



ENROL NOW PREP 2027

PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Loving God, be with us this Ash Wednesday. Jesus, lead us through the season of Lent.

Inspire us to be people of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Inspire us to mirror your care and compassion for all, and seek the way of peace and justice.

Inspire us to turn away from sin and live as Jesus did.

In the name of Christ we pray, Amen

St Bernadette - Pray for us.



Dear Parents and Carers,

Today is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It is a significant time in the church's year, and one which calls us to look at our own lives and seek ways to improve. During Lent, we can do this through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These 3 actions allow us to continue the work of Jesus and St Bernadette, as we spread the good news through our prayers, words and actions. During Lent, we also have the opportunity to support the work of Project Compassion. Pope Leo has called on all Christians to 'fast from using words that wound and hurt others' during this Lent.

Today we gathered as a school community in the Church to celebrate Ash Wednesday, to be signed with the ashes and to mark the beginning of Lent. As a child, during Lent, I was encouraged to 'give up' something - lollies, soft drink, swearing - these times of sacrifice were supposed to remind us of Jesus' sacrifice of entering into the desert for 40 days. However, today I find the greater lesson to be learnt is in the call 'TO DO' or 'TO BE' - **to do** something nice, **to be** kind, **to do** my chores, **to be** caring, **to be** a good friend, **to be** patient - sometimes these things take a greater sacrifice than giving up something.

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.

MEET AND GREETINGS

It was great to see families attend the Meet and Greet conversations last Monday. Thank you for taking the time to meet with your child's teacher and to share what you know about how they learn. I know the teachers appreciated meeting with you, and are looking forward to working with you to ensure your child has an engaging and enjoyable year and reaches their full potential.

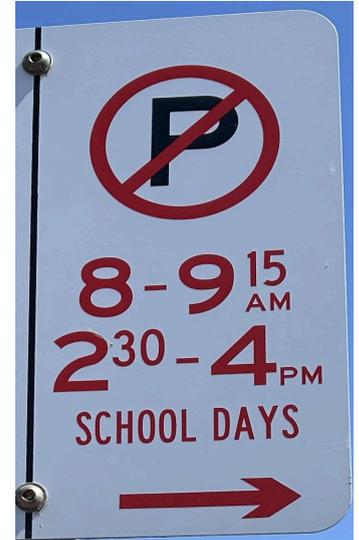
PARKING IN THE WESTMORELAND RD - PICK UP AREA

Drop off and pick up times on Westmoreland Rd are a concern at the moment as people are not obeying the road or parking laws.

The behaviours that are NOT SAFE and most concerning are:

1. parents/carers parking in the drop off zone and leaving their cars
2. parents/carers making u-turns from the drop off area and close to the school crossing
3. parents/carers double parking
4. parents/carers not parking correctly - back/side of car still on the road
5. children getting in and out of the driver's side of the car

This behaviour MUST stop for the safety of our children and of all drivers. Thank you.



CARITAS AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION THIS LENT

PROJECT COMPASSION

This Lent, our school community is invited to be a part of something incredible. Once again, we are called to stand hand in hand with thousands of others across the country and *Unite Against Poverty* by supporting **Caritas Australia's Project Compassion**.

Last year, our school was a part of a nationwide movement that raised over \$10 million to bring opportunity and change to vulnerable communities across the world. This year, with your support, we hope to have an even greater impact.

By taking home a Project Compassion donation box this year, you'll be answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable. Your generosity will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to communities facing poverty, food insecurity, lack of education and water shortages, while building resilience against future challenges.

Together, through faith and action, we can bring hope and opportunity to those most in need.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes.

Thank you for standing with us, as we ***Unite Against Poverty this Lent.***



this Lent

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.

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.

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.

Please make sure you sign on to the correct school. To do this you need to enter **St Bernadette's School, Sunshine North**.



It is really important that all families log onto and set up Compass on their phone/computer/ipad. Your child will not be able to attend any excursions until you have signed on to COMPASS.

If your child is absent from or late to school without a reason, Compass will send you a notification requesting that you add an explanation for your child. Could you please complete this notification as it will save our admin staff a lot of time having to chase you up for the explanation.

The other important part of this is to update your child's medical information if required. For example, anaphylaxis, asthma, eczema, allergies, blood nose, hay fever and/or anything you think it's important for us to know about your child medically.

PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2027 - PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!!

If you have a child ready for school next year, please make sure you complete the Enrolment Enquiry form on our website. Please see the advertisement below for more details.



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

9311 8872

ENROL NOW 2027

ENROLMENTS FOR PREP 2027 ARE NOW OPEN.

IF YOUR CHILD TURNS 5 BY APRIL 30TH 2027, THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO START SCHOOL NEXT YEAR. PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE www.stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au WHERE YOU CAN **BOOK A TOUR AND/OR COMPLETE AN **ENROLMENT ENQUIRY**.**

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 2026.
- 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 9:00am.

Have a wonderful week and chúc mừng năm mới,
Brendan Gill
Principal



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.

IMPORTANT DATES 2026 (as at 18/2/26)

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| 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 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 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