

NEWSLETTER 2024 TERM 3 WEEK 4

St Bernadette's Primary School Dundas Valley

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 4:

Friday, 12 August: School Movie Night

Week 5:

Monday, 15 August: Book Fair open 8:30am -9:30am

Tuesday, 16 August: Book Fair open 8:30am -9:30am
Book Parade at 9:30am (under
cola)

Wednesday, 17 August: Book Fair open 8:30am
- 9:30am

Thursday, 18 August: Rug Reading Afternoon at 2pm

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear St Bernadette's Parents and Carers,

Last Thursday our school was a sea of colour and competition, flags and fun as our athletes, representing many nations competed in our Olympics fun day. The day was filled with energy, excitement, and plenty of memorable moments.

From the opening ceremony to the final races, the students showcased their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship in a series of creative and sometimes silly events. A big shout-out to all the staff and volunteers and who made this day possible. Your hard work and enthusiasm truly brought our community closer together. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this fantastic event. Let's keep the Olympic spirit alive and look forward to even more fun in the future!

I am so incredibly proud of our STEM group who presented their STEM MAD project last Thursday at CathWest. Their passion and ingenuity shone through. The group designed a website that connects charities with volunteers called V2H. They inspired many people with their creative ideas. As I presented them with certificates at our Monday morning assembly, I told them that I hope that they follow through with their incredible idea and continue to inspire the world to reach out and help others in need.



We are thrilled that Book Week is just around the corner! This special week, celebrated all Week 5, is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together to celebrate the joy of reading and the power of stories.

What is Book Week?

Book Week is an annual celebration of books, authors, and illustrators that aims to inspire a love of reading in children of all ages. It's a time when we emphasise the importance of literacy and encourage students to dive into the magical world of books. This year's theme just happens to be **Reading Is Magic**, and we have a week of fun and engaging activities planned.

Warm regards,

Michelle Yager
Principal

FROM THE ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Over the course of the year our students have had many opportunities to represent St Bernadette's at external events. These have included Gala Days, FIAT events, the STEM MAD showcase and most recently the Zone Athletics Carnival. I have been fortunate enough to attend several of these events myself.

When speaking to our staff, a common theme agreed upon by all is the exemplary way in which our students conduct themselves at all times. Whether it be speaking to other students, discussing their learning with other CSPD staff, or striving for success on the sporting field, our students really shine.

As a school we pride ourselves on nurturing our students academically, socially and emotionally. The sense of community felt by all of our students and teachers is one of the things that makes St Bernadette's such a special place.

Just last week at the STEM MAD showcase, I met a lady who was a student at our school more than 20 years ago! The way she spoke of St Bernadette's with such fond memories shows that this wonderful sense of community is something that has existed at our school for many years, as it does to this very day.

Anthony Kensell
Acting Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: A Celebration of Mary's Journey to Heaven

The Feast of the Assumption, celebrated on August 15th, is a significant day in the Catholic Church, marking the belief that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken into heaven. This belief has deep roots in early Christian tradition, and has been expressed through centuries of devotion, art, liturgy and theology, becoming a cherished aspect of Catholic life.

Officially defined as Catholic doctrine in 1950, the Assumption highlights Mary's unique place in salvation history. For Catholics, the feast is a source of hope, reminding them of the promise of eternal life and the companionship with God that awaits after the trials of this life.

The Assumption also underscores Mary's role as a mother and sister in faith, someone who shares in our human experiences and hardships. Her life, from the joys of motherhood to the sorrow of witnessing her son's crucifixion, resonates deeply with the faithful, particularly women. As the Church honours Mary, it celebrates not just her Assumption, but her ongoing presence as a compassionate intercessor and model of Christian life.

In today's Church, the Feast of the Assumption continues to inspire hope and unity, reflecting Mary's deep connections to both God and humanity. It reminds all Catholics that, like Mary, we too are called to share in Christ's glory.



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Sunday 18 Aug 2024

Gospel

John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowd:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate:

they are dead,

but anyone who eats this bread will live forever.'



REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'The Eucharist', Pope Francis famously said, 'is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' Reflecting on today's Gospel passage, the Pope encourages us to avoid becoming 'arbiters of grace'. Rather, he says, we should be 'its facilitators'.

As the Pope points out, Jesus gives us the Eucharist 'with a specific purpose: that we may become one with him.'

'The Eucharist is Jesus himself who gives himself entirely to us', the Pope reminds us, which helps us to become a living 'gift to God and to our brothers and sisters.'

In one sense, we do this individually. Being nourished by the Eucharist, the Pope explains, 'means entering into harmony with the heart of Christ, assimilating his choices, his thoughts, his behaviour.' Each of us therefore seeks to become what we consume.

But we do not do so alone. Communion is a celebration of the Body of Christ – the Church – which means we are being transformed together as the pilgrim People of God. Communion, the Pope says, 'means entering into a dynamism of love and becoming people of peace, people of forgiveness, of reconciliation, of sharing in solidarity.'

What this all means is that we should approach the Eucharist with openness to being changed, individually and collectively, into the Bread of Life for all.

© Nick Brodie

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

What makes you happy and joyful in your life?

What are the most important of these?

Why are they the most important?

Jesus tells us that we should seek things that will last. In today's Gospel what does Jesus give us that will last forever?

Jesus gives us the Bread of life, himself.

How do we show we are happy and thankful for this great gift?

We can sing songs of joy and praise God, give thanks for the many blessings we are given and show kindness to one another.

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TERM 3 MASS/RECONCILIATION ROSTER

Week/Date	Other Celebrations	Wednesday Reconciliation	Friday Mass
Week 4 12 - 16 Aug	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary <i>(Whole School to attend parish Mass on Thursday)</i>	3	
Week 5 19 - 23 Aug		5	5 & 1
Week 6 26 - 30 Aug	Father's Day <i>Friday</i>	6	
Week 7 2 - 6 Sep		5	Whole School
Week 8 9 - 13 Sep		3 & 4	2, 3 & 4
Week 9 16 - 20 Sep	Whole School Swimming Program		
Week 10 23 - 27 Sep	Whole School Swimming Program		

FAITH IN ACTION: HELPING OTHERS TO SOAR IN 2024



We continue to sell cheese toasties each week to raise money for our mission activity, 'Flanno For a Farmer'. We have had an enormous amount of orders each week which is so fantastic. The FIAT and SRC leaders are doing a great job making the cheese toasties and distributing them on Thursday mornings with a smile. They are great examples of service.

All cheese toastie orders can be made on QQR and close Tuesdays at 11am.



Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Carly & The FIAT Team

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Next Assembly

Our next assembly will be on Friday, 23 August in week 5, starting at 2:30pm in the school hall. The class presenting will be Year 1.

Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day

After a long wait our Stage 3 boys had their Soccer Gala Day last week. Miss Maria & Miss Steph were very impressed with the skills on display, as well as the great sense of team spirit evident on the day. As expected all of our boys played their hearts out and represented our school with pride and excellent on field behaviour.

Both of our teams had a mix of wins and losses on the day, though special congratulations go to our Year 5 team, who won their pool and received their medals at last Friday's assembly! A big thank you to Ryan's & Aiden's dads who helped coach the Year 5 team, and to Ray's brother who coached the Year 6 team. We are always grateful for this support and cannot attend these days without such generous support.



MOVIE NIGHT



Our Movie night is tomorrow. Dinner will be served at 5pm and the movies will commence at 5:30pm. Students attending must bring their food voucher which will be distributed on Friday.

Students are encouraged to wear their favourite pyjamas.

Please remember that this is a student only event.

Parents please drop your child off at the canteen area between 4:45-5pm.

Infants students will need to be collected from the hall at 7:30pm and primary students will need to be collected from the Year 5 learning space at 7:30pm.

All children must leave with their own parents. If any child is going home with another adult a signed parent note will be required. This is to ensure safety for all.



Premier's Reading Challenge Reminder

Just a reminder the Challenge closes *Friday 23 August 2024*. Please ensure all your books have been entered by this date.

BOOK WEEK



We have started our Book Week celebrations this week with a spectacular performance from Perform Education. The performance *Maybe a Miracle!* showcased some of the Children's Book Council of Australia's shortlist books as well as showing us the importance of positive thinking and seeing the wonderful small things that take place without us realising.

Justin and Georgie did a fantastic Oscar worthy performance that involved both singing and acting. Our students took part in the dance actions and interacted with the characters as they performed.





Next week the Book Week events will continue.

Book Fair

Starting Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st August the Book Fair will be open for parents and their child/ren from 8:30 am until 9:30 am in the Hall. We request all in person parent payments by EFTPOS only.

If a child is purchasing without an adult then cash will be accepted.

Book Parade

On Tuesday 20th August the students are asked to dress up as their favourite book character. The parade will begin at 9:30am under the COLA. Families are welcome to come and watch the parade.

Rug Reading Afternoon

Come along and bring some family favourite books to read with your child/ren on Thursday 22nd August at 2pm.

In addition to these whole school events the students will be taking part in class activities to celebrate Book Week like virtual author talks, a Where's Wally hunt and a guessing competition.

WEAR A FLANNO FOR A FARMER



Flanno for a Farmer is one of our school mission activities for Term 3. It is a charity event run by Farm Angels. Farm Angels provide financial and emotional assistance, food hampers, care packs and personalised support to thousands of farming families across Australia every year.

Most farmers would give the shirt off their own backs if it meant helping someone in need. It's because so many of them have seen hard times and understand that a simple gesture can make a world of difference. Flanno for a Farmer is just that, a great way to let Aussie farmers know that we've got their backs. Together, we can show our farmers that they are not alone and that we're here to lend a helping hand.

Let's stand shoulder to shoulder, flanno to flanno for all our Aussie Farmers. By wearing our flanno's, we are showing that we support our Aussie farmers.

When: On Friday 23rd August (Week 5)

What: Wear a flanno (flannelette shirt) on top of your school uniform.



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS

We are once again welcoming students from Kaichi Primary School from 21 - 24 August. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to be involved in and we are hoping that some of our families would be able to assist in hosting the students. If you are interested in being a host family, please contact the number below.



*St Bernadette's Primary School
Host Families Needed*

St Bernadette's Primary School
will be hosting Japanese students from
21st - 24th August 2024.

Share your lifestyle & 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 need their own bed but can share a room.**
 - **Families are paid \$50 per night.**

If you can assist in hosting a student or would like
more information, please contact.....

VS Oceania Pty Ltd
Ph: 02 9889 4366
Email : admin@vsocceania.com

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST & LITURGY



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

FATHER'S DAY



Breakfast & Liturgy

FRIDAY 30TH AUGUST 2024

BREAKFAST IS SERVED

FROM 8AM

FATHER'S DAY LITURGY

AT 9.15AM



ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEE YOU THERE!



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 4:

Friday, 16 August: School Movie Night

Week 5:

Monday, 19 August: Book Fair open from 8:30am - 9:30am

Tuesday, 20 August: Book Fair open from 8:30am - 9:30am

Tuesday, 20 August: Book Parade at 9:30am under the COLA

Wednesday, 21 August: Book Fair open from 8:30am - 9:30am

Thursday, 22 August: Japanese exchange students attending our school

Thursday, 22 August: Rug Reading afternoon from 2:00pm

Friday, 23 August: Voice of Youth Final

Friday, 23 August: Wear A Flanno for Farmer Day (Over normal school uniform)

Friday, 23 August: Japanese exchange students attending our school

Week 6:

Friday, 30 August: Father's Day Breakfast & Liturgy

Week 9:

Monday, 16 September - Friday, 20 September: Whole School Swimming Program

Week 10:

Monday, 23 September - Friday, 27 September: Whole School Swimming Program

Friday, 27 September: **Last Day of Term 3**

Term 4

Week 1:

Monday, 14 October: **Staff Development Day (No students at school)**

Tuesday, 15 October: **Staff Development Day (No students at school)**

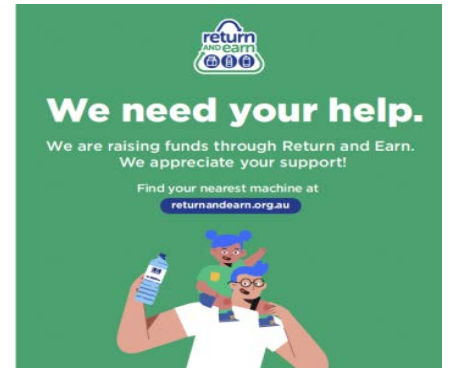
Wednesday, 16 October: **First day back to school for students**

RETURN AND EARN

Would you like to know how you could help the environment AND earn some money for the school? St Bernadette's has become a registered charity with Return and Earn so now you can recycle your containers and contribute to the school at the same time.

Here is how you do it:

- Collect the empty containers.
- Take them to the Return and Earn Machine **located at Victoria Road, Rydalmere.**
- Put the containers into the machine.
- At the end press DONATE.
- Then find St Bernadette's Dundas and press that button.



The money raised will go towards purchasing games and other resources for the students to enjoy. So start collecting those containers to help us out. Thank you.



We would like to wish all the following children a very Happy Birthday

Catherine - 06/08

Roy - 06/08

Jack - 07/08

Maree - 10/08

Oliver - 11/08

Ella - 13/08

Lachlan B - 15/08

Just a reminder that any treats sent in are kept to a minimum and individually portioned.



St Bernadette's Primary School

St Bernadette's Primary School, Dundas Valley, is a community-focused, Catholic parish school catering for boys and girls from Kindergarten to Year 6.

The school strives to build a Christ-centred community where faith is integrated with daily life.

We provide learning and teaching experiences which enable the children to deepen their faith understandings, investigate, solve problems and explore their learning.

We recognise the importance of creating a learning environment that provides opportunities to develop 21st century learning.

Technology is integrated into the learning at St Bernadette's in all Key Learning Areas.

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Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au