



2020 Term 2 Week 9

# Newsletter

## Contact Us

### St Bernadette's Parish School, Lalor Park

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## Principal's Message

This is our last newsletter for what has been a very unique term. This term saw the single biggest interruption to traditional schooling in memory. COVID -19 continues to impact our daily lives.

Although a sense of normality has returned to school life we are still experiencing changes. We have gone a full term without any formal liturgical celebration. For a Catholic school where attending mass as a community is a part of our regular culture this is significant. These times are often part of a larger school celebration in which parents and families are welcomed into our school community. At these times students experience faith development from a whole community perspective that is lived and celebrated.

This week I have been contacting 2021 Kindy parents to conduct 'Meet and Greet' interviews. Significantly these chats can't occur in person due to the current restrictions. It is a very different and challenging way to welcome new families and try to understand their child's individual needs. I encourage parents who need to enrol their children for 2021 to do so and to continue to spread the good word regarding what St Bernadette's has to offer to prospective families.

Despite all the challenges this term has been an eventful term. St Bernadette's has been the recipient of some fantastic projects that have modernised our facilities.

We have a beautifully re-carpeted library that completes a refurbishment project that commenced in 2018.

We have a spectacular new Adventure Playground providing a purpose designed space for our infants students to play in during recess and lunch, but also for our primary grades to utilise during sport.

We have a purpose built Breakout Space for students to utilise.

We have new furniture including a Buddy Bench in the infants playground, table and bench in the Breakout Space and a new bike rack (yet to be installed).

Term 2 really was a term when many of our projects were completed!

This completes a long running project to address many of the playground challenges. The playground is now fully equipped with different spaces and resources for all of our students.

On behalf of all of the staff we thank families for their support during a very challenging time. Together we have achieved a lot! We hope everyone has a safe holiday break. Hopefully a time to truly relax and enjoy with the family!

## Reports

Today parents will receive an email providing information on how they can access their child's Semester One Progress Report. Reports are now accessible online via the new Compass Portal. If you require a paper copy due to access limitations please let us know and one will be sent home.

As previously mentioned Semester One reports are simplified. The staff have worked hard to write comments for students in the areas of Religion, English and Mathematics. The comments are a snapshot of how students are progressing and some where to next points.

There are no formal Parent Teacher Interviews this semester. However, parents may request to speak with teachers and likewise teachers have been encouraged to contact parents where this is viewed as beneficial.

## Uniform Expectations Update

I would like to acknowledge and thank all the parents who have provided feedback regarding the proposed hair and sport shoe changes. In the grand scheme of what we are trying to achieve at St Bernadette's it is interesting how something that we considered quite small would mean so much to so many people. As I have been told by many parents, "You're not going to please everyone!" and this is true. In this matter I believe everyone was given the opportunity to express their views and I have reached a decision after consulting with parents, staff, Father Andrew and staff from CEDP.

The feedback from parents was vast and varied. Some welcome the proposed changes whilst others are deeply opposed. Our aim in rewriting our hair style expectations is to ensure that;

- Students are not discriminated against based on gender, race, age, disability or religion.
- A balance between community expectations and anti-discrimination legislation is achieved.
- The ethos of the school is maintained.
- Expectations are reasonable and therefore enforceable

In making any change to school expectations we try to assess how the expectations will be interpreted and how the expectations may be ignored through 'loopholes'. For this reason I want to make it clear that if need be the new hair expectations will be reviewed and possibly changed in response to unforeseen issues. I also ask that parents follow the new expectations with integrity. I say parents because parents make choices about hairstyles and uniforms not students.

As such the following changes to hair expectations will be applied.

All student hair both girl and boy should adhere to the following expectations;

- Student hair is to be clean, neat and tidy at all times.
- Haircuts are to be in a sensible and conventional style. There are to be no extremes of fashion in hairstyle cut or colour. Shaving of any part of the head, lines or undercuts, and haircuts with a number 1 blade are not permitted. Rat's tails of any sort and the use of gel and hairspray to spike hair, is not permitted.
- If hair is below the collar it is to be tied back in a ponytail or bun.
- Hair must not restrict student vision..
- Hair colours, highlights and streaks are not acceptable.

## Hair Accessories

- All hair accessories are to be yellow and blue (The blue should match the school uniform).
- **Large** hair accessories are not to be worn including but not limited to bows, scrunchies and headbands.

## Sports Shoes

- Wearing predominantly white sports shoes will remain the school expectation. Colour should be limited.

During this process some other points have been raised and require clarification. Expectations for these items has not changed, these include;

- Black school shoes refers to leather school shoes. Black joggers are not acceptable as part of the school uniform.
- New school uniforms purchased through School Locker have embroidered logos on them. It is anticipated that over time that wearing embroidered uniform items will become the norm as old uniforms are replaced through wear and tear or as children grow.
- We have now transitioned from white socks to navy socks. Parents were given 2019 as a transition year to this new expectation.
- Watches are not permitted at school. This was implemented when smart watches became an issue in learning spaces and will remain in place.
- Makeup and nail polish is not to be worn

## Winter Uniform Changes

A growing number of children wear beanies, gloves and scarves to school. I understand why parents have made this decision, but will be moving to bring consistency to what is worn. As such we have approved The School Locker to stock approved beanies, gloves and scarves that are correct in colour, style and embroidery. These will be available soon and will become the preferred option for 2020 until a full phase in 2021.

Have a great week everyone.

Mr Phill Kapitanow

Principal

## Plants donated to our School

Once per year Blacktown Council contact us with an offer of free plants for our school. They also advise us that we can ask our School Community to donate their residential allocation of 2 free plants per property to the school. Please see below the permission slip if you would like to donate your 2 free plants to St Bernadette's.



I \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Name

Address

have **not** collected my 2 free plants from Blacktown Council this financial year and would like to donate them to St Bernadette's Primary School for planting on school grounds.

Signed

Date

## Messages to all of our families from each Stage Group. ❤️

### A Message From Early Stage 1

Hello Parents and friends!

This term, Kindy have been mathematicians tackling challenging weekly problems in Maths, reflecting on God's creation in Religion and learning fun ways to read and write in English! It has been a HUGE term as Kindergarten students settled back into the classroom and picked up where we left off!

In History, we have been learning about storytelling and how we can make our own connections to stories through stories that are specific to our cultures and generations. This week, Kindergarten reflected on all their learning so far, and created their own stories to tell to other Kindergarten students. They decided that to make these more interesting, they could use props like puppets and costumes.

The teachers are so proud of all the learning that has been happening this Term and we can't wait for another amazing Term in a few weeks time! We hope you all have a lovely week!

Early Stage 1 Teachers



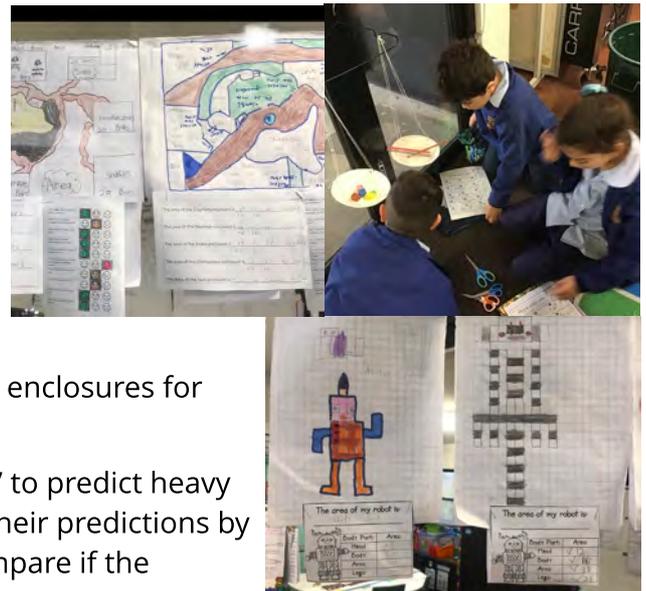
### Message from Stage 1

Stage 1 students have been learning through hands-on activities for Mathematics over the last 2 weeks. In Week 7, students focused on the topic of area. They learnt that area is the size of a surface inside a 2D shape. Year 1 students used the week's knowledge to create robots and used a variety of strategies to count the total area of their creation. Year 2 created a map of a zoo! They were given 5 different sized animals and had to create suitable size enclosures for the animals and other parts of the zoo.

Last week, our topic was Mass. Students used 'hefting' to predict heavy and light objects around the room. They then tested their predictions by putting objects into pan balances to measure and compare if the objects were heavy, light or equal in weight.

It was wonderful to see students enjoying these topics and working in groups to build on their skills! We have been exploring the events of Pentecost. In particular, how the Disciples could not see the Holy Spirit but they could feel the wind blowing through the room and see the tongues of fire. This week Stage 1 made windmills which act as a symbol of our faith. They help us understand that although we cannot see the wind or the Holy Spirit, their power is all around us.

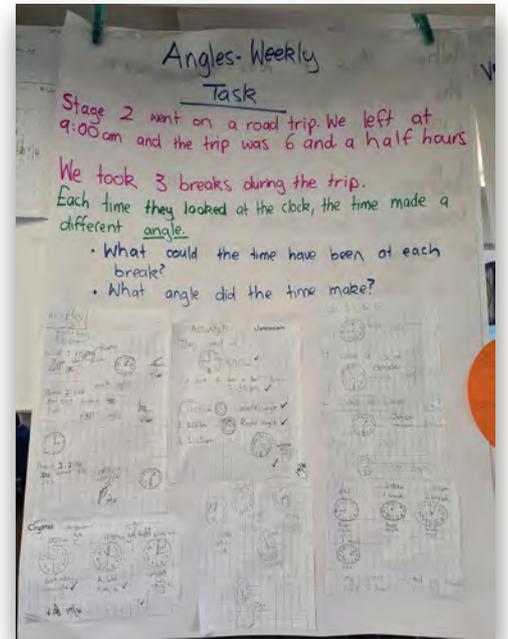
Stage 1 Teachers



## Message from Stage 2

What a term it has been! On a quick note, we wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday. We know things aren't exactly as they were or 'normal' again, but we are getting there. Thank you again for all the hard work that went into the students' learning, the effort and the patience. As we kept telling the students, we were learning step by step with them.

Last week, the stage 2 teachers were so proud of the students' learning. It was a week we stood back and admired the creativity and intelligence of each and every student. After a term of uncertainty, change and hardships, our students really challenged their thinking in all areas. In particular, in Numeracy. Stage 2 was investigating angles and how they are evident in



everyday life. We focused on clocks and the angles that are formed during various times. Stage 2 really shone during this learning, and it is a credit to them. 'Time' was a concept covered during remote learning, and we were amazed at how well they implemented this into their work with angles. It was enjoyable for the teachers to observe the exact moments students were proud of themselves for making the connections!

Congratulations Stage 2! Thank you for a great term. We look forward to what Term 3 holds and will bring our way.

Stay safe,  
Stage 2 Teachers

## Uniform Shop

The School Locker Uniform Shop is closed on site until further notice. You can still visit the School Locker website and place on line orders. You have the option of having the order posted to you or collecting from the School Office. Uniforms can be returned as long as the packaging is in tact.

Thank you



School Locker

## St Bernadette's Facebook Page

Keep up with what's happening at school on the official school Facebook page.

facebook



St Bernadette's Official  
Facebook Page

## Message from Stage 3

Students in Stage 3 have been Peer and self assessing against the Success Criteria as they prepare for the CEDP annual Voice of Youth Competition



Stage 3 have been exploring virtues and interpreting how their virtues can help them live a life of holiness



★ Great work Stage 3! ★

## From Our REC

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

Prior to COVID-19 the Parish commenced sending out registration papers for the reception of the Sacraments. As restrictions are gradually being lifted, Madge Miranda the Sacramental Co - Ordinator has advised that the Parish has resumed preparations.

If you would like to present your child for Confirmation, Holy Communion or Reconciliation, please ensure that you fill out the Registration Form that was sent home in March. If you require a new form, please let the office know so a new copy can be sent home. All completed forms can be dropped off into the Parish letterbox (which is situated opposite the Parish Office, up against the fence) as soon as possible.

Have Blessed Week,

Mrs Mabellynn Buenaventura  
(REC).



Please note that as of Term 3 students will be unable to bring glass or metal drink bottles to school. This is a safety issue and we would appreciate your assistance in complying with this request.



## News From the Library



### Return of Library Books

Thank you to all the families who have sent overdue library books back.

Just a reminder to continue to send any overdue library books back to the library.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you have any missing or damaged library books.

### Premier's Reading Challenge 2020:

There have been important updates to the 2020 PRC Challenge rules to help all students meet the Challenge requirements this year. Please see the Rules page for more information on these amendments.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

Congratulations to Jessie M, Elijah S and Lily S (Stage 1), Vinny W and Georgia N (Stage 3) who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2020.

Well done to these students!

Just a reminder that we have many books on the Premier's Reading Challenge booklist available to borrow in our school library.

Thank you,

Mrs Monique O'Brien



### July

Friday 3rd

Term 2 Ends

Monday 20th

Term 3 Commences



School Calendar

### Semester Reports - Printed



If you would like your Semester 1 Report printed for your child / children please contact us on the link below and let us know.



Contact Us

## SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES WHAT ARE YOU RISKING?



### No Stopping

Do not stop near a No Stopping sign.



### No Parking

2 min to drop off or pick up, stay within 3m of vehicle.



### Bus Zone

Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone.



Help keep our children safe

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Blacktown City Council

# ST BERNADETTE'S

Where We Learn and Grow Together

## PBS4L

This term the students have been receiving lots of Bluey cards and class tokens for being safe, respectful and responsible learners.

Congratulations to the classes who have reached their class token goal. Last Friday Stage 3 Gold enjoyed a pizza party to celebrate this goal and on Monday ES1B and ES1G celebrated with a games afternoon.

Well done to these classes.



Congratulations to the following students who received a Bronze Award:

Kaitlin Cragg, Amin Nameh, Nahla Diener, Chloe McHugh, Georgia Nash, Hayley Donovan, Bree Maycock, Angela Pilayre, Bronte Fitzroy, Ella O'Shea, Pwoj Majok and Samuel Gashaw.

These students will be wearing their badges with pride.



Over the next two weeks our PBS4L focus will be during eating time and while entering and exiting the learning spaces. The students will practise these procedures everyday while demonstrating being safe, responsible and respectful.



## Baby News



Congratulations to Grace Kedde in Stage 3 Blue and her family on the birth of her little baby brother, Franklin.

We welcome him to the St Bernadette's community.





## YOUR MSP PHOTO PACKS UPDATE

Dear Parents

We hope you and your families are well and staying healthy during these unprecedented and difficult times. We wish to update and advise you that as soon as we are in a position to resume operations, we will commence printing your school photos and make delivery as soon as possible.

We thank you for your understanding during these difficult times.

LIFE IS EASIER WITH MSP

Visit our photo gallery  
on our website.



Photo  
Gallery



Enrolling now for 2021

You're welcome!

Now Enrolling

We're all about learning at St Bernadette's Primary School. We put safety first, and focus on student wellbeing.

A reminder that places are still available for 2021 in Kindergarten. Please share this news with your friends, family and neighbours. For more information about joining our caring school community, please contact our school office on 8869 6400 or email us on the following link



Enrolment  
Enquiries

**Staying home  
this Winter?**

**Book an exciting  
experience from  
the comfort of  
your home.**



In partnership with  
**StarTime LIVE**

## **HOLIDAY CLUB** ONLINE

NEW

VIRTUAL EXPERIENCES FOR KIDS

Our brand-new innovation, Holiday Club Online, has live and interactive experiences your children can do from the comfort of your living room.

Give your child the best holiday break, with social and skill-building benefits through our jam-packed online program these holidays. We've partnered up with one of the best providers in the country, StarTime Studios, to bring you an extraordinary online holiday program that will keep your children entertained, while building lifelong skills.

We've got over **50 incredible live and interactive workshops** including *Special FX Filmmaking, Roblox Creative Challenges, Tricks and Illusions and Kids Creative Cooking*.



Book 1 session or book all 50, it's up to you. At only \$10 per-child per-workshop, plus a few required materials, it's the best value online holiday program in Australia. Sessions run between 45 minutes to an hour, with 3-4 sessions across each day of the school holidays!

With a limited number of spots available, make sure you get your bookings in early, so you don't miss out. Bookings available exclusively through the [Parent Portal](#).

**HOLIDAY CLUB**  
ONLINE

[www.campaustralia.com.au/holiday-club-online](http://www.campaustralia.com.au/holiday-club-online)

**CAMP AUSTRALIA**



## St Bernadette's Garden

There is pleasure in gardening, e.g. harvesting luscious tomatoes, planting marigold seeds around the crepe myrtles, watering, weeding, composting and then there is problem-solving, like how to unravel a knotted hose? Lucie seems to have it under control! While Elijah was making sure the over-flow from the Wicking Bed was saved and reused, other students were finding creative ways to use old Muffin Trays ... the succulents will thrive and the trays will have a new purpose ... good choices, all round!



To be part of the learning and fun

make contact via: [claresgarden118@gmail.com](mailto:claresgarden118@gmail.com) and visit <http://kitchengardensinschools.blogspot.com>

or the school office on 8869 6400 or [stbernadetteslpark@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stbernadetteslpark@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Please see our website [www.stbernadetteslalorpark.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stbernadetteslalorpark.parra.catholic.edu.au) for more photos from the garden



**More Photos**



**Our Playground**

## Hills District & Inner West Winter

# CARTOONING CAMPS



- COVID Safe Program**
- Correct social distancing
  - Limited class sizes
  - Hand washing & sanitising
  - Drop off service
  - Stay at home Zoom classes also offered



With restrictions being lifted - we are now able to reschedule our cartoon camps. Children need to play, learn & have fun. An exciting, fun art & cartooning adventure week awaits. Join us this Winter holidays or stay home & Zoom in.



**Short Day:** \$45 per child per day (9.30am - 1.30pm)  
**Long Day:** \$50 per child per day (8am - 6pm or part thereof)  
 Long Day is a service not available for those families that are unable to drop their child off to do more activities, cartooning, such as games.  
**Night Camps:** \$25 (6pm - 9pm) per night (Tuesday & Thursday)

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**

Book & pay for 4 Long Days Monday to Thursday & we will add your child manually to the Friday list for free here in our office. Payments must be before Friday June 26th 5pm. Creative Kid vouchers can also be accepted. Get the Vouchers from Service NSW & call our office to make the booking over the phone.

9343 0833  
[bookings@cartoonkingdom.com.au](mailto:bookings@cartoonkingdom.com.au)  
[www.illustrating-man.com.au](http://www.illustrating-man.com.au)

**Inner West**  
 Monday July 6<sup>th</sup> - Friday July 10<sup>th</sup>  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Abbotsford Sea Scout Hall  
 End of Great North Road,  
 Abbotsford (Next to the wharf)

**Hills District**  
 Monday July 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday July 17<sup>th</sup>  
 West Pennant Hills Scout Hall  
 Wilga Street,  
 West Pennant Hills