



St Bernadette's School



Friday 23 August 2019 — Term 3 Week 5

No. 26

Dear Parents,

Yesterday we celebrated Book Week with a fantastic day dressing up as our favourite characters, sharing our favourite books with our friends, parents and grandparents, participating in literacy activities together and coming together for a picnic morning tea. Great conversations were had about characters, books and costume designs!

The theme of this year's Book Week is "Reading is my Secret Power" and it demonstrates the importance that reading has in the lives of people, especially children. A secret power suggests that reading enables people or the characters they come to meet, to do extraordinary things.

We as adults know that reading has many benefits.

- It can give us the ability to travel to many places around the world, sometimes crossing time, through history and into the future, without even leaving our houses.
- It gives us the power to be able to relax and improve our well-being.
- It can inspire and motivate us to try new things.
- It can inform and teach us.

All these secret powers can change people's lives and have the potential to ultimately change the world. WHAT A SECRET POWER!



Happy reading!

Melissa Beggs
Acting Principal

"It takes more strength to repair than to build, to start anew than to begin, to be reconciled than to get along. This is the strength that God gives us."

Pope Francis @ Pontifex

R.E. NEWS



Over the last few weeks many of the grades have been looking at the different Sacraments in the Catholic Church. The Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. Sacraments of Service: Holy Orders and Marriage.

One Sacrament that we have the chance to encounter many times during our school and work day is the opportunity for reconciliation and forgiveness. Jesus spoke many times in the Bible about the need to forgive, none so beautifully than in the Parable of the Two Sons. The younger son who was extravagant and wayward ended up in a miserable and lonely situation. In the midst of pain and despair, he realized that he had lost his Father's love and his family. He returns home to the open arms of his Father. The boundless love and mercy of the father repaired the loss. The Father in the story encourages the older son not to hold bitterness towards his brother. He makes him understand that he is loved as well. We have the opportunity to act like one of the characters in the story; forgiving like the Father, resentful like the older brother or asking for forgiveness like the wayward son. God opens His arms to us in love no matter what we do.

Our Mini Vinnies group are beginning their annual appeal for toothbrushes and toothpaste to help The Oral Hygiene Project in the Philippines. Any donations can be sent to the office. Thank you.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sally Coppini
Acting REC

Week 6 Dates

Waste Free Recess & Lunch Everyday

Mon 26 August
7.45am Yrs 3 / 4 Boys/
Girls Basketball
Training
8.30am Morning
Assembly

Tues 27 August
8-10am Uniform Shop
Fathers Day Stall

Wed 28 August
Student Banking
Yrs 3 / 6 Hills Basketball
Gala Day

Thurs 29 August
Yrs 3 to 6 Milo Cricket
Day
K-2 Book Week 'Big
Dreams Presentation'
**9am School Tour—
Kindy to Yr 6 2020**
Choir rehearsal

Fri 30 August
6.45am Fathers & Jersey
Day Mass followed by
breakfast then Open
Classrooms
Science Workbooks
coming home
1.40pm Whole School
Assembly (Church) All
welcome

Coming Dates:

Wed 4 Sept
7pm Yr 5 PD Evening

Fri 6 Sept
Kindergarten Inc.
Yr 6 Debating

ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN & Yrs 1 to 6 2020
Next School Tour: Thurs 29 August 9am Please Register: 02 9407 6600

Attendance—Every Day Counts!

We remain below our target set at 90% again this week, with a slight improvement. With the warmer weather we are looking forward to children returning to school, ready to learn and enjoy time with their friends. This week's attendance is **85.4%**.

Figures Friday morning:

K	89.2%	Year 4	85.2%
Yr 1	82.6%	Year 5	86.9%
Yr 2	78.9%	Year 6	87.2%
Yr 3	86.1%		

At St Bernadette's we believe that the more time a child spends around other children, whether in the classroom or as part of a school team or club, the more chance they have of making friends and feeling included, boosting social skills, confidence and self esteem. Regular attendance is the key.

Staffing News

Miss Georgia Fitzalan in KB has been appointed as a permanent Kindergarten teacher at Santa Sophia College for 2020.

Miss Fitzalan has been a valued member of staff at St Bernadette's and an enthusiastic and dedicated teacher to the children she has taught, and to those she has mentored through the SRC.

I know that you join me in wishing her well as she embarks on this next step in her career.

Congratulations Miss Fitzalan.

Melissa Beggs
Acting Principal



**ENROLLING NOW FOR
KINDERGARTEN 2020 & Years 1 to 6**

Please contact the school office if you would like to register for a school tour / enrol your child in 2020.

Ex-students Awarded Leadership Roles

Congratulations to the following students who will have all been awarded top leadership roles at Gilroy High School:

Callum Willard—School Captain
Finn Towner—Leadership Team
Samuel Hennessey—Leadership Team
Andrew Mizzi—Leadership Team
Christopher Ho—Leadership Team

Well done to our ex-students and their outstanding achievement!



Social Skills—Weeks 5 & 6

Making Responsible Decisions At St. Bernadette's 'RESILIENT'

Learning to make good decisions enables children to develop independence and responsibility. A good decision is one that is most likely to lead to a positive outcome for everyone concerned. To make good decisions children must learn to:

- Recognise when there is a choice for them to make
- Understand they are responsible for making the decision
- Take other's needs into consideration
- Think of possible choices or solutions and decide what is best

Steps for decision-making:

1. *What do you have to decide about?*
2. *What choices do you have?*
3. *Weigh up the pros and cons of each option and choose the best option.*

Put your choice into action and then check how it works out.

Family Discussion:

Children will often focus on immediate wants without considering the long-term consequences of their decisions and actions. Parents can help children develop their decision-making skills by:

- Keeping decision-making manageable by providing a choice between two options that are realistic for the age and ability of the child.
- Listen enthusiastically to children's explanations and encourage children to explain their choices as this teaches them to develop their thinking processes and think through their choices.
- Use questions to encourage children to make judgements (eg. 'Do you think this will work?' 'Is that a good idea?')
- Involve children in family decision-making (eg. Planning holiday activities etc) This encourages children to take others into consideration when making decisions.

Mrs Kathy Watt

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

Fathers' Day Celebrations

Hopefully all our dads will be able to join us on Friday 30th August:

- 6.45am Mass followed by breakfast
- 8.00am Open Classrooms



A reminder for dads to wear their **footy jersey** in support of the Gremmo family. Students are also permitted to wear their footy jersey over their normal school uniform.

Also remember to return the reply slip (with your \$3 family breakfast donation). Mums if you are able to help on the day please let us know.

Fathers' Day PowerPoint

Families can send in 'ONE' photo of dad with children to be included in our PowerPoint presentation in the church. Please send your photo to: bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au by Mon 26th August. Unfortunately, photos received after this date cannot be included so it's important to send by 3pm on Monday 26th!

Fathers' Day Stall

It is a good idea for our younger students (K & Yr 1) to have their spending money in a sealed envelope/snap lock bag with their name and class on it.

St Bernadette's Castle Hill

Father's Day Stall

Tuesday 27th August

New and exciting Father's Day gifts!
Prices ranging from \$1 to \$10...

"Dad: A son's first hero...
A daughter's first love..."

Designed by Leah Symin

Congratulations!

Congratulations to ex-student Matthew D'Souza (brother to Elizabeth in 2W) who was part of the winning Spaceport America Cup team representing Sydney University:

'Biggest achievement for Australian university student rocketry' The University of Sydney Rocketry Team was announced as a winner in the Spaceport America Cup intercollegiate rocketry competition, having competed in the 10,000 feet commercial off-the-shelf category.

Premier's Reading Challenge

Fantastic effort—all of Year 5 have now completed the PRC - Congratulations.

Also to be congratulated are the following children:
Jude Saliba, Arabella Egan, George Fayle, Alyssa Le, Ella Wassif, Evanna Hui, Victoria Ibrahim, Eve Lincoln, Christian Rizk, Daniel Rowe, Samuel Wakim, Rachel Zeaiter, Harper Moynahan, Evelyn Salter, Salote Ah Siu, Ryder Egan, Khiara Heyes, Jayden Lim, Thomas Looker, Matilda Maggs, Aaron Pereira, Michael Saad, Grace Semaan, Matthew Hanna, Sienna Leuzzi, William Looker, Jenice Luong, Thomas Nourdine, Keira Pereira, Campbell Sing, Charlie Akle, Rosemary Carroll, Alannah Ceh, Isabella De Souza, Lana Formosa, Ella Hammersley, Jason-Leigh Knight, Thomas McGinty, Bennett Moynahan, Cohen Orsini, Levi Parame, Lily Procter, Christian Rahme, Eleanor Read, Paula Reina Pinzon, Sebastian Van Jour, Antonio Wadih, Liam Worne, Andrew Zalloua, Jasmine Azzi, Amy Ballesty, Zoe Baroni, Claudia Chambers, Gabriel de Ponte, Alivia Dowling, Enya Hui, Justine Lim, Ailish Lincoln, Cassandra Losurdo, Jorja Mizzi, Sabrina Puglisi, Sienna Symin, Brodie Thompson, Gabrielle Youssef, Marc-Anthony Zeaiter.

Book Week Celebrations



School Fees

Just a reminder to all families that a term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing **MUST** be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during term for the next term and where appropriate notice has been received a pro-rata credit will be calculated. Where a term's notice has not been given to the Principal the terms school fees will be charged for your child/children.

Student Leave—Reminder

As part of the implementation of the formulated National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school holiday periods will now be included in Student Attendance Data as absences. Parents are requested to complete an Application for Extended Leave form for absences of **5 school days or more**. This form is on our website: Community/School Notes/Administration Forms. Please submit this form together with a copy of your travel documentation (e-ticket/booking form) **at least three weeks** prior to the proposed leave date. This Application for Extended Leave will then be responded to by Mrs Nettleton. Thank you for your assistance.

PRC Wellbeing Parent Presentation

Building Young People to Face Modern Day Challenges
Guest speaker—James Camden, Director of Catholic Youth Parramatta. St Andrew's Primary School, Marayong 36 Breakfast Road. Door open 6.30 for 7.30pm start.

Carlile Swimming, Cherrybrook (9980 7822).

Swimming lessons for all ages.

Visit: <https://www.carlile.com.au/cherrybrook/>



Child Protection

A reminder for parents who are required to **'UPDATE'** their child protection and for **'NEW'** parents to the school.



It is a Diocesan requirement that parents who volunteer at school must complete the Child Protection Module ONLINE. This training is available online at:

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training> and **MUST** be completed every two years. This is the new link as of July 2014.

All parents must have completed the above prior to helping in the classroom, on excursions, sport days, tuckshop, uniform shop or any help around the school.

Term Dates

Term 3: Mon 22 July—Fri 27 September

Term 4: Mon 14 October to Wed 18 December (for students)

P&F News:



SAVE THE DATE: Fri 8 November 3pm onwards

All sponsorship enquiries: Belisa Papandrea on Belisa.papandrea@gmail.com or 0408 344 250.

Family Fun Day @ NSW Parliament

Friday 11th October 10-3pm —Free fun educational activities at Australia's oldest Parliament for children 4 to 12 years. Location: 6 Macquarie Street (Opp Martin Place).

Other News:

Lifeline Book Fair—Oakhill College 11th—13th October.