



St Bernadette's Parish School, Lalor Park

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Lalor Park NSW 2147

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5th February 2014

NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 2

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back is extended to all our children and families and to our staff to the 2014 school year. It was great to see so many of the children so happy and eager to return to school after the holidays to see their friends and meet their new teachers. There is always an air of excitement in the school at the beginning of the year. 2014 looks to be an exciting one for the St Bernadette's School Community. The teachers have been meeting since mid January to plan the learning programmes for your children and have some wonderful learning opportunities organised for them.....in fact they started planning for 2014 at the end of last year! We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated and hardworking group of teachers at our school.

Staff commenced the school year with 2 days that allowed most of our students to be individually assessed by their class teacher for their mathematical understanding using the 1:1 Maths Assessment Interview tool (MAI). This provided the teachers with valuable information about your child's numeracy skills and a starting point for their learning and mathematical development. Further assessments and observations in Literacy (Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening) will occur for every student over the next few weeks so that a clear profile of each learner is gathered and then responded to with focused planning and teaching. This is called 'assessment for teaching'starting where the student is at and taking them forward in their learning with great teaching in a positive learning environment.

Can you remember back to your school days when you were given new books? Do you remember how exciting the look and feel of those fresh new books was? Blank pages on exercise books, nothing written on, just possibilities that this was going to be your best work. We hope that all students, as they gather to commence the new school year, will embrace this new school year with enthusiasm, determination and a positive mind set. Setting high expectations for learners and learning provides students and teachers with goals to achieve and a sense of ongoing success throughout the year.

Parents, you are the first and foremost educators of your children and they look up to you and adopt your attitudes, opinions and values. In light of this, your child's education can be greatly enhanced by your involvement at home, in particular, but also through, involvement in school activities. It is parents' enthusiasm, support and involvement that can inspire children to do their best. If children sense that parents consider their education to be a high priority, they are likely to view it in a positive manner themselves. Positive reinforcement will help children to adopt an enthusiastic attitude towards their learning processes.

On Monday we welcomed the 40 new Kindergarten children to St Bernadette's. This is a huge milestone in their lives and in the lives of their parents. It is not easy to say goodbye and entrust the care of your precious little one to others, but their parents can rest assured our whole community will look after our new students. The Kindergarten learning space has been full of joy and smiles this week.....each one is a new blessing to our school.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL... CONTINUED

We also had new students begin in other classes across the school. I extend a very warm welcome to those students and their parents. We are all working together for the best possible learning environment for all of the children at St Bernadette's. There will be many occasions throughout the school year when you will be invited to participate in activities with the children. The teachers look forward to your involvement. I look forward to meeting each of you over the next weeks and personally welcoming you back to school.

Kind Regards

Liz Devlin, Principal

St Bernadette's School Staff 2014

Leadership Team

Principal	Mrs Elizabeth Devlin
Assistant Principal	Mr Phillip Kapitanow
R.E. Co-ordinator	Ms Mabel-Lynn Buenaventura
Co-ordinator	Ms Simone Ninness
Co-ordinator	Mr Brad Mogan
Co-ordinator	Mr Greg Keary

Class Teachers

Early Stage 1 Blue	Ms Mabellynn Buenaventura
Early Stage 1 Gold	Miss Brooke Peterson
Stage 1 Blue	Miss Nicole Williams
Stage 1 Gold	Mrs Dianne Brissett
Stage 1 White	Ms Simone Ninness
Stage 2 Blue	Marie-Louise Jolicoeur (Mon, Tues, Wed) & Ms Rebecca Crinion (Thurs, Fri)
Stage 2 Gold	Miss Rosanne Agostino
Stage 2 White	Ms Tanya Janssen
Stage 3 Blue	Mr Brad Mogan
Stage 3 Gold	Mrs Andrea Santos
Stage 3 White	Mr Greg Keary

Special Program Teachers

Reading Recovery	Phill Kapitanow
Reading Recovery / Literacy Support	Mrs Lorraine Maher
LTST/Spec Ed/ Curriculum Support	Mr Phill Kapitanow
Teacher Librarian /RFF	Mrs Monique O'Brien
RFF / Indonesian	Mrs Kerrie-Ann Galea
RFF	Mrs Kate Schembri
RFF for REC	Ms Rebecca Crinion
EMU Specialist Teacher	Miss Nicole Williams

School Support Staff

Office Manager	Mrs Robyn Carruthers
Finance Secretary	Mrs Judy Attard (Mon,Tues,Wed &Thurs)
School Secretary	Mrs Anne Walsh (Thurs, Fri)
Principal's Office Assistant	Mrs Robyn Carruthers
WH&S / Compliance	Mrs Robyn Carruthers
Teacher Assistants	Mrs Joanne Topalovic
	Mrs Melita Fairhurst
	Mrs Pauline Reid
	Mr Douglas Fuller
Maintenance	



**WHOLE SCHOOL
OPENING MASS
FRIDAY 14TH
FEBRUARY
AT 9.45AM**

**ALL FAMILIES
WELCOME
MORNING TEA WILL
BE PROVIDED AFTER
MASS**

All Students elected as
School Captains, Student
Representative Council
and House Colour
Captains will receive their
badges at this Mass.



DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 1

February

- 11th Parent Group Executive Meeting
- 17th Parent/Teacher Chats
- 18th Parent/Teacher Chats
- 21st Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival
- Return of the Bully – Whole School Program
- Infants Liturgy 9.45am
- Kindergarten Welcome BBQ 5pm
- 28th Diocesan Swimming Carnival
- Reconciliation
- 9.45am Stage 2 Blue
- 11.45am Stage 3 Blue

March

- 4th Parent Group Meeting
- 5th Ash Wednesday Liturgies
- Primary at 9.45am
- Infants at 12 noon
- 10th **Catholic School Week**
- Kindergarten 2015 Enrolment Commence
- 11th School Cross Country
- 14th St Bernadette's Day Mas 9.45am
- Open Classrooms
- CSW Displays by classes
- Sausage sizzle
- 21st Primary Mass 9.45am
- Harmony Day

KINDERGARTEN WELCOME BBQ



Each year we have a Kindergarten BBQ to welcome our new Kindergarten children and their families. This year's Kinder BBQ will be held on Friday 21st February at 5pm. Invitations will be sent home this week.



Birthdays

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday since the beginning of the year.

Lucas Constantinou	Mitchell Hodge
Taylor McCreaney	Dier Majak
Tahlia Graham	Moses Madeni
Angela Mordini	Adab Gill
Leilani Laupama	Ella Taylor
Dominic Tatupu	Julio Tatupu
Christine Kom	Justina Hana
Zara Atie	Malak Oza
Nywere Majak	Ashlee Sullivan
Victoria Commins	Tayla Browning
Natasha Go	Callum McNulty
Amelia Akkary	Athieu Majok
Madeline McCrohon	

OUR NEWSLETTER IS GOING PAPERLESS

Week 4 will be the last week that we print the newsletter on paper. We have found that as the newsletter increases in size we are using more and more paper. With the environment in mind we would ask you to supply the school with an email address if you have not already done so. Unfortunately at this point email addresses supplied on enrolment forms are not linked to our website and as such will not automatically receive the newsletter. Please call the office or email us on stbernadetteslpark@parra.catholic.edu.au to let us know you require a copy by email. Alternatively you can log on to our website and register. On every page there is a small envelope. Click on this anywhere on the site to register and receive our newsletter.

If you have any difficulties please contact Mrs Carruthers in the school office.

Thank you

BAND INFORMATION



Welcome back everyone to another fantastic year of Music! There are a number of things in store for the band this year, which will allow all the students to continue to show off their musical talents. First band rehearsal/tutorial commences in Week 3-Tuesday 11th February at 7:45am. All students are to meet in the hall for a brief meeting prior to starting lessons. If your child requires an instrument belonging to the school, they are to come and see me next Monday to collect their instrument. Band notes/contracts will be handed out also next Monday 10th February. We are in need of more students to join our band. If you have a child in grade 2 to 6 who loves music, is passionate about learning an instrument and performing for others such as out of school concerts, then why not join the band and have some fun! If you would like more information please see Ms Jolicoeur, or contact the school office on 96223535 or by email, to get you started. We look forward to welcoming new band members to our wonderful band, St Bernies Crew!

Thank you

Ms Marie-Louise Jolicoeur- Band Director

Mrs Lisa Wickens-Treasurer

Mrs Leanne Ardill-Secretary

PARENT / TEACHER CHATS

FEBRUARY

17TH AND 18TH

It is time to book in to meet your children's teacher for this year. These Parent Teacher conversations are an opportunity for you as the parent to meet the teacher and tell us about your children. What strengths and weaknesses they might have and what goals you might have for them in 2014.

We are allowing 10 minutes for each interview. In the booking form it is in 15 minute time slots. This gives you the opportunity to book your children in times one after the other if you have siblings.

We encourage you to be at school 10 minutes prior to your allocated time as sometimes teachers can fit you in earlier if need be. Please be aware that we do our best to stick to the time, however, we do occasionally run over time and we apologise if this does occur.

Please go online to book in your children at the following website:
www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code

Please enter the code P54R7 and follow the prompts. Instructions are also enclosed in this newsletter.

Please see the office if you have any difficulties.

Mr Greg Keary

COMMUNICATION

In the Office Foyer there are copies of the school's Complaints Handling Policy for parents to look through. If you have a concern about a matter, you can first make an appointment to speak to the classroom teacher. If you still feel the need to discuss the matter further, then please contact the school office to make an appointment to speak to, Mrs Elizabeth Devlin, Principal or Mr Phill Kapitanow, Assistant Principal.



SCHOOL CANTEEN

Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
Price list sent home yesterday and available
on our school website.



KISS AND DROP GUIDELINES

Please read the Kiss and Drop guidelines sent home yesterday. We have had a few issues early on so please read these so you are familiar with the rules.

Thank you

Child Protection – On Line Training (replacing training sessions at school)

A reminder for parents who are required to **'UPDATE'** their child protection and for **'NEW'** parents to the school. The Catholic Education Office has replaced the Child Protection Briefing Session with an online training module for use by volunteers. All parents whose child protection is due to expire are requested access the link below and follow the instructions.

An email is then sent to yourselves and to the school confirming that your child protection is now up to date. For **'new'** parents to the school, the same online method is available to you.

To access the module please follow the link below:

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS: <http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au>

Child Protection **must** be completed by all parents wishing to help out in the school on excursions, canteen, uniform shop and classrooms. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

For Kindergarten and new families to the school, if you would like to help out in various ways (reading, excursions, uniform shop, canteen etc) you will need to have completed the Child Protection module first.

Please Note: The Kindergarten parents who completed the child protection training session last year on 13th November 2013, at our Kindergarten Transition Program, **will not need** to do the online training for 2014.

Please contact the office on 9622 3535 if you have any problems or if you are unable to access a computer.

INSTRUCTIONS

For Volunteers

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and a briefing every second year for existing volunteers.

An online training module for use by volunteers is now available. To use the module:

- 1. Open the module by clicking the START link below*
- 2. Read through the presentation*
- 3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes*
- 4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at*
- 5. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.*

Start the module >>>

UNIFORM SHOP / LOST PROPERTY

Open Wednesday and Friday morning from 8.30am until 9.30am for **ALL** uniforms.

This week the lost property bin will be sorted through and any items that do not have names on them will be taken to the 2nd hand uniform shop. Please check by Friday if you have any lost items.

If anyone is able to assist in the uniform shop on a Wednesday or Friday please let the office know as soon as possible.

Thank you

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The school newsletter for 2014 will be emailed and on our website on Wednesday afternoons.

If you would like to place any information in the newsletter it will need to be submitted no later than Tuesday. Any items submitted on Wednesday may not make the newsletter.

Thankyou





Holy Cross Hurricanes

Junior Rugby League Club

2014 Registrations

Players wanted for Sunday Rugby League Competition



Training Drills & Circuits

Boys & Girls U6 – U11
\$70/Player or \$110/Family

Free Sausage Sizzle with every Rego

Wednesday 12th & 19th February 2014
5:30 – 7:30pm
Cornucopia Reserve, Cantwell Street, Glenwood

Meet Parramatta Eels Players
(to be confirmed)

Bring a Friend & get 50% off Rego*

Free Headgear with all U6 Rego's

New & Improved Grounds & Facilities

All New Players to provide:

- Original Birth Certificate + Copy
- Original Baptism Certificate + Copy
(or letter from Principal confirming enrolment of player at a Catholic Primary School)

*Bring a Friend to register/pay at the same time to receive a discount of 50% each. Both New & Returning Players eligible for discount, however at least one player must be new to the Club in 2014 and not previously submitted an expression of interest. Discounted rates are \$35/Player or \$75/family (1 friend) or \$55/Family (2 or more friends). Offer ends 19th February 2014.

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www.hurricanes.leaguenet.com.au || www.facebook.com/holycrosshurricanes
Please like us on Facebook to keep updated with Rego & Competition details

MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

A reminder to all parents... if your child needs to take any medication during the school day a form must be filled in stating medication and dosage. Forms can be collected from the school office or downloaded from our website.

All medication must be pre measured. Office staff are not permitted to pour liquid medicine.

Thank you

REMINDER FOR ALL PARENTS

When sending an envelope to the office please make sure it is marked with the following:

Child's Name

Class

What the envelope/ payment is for.

Your co-operation is appreciated.

Thank you

Important Information

Taking Holidays during the school year

Guidelines require parents who are taking their children on holidays for more than one day, during the school week to complete a request for 'Exemption from School Attendance' Form.

These forms must be completed before taking your holiday. School Principal can only approve up to 100 school days leave. Longer periods need the approval of the Director of Schools, Parramatta and the Catholic Education Commission.

Once these forms have been completed and returned, you will then be issued with a certificate allowing the exemption from school. This certificate needs to be kept with you while on holidays in case you are requested to present it.

These forms are at the school office for you to collect or please call us on 9622 3535 and we can send them home with your child. Thank you



Principal's Coffee and Chat mornings will occur again this year.

We will have one per term and endeavour to make them on different days to cater for those who work.

Term 1 Coffee and Chat will be on Friday 7th March Week 6 at 9am in Multi Purpose 2

SCHOOL FEES

Term 1 school fee accounts will be mailed out by the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) this week and will be due for payment on the 7th March 2014. You will be invited to apply for a Flexible Payment Plan (FPP). If interested please follow the instructions given by CEDP carefully and return all documentation to the CEDP by the due date otherwise your application will not make it in time and you may not be notified.

However, if you miss out on an FPP, families are also welcome to call the school and set up a payment plan to suit their budget. Payments may be directly debited from your bank account, Centrelink family payments, set up through Net banking via Bpay, paid at the Post Office or simply paid at the school office using cash, credit card and cheque. Sorry American Express cards are not accepted. You may also make credit card payments over the phone. Large sums of cash sent with your child to school is not advisable.

If you have already contacted the school regarding your 2014 fees, please continue with the arrangement and you will not need to do anything else unless your circumstances change.

If you have had a payment arrangement in 2013 and wish to continue with a similar plan please contact the office by phone, email or letter in order to setup a new arrangement as all arrangements need to be renewed annually.

It is important to know that unless you are paying your fees by the due date you will need to have a formalised arrangement in place.

Just a reminder that the Resource Fee of \$120 is due by the 14th February 2014.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Judy Attard on 9622 3535 if you have any question or are having difficulty with paying your school fees.



**HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR FREE
SKOOLBAG APP YET. AVAILABLE FOR ALL
SMART PHONES INCLUDING IPHONES
AND ANDROID PHONES.**

**Download the Skoolbag app and search
for St Bernadette's Lalor Park.
Stay up to date with important notices.**

Special Religious Education Ministry

Our parish needs volunteers to assist with our SRE ministry. Do you have 30 minutes or more on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday each week during school terms, to 'spread the Good News' to our parish children who attend Kings Langley, Lalor Park, Lynwood Park and Seven Hills West primary schools?

Training is provided. Your help would be most appreciated.

If you can help please contact Mrs Julie Daly on 9671 2008.

Thank you



Creative Dance Academy
0401 968 606
Tomorrow's Success Begins Today

- ★ Toddler Rhythm & Movement
- ★ Junior Dance & Funk
- ★ Teenage Dance & Funk
- ★ \$15.00 - 1hr
- ★ Combination Classes
- ★ Classical Ballet
- ★ Modern/Contemporary
- ★ Jazz
- ★ Tap
- ★ Acrobatics
- ★ Drama

10% DISCOUNT
 on the first months tuition for all NEW students on presentation of this leaflet at first lesson.

Past students include Bec Cartwright star of television's "Home & Away" & winner of "Dancing with the Stars"
 3 Students cast in the hugely popular musical production of "Billy Elliott"

Children accepted from 2 years to Advanced Level and are all trained in R.A.D. Classical Ballet, L.G.T.D.A. Newcastle Tap, Eisteddfod Work & Shows.

Creative Dance Academy www.creativedance.com.au
at 7 locations **0401 968 606**
Amanda Page or Kelli Burke
 email: info@creativedance.com.au

NORTH RICHMOND	BLIGH PARK	CRANEBROOK	WILBERFORCE
WOODCROFT	VINEYARD	STANHOPE GARDENS	



Sports Days for each Stage
All students must wear full sports uniform on these days.

Early Stage 1 – Tuesday and Friday
Stage 1 – Monday and Thursday
Stage 2 – Tuesday and Friday
Stage 3 – Wednesday and Friday

LEARNING IS FUN



CANTEEN CORNER

Welcome back to all St Bernadette's Families. We look forward to serving you this year at your School Canteen. We are completely run by parent and family volunteers, and need your help. If there is any chance that you could come and volunteer in the canteen, even just once per year, it would be greatly appreciated. There are vacancies in the roster, so please reach me through the school office if you would like to help. It's a great way to get to know fellow parents and to contribute to the school.

Canteen will be open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, except on days where there are events or activities at school, so as to give parent volunteers the opportunities to attend the events.

A 2014 price list will be distributed this week. Lunch orders must be made in either a paper bag, or a suitable substitute, and must have child's name, class, lunch order and amount of money enclosed clearly displayed (plastic bags are not appropriate to serve hot food in). Correct change, where possible is always greatly appreciated. If you do not have a bag, then an envelope is fine, but please enclose and extra 20c and a paper bag will be supplied.

We always welcome suggestions in the canteen, please forward any ideas, suggestions or even just a compliment, to the school office and it will make its way to the Parent Group. Thank you as always for your support, the canteen is here for all families to enjoy, and we look forward to hearing all of the children's beautiful manners when they come to see us at recess and lunch.

Thank you

Lisa Wickens

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park

Parish Priest:	Fr Andrew Robinson	Mass:	Sat 6pm Vigil; Sun 8:30am & 10:00am
Secretary:	Mrs Bev Baxter		Children's Liturgy - Sat 6pm; Sun 10am
Office Hours:	Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am to 4pm		except school holidays /
			First Communion times
Telephone:	9672 4037		Blessings at all Masses for children
Fax:	9671 5377	Weekday Mass:	Tuesday to Saturday 8.45am
		Rosary:	Before Mass Tuesday to Saturday
Email:	admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au		
Web Page:	www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au		

BLESSED!

Gospel in Life

He was quietly spoken. There was a gentleness. That was the first thing I noticed. I could imagine him taking delight in his three children. I could almost hear their laughter. His concern for others was obvious in his manner of speech. I asked him why he was here helping others in distress.

He just smiled and in a very matter-of-fact way related his story. The day of which he spoke must have burned its mark deep into his memory. He had said goodbye to his wife and children and headed off to do a delivery for his business.

A long drive and not without accident. A deep cut and some necessary stitches held him up. But it was good to be heading back home. The flat tyre was also unexpected and added to a day that just wasn't right.

Relief! Home in sight. The end of a very long day. All the furniture is gone from the house! A moving van had been there during the day. But there's his wife. That's odd. She's with a stranger bundling their children into a car.

'It wasn't the initial shock,' he remarked, 'it was the news afterwards'. His wife had found a boyfriend and the law said that she could have the children, along with two thirds of everything he owned - their house, possessions, even his superannuation. He would also have to support his wife and the children from his wages.

He was a strong-minded man and simply held onto his dignity, but the idea that he would have to fight a legal battle just to be able to see his children was too much. He then understood why five men a day suicide in Australia when they are placed in that situation. They simply lose hope. They feel they are just reaching for shadows from a life that is now lost to them. I wondered what Jesus would have said to that man to comfort him.

What would you say? Knowing that Jesus did not accept injustice in his society, he would have had something to say to the lawmakers of his day. I just looked on with admiration at this man as he quietly offered hope and comfort to others in the group who were facing one of life's most destructive challenges - the anxiety of separation from those they love and wish to care for. (Bill)

(PeopleSpeak by Carmelprint)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING

The St Vincent de Paul group meet each Wednesday at the Parish Centre meeting room commencing at 7.00pm. **New members are needed and welcome.** If you would like to know more about this outreach work of charity, come along and see if the Lord is calling you to join this great cause.

EUCCHARISTIC ENCOURAGEMENT

JESUS EUCHARIST, GIVE US FAITH TO BELIEVE THAT YOU REALLY CAN MEET OUR DEEP NEED FOR LOVE

INVITATION - Parishioners who are available to come to one or more daily Masses for the Daily Eucharistic Community.

Let us continue to gather as often as we can, to celebrate this special gift that Jesus gave to us. Our united prayer with Jesus, will be a blessing for everyone in our Parish Family. Fr. Andrew.

Daily Mass:

Tuesday - Saturday at 8.45am

(Rosary celebrated before Mass) at 8.15am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Monday - Friday 8.15am - 8.45am

Saturday 9.30am - 10.30am (except on 1st Saturday of the month)

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.30pm