



St Bernadette's School

Friday 25 February 2022 — Term 1 Week 5 No. 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am excited to tell you that we are back into the office and that the renovations are now complete. It has been a very busy week moving boxes around and setting up work areas, though all staff are happy to be using the staffroom once again. The senior student toilets are also complete, and I know the Years 5 and 6 students will enjoy using them. We are awaiting a delivery of jumbo toilet rolls before we can put these facilities into use.

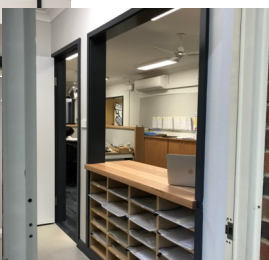
Thank you to the many families who attended this week's P&F meeting in person or via zoom. It was a very successful meeting, and it was exciting to hear all the plans that the P&F have for 2022. Thank you to the 2022 P&F team for all that they have already done.

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who received their leadership badges in a very prayerful liturgy this afternoon. I am proud of every single one of them. I look forward to working with them in leading our school community this year.

Please read the details inside regarding changes to school routines due to the easing of COVID restrictions.

Have a restful weekend!

Bianca Cooke



R.E. NEWS



Next Wednesday, 2nd March is Ash Wednesday and the Church begins the Season of Lent.

During the Season of Lent, we can focus on the three practices of Lent that are; Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Prayer:

In class, the children pray special Lenten prayers as they draw closer to God in preparation for Easter.

Fasting: Many children have chosen to give up a favourite toy, game or food treat for the duration of Lent as they begin to realise the suffering so many people in our world experience every day.

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. During Lent St Bernadette's always raises money for Caritas through Project Compassion. This year's theme is 'For All Future Generations. This year we will fight to raise funds for the most vulnerable.

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

Project Compassion 2022

Funds from Project Compassion will help people like 12-year-old Anatercia from Mozambique to break the cycle of poverty and forge a brighter future.

Thanks to the support of people like you, Anatercia received essential school supplies from our local partner, Caritas Regional Chokwe. They also successfully lobbied the government to have her local school extended to 6th grade, so that children like Anatercia can finish their primary education. Every \$27 will cover learning materials for children like Anatercia.

The funds you raise can help vulnerable communities around the world to:

- Improve access to food and clean water
- Support education and skills training
- Help vulnerable communities to increase their income
- Provide training in disaster risk reduction



ST BERNADETTE'S
PRIMARY CASTLE HILL

**ENROLLING NOW
FOR KINDY 2023.**

Limited places remain
for Kindergarten to Yr 6
in 2022

Week 6 Dates

Mon 28 Feb
Dance Fever

Tues 1 March
Zone Swimming
Shrove Tuesday

Wed 2 March
Ash Wednesday

Fri 4 March
Band
Clean Up Australia Day
Whole School Assembly
via zoom

Week 7 Dates
Catholic Schools Week
Kindergarten 2023
**Open Days—see
website**

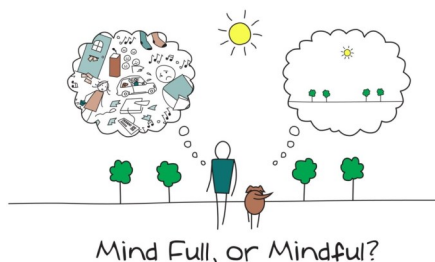
Fri 8 April
Last day of Term 1

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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>



This week in our wellbeing lessons we look at being mindful. Mindfulness is a skill that keeps our minds healthy. Mindfulness is noticing and being curious about what is happening right now. It helps us control our thoughts.

Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2

Students this week looked at all the different types of families. We read a story about what is important to a family and whatever type of family you belong to, the love that is shared is the same.



Years 3 and 4

A lot of things in our lives change as we get older, such as our physical appearance, social skills and our interests. This can be exciting! Sometimes it is scary. Stage 2 shared some changes that they have experienced and discussed the strategies they could use to help them cope. Moving house, school or even country, the birth of a new sibling or the loss of a Grandparent were some of the changes they shared.

Years 5 and 6

This week we discussed mindfulness and how it helps our wellbeing. Practicing mindfulness means we are focused, which helps when we are performing tasks. Mindfulness can also help relieve stress. We talked about how many of our thoughts are negative and discussed how important it is to have positive self-talk.



Library—Great news!!

Our Wellbeing Library will reopen for business after 2 and a half terms. Lockdown, government restrictions and then renovations meant that students were not able to visit and borrow from the library.

We are all very excited. The 'big reveal' will happen this coming Monday. There are lots of changes, new shelving and hundreds of new books ready to be borrowed and a few other surprises.

Happy reading everyone!
Mrs Coppini



KINDERGARTEN 2023

Our enrolment process has started for Kindergarten 2023. Prospective parents are invited to visit our website and register your interest for one of our open days/times:

[Register your interest here](#)

All enrolment forms are to be submitted with relevant paperwork no later than **March 31st**.



Siblings for Kindergarten 2023

As we prepare for Kindergarten 2023, it is imperative that we know how many siblings to expect. If you would like to enrol a sibling into Kindy next year please email Mrs Crake at the school office on bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au by end of February 2022. You can also submit an enrolment form now by clicking on our website and downloading the form. All forms to be submitted with relevant paperwork no later than **March 31st**. Thank you for your cooperation.

Well done Yr 1 students!

On Wednesday a few St Bernadette's Yr 1 students took part in a photoshoot with our Hills Shire Mayor Peter Gangemi to promote the Year One Reading Club, a special program for year one students, designed and presented by The Hills Library. The club is aimed at encouraging a love of reading in a fun way. The children were all so well behaved, followed instructions well during the shoot and gave their best smiles. They included Isabelle & Ashton Mirakhour, Ilaria Dahdah & Jasmine Diab.



Communication with School

Any emails that are sent to school could you please include your child's name and class—thank you

COMPASS PARENT PORTAL

This is our main form of communication with families. A notification was sent to all parents who have not yet downloaded the App. Kindergarten and new families to the school—you can now join us too!

So many benefits ... ease of communication, push notifications, update family details, quick & easy absentee notification, school calendar and more!

Covid News

No doubt you have read in the media all about the easing of COVID restrictions. This is welcome news and we look forward to school life returning to normal. Here are some details relevant to us at St Bernadette's as of Monday 28th February, where we can revert to many of our usual practices.



- **Break times-** Recess 10:30am, Lunch 1:00pm- all grades to have breaks at the same time.
- **Student Arrival time-** before 8:30am with supervision from 8am. Please continue to use the kiss and drop area in the carpark or Brisbane Rd gates. Parents not to enter the school gates in the morning at this time so that we can establish proper school routines. We will keep you updated as changes are made.
- **Dismissal time-** 2:45pm for all grades
- **Blue Wall pick up-** 3:00pm-3:15pm for all grades. **Please DO NOT line up for pick up before this time.**
- **Tuckshop Terrace Pick up-** 2:45pm-3pm for all grades. If you wish to pick your child up in person inside the school gate, you must park your car in the top carpark, walk to the area outside the canteen and your child will walk up to meet you. You then need to exit the school and carpark quickly to enable Blue Wall pick up to commence at 3pm. Parents must not walk to classrooms or elsewhere in the school. Parents are encouraged to wear a face mask if unable to maintain social distancing from other parents.
- **Brisbane Rd, Old Northern Road, Buses-** 2:45pm for all grades
- **After school care-** no changes
- **Crunch'n'sip** - is still strongly encouraged for all grades
- **Canteen-** open for lunches daily, closed for recess orders and sales for the moment. Online ordering of lunches is recommended.
- **Uniform Shop-** online orders to continue
- **Library-** borrowing begins! Please ensure your child brings their library bag to school
- **PE/Dance Fever-** days remain the same
- **RAT kits and testing-** remain at the discretion of the parents. As always, if your child is sick keep them home and it is strongly recommended that you complete a RAT or PRC test. Please continue to follow NSW Health requirements and notify the school if your child or a close family member contracts COVID.
- **Face Masks-** mandatory for staff for 1 more week, optional for children
- **If pick up arrangements are changing for your child, please notify your child's class teacher in writing.**

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation.
Mrs Bianca Cooke

2022 School Fees

Term fee accounts have now been sent home to all families this week from the Catholic Education Office. Payment is due by Wednesday the 16th of March.

Attached are details of Payment Options. On the same page are details explaining 'Withdrawal of a Student' terms.

Introducing Qkr! Mobile Phone App

St Bernadette's is now offering an online payment service through Qkr! by Mastercard.

Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') is designed for busy parents and carers, this easy-to-use mobile phone application is suitable for both iPhone and Android Smartphones.

This service is currently available for **non-school fee payments** for items such as sport gala days. Communications will be distributed as new events and products become available for purchase.



Congratulations to our new Year 6 Student Leaders



2022 School Captains

Savannah Jaucian
Harry Wigham



2022 Vice School Captains

Amelia Lavis
Nicolas Reyna

Green House Captains

Zara Osborn
Jack Kirkham

Blue House Captains

Juliana Zaiter
Jackson Lieb

Gold House Captains

Natalie Alam
Ashton Pace

Red House Captains

Sofia Papandrea
Samuel Lean-Fore

Our Leadership Liturgy was held in the Church today.



Reminder: Sport Email

Our school has a new email address for sport related enquiries and information - bernadettechsport@parra.catholic.edu.au. This email address will be used to communicate sport related activities such as Gala Days and Sport Trials.

Take Note: Sports Dates

1 March—Zone Swimming Carnival
21 March—Primary Cross Country Carnival

Executive Directors Summer Reading Challenge—CLOSING 25 FEB 5PM

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. Terms and Conditions can be found [here](#).



Uniform Shop

Please be advised that due to the Zone Carnival on Tuesday, orders placed for the uniform shop will be delivered to students on Wednesday. Thank you.

P&F News: GRADE CONTACT PARENT LIST

St Bernadette's P&F

Dear Parents,

Each year the P&F put together a list for each grade containing contact information for other parents in their grade. This helps parents plan social events (birthdays, play dates, etc) but also provides the P&F with up to date contact details for our correspondence.

This list is distributed to other parents in your grade and is not published or shared beyond that group.

Please provide your contact details using QR code or link below if you wish to be added to the 2022 class list. You will need to submit this form once for each child, ensuring that you complete all the details each time.



LINK: <https://forms.gle/xipAJRbiyCoWxyFX6>

The closing date to complete these details is Friday, 26 February 2022.

Any questions please email GPC.stbpnf@gmail.com

Regards, Rita Bradshaw (Grade Parent Co-ordinator)

A slip was sent home with every child with the above details. Please complete **TONIGHT** (26 Feb) if you would like your details to be included. Thank you.

Term Dates for 2022

Term 1— Fri 28 January to Fri 8 April
Term 2—Tue 26 April to Fri 1 July
Term 3— Mon 18 July to Fri 23 September
Term 4—Mon 10 October to Fri 16 December (for students)

Please note no staff development days have been included

P&F News continued...

Helpers Needed

3-4 parents who are comfortable carrying furniture/equipment needed to help move some items following office renovations. Ideally needed for about 30 minutes after morning drop off or before afternoon pickup. Please contact Nick Gooley on 0488 177 618 if you are able to help.

PRC Dates

The Parent Representative Council runs a meeting each term and includes a guest speaker to talk about topics that are especially relevant to parents of school-aged children. This term's meeting will take place on **March 14th** and the main speaker will be Dr David Elliot (CEDP Director of Wellbeing). Alex Hawke MP along with a representative of the ALP will be speaking briefly as well. Further details will be available closer to the date and venue will either be in Blacktown, West HQ or via Zoom. If you would like further information please contact - prcparrasecretary@gmail.com

Other PRC dates:

Term 2 - Raising Girls by Steve Biddulph

Term 3 - Raising Boys (speaker TBC)

Term 4 - Speaker & Topic TBC

PRC are also hoping to make contact with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander parents for opportunities to engage with the PRC in relation to reconciliation, etc. If you are interested please contact Wayne (PRC President) via email address above.

P&F Meeting

Please find the minutes for Wednesday's P&F meeting attached. Thankyou to everyone who attended in person or via zoom. We covered many topics and have some wonderful events and programs planned for 2022. For further information on how you can get involved please contact any of the Executive Committee or email president.stbpnf@gmail.com

St Bernadette's Football Club

Early bird discounted rego ends Feb 28!!!

Come and join your fellow classmates at St Bernadette's Football Club! We are a school community club which caters for students in Kindy (u/6) to Yr 6 (u/12). Training is held on a Thursday evening at Eric Mobbs Reserve Castle Hill. Games are on Saturdays in the local Hills area.

Our fees are tailored to assist our families - we offer a \$20 early bird discount (ends Feb 28!) and a \$20 sibling discount. The Club provides the playing jersey. Active kids vouchers accepted. You can register here: Home | Play Football. We are accepting donations of second hand soccer shorts. Collection tubs will be located at Brisbane Road and Blue wall gates from Monday.

For any further information go to About SBFC – St Bernadette's Football Club, email sbfcfooty@gmail.com, or call our club registrar, Leighton Hawkes on 0412 751 724. There are a number of positions available on the committee for any parents wishing to volunteer! If website coordinator, social media communications coordinator, bbq roster coordinator or field equipment coordinator sound interesting please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. We look forward to welcoming you to our football club for the 2022 Winter Season.



ST BERNADETTE'S

PRIMARY CASTLE HILL



OPEN DAYS

8 March 9:15am-10:15am

10 March 11:30am-12:30pm

11 March 7:00am-8:00am

15 March 3:00pm-4:00pm

17 March 4:00pm-5:00pm



357 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill

T 9407 6600

www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au



Scan QR code to register your interest

Enrolling Now for Kindy 2023