

NEWSLETTER 2023 TERM 3 WEEK 8

St Bernadette's Primary School Dundas Valley

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 8:

Friday, 8th Sept : School Disco

Week 9:

Monday, 11th Sept : Whole school swimming program starts

Monday, 11th Sept : Motiv8 after school program (Last Session)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Yesterday I was lucky enough to attend the Eastern Division finals for the Voice of Youth at Greystanes. Here, seven year 6 students competed for the privilege of going on to the next competition against children from all over the Parramatta Diocese. One of our students, Ella Tasovac, proudly represented us at this final and she did an amazing job. While she may not be going to the next round, she spoke with confidence on the topic of Social Media and its impact on self image.

Listening to these young people speak so confidently gave me an insight into how the next generation will do us proud.



Love & Light

Lisa Gerrard

(on behalf of the St Bernadette's staff & students)

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Next week, we begin our swimming program. This is a great opportunity for our students to either learn or continue to develop this important skill. It can, however, be a very tiring fortnight. The students will be more tired at the end of the day with the combination of chlorine and extra exercise. It is important to ensure that good routines are established for rest and sleep.

It is also extremely important to reinforce independence in our children. A big hurdle many of our children face with the swimming program is getting dressed at the end of the lesson and organising their belongings. This new situation is a great opportunity to encourage independence in our children. Independence is important so that children feel they can tackle new challenges and adventures but know that adults will be there to support them if things go wrong. Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled so that there is a minimal risk of losing items.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a fantastic end to the term and a safe and fun-filled holiday as I will be on leave in Weeks 9 and 10.

Regards

Rebecca Boidin
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Sunday 10 Sep 2023

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

It is difficult for leaders to call people to accountability. Such is the unenviable responsibility of pastors in the parish, coordinators of religious education, members of the parish council, principals in the school, directors of liturgical ministry, to name but a few. Disciples must also engage in the very difficult process of reconciliation. Differences of opinion, misunderstandings, and actual offences tend to alienate people. We see this happen in families, neighbourhoods, parish communities, workplaces. It is not enough to say that we must try to forgive from our hearts. The process of reconciliation requires significant movement toward the admission of guilt as well. Both the one offended and the offender must be willing to be transformed.

Gathering two or three together in prayerful collaboration is not as easy as it sounds. If collaboration is to be effective, we have to be open and honest about our opinions and our biases, and respectful of the opinions and biases of others. We must work for the common good and not merely for what we personally think is best. We must be willing to accept and implement decisions with which we may not totally agree, and we must live with them gracefully. All of this calls for unselfish love. Love fulfils the entire law only: when we honour our personal commitments and the personal commitments of others; when we value the life, dignity and reputation of others; and when we respect their possessions. It is only because love is so demanding that it covers all of our responsibilities.

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

Who has known someone who sinned against a friend?

What did they do wrong?

How did they make up?

In today's Gospel what does Jesus say to do if someone sins against you? (point out what is wrong in private)

What does he say you should do if you have sinned against someone? (listen to what they have to say)

Jesus says we need to be honest and respect each other in times of difficulty.

How can we do this at school and at home?

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Message From Parish:

For information on the upcoming First Reconciliation program please see this link and complete the online Nomination Form for enrolment: <https://form.jotform.com/stbernadettedvsp/23-24FRFHCNom>

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.

Nomination Forms must be received online by Friday, 22nd September, 2023

All enquiries please email stbernadettedvsp@hotmail.com or phone the parish office 9871 4414.

Thank you and God bless,

From the St Bernadette's, Dundas Valley, Sacramental Program Team.

SCHOOL NEWS

Attendance

Attendance Rate: 75.5% - To unpack this a little more, this means that 75.5% of our students have an attendance rate of 90% -100%.



Next Assembly

Our next assembly will be **Week 9, Friday, 15th September**. The class presenting at this assembly will be year 5.

A Change of Routine For Afternoon Dismissal:

It has come to my attention that the current practice of afternoon dismissal at the back gate has become dangerous. So beginning next week we will be changing to the following protocols:

1. At dismissal two staff members will escort the students and sit under the COLA in their assembly positions.
2. One staff member will open the back gate and invite parents to collect their children.
3. Parents will take their children to their cars while holding their hands.

No children will be permitted to play on the playground or oval after school to ensure their safety.

Should this arrangement continue to be deemed unsafe, the back gate will be closed and all children will be picked up from the hall. Your child's safety is our top priority and having children run across or through moving cars is unacceptable.

Cheese Toastie Breakfast - *Wednesday mornings*

Get ready for a delicious start to your Wednesday mornings with our new Cheese Toastie Breakfast! Join the Faith in Action Team at the canteen between 8:30 and 8:50 am for a mouth-watering cheese toastie that will leave you feeling energised for the day ahead.



To participate, simply purchase a voucher for \$3 through QKR between Thursday 10:00am and Tuesday 10:00am. All proceeds from the sale of the cheese toasties will be donated to the Manning Foundation, a worthy cause that supports our parish and community. Don't miss out on this tasty opportunity to support a good cause and start your day off right. We can't wait to see you there!

Community Of Learners



On Wednesday, 6th September, year 5 and year 6 travelled to St Paul's Catholic College to support Ella Tasovac in the Voice of Youth Semi-final. She spoke beautifully with confidence and gusto. The audience was thoroughly engaged throughout her speech and we are very proud of her achievement.

Congratulations Ella !



Important Dates To Remember

Week 8:

Friday, 8th : School Disco (Infants 5:15pm - 6:15pm & Primary 6:30pm - 7:45pm)

Week 9:

Monday, 11th September : Whole School Swimming program starts (2 week program)

Monday, 11th September : Motiv8 after school program (Last session)

Week 10:

Friday, 22nd September : Last day of Term 3

Friday, 22nd September : Last day of Swimming Program

Term 4

Week 1:

Monday, 9th October : **Staff Development Day (No students at school)**

Tuesday, 10th October : **Staff Development Day (No students at school)**

Wednesday, 11th October : **First day back to school for students**

Family Fun Evening!



Our large fundraising event for 2023 is a Family Fun Evening!

Date: Friday, 3rd November 2023

Time: 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Events: stalls, sausage sizzle, games and more

Your class contact person will be in contact with you to seek suggestions and assistance in making the evening a success. This event will be open to families, friends and members of the wider parish community. All money raised will be put towards a sensory play area for all to enjoy.

Representative sport

Diocesan Athletics

On Friday, 25th August, St Bernadette's was represented by 9 students at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival. It is impressive that so many of our children reached this high level of competition, against the very best athletes in all of the Parramatta Diocese.

Congratulations to the Diocesan Athletics team for 2023:

- Nerso
- Oliver C
- Jayden E
- Elle
- Jun
- Megan
- Ray
- Eamon
- Noah

Congratulations to Jun, who came third in his 100m race! This means that he has qualified for the MacKillop Athletics Championship, where he will be pitted against the very best athletes from all NSW Catholic schools. What a fantastic achievement, well done to Jun!



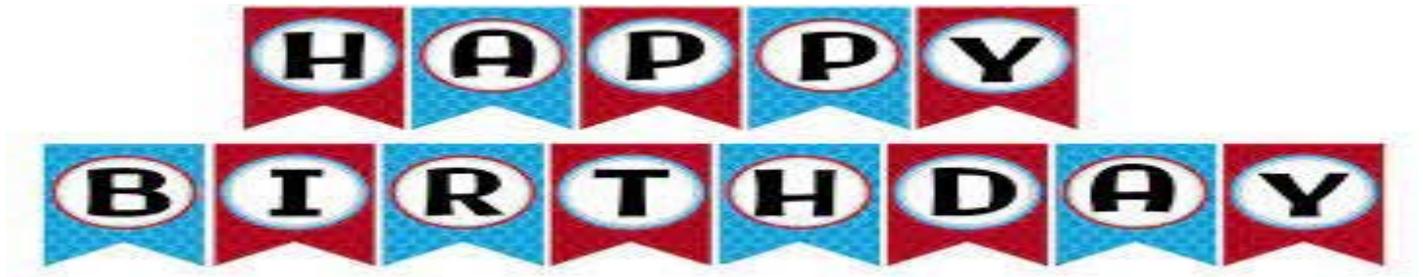
Netball Gala Day

On Wednesday, 30th August, 60 of our primary children attended the Diocesan Netball Gala Day. Our primary teachers all attended and were happy to say the day was a great success. All of our 7 teams played with good spirit, with some wins, draws and losses. We are proud of the way they conducted themselves, as always maintaining the excellent reputation that we are accustomed to at St Bernadette's.

These days do not happen without significant community support. We had a number of our parents and ex-students assist with coaching and umpiring, for which we are very grateful.

Thank you to our coaches and Umpires: Mrs Boulous, Takara, Chloe, Mrs Dellas, Rorie, Zoey, Aaliyah, Isla, Amelia, Malia, Mrs Pirreca, Lauren, Ofa and Isabella.





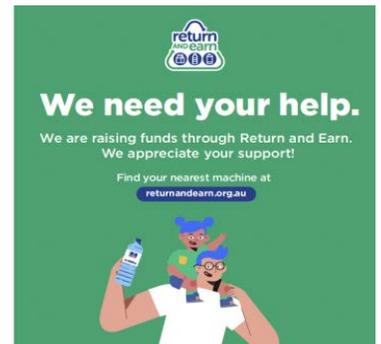
Liyana - 29/08
Phineas - 30/08
Patience - 31/08
Vince - 04/09
Archer - 04/09
Abigail - 05/09
Yousuf - 08/09
Chloe G - 09/09
Chloe Y - 10/09

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

Return and Earn

Want 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.

Which drink containers are eligible for a 10c refund?



COMMUNITY NEWS



**ACTIVE
PARRAMATTA**

Beat the boredom during the school holidays with our FREE activities for children aged 5 to 12 years.

Children of all abilities are welcome.
No experience in the sport required!



LEARN MORE



<https://bitly.ws/HEXe>

BASKETBALL SKILLS & GAMES FOR CHILDREN AGES - 4-12



➤➤➤➤ THIS PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE:

- BASKETBALL GAMES AND SKILLS WITH OUR ELITE COACHES
- 8-WEEK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN AGES 4-12
- LOCATION - ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ON THE BASKETBALL COURT (COX CRES, DUNDAS VALLEY NSW 2117)
- CLASSES RUNNING SATURDAY MORNING, STARTING IN TERM 4
- ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME

WE ARE ONLY OFFERING LIMITED SPOTS. TO ENROL, SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW

EMAIL -
INFO@LITTLEBOOMERSBASKETBALL.COM.AU



APPLY NOW



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CRICKET



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

SCAN to
learn more
& REGISTER



or VISIT: play.cricket.com.au

SEARCH: *Dundas United*

CRICKET BLAST SKILLS (beginners)

THURSDAY AFTERNOON - *age 5-9 mixed*

SATURDAY MORNING JUNIOR COMPETITION

- *under 9's to under 16's mixed*





Tap on and tap off, every time you travel by bus

Our school is partnering with the local school bus operator, Busways, to support a new Tap On and Tap Off education campaign encouraging students who travel by bus to correctly use their school Opal cards. Busways is implementing this campaign throughout Term 3, 2023. This campaign will focus on a simple message – tap on and tap off every time you travel by bus.

Why is tapping on and off on the bus important?

The use of Opal cards is the primary way bus operators and Transport for NSW analyse demand for bus services. When students don't use their Opal cards, their trip is not recorded. Therefore, buses may appear underutilised. Tapping on and off provides better data to plan better bus services.

How can you help?

If your child travels to school by bus, please ensure your child has a valid Opal card (either a School or Child/Youth Opal card). Visit Transport for NSW website to apply for a school Opal card. Students may see onboard bus posters and Busways Community Relation Officers at afternoon loadings. Together let's get students into good habits of tapping on and tapping off with their Opal card. Thank you for your support with this campaign.

WE ARE LITTLE ATHLETICS

Registrations Now Open



**Parramatta City Athletics
Barton Park, North Parramatta
6pm Fridays**

**Visit parramattacityathletics.org.au
for more information and to register**

REGISTER TODAY!



St Bernadette's Primary School

St Bernadette's Primary, 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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