



## St Bernadette's Primary School, Lalor Park Principal's Communication

We have had a very positive start to the school year. The majority of students have settled extremely well into their learning spaces and are building positive relationships with their peers and staff.

At St Bernadette's we have a strong focus on creating environments that are safe and supportive. We understand that for highly effective teaching and learning to occur our students must feel safe and supported. We have many practical programs that work together to create a culture of learning.

### **2023 Enrolments**

If you intend to enrol a child for kindergarten in 2023 it is now time to pick up an enrolment form and begin this process. Enrolments open on the 7th of March. We have an Open Day on the 8th of March with an information session starting at 6pm.

### **Positive Behaviour Support 4 Learning (PBS4L)**

PBS4L is a school based support program that has been implemented over many years to build a safe environment. PBS4L acknowledges that the vast majority of students positively engage with others whilst at school. But, at times students require support to learn appropriate behaviour. All students engage in regular lessons where we teach our expectations.

## **Wellbeing Programs**

All students at St Bernadette's participate in a variety of wellbeing programs including mindfulness activities which take place daily in every learning space and mediation activities provided by Smiling Minds.

## **Staff Professional Learning**

All staff attend regular professional learning to;

- create consistent practices throughout the school.
- equip staff with additional skills to manage behaviour situations

## **PBS4L Leading Teacher**

CEDP has provided St Bernadette's with regular access to a PBS4L Leading Teacher. This teacher's role is to observe classrooms and students, model effective behaviour practices and work with staff to build their PBS4L skills.

## **PBS4L School Leader**

We have appointed a school leader, Mrs Maloney to continue the work of creating consistent PBS4L practices throughout the school.

At times students will demonstrate unsafe or inappropriate behaviours that must be addressed through parent communication and consequences. At these times our goal is to work with students to teach them appropriate behaviours.

## **Opening School Mass**

On Thursday we celebrated the start of the school year by having an opening school mass. It was our first whole school mass in a year and the first mass celebrated by our new Parish Priest, Father John Paul. It was a difficult decision to proceed without parents and I understand other schools have done things differently. I sought advice from CEDP and was advised that our approach was correct and adhered to the current NSW Health Orders. We decided not to hold off our mass as experience throughout the pandemic has told us that we never know what is around the corner.

I want to congratulate our new school leaders;

- School Captains - Pearl and Cillian
- Sports Captains
  - Leonard: Jai and Abbey
  - Chisholm: Koko and Crystal
  - Barton: Christopher and Aneika
  - MacKillop: Noah and Kristina
- Student Representative Council
  - Yr 5 = Eva and Noah
  - Yr 4 = Andrew and Lucie
  - Yr 3 = Samuel and Amelia

We look forward to working with you as you lead our school community!

### **COVID Restrictions**

We are waiting for an update to COVID restrictions that affect parents coming on to the school site. The NSW government has made no announcement yet. I understand that this has been challenging for parents. Our school has a strong family based culture where parents attend the school site frequently. However, until this restriction is changed at a government level there is nothing we can do to improve this situation.

Have a great week.

Mr Phill Kapitanow  
Principal

### **Dates For Your Diary**

#### **February**

24th - Patrician Brothers visit  
Stage 3 Boys

24th - Nagle College visit Stage 3  
Girls

#### **March**

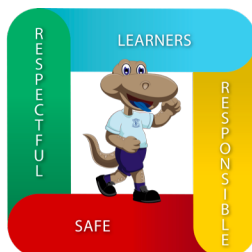
2nd - Ash Wednesday



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In Week 3 students will begin our annual lessons on our school expectations. These lessons will help them develop their understanding of what it is to be safe, respectful, responsible learners.