

NEWSLETTER 2024 TERM 3 WEEK 6

St Bernadette's Primary School Dundas Valley

Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley 2117

Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au

Email : dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Telephone: 02 8846 2600



UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 6:

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

Week 7:

Friday 6, September: Whole School Mass,

Week 8:

Monday 9, September : Class Rep Parent Meeting
(All parents welcomed)

Friday 13, September: Year 4 Canteen Day

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear St Bernadette's Parents and Carers,

Last week the new Religious Education Curriculum "Encountering Jesus" was launched, which will be available for use by our school communities from 2025. It is designed to enrich our students' spiritual journey and deepen their understanding of faith. The new Curriculum reflects the intention for all students to have a deep encounter with the person and message of Jesus Christ. For our students from Catholic families, this will serve to nurture and enrich their Catholic faith in support of their parents and carers as their first educators of faith. For our students from other religious perspectives, this encounter will help them grow in their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith tradition, which is based on faith, hope and love.

As a curriculum developer I was part of the team that began the development of the new curriculum back in 2018. Today I feel a sense of excitement and pride that this important document will shape the lives of the students we teach and who they will become, by drawing them closer to God.

Last week, our school was alive with the magic of stories as we celebrated Book Week. The event was a vibrant celebration of literature, creativity, and the joy of reading. Students and staff dressed as beloved characters from books, adding colour and excitement to the school. We hosted a book fair, offering a wide range of titles to inspire young readers.

The highlight of the week was a series of author visits and storytelling sessions both online and in person, that captivated the imagination of everyone involved. Book Week was a wonderful reminder of the power of reading to open minds and hearts.

We were pleased to host members of our School Board for a visit this week. Emeritus Professor Marea Nicholson AM - CSPD Board Director & Mission, Learning and People Committee and Fr Robert Reidling - CSPD Board Director & Episcopal Vicar for Education toured our classrooms and engaged with students and staff. The Board members expressed their admiration for the inspired work of our teaching staff and the enthusiasm of our students. Their visit was an important opportunity to gain firsthand experience of our school environment, which helps them make informed decisions that affect not only our students and staff but in the whole diocese. It signals that they are not just making decisions from a distance but are actively engaged in the education process.

We are incredibly proud of our students who competed in the Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition last week. This annual event showcases the eloquence, confidence, and critical thinking skills of young speakers from across the cluster of local schools. Our students delivered compelling speeches on a variety of important topics, demonstrating not only their public speaking abilities but also their deep understanding of the issues they addressed. We congratulate Ella, Shane and Lily-Rose on their outstanding efforts. Ella was runner up and Lily-Rose was awarded the Social Justice medal.

A PRAYER FOR FATHER'S DAY

We pray today for dads:

- + New dads, granddads, stepdads, adoptive dads & solo dads.
- + Baldy ones, beardy ones, skinny ones & cuddly ones.
- + Dads who tell bad jokes & dads who dance to YMCA.
- + Dads who know how to fix things, & dads who just pretend.

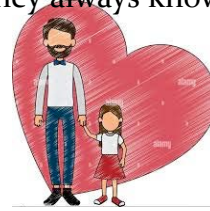
Father to the fatherless, we pray for those for whom this day is sadder than it is happy:

- + Those missing their dads, or their children, even more than usual.

Thank you for the love, guidance, and the countless piggyback rides they give us. May their hearts be light, their spirits high, and may they always know how much they mean to us.

In your name, we pray,

Amen.



Happy Father's day to all of the Dads and Father figures in the St Bernadette's community. As we honour you, we hope you enjoy some well-deserved relaxation and quality time with your loved ones. Here's to the superhero dads who manage to juggle it all with a smile and a sense of humour!

Warm regards,

Michelle Yager
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday 01 Sep 2024

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the marketplace they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'



REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'You put aside the commandment of God,' warned Jesus, 'to cling to human traditions.' One of the sharpest lines in the Gospel, this is a watchword for every Christian generation.

'In today's passage,' Pope Francis says, 'Jesus addresses an important topic for all of us believers: the authenticity of our obedience to the Word of God, against any worldly contamination or legalistic formalism.'

As the Pope suggests, 'those challenging him seek to strike at the reliability and authority of Jesus as Teacher.' The religious leaders who questioned Jesus on technical points of ritual had deluded themselves about what was essential.

The Pope points out that 'Jesus wants to rouse the scribes and Pharisees from the error they have fallen into.' Christ's sharp words are intended to turn people from 'distorting God's will, neglecting his commandments in order to observe human traditions.'

'Today too,' the Pope reminds us, 'the Lord invites us to avoid the danger of giving more importance to form than to substance. He calls us to recognise, ever anew, what is the true core of the experience of faith, that is, love of God and love of neighbour.'

© Nick Brodie

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

What are some favourite things you like to wear?

When do you wear them?

Can you tell if a person is good inside by the clothes they wear?

In today's Gospel Jesus talks about being good on the inside. He says that our hearts should be pure.

What does it mean to have a pure heart?

Jesus asks us to be good on the inside, in our thoughts and in what we do.

Let us pray that we will have pure hearts and love others as Jesus has shown us.

© Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

TERM 3 MASS/RECONCILIATION ROSTER

Week/Date	Other Celebrations	Wednesday Reconciliation	Friday Mass
Week 6 26 – 30 Aug	Father's Day Friday	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		

FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

For information and to enrol in the upcoming First Reconciliation program please go to this link https://form.jotform.com/stbernadettetdvspreconciliation/2024-2025-FR_FHC

Enrolment closes on Friday 27th September 2024. Due to preparations, sorry, late enrolments cannot be accepted.

First Reconciliation is for children in year 2 and above, who have been baptised, not yet received the sacrament of confession and desire to receive the sacrament. Please read the dates carefully as all must be fulfilled to complete the preparation.

For any questions, please email stbernadettetdvsp@hotmail.com or phone the parish office 9871 4414.

Thank you and God bless from the St Bernadette's Catholic Parish, Sacramental Program Team.

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 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 **QKR** and **close Tuesdays at 11am**.

This week we launched 'Operation Christmas Child' with a guest speaker from Samaritan's Purse. Rick George talked to our staff and students about how this initiative provides God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Each class has been given a gender and age group to purchase **1 small gift** for. These can be brought to the classroom anytime until the end of Term 3 (see table below). You would have received a flyer listing some shoebox gift suggestions, which may be helpful as well or the links are below.

Class	Gender	Age Group
Kindergarten	GIRL	2-4 years
Year One	BOY	2-4 years
Year Two	GIRL	5-9 years
Year Three	BOY	5-9 years
Year Four	GIRL	10-14 years
Year Five	BOY	10-14 years
Year Six	GIRL	10-14 years
Staff	BOY	5-9 years

[OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Gift suggestions for BOYS](#)

[OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Gift suggestions GIRLS](#)

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Miss Carly & The FIAT Team

FAITH IN ACTION: CONTINUED

As we continue our tradition of helping those in need, we are organising our last outreach and donation opportunity for the year. **Operation Christmas Box** is a wonderful chance for our students and families to come together and make a difference in the lives of others.

In the spirit of giving and community, this is our final outreach and donation opportunity for this year. This is a chance for those who are able to contribute to support those who may be struggling at Christmas this year. Every contribution, big or small, makes a meaningful difference.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our community for your extremely generous donations and contributions to the charities and causes we have supported this year. In light of these challenging financial times I want to thank you for your continued generosity and support of our many FAITH IN ACTION opportunities.

Regards

Michelle Yager

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Next Assembly

Our next assembly will be on Friday, 6 September in week 7, starting at 2:30pm in the school hall. The class presenting will be Year 6.

Parent Meeting

We invite all interested parents to our next class rep meeting which will be held in the school staffroom on **Monday 9th September at 5.30pm**. Our Parent reps achieve so many things for our great school, and are always happy to welcome new parents.

Missing Readers

We are missing a number of readers from our collection. Could you please look around your house to see if you have any school home readers. These are valuable teaching resources so we greatly appreciate it if you could locate these and return them.

Thank you



Representative sport

NSW PSSA Rugby Union Championships

Last Week Liam participated in the NSW PSSA Rugby Union Championships at Wagga Wagga. Here, he played for the MacKillop team, made up of representatives from Catholic Dioceses all over NSW. This tournament includes all of the best Rugby Union players from schools in NSW. We are very proud of Liam for this outstanding achievement!



MacKillop Rugby Sevens Trials

Recently Lily-Rose attended the MacKillop Rugby Sevens trials. Here she competed against the very best sevens players throughout the Diocese and was successfully selected to be a 'shadow player', ready to step in as a reserve! Congratulations to Lily-Rose on this excellent achievement!



Zone Athletics

St Bernadette's was represented by a large squad at the recent Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival. Here our children competed against the best athletes from over a dozen schools in our area.

The children had a great day cheering for their teammates and enjoyed watching the high standard of competition. Congratulations to the 2024 Zone Athletics Team!

Nerso	Yosola
Harrison B	Veronica
Lachlan B	Monika
Jaiden	Mia G
Saacha	Ruby
Jackson	Elle
Jayden E	Scarlet
Ayden	Arabella
Nicolas	Aniyah
Ray	Megan
Liam	Amelia
Matias	Matipa
Daniel Ri	Angelena
Leo	Caitlyn
	Bonnie
	Scarlett
	Chloe X
	Lydia Y

There were some outstanding performances on the day, with 7 children going on to represent St Bernadette's at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival on Friday. Congratulations to our diocesan representatives!

Ayden H (Discus, Shot Put)

Chloe X (Junior Girls Relay)

Elle (Junior Girls Relay)

Lydia Y (200m, Junior Girls Relay)

Monika (100m, Junior Girls Relay)

Ruby (Shot Put)

Yosola (100m)

PBS4L - Individual Awards

Congratulations to Amelia, Ella & Rachel, who were the first children to receive one of our new certificates! Amelia & Ella received a Learner award for their consistent efforts in the classroom, whilst Rachel received a Respectful award for always modelling kindness and fairness to all of her peers.



As a community of Learners:



Year 1 wrote haikus which are a Japanese poem that has 3 lines with a 5, 7, 5 syllable count.

Trees sway in the wind
Tree branches are strong and brown
Leaves are green and wet
Evie

Trees are tall and strong
A tree is natural and big
Trees have long branches
Noah

Trees are swaying fast
Trees give us leaves for shelter
Give us oxygen
Hunter

Trees are tall and strong
Their leaves are big and light
Fresh air helps trees grow
Doris

The trees sway in wind
Trees growing different branches
Leaves are green and cool
Harper

Emu eggs are hard
Their feathers are very soft
Emu necks are long
Oliver

To celebrate Book Week Year 1 students reflected on their favourite literary book character. Here are some of their responses.

Spiderman is my favourite because he can shoot spider webs from his hands. He can also do cool flips.

Elie



Ariel is my favourite character because I love mermaids. I like that they can breathe underwater for a long time.

Sherry

Cinderella is my favourite because she is beautiful and has a blue dress.

Tyra

My favourite character is Andy from Do Not Open This Book because he is like me a lot.

Gabriel

I like Ninja kid because he has a jetpack and a helicopter. He can climb up walls and dodge anything.

Joseph

Mary Poppins is my favourite character because she can fly even though she is a person.

Liana

My favourite character is Belinda from Pamela Allen's book. She knocks old Tom far so he grabs a carrot to get Belinda to stay but it doesn't work.

Lilah

The Magic of Book Week

Last week, our school was filled with excitement as we celebrated Book Week. With the enchanting theme *Reading is Magic*, students and staff alike were swept up in the wonder and joy that only books can bring.

The week was packed with magical moments, beginning with our Book Parade, where the school was transformed into a world of beloved book characters. It was a delight to see the creativity and enthusiasm that went into each costume, with students proudly parading their favourite literary figures.

Rug Reading wrapped up our 2024 Book Week events. The community gathered together to soak up the sunshine reading their favourite stories.

Our classrooms were buzzing with special activities that brought the magic of reading to life. From captivating teacher storytelling sessions of the CBCA shortlist books to virtual author visits, students had the opportunity to explore the magic of reading.

The Book Fair was open and we had many children pop into the Hall to purchase something to add to their bookshelves. Our school also received a generous donation from one of our families, thank you, these books will be a great addition to our library.

There was also a guessing competition. Infants had to guess how many magical beans there were, inspired by the fairytale Jack and the Beanstalk. The primary children guessed the amount of pages in a very novel. Congratulations to our winners:

Early Stage 1: Sienna

Stage 1: Roy and Iskander

Stage 2: Junhee

Stage 3: Henry and Orlando





Check out our school facebook page for lots of photos captured from our book parade morning.

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST & LITURGY



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 6:

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

Week 7:

Friday, 6 September: Whole School Mass

Week 8:

Monday, 9 September: Parent Meeting at 5:30pm

Friday, 13 September: Year 4 Canteen Day (More details to follow)

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**

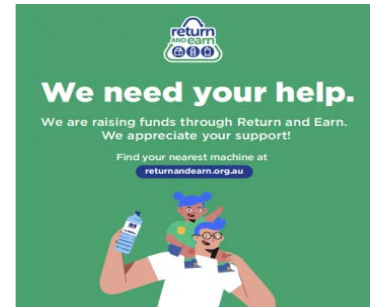
RETURN AND EARN

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.

BIRTHDAYS



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

Aiden S - 21/08
Junhee - 27/08
Charlotte - 27/08
Liyana - 29/08
Phineas - 30/08

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

COMMUNITY NEWS



Community Day

**Saturday 12th October
10am - 12pm**

With over 20 years experience in the disability sector, and 100% staff retention in the last 2 years, we offer high quality services with consistent therapists!

Pop in for a free coffee, activities, give aways and meet the team!

For more information call
1300 856 617

See you there!

**Occupational Therapy
Speech Pathology
Psychology
Behaviour Support**

Unit 6/22 Lexington Dr
Bella Vista NSW 2153



NORMANHURST BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Fostering excellence in young men through holistic education



Open Day

For Prospective Year 7 2026/2027 Families

On the day, there will be a Principal's Address and free school tours.

Address: 54-72 Pennant Hills Road, Normanhurst, NSW 2076
Phone: +61 2 94891077 **Fax:** +61 2 94895722

Web: normanhurstboys.nsw.edu.au
Email: office@normanhurstboys.nsw.edu.au

Thursday 26 September 2024

Registration by 10:00 am on
Tuesday 24 September 2024 is essential!

Register at:
<https://nbhs.nsw.edu.au/open-day-2024/>



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.

Address: Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley, NSW 2117 Australia

Phone: 02 8846 2600

Email: dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au