



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Our attendance percentage to date is: 89.4%

I can't believe that this is our last newsletter for Term 1!

We have had a great start to the year and the children continue to surprise me with their fabulous learning. Some of their great work can be seen in the hall on our *Wall of Fame*.

Some of the initiatives put in place this term include:

- Staff learning on the Literacy Progressions - Staff have worked side by side with our Literacy Teacher Educator Mrs Lise Sercombe, to unpack the NSW Literacy Progressions. These support our English Syllabus and provide opportunities to support student goal setting in writing, in line with our school goal.
- Continued Inquiry based learning - Teachers have continued to facilitate inquiry based projects in Science or History. This inquiry style of learning supports student voice and choice and ensures that the children are learning 21st century skills such as collaboration which sets them up for the future.
- Gymnastics - The Dance Fever Team have once again supported the teaching of gymnastics in line with the requirements of our PDHPE syllabus.

Add to this:

- Canteen Days
- Election BBQ & Cake Stall
- Lunch Club
- Catholic Schools' Week
- Open Day for new parents
- Easter Raffle
- St Bernadette's Got Talent Afternoon
- Kindergarten Enrollment Interviews



I wish everyone a Safe & Holy Easter. May you have the perfect opportunity to celebrate with family and friends who remind you that Jesus is present in your lives as much or as little as you allow him to be.

Love & Light

Lisa Gerrard

Principal

Sunday, 7 Apr 2019: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year C

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Lent ends on a note of wonder. In the face of all the mighty works that God has already performed for the people, God promises something even more magnificent.

Throughout this season we have reflected on the marvels that God accomplished in the lives of the people, cutting a covenant with Abraham, leading the people out of bondage, revealing God's own personal name, bring them into a land that is bursting with life. Now God says: You haven't seen anything yet.

The first reading proclaims that something new is about to appear. In the gospel, this new thing unfolds before our eyes. Here we see Jesus neither rejecting the law nor changing it. Instead, he shows that the law, as good as it might be, serves something higher. He shows that the mercy and compassion of God exceed the authority of the law. Once again we see that the readings of Lent are less concerned with mortification and penance than they are with divine graciousness and our response of joy and thanksgiving.

Paul is not satisfied with the blessings of the past. In fact, he considers them rubbish when compared with knowing and being united with Christ. Life with Christ transforms us from people who are caught in sin to women and men who have been forgiven. Life in Christ is the new thing that God has fashioned for us. God is the one who creates something new; we are the ones who are re-created.

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SCHOOL NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1

For reminders on upcoming activities and events around our school, please use the SkoolBag App. This will give you the most up to date information on what is happening each week.

9/4 - New Cross Country Carnival

12/4 - Pizza Meal Deal

12/4 - Easter Raffle

12/4 - Last day of Term 1

29/4 - School Resumes for Term 2

10/5 - Staff Development Day

DRIVE THROUGH

IMPORTANT: Due to the number of complaints being made in regards to the traffic congestion around our school and parents not using our 'Drive Through' correctly. We have received notification from the local council that they will be sending a ranger to patrol around our school on a regular basis in the mornings and afternoons.



This is a reminder that any parents using the drive through to collect their child must remain in their vehicles. At no time should any parents be getting out of their vehicle or using this area for parking. It is a drop off and pick up zone only.

WINTER UNIFORM

All students will be returning to school in Term 2 in their winter uniform.

TAKING ENROLMENTS NOW



Don't forget that we are currently holding Kindy Interviews for those students who will be enrolled in Kindergarten for 2020. We have a number of spots left for interviews but please don't leave submitting your enrolment application until the last minute as you may miss out on a place.

ANZAC DAY



During the holidays we remember those who serve our country in a selfless way on ANZAC Day. For each of us it resonates differently. For some it is an appreciation

of those who have fought in previous battles that shaped our Nation and for others it is a little more close to home as we welcome home or farewell those in our families that are currently undertaking the arduous task of keeping us safe by serving their country.

As a school we will spend a moment next term together to remember these brave men and women.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

A reminder that we wind our clocks *back one hour* on Sunday April 7th as Daylight Savings ends. Whoo Hoo! An extra hours sleep in!



NO PETS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Please remember not to bring pets onto the school grounds before, during or after school. As gentle or well behaved as your pet may be we can never predict how they will respond around excited children. It would be a great tragedy if a child was injured by a pet who becomes over excited and behaves uncharacteristically and bites.



PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

The children who have registered to take part in the PRC 2019 can expect to receive their user names and passwords by the end of term.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lauren T - 5/4

Jessie E B - 9/4

Nicolas L - 7/4

Georga E B - 9/4

Joshua J - 8/4



Sam G - 12/4

PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Kindergarten - Mason N

Year 5 - Willem K L

Year 1 - Arabella K L

Year 6 - Patrick B

Year 2 - Ansh T

Year 3 - Mikaela M

Year 4 - Mary T



SCHOOL NEWS

JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM

St Bernadette's Primary School will be hosting Japanese students from 30th July - 6th August 2019.

This is an opportunity to share your lifestyle and home whilst experiencing another culture.

- Students attend school on weekdays and enjoy family life with you on the weekend
 - Japanese language is not necessary.
 - Students just fit in with your family routines – eat your food, they will need their own bed but can share a room.
 - Families are paid \$50 per night or 2 students being hosted by one family \$45 per night.
- Please enquire in our school office if you would like more information on the program and being a host.

ANOTHER GENTLE REMINDER



We all know there are times when our children come home upset with stories of how they were let down by other children during the course of the day. As parents, we want to defend our child and protect them

from hurt feelings.

Some Dos, Don'ts and Think Before that need to be remembered:

Do: Follow any incident up with your child's teacher as the first port of call. Then if you feel that you need to take the incident further please feel free to make an appointment to see Anthony Kensell or Lisa Gerrard. (For further information please see our complaints policy in the office foyer)

Don't: Approach any child that is not your own to discuss possible issues. Just as you would feel that it is not appropriate for another parent to reprimand your child, it is not okay for you to approach and try to discipline someone else's child.

Think Before: You ring another parent about their child's behaviour. Kids have an amazing way of being friends one minute and enemies the next! By the time we get involved the children have made up or moved

on. I have seen these type of situations cause rifts between families over basically nothing.

ATTENDANCE REMINDER

We have currently been changing over to a new program called Compass to log student attendance. While there have been a few minor adjustments as we roll over from FACES to Compass, I was a little surprised at the pile of unexplained absence notes that I had to sign last Friday.

Moving forward just a reminder that being away due to illness is unavoidable but being habitually late or picking up students prior to the end of the day can have a large impact on their learning.

A few not so fun facts:

- 5 minutes late each day
- = 25 minutes per week
- = 250 minutes per term
- = 1000 minutes per year.



17 hours per year of learning missed over the course of a student's school life equates to 221 hours (approx 37 school days)

THANK YOU FROM MRS GERRARD

Thanks so much to all of the amazing students, parents and staff we have in our community. I have been overwhelmed with the way no task is too big or difficult when I've asked for assistance.

So many people who have toured our school over the past term have commented on the warm feeling they get when meeting our students.

That comes down to YOU!

I'm eternally grateful everyday that I have the opportunity to work and serve in such a great community.



SRC UPDATE

ST BERNADETTE'S GOT TALENT



The SRC has decided to host 'St Bernadette's Got Talent' at the end of the term. The acts include all different talents. The auditions will be held in the hall on Wednesday 3rd April and Thursday 4th April. We encourage everyone in all years to have a go and participate in St Bernadette's Got Talent. Be aware, however, that some will not make it through the auditions. Do not be disheartened! You will have another chance next time.

SUGGESTION BOX

The suggestion Box has recently been put out again for all the students to express their ideas and interests. Students are asked to put forward sensible ideas to make our wonderful school a better place. The suggestion box is outside the canteen and all children are welcome to suggest an idea.

CROSS COUNTRY



On the 8th of April, Week 11 students will be participating in the Cross Country. At the Cross Country 8-10 year old students will run 2 and a half laps around Curtis Oval and 11-12 year old students run 4 laps. Students who run and come in the top 6 will go to the next level. Some students who have been elected as SRC will take photos of students running in the Cross Country.

LEARNING MATTERS



Children have responded well to new expectations of behaviour in afternoon dismissal, most notably by those children who are on 'Drive Through'. Some students have been given star tokens for their excellent behaviour in the afternoon dismissal process. We appreciate your support with afternoon dismissal procedures and, more importantly, keeping the students safe.

We are building on "I am safe" and are now focusing on 'we keep our hands and feet to ourselves'. These are the words that students are being reminded of every day. We know that we can have your support in also reminding students of this, while at home.

Our school has had the chance to share some of our PBS4L strategies with other CEDP schools. There was considerable positive feedback on our launch day and of course Bernie Bright was an inspiration for many other schools.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

MacKillop Swimming Championships

On Wednesday 29th March, 3 of St Bernadette's finest swimmers competed at the MacKillop Swimming Championships at Homebush Aquatic Centre. It is a great achievement to reach this high level of competition, where the very best swimmers from all Catholic schools in NSW vie for a place in the Mackillop Team.

Marcus K & Heidi S successfully qualified for the MacKillop team and will go on to compete at the NSW PSSA Swimming Championships at the end of the term!

Congratulations to our swimmers!

Ian B - 50m Freestyle (7th), 200m Individual Medley (10th)

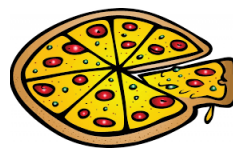
Marcus K - 50m Freestyle (2nd), 50m Backstroke, 50m Butterfly

Heidi S - 50m Freestyle (1st), 50m Backstroke (1st & New record), 50m Breaststroke (1st & New record), 50m Butterfly (1st & New record), 200m Individual Medley (1st), 100m Freestyle



Another amazing performance from the children of St Bernadette's! We look forward to more news from the State Championships.

P & F NEWS



PIZZA MEAL DEAL ON FRIDAY 12 APRIL

What better way to end Term 1 than with a Pizza Day! If you wish to order a Pizza Meal Deal on Friday April 12th, please complete your order form and send to the office tomorrow. Orders and money must be received by Friday 5 April.

The food will be pre-ordered and we will not be able to accept orders on the day.

Thank you!

2nd HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Time to check winter uniforms in readiness for next term! There is plenty of stock:

Boys winter shirts in all sizes, girls tunics and blouses in all sizes, jackets and tracksuit pants in all sizes

Please text requirements to Cathy Nagy on 0416 048 169.

Items will be left in the office for pickup.

YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4 EXCURSION TO COCKATOO ISLAND

An Awesome Jam Packed Day at Cockatoo Island

On the 21st of March Stage 2 went on an exciting adventure to Cockatoo Island to learn more about the British colonisation of Australia.

We took the bus to Meadowbank wharf and caught the RiverCat to the island. For some of the students this was the first time on a RiverCat and even a boat!

Once we were on Cockatoo Island we made our way to a giant old factory where we were introduced to our tour guides. Each student was given an outfit, which showed their role, either boss, guard or convict. We were also allocated historical people who lived and worked on Cockatoo Island in the 1700's.

On the tour we got to see where the convicts slept and ate. We saw the tremendously large silos and long tunnels the convicts dug out of the sandstone. We heard about the story of a convict who escaped off the island by swimming across the water, he later became a bushranger! Each student got to explore the solitary confinement cells that convicts were sent to if they misbehaved.

We got to walk around the room where the guards slept and kept watch over the convicts.

The excursion was exhausting with all the walking we did. We learnt so much about the history of Cockatoo Island...it is more than just a place where Australian Ninja Warrior was filmed!



COMMUNITY NEWS



To see what activities are on during the school holidays in your local area, visit the Parramatta City Council website. Follow the LINK.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

APRIL 2019

- MON 15 APRIL** Taekwondo, arts/craft, soccer & youth hub.
- TUES 16 APRIL** BJJ, table tennis, cricket & cooking.
- WED 17 APRIL** Kick Boxing, bollywood dance, outdoor games & youth hub.
- THURS 18 APRIL** Outdoor games, kids fitness, table tennis & dodgeball.
- FRI 19 APRIL** **GOOD FRIDAY. CLUB CLOSED.**
- MON 22 APRIL** **EASTER MONDAY. CLUB CLOSED.**
- TUES 23 APRIL** BJJ, table tennis, cricket & cooking.
- WED 24 APRIL** Kick Boxing, bollywood dance, outdoor games & youth hub.
- THURS 25 APRIL** **ANZAC DAY. CLUB CLOSED.**
- FRI 26 APRIL** Taekwondo, boxing, soccer & youth hub.

Program is designed for children aged 5-12 years old and runs from 9.00am-4.00pm. **Cost is \$30.00 per child, per day.**
Note: parents can pay \$20.00 for care between 4.00pm-6.00pm.
Please pack a hat, recess and lunch for your child.

SAVE TIME AND BOOK ONLINE!

(02) 9635 8242
parramatta@pcycnsw.org.au
107 George Street, Parramatta NSW 2150



APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP

Come dance with us on from the 16th-18th of April!

Date: 16th, 17th & 18th April

Location: Top Ryde Studio

Time: 9:00am-4:30pm

Levels: Junior 5-9yrs, Senior 10+yrs

Price: \$89.00 per day, \$249.00 for all 3 days

Special Offers:

Early Bird- Register and pay before 29th March and receive 10% off! Bring a Friend who isn't a member of WSDA and both receive 10% off!



catholic out of school hours care

AUTUMN VACATION CARE 2019 PROGRAM AND BOOKING FORMS

FOR ST MONICA'S ARE AVAILABLE IN THE ST BERNADETTE'S OFFICE FOR ANY FAMILIES WHO ARE INTERESTED IN OR NEED VACATION CARE, THESE AUTUMN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.