

## St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

### JULY 2019 Newsletter



#### Principal's Message - Mrs Joanne Webster

##### IMPORTANT DATES

**Thursday 27th June**  
Student, Teacher & Parent  
Conversations by appointment  
**SCHOOL CLOSURE**

**Last Day of Term 2**  
Friday 28th June @ 1.00pm

**Monday 15th July @ 8.45am**  
Term 3 Starts

**Thursday 25th July**  
3.15pm Principals' Bookclub

**Friday 26th July**  
9.15am Grandparents Mass &  
Morning Tea &  
2.00pm Parents in Partnership  
Meeting

**Thursday 1st August**  
2.40pm Reconciliation for  
Confirmation

**Friday 2nd August**  
6.00pm Family Dance Night

**Every Tuesday**  
3.00pm Tuesday Tea Time  
All Welcome

**Every Wednesday**  
2.30pm Assembly  
All Welcome

Dear Families,

We are now at the halfway mark of 2019 and have much to celebrate in the learning and teaching, in our faith formation, in our social and emotional learning and in the relationships that have been established so far.

The culmination of all this learning is evident in the student School Reports and Portfolios, which came home on Monday. I hope you have had time to praise your children for their progress in the many aspects of learning completed in Semester One. The Learning Conversations on Thursday, will provide you with time to discuss this with your child's teacher whilst also having the opportunity to enter into a conversation about your child's future learning in Semester Two. A note, to support you to read your child's report, was in the front page of the portfolio and I hope this was helpful. Attached to this newsletter you will find the Michael Grose article which elaborates on the note.

At this time of the year I would also like to remind parents and families of the need to drop off your children safely. This means you are to pull up and stop before letting your children exit the car, please do not double park and drop off, as others drivers may not see you or your child, putting your child's safety at risk. On Westmorland Road some drivers are also doing U-turns in front of the pedestrian crossing, this too is unsafe. If using the car park please use the entrance and exit correctly. A parking inspector has been in the area booking drivers who are parked in loading zones or double parking.

Currently the school Administration system is being transitioned to ICON, a CEM system for all student administration, human resources and finances. The school administration team, have done a fabulous job preparing the school for this. I would like to ask that you are patient with them if the usual receipting etc, takes a little longer, as we are all in the learning phase at this stage. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the team: Kerrie, Joanne, Errica and Sandra for their work with this.

The updated Privacy Policy and Standard Collection notice can now be found on the school website.

And now as we move to the end of the school term, I wish you and your family a safe holiday, time together to renew and re-energise for the term ahead.

##### Prayer

As we come to the end of another term, we remember the good times, for they have filled us with excitement and pleasure, peace and satisfaction. We remember the hard times, for without them we would not have had the chance to grow into better people. We rejoice in our achievements, no matter how small, and celebrate the challenges we have faced and overcome.

For the children and staff in our school community: may they find time to rest and be restored in mind, body and spirit during the upcoming holidays.

For those who guide and teach the children of our school: we give thanks that they share their faith, time and gifts so generously.

For all who have enriched the life of our school throughout the term – our staff, students, parents and friends: we thank you for their valuable contributions in making our school what it is today.

For the leaders of our community: we pray that their decisions will always be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Gracious God, hear the prayers your children pray with faithful and trusting hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

##### Staff News

We would like to congratulate Sarah and Joshua Turner, who gave birth to a dear baby girl, Elsie Harriet, last Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June, a little early, mother and baby are both well. Sarah was to begin maternity leave this week. May God bless them all.



The following staff will take Long Service Leave in July: Danlela Torcaso; Student Diversity Leader and Joanne Butler Art Teacher and Kerrie Macuz Administration Manager. We wish them all well as they take time to renew and rest.



## School News



**Last day of Term 2—Please note all students finish at 1:00pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June.**

### School Production: Sussical the Musical—Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019

The main cast got together as a whole for the first-time last week and went through the opening number using a backing track only. Wow and goose bumps! It was amazing!. Some classes have been rehearsing the songs and they too are demonstrating some powerful singing voices. We are endeavouring to have rehearsal's every Monday and Thursday at lunchtime. Next term we will begin dancing with Renee from DXP Dance Studio. This will be a great experience for all and will add a professional look to the whole production.

Tickets will become available through TryBooking. When this is set up, you will be notified. Please mark these dates in your calendar. Art's Core Team

### School Closure Day for June

**In June the school closure date is: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June.** On this day Learning Conversations will take place in Pioneers Hall. We look forward to seeing you all there.

### Principal's BookClub

Principal's Bookclub will be held on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July @ 3:00pm.** Parents and toddlers are invited to come along and listen to a story being read by the Principal, Mrs Webster and then take the book home.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### Child Safety at St Bernadette's

Children have the right to be safe and protected. As a school, we at St Bernadette's are responsible for keeping children safe. We must meet legal requirements for the care, safety and welfare of students. As part of this requirement we need to meet seven Child Safe Standards. We are continually working to improve the safety and wellbeing of our students.

Some of the most recent and key updates in relation to this are:

- A student code of conduct co-written with the 2018 year 6s
- A child friendly version of the Child Safe Policy was also co-written
- All Codes of Conduct and policies relating to Child Safety were reviewed and updated in 2018 (all of which can be found on the school website in the Student Wellbeing section)



Throughout the remainder of 2019 will also continue to educate our students about their rights, and the responsibilities of adults in keeping them safe. This is in order to meet Standard 7 – Promoting Child Empowerment and Participation.

## Student News



### Casual Dress Day

To celebrate the great learning and progress all students have made this term, a casual dress day will be held on the last day of school, **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June.**

### Social Justice Action

In Week Six of this term, the Social Justice Leaders went to St Monica's Primary School in Footscray to participate in the Kidsview Conference facilitated by Bahay Tuluyan. Students learnt how important it is that all people are treated with dignity and respect no matter what they have or where they live.

At the Kidsview conference students heard that if we have a roof over our heads, a bed to sleep in and food in our fridge we are richer than 75% of people in this world. That means that all of us here are very rich. Students took part in activities which made them realise that many young people in different countries do not have basic things like health care or schooling. Many of them have to survive on a few dollars a day and many cannot afford to eat more than one meal a day.

Back at school the Social Justice Leaders are helping to organise a Vinnies Winter Appeal. All students in the school are encouraged to donate non-perishable food items, toiletries and blankets so that the St Vincent de Paul Society can distribute them to those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

We thank you for your contribution.





## Parent News

### Parenting News

This month's article from Michael Grose is titled 'Reading your Child's report'. He explains how reports can mean anxious times for students who often wonder if their parents will be proud or disappointed. Children of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people. Michael Grose outlines three ways parents can ensure they are in the right frame of mind before reading their child's report. He also offers some ideas for parents to consider as they read their child's report.

### Cybersafety Tips—Protecting Personal Information How to Build Digital Intelligence

#### Part 2:

#### Encourage empathy

- Help your child to imagine being in someone else's shoes, so they can relate to others and understand what might make people behave in different ways.
- For example, you might say something like: 'I noticed that Sam seemed a bit sad when she came over yesterday. Have you noticed anything? What do you think is wrong? Would that make you sad? What can we do to help?'



#### Teach them to question

- Encourage your child to think critically about what they see online. Teach them to ask questions so they can identify content or messages that may be misleading.
- Talk to them about 'fake news', or false information that is designed to look like a trustworthy news report, and how quickly it can spread on social media. Teach them to fact check news sources and do their own independent searches on issues, so they can see the variety of opinions on a particular issue and make up their own mind.
- Remind them to be careful when making new friends online, as people may not be who they say they are. We are increasingly seeing 'Finstas' (fake Instagram accounts) and other impersonation accounts. So it is important to question whether what they are seeing online from their friends is real or not. If it seems out of character, it could be from a fake account.

Taken from [eSafety Commissioner](#) Australia's leader in online safety.



### Parents in Partnership News

As we look to term 3, we have a number of events to look forward to and keep us warm through winter: Tea Time Tuesday continues to happen each week at 3pm - come out of the cold and into the Community Kitchen to make a cuppa and have a biscuit and a chat with other parents. We will also keep warm when we put on our dancing shoes for dance night on Friday 2nd August and warm up with BBQ at Bunnings in September. Stay tuned on how you can get involved.

**Our next meeting is Friday, 26 July at 2pm - all are welcomed to come along.**

**Please place a save the date in your diary for Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, for the school Dance night to be held at St Bernadette's Community Centre in Cooke Avenue.**

## Parish News

### GARAGE SALE July 13th & 14

We are now accepting donations of household goods, bric-a-brac and clothing at the Presbytery. If you have items which require pick up, please contact Mary Borg on 9366 7094. Please note items must be in good condition. Damaged or dirty items are not suitable for sale. No furniture please.





# JULY Calendar - 2019

ST BERNADETTE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1st July SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	2 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	3 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	4 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	5 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	6 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	7 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
8 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	9 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	10 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	11 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	12 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	13 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	14 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
15 Term 3 Begins 8.45am	16 3.00pm Tuesday Tea Time	17 2.30pm Assembly 4M Hosting All Welcome	18 Experience Music 11.15am Chess	19 Experience Music	20	21
22	23 3.00pm Tuesday Tea Time	24 10.00am Bishop Mark Edwards to visit Yr 6 Students 2.30pm Assembly 4S Hosting All Welcome	25 Experience Music 11.15am Chess 3.15pm Principal's Bookclub	26 9.15am Grandparents Mass & Morning Tea Experience Music 2.00pm Parents in Partnership Meeting	27	28
29	30 3.00pm Tuesday Tea Time	31 2.30pm Assembly 3G Hosting All Welcome	1st August Experience Music 11.15am Chess 2.40pm Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates	2nd August Yr 6 Confirmation Retreat Day 9.15am Yr 3 Mass 6.00pm Family Dance Night	3rd August	4th August



# Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

## Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

# Reading your child's report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

*Could try harder ... always does her best ... lacks concentration ... easily distracted ... a pleasure to teach ...* Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

### 1 Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?

Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child's abilities. A quick check of your child's last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

### 2 Do you believe that children learn at different rates?

There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so

avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends' children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

### 3 Are you willing to safeguard your child's self-esteem rather than deflate it?

Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.


School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child's progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

### Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child's report:

- **Focus on strengths.** Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.
- **Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning.** If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

- **Broaden your focus away** from academic performance to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don't dismiss these as unimportant.
- **Take note of student self-assessment.** Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.
- **Discuss the report with your son or daughter** talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child's efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

Michael Grose 



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at [parentingideasclub.com.au](http://parentingideasclub.com.au). You'll be so glad you did.



[parentingideas.com.au](http://parentingideas.com.au)

© 2015 Michael Grose

