

St Bernadette's School - Newsletter 14

Wednesday 14th October, 2026

PRAYER for WORLD MISSION MONTH



God of every nation, You call us to be One in Christ and United in Mission, walking together as one family in faith, hope, and love. Inspire us to listen deeply, care generously, and stand in solidarity with one another. Fill our hearts with your peace and compassion. Open our eyes to see those who suffer injustice, and strengthen us to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers throughout the world. May we walk in the footsteps of Christ, united in mission, building your Kingdom through acts of kindness, mercy and hope. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope you were able to enjoy the holiday break, especially the warm weather that we experienced. Children and staff have settled back into the learning and routines, and we are looking forward to all the exciting learning and opportunities that will happen this term.

October is Mission Month, and the Catholic Church throughout the world celebrates and prays for the incredible mission work that the Church and many organisations and individuals do throughout the world. Pope Leo, in his message for World Mission Sunday on October 18th writes, “This year, we celebrate 100 years since World Mission Sunday was established by Pope Pius XI, honouring a century of prayer, generosity and shared mission. The theme for World Mission Sunday 2026 is **‘One in Christ, united in mission’**. The theme invites us to be grounded in unity with Christ and with one another. It calls us to walk together as sisters and brothers, **bringing hope, compassion and the ‘Good News’ to communities near and far.**

This Friday 16th October, we will celebrate a whole school mass at 9:15am focusing on World Mission Month and praying for the ongoing success of this much needed work throughout the world.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT - HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - YEAR 4, 5 AND 6

On Thursday 22nd October, CatholicCare will be conducting two Parent Information evenings focussing on Human Growth and Development. This year, the evenings are being offered to parents and carers from Years 4 - 6. Please look out for and make sure you respond to the notices on Compass or Seesaw. At present, we have less than half of the families represented, so I encourage you to check out the notices and respond asap.

LEVEL NEWSLETTERS

The Level Newsletters will be coming home shortly with an outline of the learning for the term ahead. I encourage you to save these somewhere on your phone/computer, so that you can continue talking to your children about their learning.

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.

NO HAT - NO PLAY

At assembly last Friday, I reminded the children that **they are required to wear a hat this term** while outside. Could you please ensure your child has a school hat and their name is written on the hat. Any child who is not wearing a hat, will be required to sit in the undercroft.

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 9 - 'Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed'***.

When physical and online environments actively promote safety and wellbeing, children and young people:

- *Are better protected from harm because risks are identified and reduced early • Feel safe and secure in both school spaces and digital environments*
- *Experience clear expectations around behaviour, supervision, and technology use*
- *Are supported in environments that respect dignity, inclusion, and belonging*
- *Learn and flourish in school communities where safety is embedded into everyday practice.*

CLASS LISTS FOR 2027 - we are working on Class Lists for 2027. If you have any requests regarding class groupings for 2027 please email them to me at principal@stbsunshineth.catholic.edu.au. This is not an opportunity to 'choose a teacher' for your child. The aim of the request is to ensure your child's learning and wellbeing are maximised in 2027. Please indicate your request and reasons in your email. Your requests need to be emailed to me by **FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER**. All requests will be treated with utmost confidence.

ARE YOU LEAVING ST BERNADETTE'S?

If any families are leaving St Bernadette's at the end of the year and their child is not currently in Year 6, could you please contact the office and let them know. This information is important to know as we plan for next year.

SCHOOL FEES/LEVIES

Thank you to those families who are up-to-date with or who have paid their fees. Could all families make sure their fees/levies are paid in full by Friday 27th November.

LITTLE ANGLERS INITIATIVE - FREE CHILDREN'S FISHING KITS

There are still a number of Little Anglers Kits available at the office. I really don't want them cluttering up the office/admin area, so if you know of any one that would like one, please contact the office. <https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/go-fishing-victoria/little-angler-kit-project>.

CARE AND SAFETY CONCERNS - A REMINDER

Thank you for your support with the following reminders that were shared last term. We have seen a great improvement in these areas, and trust that parents and children will continue to follow these rules to ensure safety, learning and wellbeing are maximised.

A quick reminder of those rules are:

- NO GLASS WATER BOTTLES - NO TOYS AT SCHOOL - NO SHARING OF FOOD
- 1 OR 2 KEY TAGS ON BAGS - NO SQUISHIES AT SCHOOL

GELATI AND SORBET DAY - EVERY FRIDAY IN TERM 4

Last Friday the canteen was pumping with lots of children wanting to try the new gelati and/or sorbet. It was very popular. Gelati and Sorbet will be available every Friday in Term 4 for \$2.50.

Have a great week,

Brendan Gill

Principal

IMPORTANT DATES 2026 (as at 14/10/26)

- **Whole School Mass - Mission Mass** - Friday 16th October
- **Interschool Sport v Corpus Christi (Away)** - Friday 16th October
- **Year 1/2 Incursion - Mad About Science** - Monday 19th October
- **Human Growth and Development Sessions** - Thursday 22nd October
- **Prep Incursion - Drama Toolbox** - Friday 23rd October
- **Interschool Sport v Footscray North (Home)** - Friday 23rd October
- **Assembly by 4C** - Friday 23rd October @ 2:30pm
- **Prep 2027 Orientation Session 1** - Tuesday 27th October
- **Our Lady's School Leaders Day** - Thursday 29th October
- **Year 3/4 Excursion - Healesville Sanctuary** - Thursday 29th October
- **Year 1/2 Camp Afternoon** - Thursday 29th October
- **Interschool Sport v Dinjerra (Away)** - Friday 30th October
- **World Teachers Day** - Friday 30th October
- **NO SCHOOL - Monday 2nd November**
- **Melbourne Cup Holiday - NO SCHOOL - Tuesday 3rd November**
- **St B's Italian Day** - Friday 6th November
- **Prep 2027 Orientation Session 2** - Tuesday 10th November
- **School Advisory Council Meeting** - Thursday 12th November @ 6:30pm
- **Interschool Sport v Bye** - Friday 13th November
- **Assembly by 4M** - Friday 13th November @ 2:30pm
- **Year 3 Sacrament of Reconciliation** - Tuesday 17th November @ 7:00pm
- **Interschool Sport v Footscray (Away)** - Friday 20th November
- **Prep 2027 Orientation Session 3** - Tuesday 24th November
- **Interschool Sport v St John's (Home)** - Friday 27th November
- **Assembly - Advent Liturgy (Year 6)** - Friday 27th November @ 2:30pm
- **Year 6 Cluster Transition Day** - Monday 30th November
- **School Christmas Carols** - Tuesday 1st December @ 6:30pm
- **Planning Day for 2027 - NO SCHOOL - Wednesday 2nd December**
- **Student Reports to Parents/Carers** - Monday 7th December
- **Step Up Day** - Classes for 2027 - Tuesday 8th December
- **Year 6 Graduation** - Thursday 10th December @ 7:00pm
- **Assembly - Leaders for 2027** - Friday 11th December @ 2:30pm
- **End of Year Mass and Assembly** - Tuesday 15th December @ 9:15am
- **2026 School Year finishes** - Tuesday 15th December @ 12:00 noon

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2027

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.



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.