

NEWSLETTER 2024 TERM 1 WEEK 8

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 8:

Friday, 22nd March : Yr 6 Shirt Reveal

Week 9:

Thursday, 28th March : Prayer of the Divine Mercy

Thursday, 28th March : Easter Raffle Draw

Friday, 29th March: Good Friday (No School)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear St Bernadette's Parents and Carers,

Thursday 7th of March we had a wonderful afternoon of Rug Reading at St Bernadette's. There were books and readers and rugs and smiling faces as far as the eye could see! Thank you to those who joined us.



Over the last week Year 3 and Year 5 engaged in the NAPLAN tests. The national assessment covered the Key Learning Areas of English and Mathematics. Congratulations to all students who participated and did their best. I was very proud of their resilience and impressed by the positive attitude and willingness to have a go that the children display. Thank you to all the teachers for their efforts to make this a seamless process.

🍀🍀 Thanks to our amazing Kindy mums for the St Patrick's themed canteen day. It was a hit! 🍀🍀 The children enjoyed using their "cash cards" to purchase green foods and wore their touch of green to honour St Patrick on his special feast Day.



Today we wear our splash of orange as we recognise the diversity that brings together people from all different backgrounds to foster inclusiveness and mutual respect. Harmony Week is about celebrating our UNITY in DIVERSITY. We are blessed at St Bernadette's to have a rich tapestry of cultures that make the fabric of our amazing community.

Next week is Holy Week, a most significant week in the church's liturgical calendar. All grades will lead a Sacred Space over the coming weeks, retelling key events of Holy Week.

I wish you and your families blessings for the Easter Season and a wonderful and safe Easter long weekend.

God Bless,

Michelle Yager
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to our Year 3 and Year 5 students who have just completed their NAPLAN tests. The children were settled and worked well during the tests. We are very proud of their efforts. While we wait for their results to come back we reiterate that NAPLAN provides a snapshot of your child's achievement at the time. We analyse the data as a school to celebrate success and plan ahead for areas of development. As a community, we celebrate all of our students' successes, both academically and socially.

Thank you to all of our families who have supported our Easter Raffle. There is still time to buy your tickets. Please support our Term 1 fundraising event.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Boidin
Assistant Principal

Sunday 24 Mar 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mark 15:1-39

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

First thing in the morning, the chief priests together with the elders and the scribes, in short the whole Sanhedrin, had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate.

Pilate questioned him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It is you who say it' he answered. And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again, 'Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you!' But to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?' For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priests, however, had incited the crowd to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead. The Pilate spoke again. 'But in that case,' he said to them 'what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' 'Why?' Pilate asked them 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes.

They led him out to crucify him. They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.' And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said, 'Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!' The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.' Even those who were crucified with him taunted him.

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this they said, 'Listen, he is calling on Elijah'. Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink saying, 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.' But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said, 'In truth this man was a son of God.'

24
March
2024

Praise the Everlasting King

THIS WEEK...

"Try to deepen your understanding of these two words, 'I Thirst.'"

St Teresa of Calcutta

PRAYER

Father, I put my life in your hands.
Amen



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

IS 50: 4-7

PHIL 2: 6-11

MK 14: 1-15: 47

If we look at the readings that the Church proposes to us for each week of the liturgical calendar, we can have a sense of fragmentation, of small passages of scripture given to us to think about. Many of the Sunday gospels relate individual parables of Jesus or particular incidents of the preaching and public mission. But when we come to Passion Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, there is a much more coherent, detailed and confronting account of the events leading to Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

This year, the formal reading is *"the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark"*, and then the *"Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John"* on Good Friday.

One person who appears only in the account of Mark is a woman; she anoints the head of Jesus with precious nard. Jesus says of her, 'She has anointed my body beforehand for its burial'.

How important to simply read quietly and at our own pace the sequence of events that lead to Calvary. In fact, I think that a personal reading of Mark's account in the New Testament is almost as important as being part of the public proclamation at Mass on Palm Sunday. Some of the details are unique to this gospel, such as *"They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and of Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross."*

As we reflect on the suffering and death of the Jesus, we remember the deaths too of all the innocent victims of violence and war and we continue to pray for peace in our volatile world.

What word or phrase from the readings of this week touched you? Why?

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

Who are the people who love you?

What special things do they do for you?

Jesus suffered and died because he loved us.

Who are people who are in need or in pain?

How can we show God's love to these people?

Today is the beginning of a special week of celebrations.

How can we participate in Holy Week?

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Term 1 Mass/Reconciliation Roster

Week/Date	Other Celebrations	Wednesday Reconciliation	Friday Mass
Students return to school Thursday 1 February – no Reconciliation/Mass			
Week 2 5 – 9 February		6	6 & 2
Week 3 12 – 16 February	Monday – (IN SCHOOL) Beginning School and Commissioning	Ash Wednesday	
Week 4 19 – 23 February		5	5 & 1
Week 5 26 Feb – 1 Mar			Cross Country
Week 6 4 – 8 March	CSW– More information to come	4	3 & 4
Week 7 11 – 15 March		6	6 & 2
Week 8 18 – 22 March		5	5 & 1
Week 9 25 – 29 March	Monday – (PARISH) The Annunciation Of The Lord	Holy Week	Good Friday
Week 10 1 – 5 April			Whole School
Week 11 8 – 12 April		4	3 & 4

Holy Week



Holy Week is an important time for Christians throughout the world. This is the final week of Lent, which begins on Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter. Holy Week is a time when Catholics gather to remember and participate in the Passion of Jesus Christ. Special ceremonies commemorate the events of Christ's Passion from His entrance into Jerusalem, when palm branches were placed in His path, through His arrest on Holy Thursday and Crucifixion on Good Friday, to Holy Saturday, the day that Christ's body lay in the tomb.

Next Wednesday, the students will participate in a prayer pilgrimage around the school to commemorate the events of Holy Week. As a school, we will celebrate the Resurrection when we return to school in Week 10.

On Thursday morning next week, parents and carers are invited to join staff in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This will begin at 8:30 in the Hall. All are welcome.

SCHOOL NEWS

Attendance

Attendance Rate: 89%- To unpack this a little more, this means that 89% of our students have an attendance rate of 90% -100%.



Next Assembly

Our next assembly will be **Week 9, Thursday 28th March**. There will be no class presentation. We will hand out some awards and draw the Easter Raffles . The assembly starts at 2:40pm in the school hall.

Lateness To School

It is a school requirement that when a student is late to school a parent or carer is required to walk the child into the school office to be signed in.

School Photos

Our school photos will be on **Wednesday, 10th April (week 11)**. All students are to wear their **whole school summer uniform, not sports uniform**.

If you are wanting to purchase school photos please do so by www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the school code shown below.

All orders are to be placed online before photo day. No orders will be accepted in the school office.

order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: **9BK 8ZG AKF**



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advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

Easter Raffle

Raffle tickets for our Easter Raffle prizes are now available on QKR!. Tickets are \$1 and for every \$10 worth of tickets sold, students will receive a ticket in their grade raffle for the chance to win a prize.

Prizes:

- 1st Prize - A Basket of Easter Eggs + Daisy's by the Park Cafe Voucher
- 2nd Prize - A Basket of Easter Eggs + Aces Seafood Voucher
- 3rd Prize - A Basket of Easter Eggs + Aces Seafood Voucher
- 4th Prize - A Basket of Easter Eggs + Aces Seafood Voucher

Plus more Surprise draws... including a Voucher to Social Hideout Cafe. Tickets are now on sale, **closing on March 25th at 5pm**. Prizes will be drawn on Thursday March 28th at 2:40pm (Please be aware of this time as it has changed). Thank you for supporting this fundraising initiative.





A very special thank you to these local businesses who have generously donated vouchers to their businesses as prizes for our school easter raffle.



Enrolments for 2025:

If you are looking at enrolling your child to our school for next year and have not yet contacted the school office for an application form, please do so as soon as possible as we will be starting the interview process very soon.

Important Dates To Remember:

Term 1

Week 8:

Friday, 22nd March : Year 6 Shirt Reveal (At 2:50pm under the school Cola)

Week 9:

Thursday, 28th March : Praying the Divine Mercy (8:30am in school hall- Parents welcomed to join)

Thursday, 28th March : Assembly / Easter Raffle at 2:40pm

Friday, 29th March : Good Friday (**Public Holiday - no Students at school**)

Week 10:

Monday, 1st April : Easter Monday (**Public Holiday - no students at school**)

Week 11:

Tuesday, 9th April : Mission Marketplace (More details to follow)

Wednesday, 10th April : School Photos (Summer school uniform for all students)

Friday, 12th April : Last day of Term 1

Term 2:

Week 1:

Monday, 29th April : **Staff Development Day** (No students at school)

Tuesday, 30th April : First Day Back To School For Students

Reminder About Watches :

A reminder that Smart watches are **not** to be worn to school. They are expensive and can cause a distraction in class. If children are wearing these to school they will be treated like a mobile phone and be handed into the office once they come into school and they will be returned at the end of the day.

Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the following children who represented St Bernadette's at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival:

Jayden E
Ayden
Anastasia
Liam

It was a great achievement to compete at this high level and we are all very proud of them!



As a community of Learners:



This term we have been having fun in drama with Miss Louise. We have learned about Greek dramas. In ancient times the Greeks would perform in big open amphitheatres. They had to be loud and be quite exaggerated in their movements.

We have copied this style to write and perform our own chorus performance. It is based on a normal daily part of our routine. We performed these at the assembly last week.

A few weeks ago Years 5 and 6 experienced a day reflecting on what leadership is. This was a great day of discussion, games, new friends and challenges.

We would like to share some of our thoughts about leadership with you:

- A leader is someone who thinks about others.
- A leader is someone who helps others when things are hard.
- Something important we'll need to remember as we lead is how we can work with others to solve a problem.
- Something important we'll need to remember as we lead is that leadership isn't a position- it's an action.
- The most challenging part of being a leader might be speaking in front of others.
- The most challenging part of being a leader might be taking care of those who follow you.
- The quality I most admire in a leader is standing up to what they think is right.
- The quality I most admire in a leader is their love.
- I am already leading when I help others.
- I am already leading when I make a difference to others.



Faith In Action: Helping others soar in 2024

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Mission Marketplace: Week 11 Tuesday 9th April 11.30am -1.20pm

In the lead up to Mission Marketplace, the FIAT and SRC leaders will be holding Caritas Club. There will be an Infants session and Primary session, held during lunchtimes.

These sessions are an opportunity for the students at our school to grow a deeper understanding of *WHY* we are holding Mission Marketplace. We all know that Mission Marketplace will be a lot of fun but the main purpose of this event is to raise awareness and money for Caritas Australia.

"This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you."

John 15:12

Caritas believes development allows the poorest people to reach their full human potential. Caritas works to transform lives all over the world through their programmes. At St Bernadette's we can be a part of the mission to help those in need, just as Jesus wants us to.

In Week 9, each student will bring home an information note about Mission Marketplace. Attached to that will be a slip that details what your child needs to bring for their Mission Marketplace stall. These items do not need to be brought to school until Mission Marketplace on Tuesday 9th April. We truly appreciate your support.

Miss Carly
FIAT Coordinator

School Student Broadband Initiative - free NBN service opportunity

To boost education opportunities and narrow the digital divide, the Australian Government is providing up to 30,000 eligible families with no internet at home a free National Broadband Network (NBN) service. Originally a 12-month commitment, the initiative has been extended meaning:

- The period in which a family can nominate to receive a free service is up to 31 December 2024
- The duration of free services will continue until 31 December 2025 for all existing and new families.

The Government has invested \$8.8 million to support NBN Co's implementation and delivery of this targeted affordability measure. This includes an additional \$4.3 million from the 2023-24 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) to extend the free services to 31 December 2025.

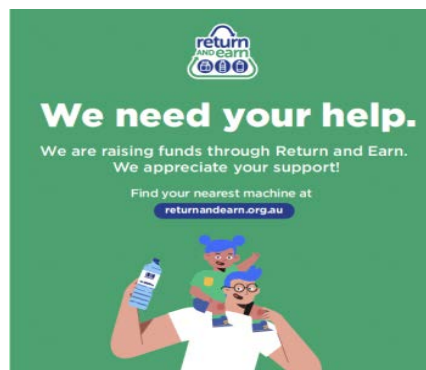
More information is available [here](#).

Return and Earn

Thank you to all of you generous families who have been depositing their empty containers at Rydalmere's Return and Earn centre. As a result of your efforts the school has raised \$659.60 over the Christmas and summer period.

Mrs Maria is now happily shopping around to purchase a brand new water play table for the children to enjoy at Lunch Bunch.

Don't forget to encourage your child to place their empty containers in the Return and Earn bins at school (if they are not sure which container please tell them to look for the 10c logo on the container).



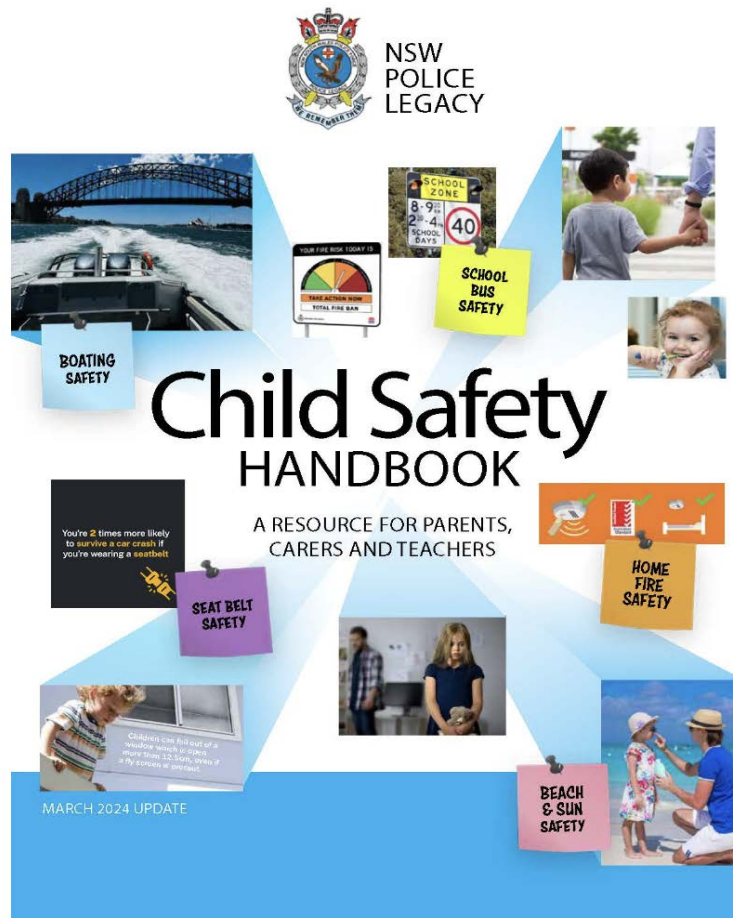


We would like to wish all the following children a very Happy Birthday

Liana L - 12/03
Gabriella - 14/03
Ivy - 15/03
Noah - 21/03
Tri - 23/03
Nicky - 24/03

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

COMMUNITY NEWS



Here are additional links where the digital handbook can be viewed:

NSW Police Legacy – <https://www.policelegacynsw.org.au/resources/>

Child Safety Hub website – <http://nsw.childsafetyhub.com.au/handbook/>

We kindly request you forward the Child Safety Handbook via email communication to all parents/carers and teachers of your students.

The handbook is also available to download for free on all the App stores.

Suggested wording that can be included in your newsletter or other communication with parents is available on the child safety hub website and also includes imagery and links - <http://nsw.childsafetyhub.com.au/downloads/>

If you have any questions, please feel free to email childsafetyhub@amgroup.net.au



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When we use the word camp we don't mean sleepover.
Our Motiv8sports events run from 8.30am to 3.30pm and are designed
for K(Prep) - Grade 6 children.

At Motiv8sports there is a reason why the word motiv8 comes before the word
sports. The sports we perform are really important but our primary focus is creating
a sports dreamland where children are not only safe but motiv8ted by our team of energetic
coaches to get in and have a go. Sportsmanship, building resilience, forming new friendships and learning about
teamwork is all part of the Motiv8sports experience.

Over the course of our event children will receive a free jersey and be placed in age appropriate groups of 18-22.
Our events are as much about entertainment as they are about sport and our participants get to play a wide range
of non-contact hybrid sports only experienced at Motiv8sports. Vortex Gridiron, Ultimate league, 4-Ball, Super Soccer,
Flagball, Street Hockey, Ruckus AFL, SS Racers, Ballers and Sector-8 are just some of the innovative sports we offer.

We take pride in providing the best school holiday camps on the planet. Please scan the QR code below or call
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WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT ONE OF OUR CAMPS THESE HOLIDAYS.

**PARRAMATTA MARIST
HIGH SCHOOL**

Monday 22nd APRIL

+

Tuesday 23rd APRIL

**Call us on 0402 200 479 to chat
with our team**



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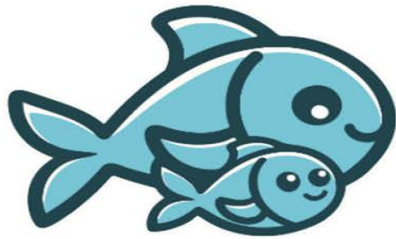
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every day is an adventure in
growth and learning





NORMANHURST BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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Open Day

For Prospective Year 7 2026/2027 Families

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

Tuesday 26 March 2024

Registration by 10:00 am on
Friday 22 March 2024 is essential!

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

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



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.

Address: Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley, 2117 NSW Australia

Phone: 02 8846 2600

Email : dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au