

PRAYER for GRANDPARENTS

Dear God,

Bless our grandparents.

Thank you for the life they gave my parents
and for the love and life they give to me.

For the ways they help me
and make me strong, I give thanks.

For the ways they love me no matter what, I rejoice.

For the ways they have set an example for me
and encouraged me, I am grateful.

Let them grow in wisdom and joy in life.

Let them find peace and rest from their work.

Let them be healed of every sickness and pain.

Bless them always until they come to rest in you. Amen.



St Joachim and St Anne – Pray for our Grandparents

St Bernadette – Pray for us.

GOD LOVES US – LET US LOVE GOD

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope you all had a good break from the routines of school, and enjoyed some extra time together as a family. Term 3 promises to be another busy term, filled with wonderful learning opportunities and experiences. You will shortly receive the Curriculum Newsletters for the Year Levels of each of your children. These have lots of information on them about the coming term, so please keep an eye out for them on Compass.

Last Friday we gathered to celebrate Mass and to remember and honour our Grandparents. When Fr Silvio invited the Grandparents to come forward for a blessing, it was wonderful to see just how many had joined us, and then visited the school. The children were very excited. On July 26th, the Catholic Church will celebrate the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne - the Grandparents of Jesus. It goes without saying that we all love our grandparents, and thank them for all the gifts of life, love and faith you have given us.

Today and tomorrow, Miss Marevic, Miss Frost, Miss Casamento and myself will be attending an Religious Education Symposium conducted by our employer, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS). This promises to be a wonderful learning experience with some notable national and international speakers. Archbishop Peter Comensoli will open and bless the Symposium and give the Opening Address. Many Principals, Religious Education Leaders and teachers will be gathering for this special event. Mrs Chapman will be Acting Principal in my absence.

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.

Last Thursday, the Year 6 Confirmation Candidates, parents and some sponsors gathered together to learn about and discuss the importance and meaning of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Fr Elio Capra led the very prayerful and informative discussion which was both engaging and entertaining. I ask that you keep the following children in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate the sacrament later this term.

Martin, Eli, Sophia, Violet, Hannah L, Ariela, Riley, Alex, Maddy,
Winchester, Minh-Vy, Yanai Kezius, Mercedes, Amy, Issac, Genevieve, Jasmine,
Jordan, Elisha, Hannah S, Atlas, Nelly and Charlie

CHILD SAFETY AT ST BERNADETTE'S

Child Safety is everyone's concern at St Bernadette's. All children have a right to feel safe and heard. Please read the attached MACS Care article on ***Child Safe Standard 6 - "People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice."***

- Children and young people have the right to be cared for by adults who are suitable, trustworthy, and committed to their safety and wellbeing.
- Child Safe Standard 6 recognises that creating a child-safe environment depends not only on policies and procedures, but on the people who work with children every day. Ensuring that staff and volunteers are carefully selected, well supported, and guided by shared values helps build safe, respectful, and nurturing school communities.
- Grounded in our Catholic mission, this standard reflects our responsibility to honour the dignity of every child by acting with integrity, care, and accountability. When adults model child-safe behaviours and values, they create environments where children feel protected, respected, and able to flourish.

WINTER UNIFORM

One of the things that makes me feel proud and happy, is to see children wearing the correct school uniform. It fills me, and I hope the children, with a great sense of pride and belonging. All children are expected to be wearing the correct school uniform. There are to be no variations to the uniform. For example, I have noticed children wearing different coloured leggings and pants under their Winter uniform as well as plain maroon jackets. Only maroon tights are to be worn and the school maroon jumper. If the school tights are not suitable, then another brand of maroon tights can be worn. I ask that you please support our uniform policy. As you may well be aware, children copy each other, and if one child is 'allowed' to wear a different uniform, then we will have a lot of children wearing different clothes. If you need help in 'parenting uniform expectations', I am only too willing to help. Children who are repeatedly wearing incorrect uniform may find themselves missing out on play times. If you wish to discuss any concerns regarding school uniform, I am happy to meet with you. Thank you for your ongoing support with maintaining our school uniform expectations.

I wish to let the community know that I will be taking two weeks Long Service Leave from August 3rd -16th. Mrs Chapman will be Acting Principal during this time.

Have a great week,

Brendan Gill
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES 2026 (as at 22/7/26)

SCHOOL TERMS 2026

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

- **Assembly** - Friday 24th July @ 2:30pm - Leaders
- **Year 4 Camp - Camp DOXA** - July 29 - 31
- **Year 6 Confirmation Retreat Day** - Wednesday 5th August
- **Assembly** - Friday 7th August @ 2:30pm - PREP S
- **Year 3/4 Excursion - Werribee Zoo** - Thursday 13th August
- **Year Prep - 100 days Celebration** - Friday 14th August
- **Incursion - Bookweek Performance** - Monday 17th August
- **School Advisory Council Meeting** - Thursday 20th August
- **Assembly** - Friday 21st August @ 2:30pm - 2F
- **STAFF CONFERENCE - NO SCHOOL - WEDNESDAY 26TH AUGUST**
- **Bookweek Parade - Symphony of Stories** - Friday 28th August @ 9:15am
- **Fathers' Day Breakfast** - Friday 4th September @ 7:30am
- **Fathers' Day Mass** - Friday 4th September @ 9:15am
- **Assembly** - Friday 4th September @ 2:30pm - PREP E
- **Confirmation Mass** - Thursday 10th September @ 7:00pm
- **Whole School Mass** - Friday 18th September @ 9:15am
- **Term 3 ends** - Friday 18th September @ 1:00pm

SACRAMENTS 2026

- **Confirmation (Year 6)** - Thursday 10th September @ 7:00pm
- **First Reconciliation (Year 3)** - Tuesday 17th November

CAMPS

- **Year 4 Camp** - July 29 - 31
- **Year 3 Camp** - October 13 - 14

NO SCHOOL - PUBLIC HOLIDAY / SCHOOL CLOSURE

Wednesday 26th August - No School - Staff Conference (Catholic Identity and Mission)

Monday 2nd November - No School - Time in Lieu Acquittal

Tuesday 3rd November - Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup

Wednesday 2nd December - No School - Planning Day for 2027 (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2027 (Please note changes to highlighted dates)

Term 1	Friday 29th January - Wednesday 24th March
Term 2	Monday 12th April – Friday 25th June
Term 3	Tuesday 13th July – Friday 17th September
Term 4	Monday 4th October – Tuesday 14th December

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.