



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

Term 4 Week 10 Newsletter

Principal's Message

The term is almost over and what a term it has been! At the beginning of the year we were all so hopeful that 2021 would be a better year. We hoped that the worst of COVID was behind us, but 2021 had other plans. 2021 has been a greater challenge, but we have made our way through and believe it or not we are all stronger for it!

The journey wasn't easy and some of us are still in the midst of it, but somehow we have all found a way to keep going forward with hope that better times will come. As the holiday season approaches I pray that each one of you will experience that hope and you will all take the time to enjoy life and create some memories together with family and friends.

I want to take this last opportunity to thank everyone for their efforts this past year. Together we have done amazing things and everyone should be proud of our community.

Farewell Father Andrew

Last week the Leadership Team met with Father John Paul, our new Parish Administrator for 2022. Father John Paul will step into Father Andrew's shoes as he enters retirement after nineteen years of service to the St Bernadette's community.

We will celebrate Father Andrew's tenure as Parish Priest this Friday with a school liturgy followed by lunch. This will be a time when we reflect on Father Andrew's contribution to our community as our spiritual leader. On behalf of the school we wish Father Andrew a well deserved rest as steps back from the responsibilities of running a parish and we thank him for being such a strong advocate for the school during his time as Parish Priest.

Staffing

This week will see some mixed emotions as we farewell staff and students. For our year six students this coming week will be the last of seven years of primary education. They will start 2022 beginning a new journey into secondary school. As a school community we wish them well in this new journey and we thank them and their families for their contributions to our school community.

This week we farewell a significant number of staff, Mrs Carruthers, Ms Ninness, Mrs Maher, Ms Barrak and Ms Matthews. Throughout 2021 we have also farewelled Mrs Galea, Mrs Park and Mrs Fairhurst. Additionally Mrs Buenaventura, Mrs Ellard and Mrs Corrigan have begun maternity leave. We wish all these staff members the very best of luck as they continue their journey in other places and in different capacities. They are thanked for their amazing contribution to our school community. They worked over many years to build the consistent practises across the school which will see St Bernadette's continue to be the GREAT school that it is!

In 2022 we welcome many new staff members to St Bernadette's. This week they completed an induction day onsite to prepare them for the year ahead. They come from a mix of different schools with different experiences. Each and everyone of our new staff are excited to be part of the St Bernadette's family next year.

2022 Classes

This year we have used a new program called Class Solver to help us make class lists. Put simply, Class Solver has allowed us to input lots of data about each student to form classes that are equally balanced in regards to social, emotional and academic abilities.

The staff enter data including friendship information, learning data and social / emotional needs. Staff then input

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information regarding students who should be paired or separated from each other and finally school Leadership members enter information that matches specific students to specific teachers. When all the data is entered into the program we push the solver button and the program forms classes that ensure every student has a friend and importantly every class is equally balanced in regards to needs and associated supports.

We are in the process of finalising this process and plan to share specific student class placement for 2022 tomorrow. Staffing has been finalised and we are in a position to announce staff positions for 2022.

Leadership Team

Principal - Mr Kapitanow

Assistant Principal - Mr Galea

Religious Education Coordinator - Mrs Stone

Leader of Learning (Primary) - Mrs Ruff

Leader of Learning (Infants) - Ms Stapley

Special Projects - Mrs Maloney

Sports Organisers - Mrs Graham and Mrs Brothers

Class Teachers

Kinder - Ms Atachparian (ES1B) and Ms Dennis (ES1G)

Stage 1 - Mrs Stone (S1B), Ms Saguid (S1G) and Mrs Graham Chubb (S1W)

Stage 2 - Mrs Costaganna / Mrs Mogan (S2G), Mrs Brothers (S2W), Mr Tran (S2B)

Stage 3 - Mrs Maloney (S3B), Mrs Santos (S3G), Ms Savva (S3W)

Support Staff

Diversity - Mrs O'Brien

Diversity - Touri Bjornsson

Librarian - Mrs Graham

Science / Indigenous Immersion - Mrs Graham, Ms Cordell, Mrs Barny

Teacher Aides - Mrs Topalovic, Mrs Pollard, Ms Grech, Ms Szytko, Mrs Sammut, Ms Fearon, Mrs Sorani

Office Staff - Mrs Mizzi, Mrs Ursino, Mrs Procter

Maintenance - Mr Fuller

2022 School Captains

Congratulations to our 2022 School Captains, Pearl and Cillian. Both were elected by their peers and the staff in a process that gives all 2022 year six students the opportunity to be elected. I know they will both represent our school with pride and passion.

On behalf of all the staff I want to wish all our families a safe and happy Christmas break. I pray that you all experience the gift of hope and joy this Christmas season and that you all take the time to connect with your faith and remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Mr Phill Kapitanow

Principal



Assistant Principal Message

Thank You

I would like to thank the students, staff, parents and parish for the warm welcome I have received since beginning my role at St Bernadette's just a few weeks ago. When visiting the students' classrooms I have noticed a lot of hard thinking and solution finding as well as many rich learning discussions. The students here are respectful and treat each other with kindness. I feel honoured to be able to serve this wonderful, faith filled learning community.



Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI)

This week, parents were sent an email to book a time for the students to complete an MAI at the beginning of 2022. The MAI is an intensive 1 to 1 interview which helps teachers gain a deep understanding of their students' needs in Mathematics. The MAI assesses the students knowledge and growth in the areas of Counting, Place Value, Addition and Subtraction and Multiplication and Division. We plan to complete the majority of these assessments on Monday 31st January.

Farewell to Year 6

There are always mixed feelings when farewelling the Year 6 students at the end of each year. On the one hand we know we will miss these fine young people who have learnt and grown together, most of whom joined this community as Kindergarten students back in 2015. On the other hand we are excited as these students begin the next chapter of their young lives. We hope and pray that you continue to share the values you have learnt here at St Bernadette's and wish you all the very best in your future endeavours.

Merry Christmas

Over the Christmas period I hope you are able to share some time, and make lasting memories with the people you love. The Christmas season is a time to relax and refresh and prepare for the new year which awaits us. I would like to wish all of our students and families a very merry and holy Christmas.

Mr Mark Galea

Acting Assistant Principal



Uniform Shop - 2022

The School Locker has informed the school that the onsite uniform shop will open for uniform purchases on the following dates.

Thursday 27th January - 8:30am - 11:30am

Friday 28th January - 8:30am - 11:30am

Normal trading to resume - Wednesday 2nd February - 8:30am - 10:30am

Key Information;

Uniform shop will reopen for bookings only during normal trading hours

1 customer per booking (1 customer is defined as 1 student under 16 years with 1 adult guardian or 1 student 16 years & over or 1 adult)

Only 1 customer will be allowed in the shop at the one time, all other customers will need to wait outside

All customers will need to book an appointment (unless they are picking up an online order)

All customers are required to check in, using our store QR code AND the school QR code

All customers over 16 years are required to show proof of vaccination

All customers over 12 years are required to wear a mask inside the shop

Families can make a booking using the QR code or website link. Families can also make purchases for pickup at school or delivery using the School Locker website.



Literacy with Mrs Maher

As our school year draws to a close, I would like to thank all of you for the support you have given your children over what has been a very challenging year. Many times parents are told that they are their child's first teacher, this year however, you were called upon to be your child's everyday teacher again, with the work of our very dedicated teachers.

The students at St Bernadette's have worked hard this year and have made some very pleasing gains with their Literacy learning considering the length of this year's remote learning.

The long summer break is drawing near and whilst it is important for students to have a rest and enjoy their holiday time, there are fun things to do to keep their Literacy Learning ongoing.

Using the soundwaves phonics program over the holidays to play games and review the graphemes and phonemes covered over the year is a great way to keep the spelling learning ongoing, so that skills and concepts aren't forgotten.

Reading recipes and cooking with your children is a fun way to read for a purpose and put math concepts into practice in a real life situation. Cooking together is loads of fun too!! Visiting the local library is free for story times and borrowing a wide range of texts. It's an excursion out of the house too!

Encouraging your children to write letters to relatives and friends is a great way to write for a purpose and loads of fun and excitement when there is a letter in the mail for your child. This could involve a trip to the post office. Writing shopping lists together, visiting museums, going to the movies, plays, beaches, lakes, parks all contribute to giving children real life fun experiences that they can draw upon when reading and writing.

Summer reading is very important to prevent learning loss over the break. Reading just five books over the break can help prevent summer reading loss and contributes to improving student's vocabulary, sentence structure and love of reading. Books for Christmas presents can help encourage a love of reading with some great books on sale at the moment. The PM online book subscription will still be available to all students in Kindergarten to Year 2 and select students from across the school. Students in Years 3 to Year 6 have online reading options that they can access over the summer.

As this is my last Newsletter article for St Bernadette's, I would like to thank all of you for your support over the last eight years. It has been an honour to teach your children and work in partnership with you. It is with a heavy heart that I leave this beautiful community for my new journey at Santa Sophia College Box Hill, however I have many treasured memories to take with me.

God bless you all and I wish you a most blessed Christmas spent with family and friends.

Lorraine Maher

Literacy and Diversity Leader



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RE with Mrs Stone

Dear Parents, Guardians, Caregivers and friends,



There is so much to be grateful for and this year has highlighted for me the wonder and joy of family, friends and community. 2021 has presented us with many challenges but it has also shown us that together we can achieve amazing things and so I thank each and every one of you for welcoming me so warmly into the incredible St Bernadette's community.



Next week our school community will farewell our Year Six students. These students will take with them cherished memories of their years here at St Bernadette's and build on these as they start a new journey of learning at high school. We pray that each of our students and families continue to be blessed with God's love and grace.

A special thank you to the Parish Sacramental team for guiding our families and students throughout the

Sacramental programs this year. To Father Andrew who has always shared his spiritual guidance and endless support with us all - we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Our students are truly blessed to witness Christ through your celebrations and presence at school. We wish you every happiness and joy as you begin the next chapter of your life, you will always have a special place in our hearts and school community.



Finally, I wish everyone a joyful Christmas as we remember that Jesus truly is the reason for this season.

Merry Christmas to all our wonderful families and students and thank you so much for your love and support.

I look forward to 2022.

With love and blessings, Mrs Meg Stone REC

SEMESTER TWO REPORTS

Semester Two Reports are now available via the Parent Compass Portal this week.



As previously communicated Semester Two Reports are considerably different to previous progress reports. The reports will contain comments and traits, but there will be no grades.

If you wish to meet with a teacher to discuss your child/s report please contact the school office to arrange a suitable time for a phone call discussion.

Receipting in the office

Please be advised that the office will accept no further payments for 2021 after Friday 10th December.

Thank you

Student Requirement Lists for 2022

Student Requirement Lists for 2022 will be emailed out to families next week.

These will also be uploaded to our website should you need to access them over the holidays.

Library News with Mrs O'Brien



Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all the families that supported our Book Fair by purchasing books and donating books to our school. It was a great success! St Bernadette's earned a commission on the amount of books sold which will go towards purchasing new library books, literacy sets and school resources next year.

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

Please see the attached Flyer for information about the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge. **Entries open on 1 November 2021 and close at 5:00pm on 25 February 2022.** There are some great prizes to win. More information about how to enter this challenge can be found at <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/2021EDSRC>

Overdue Library Books

Please ensure that all library books are returned by the last day of school. This particularly applies to Year 6 students, who may not be able to borrow books from their High School library if they still have overdue books from their Primary School. Books can be sent back to the library or returned to the school office.

Thank you,

Monique O'Brien (Teacher Librarian)





COME AND PLAY WITH EAGLES!

FUN, FAMILY-FRIENDLY,
ALL-INCLUSIVE FOR BOYS,
GIRLS AND ADULTS OF ALL
ABILITIES


Find out more




This season competition will commence 29th January 2022 and run for 10 weeks
All new players up to the age of 12 receive a glove and ball!
Fees include uniform hire up to a 15yo


Get in touch today!

Contact details:


 infoeaglessoftballclub@gmail.com

 0422 665 336

Visit us on:

 facebook.com/eaglessoftballclub

 eagles.softball.org.au

 [eaglessoftballclub76](https://www.instagram.com/eaglessoftballclub76)

**Your
OSHC.**

Bookings are now open for 2022

What is OSHC and why is it right for your family?

OSHC stands for Outside School Hours Care. OSHC provides enrichment and care for primary school-age children outside school hours.



Showcase experiences

Featured activities that engage children and help them grow.



Dedicated zones

Every session offers children the choice between diverse experiences.



Experienced educators

Our educators are passionate about inspiring children and helping them grow.



Hassle free

Conveniently located with extended operating hours industry leading Parent Portal app.

What's coming up in 2022 in Your OSHC?



The BIG Art & Expression Competition returns in 2022, giving all children the chance to showcase their creative expression.



Back by popular demand, the Handball Championships are coming back to services next year. Get ready to bounce!

FREE to Register

Once registered, you'll be able to easily make and manage your bookings online via our [Parent Portal](#).

CCS available

The Child Care Subsidy can provide up to 85% off your fees. If you're unsure about your eligibility contact Centrelink on 13 61 50.

Book from your smartphone

Download the Parent Portal app on [iOS](#) or [Android](#) to make and manage bookings with ease.

Visit our blog

New [articles](#) are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.



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Summer
READING
Challenge

WIN A \$500 GIFT VOUCHER!

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of two **\$500 JB Hi-Fi vouchers** or one of thirty **gift vouchers valued at \$30** each.

THE MORE BOOKS YOU READ, THE MORE CHANCES YOU HAVE TO WIN.

Enter online
www.parra.catholic.edu.au.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Competition opens on 1 November 2021 and closes at 5pm on 25 February 2022. Terms and Conditions apply.

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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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Preparation for Christmas)

NO SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION DURING ADVENT

1st Rite only - Saturday, 18 December

From 9.30am—10.30am and 4.30pm—5.30pm during Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday, 21 December, Thursday, 23 December

From 9.30am - 10.30am during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS TIMES

Friday 24 December - Christmas Eve

6.00pm Parish Family Mass (112 People)

No Children's Mass

8.30pm Parish Family Mass (112 People)

Midnight Parish Family Mass (112 People)

Saturday 25 December - Christmas Day

9.00am Parish Family Mass (112 People)

No evening Vigil Christmas Mass

Sunday 26 December - Holy Family (Boxing Day)

8.30am and 10.00am (Fr. Andrew's last two Parish Masses)

Monday 27 December No Mass or Communion Service

Tuesday 28 December

8.15am Rosary and Adoration

8.45am Communion Service

Wednesday 29 December - No Devotions or Mass

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Thursday 30 December

8.15am Rosary and Adoration

8.45am Communion Service

Friday 31 December (New Year's Eve) -

No Mass or Communion Service

Saturday 1 January (New Year's Day)

8.15am Rosary and Adoration

8.45am Mass

9.30am Reconciliation

4.30pm Reconciliation

6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 2 January

Mass Times: 8.30am and 10.00am

FR. JOHN PAUL BEGINS HIS MINISTRY ON NEW YEAR'S DAY 1/1/2022

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

We thank and congratulate Fr Andrew for his faithful service to the Church over the past 57 years, of which 19 years has been to the parish Family of St Bernadette's Parish Family Lalor Park.

Fr Andrew will be celebrating the Christmas Masses as follows:

- Christmas Eve, 6.00pm, 8.30pm, Midnight
- Christmas Day, 9.00am
- Holy Family (Boxing Day) 8.30am & 10.00am Masses

Last 2 Masses as Parish Priest

BLESSING OF SMALL CHRISTMAS CRIBS OR FIGURES OF BABY JESUS

Families of the Parish are invited to bring to Mass small cribs (one that the children have made), or the figure of Baby Jesus to be blessed by Fr Andrew on Saturday, 18 December at 6.00pm Vigil Mass or on Sunday, 19 December at the 8.30am or 10.00am Masses. This will help children and God's people to focus on the Reason for the Season - the Birth of Christ.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Copies of the **Christmas Catalogue** of That Catholic Shop are available on the table outside the Church. All proceeds assist the work and mission of Aid to the Church in Need. You can also visit: www.thatcatholicshop.com to see the range and order on line.

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN REFUGEES

Heavenly Father, we pray for suffering and persecuted Christians, especially Christian refugees, who have been forced to leave their homes and countries due to war, violence and poverty. We ask that you comfort them and provide for their needs and that you grant them peace, hope and joy, especially in this season of the coming of Christ. We entrust their needs to you and ask that you fill their hearts with a renewed faith. We present these petitions to you through Our Mother Mary, who knew great sorrows in her life.