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Website: www.stbernadetteslalorpark.catholic.edu.au

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Term 4 Week 5 Newsletter

Principal's Message

We have successfully welcomed the community back to onsite learning! Overwhelmingly the students have settled in well demonstrating great resilience. The school grounds are a happy place again full with all the joy that children exhibit.

A HUGE thank you to our community! The students, parents, grandparents, friends and the staff for the work that each and everyone of you did to support remote learning. Everyone had a different experience. Some families loved remote learning, others loathed it! What remote learning did demonstrate is the high importance of being connected. Our children need to be with other children. They need to talk and play together and no amount of Social Zooms can replace the need to be present with each other.

The staff are busy writing Semester Two Reports. Reports will be significantly different with no grades or effort scores. Our reports will include;

- Religion comment
- Literacy comment
- Numeracy comment
- Student learning traits

Attendance data

The report will reflect the major interruption to learning as a result of the recent lockdown. More details will be shared closer to report time.

One of our priorities is to provide Year 6 with a graduation. We can confirm that under current restrictions our planned Graduation Mass will proceed. Attendance will be limited to the Year 6 students and their parents. All adults must be fully vaccinated as this is a school event. We are hoping to have a few more surprises for the students, but this will depend on the easing of restrictions for schools.

Staffing Update

After nineteen years of dedicated service to the St Bernadette's community Mrs Carruthers, better known as Robyn, has made the tough decision to retire from full time employment. Robyn has been the face of the school for a long time and is often the first point of contact for families throughout their journey at St Bernadette's. Robyn's knowledge and skills will be deeply missed in the years ahead. On a personal note I appreciate Robyn's support and friendship throughout my Principalship. The job would have been tougher without her!

Mrs Buenaventura and Mrs Corrigan will commence Long Service Leave at the conclusion of this week. Both ladies are expecting babies and have had to make the difficult decision to commence leave earlier than planned. We wish them and their families well as they begin the next chapter in their lives.

Mr Galea, Acting Assistant Principal will begin at St Bernadette's on Thursday the 18th of November. Mr Galea comes to St Bernadette's with a wealth of educational experience. He will be a welcomed addition to the staff of St Bernadette's.

Both Mrs Maher and Ms Ninness have made the decision to leave St Bernadette's at the end of 2021 after significant periods of service. They will continue to teach in the diocese at Santa Sophia, our newest school at Box Hill. Both ladies have contributed greatly to St Bernadette's more recently in their roles as Diversity Teachers where they support student learning throughout the school. They have also both been class teachers. Mrs Maher currently serves on the Leadership Team and has made significant contributions in the areas of literacy and diversity. We wish them well as their journey continues at Santa Sophia.

Where We Learn and Grow Together

Year 7 Enrolments

All Year 5 families should have made enquiries to enrol their children in high school in 2023. High schools are taking enrolments and this is an important decision that requires attention. To avoid disappointment parents are encouraged to finalise their decision for Year 7 enrolment. Our local Catholic high schools fill fast so If you haven't enrolled your child yet this should now be a priority. If you require any assistance please contact the school office.

School Uniforms

Students are expected to be wearing full summer school uniform.

As per school's grooming expectations;

All hair accessories are to be yellow and blue (The blue should match the school uniform).

Large hair accessories are not to be worn including but not limited to bows, scrunchies and headbands.

The School Locker has informed us that uniform supplies will be impacted by the COVID lockdowns that occurred throughout Asia. Currently most items are in stock and impacts will be experienced in 2022 for the back to school period.

Reminders

In the interest of safety all students are not to bring metal drink bottles or canned food items to school.

Have a great week everyone.

Mr Phill Kapitanow Principal

Assistant Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians, Caregivers and friends,

As this is my last week before I commence long service leave I wanted to extend my appreciation to all of our families and students who worked extremely hard during remote learning. Your willingness to be flexible on a daily basis is truly appreciated especially during our current situation.

Thank you for all your well wishes and prayers for bubs and I - it has been difficult not seeing my St Bernadette's family all the students, parents and staff, however I look forward to visiting in the new year with our little girl. Make sure to make time to pause, reflect on your blessings, cherish and make new memories. May you all continue to be blessed with love and safety. For now it's 'see you all soon'!

With love and blessings always,

Mrs Mabellynn Buenaventura

(Assistant Principal)



NEW APPOINTMENT BY BISHOP VINCENT

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, Lalor Park as he is retiring at the end of this year.

Fr John Paul Escarlan, Assistant Priest from Mary Queen of the family, Blacktown Parish has been appointed by Bishop Vincent as Priest Administrator of St Bernadette's Lalor Park. He will take up this appointment on Saturday 1st January, 2022. Please keep him in your prayers.



Where We Learn and Grow Together

RE with Mrs Stone

Dear Parents, Guardians, Caregivers and friends,

This week we keep all the Stage 2 and Stage 3 students in our prayers and thoughts as they receive Christ for the very first time in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We congratulate each and every student in the coming weeks as they celebrate with their families and friends this wonderful Sacrament that brings us into the fullness of our life in Christ.

Finally, just a reminder that a note with regards to the St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal will be shared this Friday. This Appeal aims to provide those in need in the Blacktown area with an experience of joy of Christmas, through the donation of food.



We seek your generosity in donating one or more items during the month of November. Each stage will have Christmas hampers to add their donated items. All donations start as of next week Monday 8th November and will be collected by a St Vincent de Paul representative in the last week of November (week 9).

With Blessings for a wonderful week ahead,

Mrs Meg Stone REC

Library News with Mrs O'Brien

Scholastic Book Fair

The Book Fair will run in a similar way to last year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Students will visit the Book Fair to do their Wish Lists. Parents can then decide whether to purchase these books. Students will receive their books from the Book Fair once the parents have completed the order online and returned the wishlists.



The dates for the Book Fair are Thursday 11th November - Thursday 25th November.

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

Please see the link below 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

Thank you,

Monique O'Brien (Teacher Librarian)



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Uniform Shop

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The uniform shop is currently closed to visitors.

Orders can be made online at any time and collected from the school office on Wednesdays.

School Locker

The School Locker



NAGLE COLLEGE, BLACKTOWN

Enrolments for Year 7 2023 are now available. Please contact Nagle College on 8887 4501 for an enrolment package.

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

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YEAR 6 FUN DAY MEAL DEAL FUNDRAISER

MEAL DEAL FUNDRAISER - 2 Pieces of Pizza / Packet of Popcorn / Popper

In Week 7, Year 6 will be holding a 'Pizza Day' Fundraiser for their end of year Fun Day.

This will be done over 2 days separated into Infants and Primary.

Wednesday 17th November - Early Stage 1 and Stage 1

Friday 19th November - Stage 2 and Stage 3

Orders and payments can only be placed through the QKR! app. Orders will close on Friday 12th November 2021. No late orders will be accepted.

Please be assured that safe handling practices will be maintained.

Miss Barrak, Miss Matthews & Mrs Maloney



Dates For Your Diary

NOVEMBER

Thursday 11th to Thursday 25th Book Fair at School Wednesday 17th - Pizza Meal Deal - Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 Friday 19th - Pizza Meal Deal - Stage 2 & 3 **DECEMBER**

Tuesday 14th - Year 6 Graduation Mass **(Year 6 Parents only)** Wednesday 15th - Last Day of School for 2021





Where We Learn and Grow Together

PBS4L

lt was so great seeing everyone back at school last week, after we welcomed Kindy and Year One back in Week 3.

We will be continuing with our PBS4L and social skills within our stages and lessons will be needs based.

This week students will be able to participate in in-school sports. It is important that all students are wearing a hat, playing fairly, taking turns, problem solving calmly and following the instructions/rules of the game.

FORTNIGHTLY FOCUS

We are learning to be RESPONSIBLE by following staff instructions immediately.

The students at St Bernadette's are receiving lots of Bluey Cards and tokens and are working towards their individual and class awards. Well done to the students who are showing that they are SAFE, RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE LEARNERS in all areas of the school.











contact us







Where We Learn and Grow Together

Introducing QKR! Payment System

It's time to install the QKR! App which is the new payment platform we will be using from this Term as we are no longer accepting cash for all ad-hoc items Eg: Fundraising, Special Food Days, Donations, Enrolment Fee, Year 6 Sport Shirts.

Please note: Payments for School Fees cannot be made on QKR!. Current arrangements for school fees have not changed.

The app is free to download and your profile is confidential. Below is an instruction sheet to assist you with this process. We encourage all families to download this app.

If you have any questions please contact the school office



