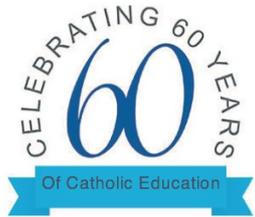




St Bernadette's School



Friday 15 March 2019 — Term 1 Week 7

No. 7

Dear Parents,

R.E. NEWS



It's time to walk on water.....

*Homily Extract by Pope Francis,
Basilica of Saint Sabina in Rome*

Ash Wednesday Mass on March 6 2019

Lent seeks to slow down our life, which is so fast paced, yet often directionless. It is a summons to stop, to focus on what is essential, to fast from the unnecessary things that distract us. It is a wake-up call for the soul.

Lent is a time to rediscover the direction of life. Because in life's journey, as in every journey, what really matters is not to lose sight of the goal. The Lord is the goal for our journey in this world; the direction must lead to him.

The small mark of ash that we received on Ash Wednesday, is a subtle yet real reminder that of the many things occupying our thoughts, that we chase after and worry about every day, nothing will remain. Earthly realities fade away like dust in the wind. Possessions are temporary, power passes, success wanes.

The culture of appearance prevalent today, which persuades us to live for passing things, is a great deception. It is like a blaze: once ended, only ash remains.

Lent is a time to free ourselves from the illusion of chasing after dust and for rediscovering that we are created for God, not for the world; for the eternity of heaven, not for the earthly deceit; for the freedom of the children of God, not for the slavery of things.

We should ask ourselves today: Where do I stand? Do I live for fire or for ash?

Leanne Nettleton—Principal

Season of Lent

The three practices of Lent are; Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Almsgiving: Is a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given to us.

St Bernadette's is always so generous in their support of Caritas Australia and our Project Compassion appeal. Caritas Australia is the International aid and development organisation of the Catholic Church in Australia and is part of one of the largest aid and development networks in the world.

In 2019 the Project Compassion theme is, '100% Hope Lives Change when we give 100%'. Throughout Lent St Bernadette's is focusing on donating money for children in Zimbabwe. Every \$45 we raise allows Caritas to buy school supplies for children like Thandolwayo to attend school. The Mini Vinnies group have been encouraging students to reach out and help these children and follow the example of Jesus and live our school and Gospel Values.



Shane Robinson—REC



Week 8 Dates Waste Free & Recess Lunch Everyday

- Mon 18 March**
8.30am Morning Assembly
2.45pm Motiv8sport
- Tues 19 March**
8-10am Uniform Shop
Dance Fever
Yrs 5 & 6 Photo Day
2.50-3.50pm ChiFUNese
Mandarin Class
- Wed 20 March**
Student Banking
8am Sibling Photos (Hall)
K—Yr 4 Photo Day
Yr 6 Backcare Inc.
- Thurs 21 March**
1.40pm Whole School Assembly (Church)
Parents Invited.
- Fri 22 March**
Harmony Day
9am Liturgy (Church)
All invited
- Sat 23 March**
9am Working Bee
- Mon 1 April**
Cross Country Carnival
Day (8 Yr Olds & Over)
- Thurs 4 April**
5.30pm Dance Fever
Challenge (Yrs 3-6)
- Wed 10 April**
8.30am Cuppa 'n Chat
(Hall)
- Thurs 11 April**
St Bernadette's Day
- Fri 12 April**
Staff Dev & Pupil Free
Day

ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2020
Next School Tour: Thurs 28 March 9am Please Register: 02 9407 6600

Address: 357 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill NSW 2154 **Phone:** 9407 6600 **Fax:** 9407 6699

Address: 357 Old Northern Road CASTLE HILL NSW 2154 **Phone:** 02 9407 6600

Email: Bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au **Website:** <http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au>

School Calendar: <http://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au/en/Community/Events>

Easter Eggs at School

As the Easter season and the common sharing of chocolate eggs is approaching, it is important to remember that there are a number of children at St Bernadette's who are severely allergic to nuts, eggs and/or dairy etc. Parents are asked to support us by ensuring that lollies/chocolates/Easter eggs are not brought to school by the children, either for themselves or to share with others. Thank you for your continued cooperation in making St Bernadette's a safe environment for all our children.

NAPLAN Online Information

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come to the meetings on Thursday night and Friday morning to hear about NAPLAN Online in 2019.

Below is the link to the NAPLAN information website. It has comprehensive information about the testing and practice tests for you to navigate.



If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself.
<https://www.nap.edu.au/home>

Melissa Beggs—Assistant Principal

Every Learner Every Day

Attendance rate to date is **94.6%**



Another great week St Bernadette's. Our community believes that every day counts for every child and our target each week is to be above 90%. Our records below show that it every grade has placed above our target! Congratulations to Year 3, 5 and 6 who are moving closer and closer to 100%.

Kindy	93.6%	Yr 4	95.1%
Yr 1	95.7%	Yr 5	99.8%
Yr 2	91.4%	Yr 6	96.9%
Yr 3	97.3%		

Harmony Day — Friday 22nd March

At St Bernadette's we will be recognising Harmony Day next **Friday** and invite our school community of children, parents and staff to wear their national dress or an orange t-shirt or orange accessory, eg ribbons, socks, shorts, joggers or hat to school on the day to show our support and inclusivity of our school community. Parents are invited to attend a Liturgy of the Word, on **Friday 22nd March at 9am in the Church.**



You might then like to stay and have morning tea with your children and join with us in the Kunjil presentation by the Muggera group at 11:10am. Kunjil is a traditional dance performance accompanied with a smoking ceremony and indigenous acknowledgement of country.

What's happening in Maths at St Bernadette's?

Last Friday we had eight enthusiastic mathematicians listed below from Years 5 and 6 putting their knowledge to the test in the first of our competitions for the year! The competition was organised by the Maths Association of Western Australia (MAWA).

The students were engaged in developing their understanding and fluency in mathematics through inquiry, exploring and connecting mathematical concepts, choosing and applying problem-solving skills and mathematical techniques, communication and reasoning. They eagerly sought the solutions and vigorously defended their answers before submitting their group's responses. They are great role models for persistence and collaboration for our students at St Bernadette's. Congratulations to:

Year 5

Xavier Bounassif
Liam Conlin
Ella Hammersley
Frederick Anderson
Zander Cheng

Year 6

Eva Cooper
Xavier Hennessey
Lucas Karam
Zander Cheng

Over the year these students will be sharing their skills and knowledge with more teams from Years 3-6 as we engage in opportunities to explore and test our skills against teams from across the country.

Melissa Beggs

Social Skills: Weeks 7 & 8— Displaying our School Values at St Bernadette's (Self Awareness)

Our school motto is 'Strength through Gentleness' and it is this motto that is the basis of the relationships that we endeavour to build with those in our school. We define 'strength' as the state of being strong; muscular power, mental power, moral power and power by reason of influence. 'Gentleness' is defined as the value and quality of ones character.

Our school motto underpins our school values of respect, honesty, tolerance, forgiveness, care and compassion and we proudly recite these at our assembly each week.

The development of our friendships and enriching our caring school environment allows us to display our school motto and the school values of being strong in our beliefs and gentle in our ways as we interact with each other at school and at home.

Mrs Kathy Watt

**Student Council War on Waste initiative –
WASTE FREE EVERYDAY**

School Photos

Tuesday 19th March - Yrs 5 & 6 only will have their photos taken today. Students will need to be in their full summer uniform and bring their sport uniform to change into for Dance Fever later. There will be NO sibling photos on this day.



Wednesday 20th March -

8am Sibling photos will start in the Hall. There is no need for parents to attend as supervision will be provided. Kindy to Yr 4 students will have their photos taken today and will need to be in full summer uniform. Students in Yrs 1 and 3 will need to bring in their sport shoes for sport after photos. Sibling photos will again be taken at recess and lunch.

Thank you to parents who have already sent in their photo envelopes. If you have not already done so please send them in on Monday 18th.

Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to these children who have completed the challenge in the first week! They have been keeping a record of all the books they have read since last September.

Ava Papandrea, Sophia-Therese Raad, Benjamin-Jude Raad, Xavier Ranieri, Ashton Allan, Sebastian Haywood, Sofia Papandrea, Joseph-Anthony Raad, Lucas Ranieri, Isla Guy, Paavni Kumar.

Children who are new to the school will receive their usernames and passwords within the next couple of weeks.

Lunchtime Clubs:

- Tues** Gardening Club (recess)
Choir, Library, Little Techies, Gardening Yrs 1-6
- Wed** SRC (even weeks) COSHC Room
Library & Gardening Club
- Thurs** Gardening Club (recess)
Chess in 4G Yrs 3-6 & Library
- Fri** Gardening Club (recess)
Science Club in 6LS Yrs 3-6

Our congratulations to Mrs Thomas (4G Teacher 2018) and her husband Patrick on the birth of their first child, a daughter called Oream. Our best wishes to Rhiarna & Patrick.



Term Dates

Term 1: Thurs 31 January — Thursday 11 April
(Fri 12 April Staff Development & Pupil Free Day)
Term 2: Mon 29 April — Fri 5 July
Term 3: Mon 22 July — Fri 27 September
Term 4: Mon 14 October to Wed 18 December (for students)

COSHC—Vacation Care

COSHC is now taking bookings for the Term 1 holidays. All enrolment forms must be submitted by 29 March. The child must be enrolled into COSHC before confirmation of care. The following excursions have been planned:

- 15th April- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
 - 16th April- Magic Day
 - 17th April- Powerhouse Museum
 - 18th April- The day before Easter
 - 19th April- CENTRE CLOSED/ PUBLIC HOLIDAY
 - 22nd April- CENTRE CLOSED/ PUBLIC HOLIDAY
 - 23rd April- A day at the Olympics
 - 24th April- Mexican Fiesta
 - 25th April- CENTRE CLOSED/ PUBLIC HOLIDAY
 - 26th April- Featherdale Wildlife Park
- Please contact Casey on 0408 582 535 if you have any questions.

P&F News:

Uniform Shop—Winter Uniform News

Winter uniform will be available to purchase at the Uniform Shop from Tuesday 2nd April (Week 10). The Uniform Shop is open each Tuesday morning from 8.00am until 10.00am. Just keep in mind that it may take a little longer at this time as the shop will be very busy and you may need to queue. Alternatively, email your completed order form

to uniformshop.stbpnf@gmail.com. Orders received before Tuesday are made up and sent home with your child on Tuesday afternoon. Students are permitted to wear either summer or winter uniform (not a mixture) for the first two weeks of Term 2 depending on the weather. In Week 3 all students are required to be in full winter uniform.

An order form will be emailed to parents in Week 9 and also uploaded to our website.

Working Bee (Saturday March 23)

Join us on Satu 23rd March when we will be working from 9am-12:00pm whatever time you can spare. Morning tea is provided and it is a great way to meet new friends and families whilst making a difference to our community. To help us plan the day please register your interest in attending by clicking on the link - <https://goo.gl/forms/GK7CVJEhcHhhSKsE2>

Builders/Tradesmen - donations appreciated! Part of the work we hope to do on the day requires materials and we ask any parents or friends of the school to consider whether they may be able to donate some of these materials. The kinds of materials we need are:

- *Timber (posts and rails), *Concrete sleepers
- *Edging board, *Concrete bags, *Paint, *Screws
- *Mulch/woodchip, *Plants

If you think you might be able to help out please contact Brendan Mitchell (0410 288 756) for further details.

From the House Captains

We have some exciting house news for you all. As some of you might know, we have our St Bernadette's Working Bee coming up next Saturday and we are encouraging you **ALL** to come along. Every student who helps at the Working Bee, will earn house points for their colour.

We need your help so we can make our gardens presentable by finishing the painting on the walls, tidying up the garden space and a lot more.

We hope to see a lot of families at

St Bernadette's Working Bee
9am-1pm
Saturday 23rd March.

Thank you for the time you're going to give up, to help the school. We really appreciate it if you could come to make St Bernadette's a better place even for an hour because we need as much help as we can get.



Genevieve Sing and Charbel Zeaiter
Green House Captains

Infants Cross Country Carnival

Thursday 4th April 8.30—11am

All Infants children in Kindergarten to Year 2 will be participating in the Infants Cross Country Carnival at St Bernadette's in Week 11. Parents are invited to come for the Cross Country events on the grass area and then stay for morning tea with their children afterwards. The morning will conclude at 11:00 am. We look forward to the students participating in some fun novelty activities such as obstacle course, parachute play, relays and of course a mini cross country race. All are welcome to join us for the morning. Any assistance from parents/grandparents on the day would be greatly appreciated. If you can help please complete Parent Helper [link](#)



Primary Cross Country Carnival

PARENT HELPERS NEEDED

Monday 1st April 9:30am - 12:30pm

St. Bernadette's children aged 8 -13 will be participating in the Primary Cross Country Carnival in Week 10, at Crestwood Reserve - Fields 1 and 2. All parents and friends welcome to join us for the morning. If you are able to help please complete the Parent Helper [link](#)

See below a draft timetable of events on the day.

Time	Age Group
9.30	Walk the course (Under 8 Only)
10.00	12/13 Boys (3 km)
10.15	12/13 Girls (3 km)
10.30	11 Yrs Boys (3km)
10.45	11 Yrs Girls (3 km)
11.00	8/9 Yrs Boys (2 km)
11.15	8/9 Yrs Girls (2 km)
11.30	10 Yrs Boys (2 km)
11.45	10 Yrs Girls (2 km)
Approx 12.15	Age Champion Medals and HOUSE SHIELD presented
12.30	Bus returns students to school



Mrs Karen Orsini—Sports Coordinator