn



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MONDAY 19TH APRIL

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS ON
THIS DAY**

~

**TERM 2 COMMENCES ON
TUESDAY 20TH APRIL**

News Items from all of our Teaching Groups

Leading up to the newsletter each fortnight we will be uploading news items to our website. These news items will showcase work from all of our class stage groups, Literacy, Numeracy, Sport and Health, Science, Creative Arts, Library, Bluey's Patch and Let's Cook and Create. Click on the link below to be taken to our website where you can view all of these news items and see lots of photos in our galleries. **Handy Hint:** Press your back arrow ← to come back to the newsletter



View our News items



Dance Fever make up day for gymnastics is Monday Week 10. That is Monday 29th March.

Students will need to wear their sports uniform on this day.

Thank you



Notice: Families are now permitted to send in cupcakes and similar items for student birthdays. All items must be individual as we cannot permit cakes to be cut in the classroom.

Thank you



Thursday 18th March

9am - 3.15pm

All items \$5 each

EFTPOS only

No cash accepted

PBS4L - Positive Behaviour Support for Learning

PBS4L is a whole school framework that helps us create a positive learning environment for all students at St Bernadette's.

The students have been very busy earning lots of Bluey cards for being SAFE, RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, LEARNERS.

At St Bernadette's, we also have other ways to acknowledge and reward students for their positive behaviour.

CLASS TOKENS

The Class/Stage tokens are a reward system that are earned by the whole class/stage when the whole group has demonstrated safe, respectful, responsible or learner behaviours. Students work together to earn a pre-designated amount of class tokens and these are collected in a box within the stage space. Class tokens can be handed out by all staff members. When the class earns the required amount (to be determined by the classroom teacher) they participate in a chosen reward (E.g. extra sport, extra playtime, movie afternoon, pizza party)

EXCELLENCE AWARDS

As part of our PBS4L framework, two Excellence Awards will be given out by the class teachers each week. One award will be a Learning Award (Learner Excellence) and the other will be a Values Award (Social Excellence).



These awards will be tallied from the time each student is in Kindergarten to when they leave in Year 6.

5 x Excellence Awards = Bronze Pin

5 x Excellence Awards = Silver Awards

5 x Excellence Awards = Gold Awards

This term, pins will be awarded at our whole school assembly in Week 6 and Week 10.

Once children have received fifteen Excellence Awards, they will restart the count and can work towards gaining additional pins.

Our aim is to produce positive outcomes for both the students and teachers by creating positive learning environments that make St Bernadette's an even better place to learn.

We encourage you to talk to your children about what they are learning and how they will behave while at school.

MON TUE WED THU FRI

every learner every day ✓

ABSENCES ADD UP!

FEBRUARY 2 DAYS A MONTH = NOVEMBER 4 WEEKS A YEAR = MISSING MORE THAN 1 YEAR OF LEARNING IN 12 YEARS

DID YOU KNOW

1 IN 6 PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

- ✓ **BE FIRM.** Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
- ✓ Develop good sleep and morning routines
- ✓ Schedule appointments after school
- ✓ Avoid taking holidays during term time

EACH DAY MISSED:

- ▶ Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- ▶ Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- ▶ Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY

Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life

SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP

If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.



A reminder to all families to bring in an easter egg for our easter egg raffle to be drawn on the last day of Term 1.

If you have any baskets at home that you do not need please sent them in to school. Raffle tickets have been sent home. If you need any more please call in to the school office to collect some.



St Bernadette's Cross Country

Wednesday 10th March 2021

Cavanagh Reserve, Northcott Rd (Grassed area behind school - near Tennis courts)

Time: 9.30am - 11.00am



Participants: All students

Uniform: Full sports uniform, school hat and sunscreen -

appropriate footwear to be worn, spiked footwear is not permitted

students are required to bring a water bottle

All parents / carers are to go to the oval to sign in at the designated viewing area.



Whether your child calls it Handball, Downball or 4-Square – it's the game that they all know and love.

Handball, also known as Downball and 4-Square, is every child's favourite sport. The sound of every recess and lunchtime bell signifies another opportunity to compete with friends.

We wanted to give children a chance to prove themselves on the big stage - so we are excited to introduce the Handball Championships.

For more information visit
www.campaaustralia.com.au/handball

Register for
Handball now
through your
Parent Portal

Key Dates

8 - 19
March

Official Practice in After School Care
at Your OSHC

22 - 26
March

Service Championships in After School
Care at Your OSHC

School
Holidays

Rocketeers Championships
*More information on our website

2
May

Regional Championships

A message from your Coordinator

We are so excited about our Handball Championships. We have some excellent Handballers at our service, I am sure that one of the children could win. With lots of prizes on offer don't miss out... Is your child the King or Queen of the Handball Courts? Sign up now and your child could become the Regional Champion. Certificates and prizes will be given out to the children who show the most improvement and good sportsmanship etc.

It's free to register with Camp Australia

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campaaustralia.com.au or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.



Prizes

Total prize pool of \$12,000 split
across all Regional Champions.

Plus, each Your OSHC and
Rocketeers Service Champion
wins a Trophy!



Visit www.campaaustralia.com.au/handball for more information

Open Evening
TUESDAY 9 March

All welcome
Commencing at 6:00pm - 7:00pm

St Bernadette's
Primary School
LALOR PARK

WHERE WE LEARN & GROW



Did you know

1 in 6 primary students are not
attending school regularly.
Schools are here to help.

If you are having attendance issues
with your child please contact us so
we can support you to address them.

every learner
every day 



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta



St Andrews College

is about doing more and going beyond

OPEN DAY – Tuesday 9 March

St Andrews College is offering parents and students the opportunity to tour the Junior Campus for parents and students of Year 5 and 6 2022.

Please visit the College Website to book a Tour time

For further details phone 9626 4000

www.standrewscmarayong.catholic.edu.au

Junior Campus Tour Times:

9.00am, 9.45am, 11.05am, 11.45am, 1:15pm and 2.00pm

Junior Campus Years 7 to 10 116 Quakers Road Marayong

Senior Campus Years 11 and 12 50 Breakfast Road Marayong



COLLEGE OPEN EVENING

MONDAY 1 MARCH 4.00PM - 8.00PM
WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH 4.00PM - 8.00PM

Online Bookings Essential
Book Here - www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Booking Code: 9c8cq

Enquiries to College Office on 8811 0300

100 FLUSHCOMBE ROAD, BLACKTOWN



SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES WHAT ARE YOU RISKING?



No Stopping

Do not stop near a No Stopping sign.



No Parking

2 min to drop off or pick up, stay within 3m of vehicle.



Bus Zone

Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone.



Help keep our children safe

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

Blacktown City Council

ST BERNADETTE'S

Where We Learn and Grow Together

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park

Parish Priest:	Fr Andrew Robinson	Secretary:	Mrs Bev Baxter
Office Hours:	Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am to 4pm	Telephone:	9672 4037
Email:	admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au	Fax:	9671 5377
Web Page:	www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au		

Mass Times at St Bernadette's Parish

Mass: Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sun 8:30am & 10:00am

Children's Church - Sat 6pm; Sun 10am except school holidays and at First Communion times.
Blessings at all Masses for children.

Youth Mass at 6pm Vigil Mass on 4th Saturday of the month.

Weekday Masses: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 8.45am

Wednesday 7pm Exposition, Devotions to Mary Immaculate and St Bernadette. Mass at 7:30pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 8:15am-8:45am

Saturday 9.30am to 10.30am and 4.30pm – 5.30pm. First Saturday of the Month 8:30am

Reconciliation: Saturday 9.30am – 10.30am & 4.30pm – 5.30pm

NB: No reconciliation in the morning on the First Saturday of the month

MASS INTENTIONS. Fr Andrew welcomes requests for Masses for the living and the dead. To celebrate the Eucharist for a particular intention of yours is a privilege for me and a special blessing for those the Mass is offered. There are Mass Intention envelopes available at the back of the church. They can be given to Fr Andrew or placed in the collection basket at Mass.

WAYS TO PRAY DURING LENT - What do we do when we're facing an upcoming big event, celebration, or special occasion in our lives? We prepare for it. Holy Week and Easter are big events in the liturgical year of the Church and in the spiritual life of a Christian. So, as Christians, we prepare spiritually for these through the 40 days of Lent. This means that, during Lent, we rededicate ourselves to prayer. There are as many ways to pray as there are prayers in this world, but a few prayer methods can help us in particular to spiritually prepare ourselves during Lent.

Make your abstinence a prayer-in-action

As Catholics we are called to give up something for Lent. Chocolate, coffee, that extra helping of dinner, one less hour of video games or watching DVDs - whatever it is, you can make what you're giving up for Lent a prayer as well: a prayer-in-action. Whenever you encounter the thing you are abstaining from or the time of day that you would normally enjoy it, take a moment to say a prayer in recognition of your wholeness in God even without the thing you have given up. Thank God for the freedom to be wholly yourself without this and, at the same time, acknowledge the gift of its existence in the world.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS DURING LENT - Another opportunity to come together as a faith community for Eucharist, Devotions to Mary Immaculate and St Bernadette, Stations of the Cross and Adoration of Blessed Sacrament during Lent.

Wed	10 March	(Fr Andrew on 1- week holiday break)
		No Devotions/Stations/Mass
Wed	17 March	Devotions and Adoration at 7.00pm
		Mass at 7.30pm
Wed	24 March	Devotions & Adoration at 7.00pm
		Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm
Wed	31 March	Chrism Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral at 7.30pm
		Parishioners welcome to attend