



St Bernadette's School

Friday 3 December 2021 — Term 4 Week 9 No. 39

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week's newsletter is written with very mixed emotions. I wish to inform you that we have some staffing changes for the 2022 school year.

Mrs Karen Orsini, Mrs Corena Laso and Mrs Jackie Warner are leaving St Bernadette's at the end of this year. Mrs Orsini will be moving to St Angela's as Leader of Inquiry and Mrs Laso will be moving to St Mary's Rydalmere as Leader of Literacy. Both teachers will be truly missed as they have been an important part of the St Bernadette's family for many years. Both ladies are broadening their leadership experiences in new schools and these new schools are lucky to have them. Mrs Warner has been with us for approximately 5 years as one of our super team of Teacher Assistants and is leaving St Bernadette's to move back to her hometown in Qld.

Mrs Metwally is also taking a year's leave and we look forward to her return in 2023.

In other news, Mrs Rhiarna Thomas and Mrs Katie Mulligan look forward to the birth of their babies in the next few weeks and will be on maternity leave next year. We look forward to their return in some capacity in 2023.

We wish all these ladies every blessing as they embark on the next exciting chapter of their lives. We thank them for all that they have contributed to the St Bernadette's family over many years.

Welcome to new staff members to our school, starting in 2022. I know you will extend to them a very warm St Bernadette's welcome. Welcome to:

Miss Nathalie Casten who is joining us from St Patrick's Blacktown. Miss Casten will take on the role of Literacy Leader and class teacher.

Mr Joseph Eid who is joining us from Holy Family Granville. Mr Eid will take on the role of Numeracy Leader and class teacher.

Miss Charlotte Davies, Miss Anne-Lise Sidonie & Miss Dannika Snell who will be fulltime class teachers.

Details of class teachers will be shared with you after the children meet their new teacher on Monday 13th December. Have a restful weekend.

Bianca Cooke—Principal

R.E. NEWS



This Sunday is the second Sunday of Advent. We light another purple candle on the Advent wreath to represent the hope of Christ coming to the world. The word 'hope' has two meanings in the Bible. The first, *tiqvah*, contains the sense of eager anticipation or waiting. The second, *elpis*, depicts a sense of confident expectation based on certainty. Biblical hope is secured by God's faithfulness to His promises. For the Old Testament leaders, their hope was in the Messiah's arrival. For us, it is the hope of the Messiah's return.

The children know and understand that Advent is a time of waiting and preparing for the birth of our saviour.

Here are some suggestions for activities to do during the month of December through the season of Advent.

1. Make an Advent wreath at home – you will need 3 purple candles, one pink candle and one white candle for the middle of the wreath and use this as a focus for your family prayer.
 2. Read the Scripture of the day and discuss the message God and what it means for our lives.
- Celebrating Advent will help keep your children focused on Jesus and what we can do while we wait to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

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Week 10 Dates

Tues 7 December
Tremendous Tuesday

Wed 8 December
K22 Orientation

Coming Dates:

Tues 14 December
7pm Yr 6 Graduation Mass

Wed 15 December
Last day for students

Thu 16 & Fri 17 December
Staff Development Days



ST BERNADETTE'S
PRIMARY CASTLE HILL

Enrolling now
for 2022

357 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill
9407 6600 Register at
www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au



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

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



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

Wellbeing lessons this week looked at the power of our breath. Breathing has been part of mindfulness activities since ancient times and is part of every relaxation, calming and meditation practice.

This week we spoke about how powerful our breath can be and in some cases even 'magic'. By concentrating on our breathing and controlling our breaths we are able to slow our heart rate down, lower our anxiety levels and clear our mind of thoughts. Research has shown that controlling your breath can help to increase your ability to learn.



Most classes this week had the opportunity to make a *Breathing Stick*. It is a simple tool to guide us as we are breathing. We breathe in deeply through the nose and out very slowly through our mouth, as we breathe out we move the bead from one side to the other side very slowly in sync as we exhale. We spoke about the times when the *Breathing Stick* could help us calm down and refocus and how it would be very handy when we are anxious, 'out of sorts' or even to help us sleep. Have a practice at home.

Take care
Sally Coppini

Important Information about printed ICAS Results

ICAS are delighted to announce that your 2021 ICAS Writing Results are now available to be viewed via the [Results Portal](https://orti.icasassessments.com/ortistudent). Students can log in to view their own results using this link: <https://orti.icasassessments.com/ortistudent>.

Due to the sitting window extensions, ICAS have adjusted when the printed results and certificates will be ready. Students who completed any ICAS test(s) in November 2021, should expect their results displayed online before the end of Term 4, 2021, and their printed results delivered to their school in Term 1, 2022.

LAST FEW REMAINING PLACES KINDERGARTEN & Years 1 to 6 2022

Have you enrolled your child for Kindergarten 2022? Limited places remain for next year's Kindergarten intake. Interviews are also taking place for Yrs 1 to 6 2022. Please submit your enrolment form and accompanying documents to the school office as soon as possible.



...RE News

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Thank you to the generous St Bernadette's community for your bountiful donations to the Christmas Hamper Appeal.



After a challenging year you have embraced the message of the Good Samaritan and really shown love for your neighbour.

Thank you again for your wonderful generosity in supporting those families who are less fortunate.



Tremendous Tuesday
Be Prepared to Get Wet!

R.I.P. †† Our prayerful sympathy is extended to the Overend family (Harry in 3G), following the recent passing of his grandfather. May he rest in peace.



Executive Directors Summer Reading Challenge

Taking part in the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is easy! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it. The more a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of two \$500 JB Hi-Fi vouchers or one of 30 runner-up gift vouchers to the value of \$30. Students can enter [online](#) by visiting the CEDP website.

Entries open on 1 November 2021 and close at 5:00pm on 25 February 2022. Terms and Conditions can be found [here](#).



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COMPASS PARENT PORTAL

Have you downloaded it yet? So many benefits ... ease of communication, push notifications, update family details, quick & easy absentee notification, school calendar and more! Contact the office for further details.

ENROL NOW FOR COSHC FOR TERM 4 &

2022! We offer an exciting and safe space for children of all ages to come before and after school. We are currently accepting bookings! Please email stbcastlehill@cdpsl.org.au for any enquiries. We look forward to having you join us soon!

PARISH NEWS:

Sacrament of Reconciliation

For those wishing to enrol their child in the Sacrament of Reconciliation program for 2022, please contact sacraments@stbernadette.org.au or visit the Parish Office Monday-Friday 9am-5pm for a copy of the Parent Information Booklet and details on how to enrol.

VACATION CARE BOOKINGS AVAILABLE NOW!

So many fun and exciting days planned during the Summer School Holidays! We're going to the farm, reptiles and waterslides coming to the service and lots of fun craft and cooking activities for all! Please email stbcastlehill@cdpsl.org.au for more information!

Term 1 2022:

Fri 28 Jan—Staff Development & Pupil Free Day
Mon 31 Jan—Staff Dev Day & MAIs
Tues 1 Feb—Years 1 to 6 commence
Wed 2 Feb—Kindergarten 2022 commence
Fri 8 April—Last day of Term 1

St Bernadette's school is having its own

Summer Reading Challenge

with some great prizes to be won.

It's easy. All you have to do is read 5 books (or more) of your choice or have someone read 5 (or more) books to you.

Once you have read your books simply print, fill out the attached form(s) and return it to school by **Friday 11th February 2022**.

You never know it might be YOU who wins one of our special prizes. You can enter more than one sheet. The more the merrier!

