

St Bernadette's School Newsletter - 3

Wednesday 6th March 2024



LENTEN PRAYER



Loving God, help us to remember your promise to be with us always, to guide us in our lives and bring us closer to you. In this special time of LENT, strengthen us to follow your way and help us to trust in you with all our hearts, so that we may continually rejoice in your blessings. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, who is your promise of new life for us. Amen.

GOD LOVES US - LET US LOVE GOD
St Bernadette - Pray for us.

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great turnout we had for our Year 1/2 Conversation about Learning last night. It was great to see over 60 parents and carers wanting to find out about how we 'do things' at St Bernadette's and how they can help their child with their learning. There has been lots in the media recently about the teaching of reading, so it was nice to clarify this with our families and share what we are doing at St Bs. Our approach to reading is in line with Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools(MACS) instruction model for learning and is informed by current research. Thank you to the families for attending and to our wonderful staff who led the sessions so capably. We will be holding another one next term for our Year Prep parents/carers.

Our Preps and Year 1 students began full-time schooling this week, after the 4 weeks of testing on Wednesdays. I'd like to thank the Prep and Year 1 parents and families for their support with this, in caring for their children on those Wednesdays and bringing them to school for their testing days. This testing will inform the learning and teaching in Year Prep and 1. Also, data from these assessments are being collected by our system(MACS). Many parents have asked for information about these assessments, however, they are not really designed for reporting to parents. Once we have all data collated, we will see if there is a way for us to share some information with parents.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

Next week, the Archdiocese of Melbourne will be celebrating Catholic Education Week. With around 300 schools, the Archdiocese is one of the biggest education systems in the world. We have much to celebrate not only in our school, but in the system. On Friday 15th March, 10

St Bernadette's respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as the owners of the land on which we live, play and learn at St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

All students attending St. Bernadette's Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school.

Student Leaders, Ms Marevic and myself will be attending the Catholic Education Week Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. This is a great celebration of the wonderful work we do in our school communities across the archdiocese.

VISIT FROM FAMILY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS CONSULTANT, ANNE HENDERSON (USA)

On Wednesday March 20th we will have an exciting guest visiting our school, all the way from Washington (USA). Anne Henderson has spent the last 30+ years promoting how important parents are to their children's learning. In particular, Anne works with teachers and school leaders to help strengthen communication and connection between schools, parents and carers. Anne has also recently co-authored a book highlighting the strong evidence base which shows that family school partnerships improve student learning outcomes.

Anne will visit our school to lead a conversation with a small group of students, parents and teachers, to talk about "what makes a great learning at home activity?" Anne will be out in the yard, greeting students and families on the morning of 20.3.24 so please stop and say 'hi' if you have time.

DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to all those children who competed in the District Cross Country last Friday. The children involved ran either 2 or 3 kilometres which is an awesome effort. We had a number of children finish in the top 10 in their age group. Thank you to Mr Miller and Mrs Chapman for organising and supervising our participation.

SCHOOL PHOTOS - TUESDAY 19TH MARCH

Tomorrow you will receive information regarding the school photos. Please read this carefully and place your orders using the instructions on the form. School Photo day is Tuesday 19th March. Children are expected to wear their summer uniform.

SCHOOL UNIFORM - SHOES AND JEWELLERY

All children are expected to wear the correct uniform each day. I'm happy to say that most children come to school proudly wearing the correct uniform and I thank you for your support with that. I would like to remind you of 2 areas of our uniform policy - shoes and jewellery:

SHOES - black leather shoes should be worn with the summer and winter school uniform. Runners or sports shoes should only be worn with the sports uniform.

JEWELLERY - Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears and watches are the only acceptable jewellery (one per ear only). Bracelets of any kind are not permitted.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

We have a very good supply of second hand uniforms at the moment due to the generosity of families. All items are \$5. Please see the ladies in the office if you wish to purchase.

STUDENT/FAMILY DOCUMENTATION - VISAS, CITIZENSHIP, ETC

If you, or your child's, visa or citizenship status changes, please contact the office and bring in the updated visas/forms/certificates, so that we can update our information at school. Thank you.

A reminder that **there is NO SCHOOL on MONDAY 11TH MARCH as it is a PUBLIC HOLIDAY.**

The next newsletter will be published on Wednesday 27th March

Take care and have a great week,

Brendan - Principal

HEALTH CARE CARD

If you have a valid Health Care Card, you are eligible for support through the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund. For more information or assistance with this contact the office staff.



PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP(PiP) NEWS

Events coming up:

1. **Community Coffee and Chat** - Every fortnight beginning Tuesday 5th March from 2:45pm-3:15pm. Parents are invited to gather in the Community Kitchen to have a tea/coffee, biscuits and a chat. Come solve the world's problems; share parenting tips and frustrations; get advice on what to put in your child's lunchbox; even debrief on the latest eps of MAFS and/or Survivor!!! It's a great way to connect with other parents.
2. **Food with Friends** - Friday 22nd March - more details to come
3. **Easter Raffle** - Tickets for the Easter Raffle will be sent home soon. Please try to sell your book and don't forget to donate Easter items for the raffle - eggs, rabbits, chocolate, etc. All items must be in original packaging and unopened. The raffle will be drawn at our last assembly this term on Wednesday 27th March. Keep an eye out for the raffle tickets and information

Hopefully we will see you at one of the above events. PiP Team

PROJECT COMPASSION FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women from three different corners of the world. They are facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow **for all future generations**.

Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Leaia lives with her five children, husband, brother and sister-in-law on the island of Upolu in Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water caused Leaia a lot of worry.

Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they had to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, Leaia had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at Leaia's home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.

"We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1:

- **Labour Day Holiday - No School** - Monday 11th March
- **Catholic Education Week** - March 10th - 17th
- **NAPLAN Assessments** (Year 3 and 5 only) - March 13th - 25th
- **Parent Helpers Workshops** - March 14th @ 9:00am and 2:30pm
- **School Photos** - Tuesday 19th March
- **Year 1/2 Parent Information Night** - Tuesday 5th March @ 7:00pm
- **PiP Food with Friends** - Friday 22nd March
- **School Finishes for Term 1** - Thursday 28th March at 1:00pm
- **Easter Sunday** - Sunday 31st March

IMPORTANT DATES FOR START OF TERM 2:

- **School starts - Term 2** - Monday 15th April @ 8:45am
- **Feast of St Bernadette** - Tuesday 16th April - Mass at 9:15am
- **St Bernadette's Feast Activity Day** - Friday 19th April
- **Year 5/6 Camp, Adanac** - April 22nd - 25th
- **ANZAC Day - NO SCHOOL - Public Holiday** - Thursday 25th April
- **SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY - NO SCHOOL** - Friday 26th April

SOME GENERAL REMINDERS . . .

- Every child is asked to provide 2 boxes of tissues for the classroom please.
- Most children now have access to their iPad for their learning. If they are taking them home, please make sure children charge this at home each night and bring it to school every day. **Please note: while at home the iPad operates on your wifi, therefore your securities, connections, etc. Children should be supervised while on their iPads**
- A reminder that the first bell rings at 8:45am. Children should be at school before this bell.
- **School finishes at 3:15pm every day.** The school gates will open at 3:00pm and will be closed at 3:30pm.
- If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the office via phone 9311 8872 or email your child's teacher by 9:15am.

A reminder that all dates appear on the school website www.stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au
Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding the Newsletter.

Should you need to contact any staff member, please phone on 9311 8872 or email the staff member. Emails are simply first initial and surname followed by @stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au
For example Brendan Gill - bjill@stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au. I can also be contacted at principal@stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND PUBLIC NOTICES



ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUNSHINE NORTH **9311 8872**

ENROL NOW

ENROLMENTS FOR PREP 2025 ARE NOW OPEN.
IF YOUR CHILD TURNS 5 BY APRIL 30TH 2025, THEY ARE
ELIGIBLE TO START SCHOOL NEXT YEAR.
DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM FROM OUR WEBSITE,
OR COLLECT ONE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.



School Crossings Victoria Inc.

Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2023/2024 School
Crossing Supervisor of the year award.

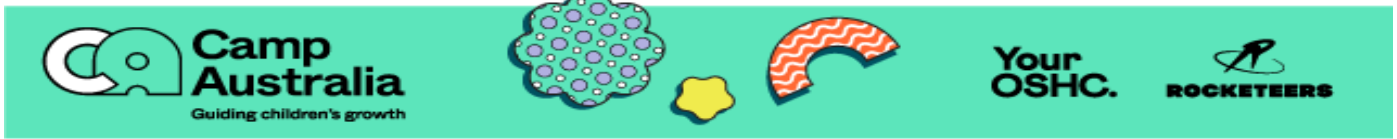
Jump online and complete a nomination at

www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au

Your support of this program will help ensure your School
Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for
their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

CAMP AUSTRALIA

Camp Australia are our before and after school care provider. Please contact them on 1300 105 343 or email info@campaustralia.com.au should you wish to book a place.



Camp Australia acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and Elders, both past and present.



EXPERIENCE MUSIC

Experience Music are offering their program to the students at St Bernadette's. Lessons are available for guitar, keyboards, drums and voice. For more information and how to enrol, please visit

experience music www.experiencemusic.com.au/enrolment.