



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

Welcome to Term 3!

I hope you all had a good break with your families and friends! The holidays are overwhelmingly a good time for most of our families, however there are some in our community who have had a challenging time over the break. At this time I would like to extend my prayers and thoughts to those in our community who are experiencing hardship and ask that our families do likewise.

During the holidays maintenance work was carried out including;

- painting student toilets, the library, all doors and railings throughout the school.
- concreting works to rectify trip hazards
- painting to establish outside calm spaces

The painting has been done at considerable expense to the school and I ask that you talk to your children about respecting our spaces and not writing on walls or scratching new paint. Unfortunately there have been a number of incidents that have required contact with parents and we are only in week one.

### **Learning Focus**

This term staff have been given the challenge to maximise small group reading opportunities in all learning spaces. As staff we understand the importance of students learning to read and applying comprehension skills to interpret texts. This focus includes targeted professional learning for staff to refine how they teach students to read and comprehend texts. We have communicated an ambitious timeline to our staff and have a number of system supports in place. Parents can help by reading with their children each and every night. This is the one aspect of homework that shouldn't be missed and has a significant impact on student reading progress.

## **Long Service Leave**

I will be on LSL for the last four weeks of term. My leave will commence on Monday the 29th of August and I will return at the start of Term 4.

In my absence Kathryn Newman has been appointed as the Acting Principal. Mrs Newman is currently the Assistant Principal at St John the Apostle, Winston Hills. She has been doing numerous Acting Principal roles throughout the diocese. Mrs Newman will continue the good work we are doing. I thank Mrs Newman for accepting the position and supporting the community of St Bernadette's whilst I am on leave.

## **Tell Them From Me Survey**

Thank you to our parents who took the time to complete the TTFM survey. We received the results this week. Our goal is to analyse the results over the coming weeks to inform future direction of the school. Overwhelmingly the results from students, parents and staff are positive in fact our results have improved again. This has been a year on year trend which we are extremely proud of. I strongly believe that St Bernadette's is an outstanding school and these results affirm that belief.

## **Captivate (Music)**

It has been a long time coming due to COVID interruptions, but I'm very pleased to announce that our Year 5 band along with some Year 6 students have been preparing for their first public performance in a number of years. Our intent has always been to provide opportunities for our students to perform. This is a crucial step in learning to play an instrument and also establishing music as a valued and positive part of our school culture.

The performance will take place on Tuesday 2nd of August at 11.30. The late start enables students to do one final practice with their music teachers. It is anticipated that performance will go for approximately fifteen minutes. It would be encouraging for the students to see as many parents as possible attend.

## **Uniform**

All students should be in full winter uniform including black leather school shoes. Parents are encouraged to contact the office if they require assistance.

## OOSH

This term Ambrose took over operations of our OOSH service. Ambrose is a part of the diocese umbrella and as such will work closely with the school to support students attending before and after school care. In the holidays I meet with the new staff to discuss how we can improve ties between the school and the OOSH service.

We are committed to supporting Ambrose in ensuring greater consistency between the two services for our students. Ambrose staff attended our PBS4L staff professional learning on Monday and have committed to implementing this model into the service. OOSH remains separate from the school but we are looking forward to having greater input into the service and how it supports our students.

## School Counselor

This week we have welcomed our new school counselor, Veronika Poljak. Veronika has spent the week being inducted into her new role and spending time to understand the school and its needs. Next week she will be spending time with our previous counselor, Emilie to do an official handover before reaching out to specific families to discuss needs. Veronika is new to schools, but comes with a wealth of external counseling experience.

On behalf of the community I welcome Veronika to our community and trust that this will be a fantastic period in her career.

## Dates For Your Diary

### August

2nd - 11.30 Band Performance

11th - 12th - Stage 3 Canberra Camp

15th - The Feast of Assumption Mass  
at 10am

19th - Early Stage One excursion to  
the farm

26th - Parent Fundraiser (Paint and  
Sip)

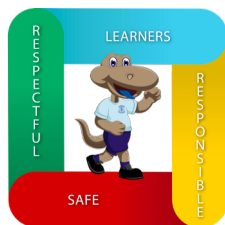
29th - Book Week commences



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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.



[Bluey's Patch](#)