

St Bernadette's School - Newsletter 1

Wednesday 4th February 2026

PRAYER TO BEGIN THE SCHOOL YEAR

Thank you, God, for our school and for bringing us back together safely.

We pray for our families and friends.

We pray for our teachers and all school staff.

We pray for energy and joy for the new school year.

We pray that school days are full of learning, fun and great memories.

We pray for hope in the world.

We pray for peace and love that it will spread across the world.

We give thanks for all you do for us. Amen

St Bernadette - Pray for us.



Our Preps and their Year 5 buddies having lunch together.

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to students, families and staff to the 2026 School Year. I hope and pray that this will be a happy, exciting and engaging year for all in our community.

We have had a great start to the year with the children settling into their classrooms and routines with ease. I wish to thank you in advance for your ongoing support in ensuring children are at school on time, wearing the correct uniform, have a positive attitude to learning and have all the things they need in their school bag.

We welcome the following **Prep children** and their families -

Cristiano, Sophie, Selena, Aiden, Belinda, Ava, Evelyn, Chloe, Jacob, Lucca, Kylie, Klara, Ian, Elliot, Matias, Zoe, Daniel, Vanna, Lucas, Mia, Kai, Deanna, Lewis, Averie, Lily, Brian, Sophia, Dustin, Julia, Grayson, Skylar, Henry, John, Kha-Di, Adelaide, Reyna, Dior, River, Keira, Tianna, Mary, Oskar, Emilia, Aria, Ethan, Madison, Giselle and Olivia.

and the following **new students** and their families -

Reinhart and Catherine, Mia and Max, Easton, Kane, and Oliver and Zoey

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.

and the following **staff** who are new to St Bernadette's or who have returned to St Bernadette's after some time of leave -

Mr John Maguire (5J), Mrs Huong Lamont (3L - M/T/W), Miss Alicia O'Brien (2O),
Mrs Joanna Pereira (1T - W/Th/F) and Mr Daniel Powell (3L - Th/F)

We thank you all for choosing to join our community and hope and pray you enjoy your time with us at St Bernadette's.

MEET AND GREETINGS - MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

The staff and I are looking forward to meeting you at the Meet and Greet meetings on **Monday 16th February**. Yesterday, the information on how to book a time was sent via Seesaw. Please make sure you make a booking as instructed. **ALL families are expected to make a time to see their child's teacher.** Meet and Greetings are a wonderful way for classroom teachers to get to know a little more about the children they teach. You, as parents and carers, know so much about your children, that it is important we work together in partnership to ensure each child's learning and wellbeing needs are met. **THERE IS NO SCHOOL ON THIS DAY, HOWEVER STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE MEET AND GREETINGS MEETINGS WITH THEIR PARENTS.**

COMPASS

Thank you to those parents and carers who have signed onto our new communication platform and downloaded the app - COMPASS. All parents/carers were emailed instructions on how to sign on to Compass and your login details. The email looked like this:

It is really important that all families log onto and set up Compass on their phone/computer/ipad. We will be using Compass to send out excursion forms, etc. Until this is completely set up, we will be using Seesaw.



CAMP AUSTRALIA

From January 2026, the Federal Government introduced the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) Three Day Guarantee. This change removes the activity test and provides all eligible families with at least 72 subsidised hours per fortnight.



Welcome to St Bernadette's School, Sunshine North's
Compass Platform

Dear

Welcome to St Bernadette's School, Sunshine North Compass platform!
Learn more about Compass using our parent guide [available here](#)

Your login details are below to get you started:

Compass username:

Temporary password:

School portal:

<https://stbsunshinenth-vlc.compass.education>

Use Compass through your web browser or by downloading the Compass School Manager app from the App Store or Google Play



For most families, this is a significant shift. It means their OSHC is now fully covered across a fortnight, without needing to track work hours or meet activity test requirements. Families can also access up to three days of subsidised vacation care each week.

SAFER INTERNET DAY - TUESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

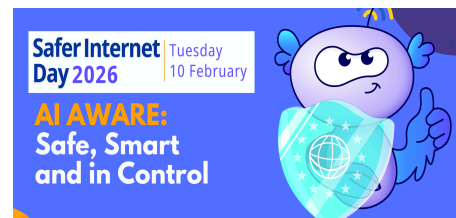
Safer Internet Day is a global day of action that brings together communities, families, schools, and organisations to raise awareness about online safety and work toward a safer internet.

In Australia, the eSafety Commissioner leads this important day. This year, the theme is **AI Aware - Safe, Smart and in Control**.

Supporting Safer Internet Day is just one action you can take. Everyone can take practical steps, including:

- starting online safety conversations
- engaging in online safety education
- practicing respectful behaviour online
- reporting online abuse
- sharing online safety resources.

Together, let's make the internet a safer, more positive place.



Connect safely by keeping apps and devices secure and reviewing your privacy settings regularly.

Reflect on how your actions online may affect others or your safety.

Protect yourself and others by visiting [eSafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au) to find out how to stay safe online and report online abuse.

SOME GENERAL REMINDERS AS WE START THE TERM . . .

- During Term 1, we can have some very hot weather. As we are a Sunsmart school it is compulsory that your child has a **school hat** to wear or they will have to sit in the shade.
- A reminder that the first bell rings at 8:45am. Children should be at school before this bell.
- The school gates open in the morning at 8:30am and will close at 8:45am. Entry after this time is through the front office door.
- **School finishes at 3:15pm every day.** The school gates will open at 3:00pm and will be closed at 3:30pm.
- **School Assembly** is fortnightly on a Friday at 2:30pm in Pioneers Hall. All families are invited to attend.
- **School Canteen** operates Monday, Thursday and Friday. Please see the current Canteen Menu 2025.
- Camp Australia run the before and after school care program for students from 6:30am-8:30am in the mornings and 3:15pm - 6:00pm in the afternoons.
- If your child is going to be absent from school, please register the absence on Compass, contact the office via phone 9311 8872 or email your child's teacher by 9:15am.

Have a wonderful week,
Brendan Gill - Principal

IMPORTANT DATES 2026 (as at 4/2/25)

Term 1	Tuesday 27th January to Thursday 2nd April
Term 2	Monday 20th April to Friday 26th June
Term 3	Monday 13th July to Friday 18th September
Term 4	Monday 5th October - Tuesday 15th December

- **No school for Prep** - Wednesday 4th February
- **No school for Prep** - Wednesday 11th February
- **ASSEMBLY (6M)** - Friday 13th February @ 2:30pm
- **School Closure Day - Meet and Greet - Monday 16th February**
- **No school for Prep** - Wednesday 18th February
- **Ash Wednesday Mass** - Wednesday 18th February @ 12:15pm
- **No school for Prep** - Wednesday 25th February
- **ASSEMBLY (6R)** - Friday 27th February @ 2:30pm
- **Year 1/2 Information Night** - Tuesday 3rd March
- **Labour Day Holiday - No school - Monday 9th March**
- **NAPLAN Testing (Year 3 and 5)** - March 11 - 23
- **Prep Information Night** - Wednesday 11th March
- **ASSEMBLY (5C)** - Friday 13th March @ 2:30pm
- **School Photos** - Thursday 19th March
- **St Bernadette's Feast Day and 70th Celebration** - Friday 20th March
- **St Bernadette's Parish Mass, 70th Celebration and Open School** - Sunday 22nd March
- 11:00am - 2:00pm
- **ASSEMBLY (5J)** - Friday 27th March @ 2:30pm
- **Term 1 ends** - Thursday 2nd April @ 1:00pm
- **Good Friday** - Friday 3rd April
- **Easter Sunday** - Sunday 5th April

SACRAMENTS 2026

- **First Reconciliation (Year 3)** - Tuesday 10th November
- **Eucharist (Year 4)** - Saturday 13th June - 6:00pm & Sunday 14th June - 11:00am
- **Confirmation (Year 6)** - Thursday 10th September @ 7:00pm

CAMPS

- **Year 5/6 Camp** - April 22 - 24
- **Year 4 Camp** - July 29 - 31
- **Year 3 Camp** - October 13 - 14

NO SCHOOL - PUBLIC HOLIDAY / SCHOOL CLOSURE

Monday 16th February - No School - Meet and Greet

Monday 9th March - Public Holiday - Labour Day

Monday 8th June - Public Holiday - King's Birthday

Thursday 25th June - No School - Learning Conversations

Wednesday 26th August - No School - Staff Conference

Monday 2nd November - No School - Time in Lieu

Tuesday 3rd November - Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup

Tuesday 1st December - No School - Planning Day for 2027

ADVERTISEMENTS AND PUBLIC NOTICES

EXPERIENCE MUSIC

Experience Music is 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 www.experiencemusic.com.au/enrolment.



experience music

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.