



# St Bernadette's Primary School Newsletter

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**Term 4, Week 10**

**Thursday 14 December, 2017**

Dear families of St Bernadette's,

As this is the final newsletter for 2017, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support throughout the year. It is this support and working together in partnership, which makes our school such a beautiful community.

This Christmas time, as we remember the birth of the baby Jesus in the stable, let us experience the promise of joy, hope and renewal.

*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you: he is the Messiah, the Lord."*

*This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."*

*Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests." Luke 2:10-14.*

Let us take time to rest and thank God for the wonderful blessings of 2017 and may 2018 be a year filled with healing, protection and joy for us all.

May you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year holiday season. May the joy of the Christmas season fill your hearts and home. Have a safe and happy holiday.

**Peace and best wishes to all**

**Mary Ann Gatt-Petrini**  
**Principal**



**Our attendance  
percentage to date is:  
87.9%**

## LITURGY ROSTER

### WEEKEND ALTAR SERVICES

#### Saturday 16 December

6:00pm

Riley C, Liam M, Nicholas C,  
Jeremy F, Jonathan F

#### Sunday 17 December

8:00am

Isabella E, Daniel M

#### Sunday 17 December

9:30am

Justine M, Marc B, Bartosz L

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

#### Sunday 24 December

Vigil Mass 7:30pm

(Reconciliation 6:30pm-7:15pm)

#### Christmas Eve Mass Midnight

Carols from 11:30pm

(Reconciliation 11:00pm-11:45pm)

#### Monday 25 December

9:30am Mass

(Reconciliation 8:30am-9:15am)

## RE NEWS

### SUNDAY SCRIPTURE PREVIEW

Sunday, December 17 2017: *Third Sunday of Advent - Year B*

Jn 1:6-8. 19-28

***There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.***

Last week we heard the witness given by John the Baptist according to the Gospel of St Mark. In Sunday's Gospel (1:6-8, 19-28) we hear the same witness described, from a rather different angle, in the Gospel of John.

Sunday's liturgy can serve to remind us of today's call to a 'New Evangelisation' – bringing the true joy of the light of Christ to a world in which there is so much darkness and pain. When the task seems beyond us, let us remember with the old prophet, that we are working for God's future; let us understand that it is first and foremost the quality of our lives together that will bring people to share our faith; and let us learn from the Baptist that the effectiveness of our outreach will depend upon the unselfish commitment we have made to the Saviour and what he stands for. *John Thornhill sm*

Traditionally, the third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of Joy. The joy of this Sunday comes both from the message of the readings and from the anticipation that Christmas is nearing.

As this is the final newsletter for 2017, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for a wonderful year. We have shared many special Masses and class prayers and I would like to thank all of you who have been able to join us at these celebrations. Thank you also for your generosity throughout the year as we continued our Social Justice outreach, raising funds and donating food for a number of charities and people less fortunate than ourselves. Your generosity is valued and greatly appreciated.

***May the peace that Christmas brings be with all of you and your families.***

**Mary Elliott**  
**R.E.C.**



*May the  
Miracle of  
Christmas  
fill your heart  
with joy*





Please keep in your prayers all those who are sick and very ill, including students and parents of our school community. We ask for God's blessing, strength and support.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

All money raised today from the Christmas Mufti Day will be donated to the Cancer Council.

### R.I.P

Our sympathy and prayers is extended to the Nehme Family (Sophia & Patrick), and the English Family (Matilda & Eleanor) following the recent passing of their grandfather. May he rest in eternal peace.



## SCHOOL NEWS

### DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2018

29 Jan	Maths Assessment Interviews
30 Jan	Students in Years 1-6 begin the school year
1 Feb	Kindergarten students begin big school

### PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

KINDER	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
Natalie H	Arvin S	Eamon B	Rick A
YEAR 4A	YEAR 4L	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Aaliyah M	Oliver M	Rory P	Amira W

RYAN M - 2/12  
 ELEANOR E - 2/12  
 HEIDI S - 4/12  
 RORY P - 5/12  
 OLIVIA N - 7/12  
 MADELEINE R - 8/12  
 ISABEL L - 13/12



GIANLUCA B - 13/12  
 KAITLYN T - 13/12  
 NICHOLAS L - 17/12  
 NATALIE H - 17/12  
 ERIN P - 20/12  
 JON E - 26/12  
 MATIAS C - 28/12

## Our New SRC Representatives for 2018

Over the past two weeks we have gone through the election process for our new SRC representatives for 2018. Students from Years 4 & 5 were asked to nominate themselves or their peers, then prepare a speech after which the voting process took place.

As a result of this voting process 8 Year 5 (Year 6 2018) & 4 Year 4 (Year 5 2018) students were selected by their peers as SRC representatives. Congratulations to the following students:

Year 6 2018		Year 5 2018
Erin B	Rory L	Kiara B
Jerome B	Justine M	Damon K
Lauren C	Leah N	Melanie M
Timothy G	Marcello B	Amelia N

Congratulations also to all those who put themselves forward during this process. As always I was blown away by the calibre of the students at our school.

*Lisa Gerrard*

## ST BERNADETTE'S PERPETUAL TROPHY

For the past 3 years, the St Bernadette's Perpetual Trophy has been awarded to the house colour which has accrued the highest point score over the year.

Points are awarded for a wide range of achievements, encompassing all areas of school life. All children have the opportunity to contribute through spiritual, sporting, academic and social achievements. Some of the ways points can be earned include:



St Bernadette Award  
St Francis Awards  
Principal award  
ICAS competitions  
Athletics  
Swimming  
Cross Country

**Congratulations to the winning team for 2017,  
the Clare House!**

## P&F NEWS

The second hand uniform shop will be open on Monday, 29 January 2018.

8:30am - 9:30am

2:00pm - 3:00pm

Donations will be accepted. Please ensure they are clean.

Torn, stained or dirty clothes will not be accepted.





# *~ Children's Corner ~*

## *Kindergarten - CAFE*





# Year 6 Graduation





# Year 6 Dinner Dance



## AROUND THE DIOCESE

### **VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS NEEDED**

The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email [info@smom.org.au](mailto:info@smom.org.au)

### **GRIEF TO GRACE**

Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing [info@griegtograceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griegtograceaus.org.au) or phone 0407704539. For more information visit [www.griegtograce.org](http://www.griegtograce.org)

### **CHRISTMAS AT ST FINBAR'S: 17 DECEMBER**

St Finbar's traditional Christmas feast will be held this year on Sunday 17th December at 7:30pm. Massed Choir, Readings, Harp, Handbells, Soloists and Brass. Join the great organ in singing carols with the choir and congregation, and rejoice in the Hallelujah Chorus with trumpets and timpani. Donation: Families \$35, individuals \$15. Bring the family, friends and neighbours. Proceeds towards the upkeep and maintenance of the organ. St. Finbar's Catholic Church, 46 Levy Street, Glenbrook. Enquiries 4754 1780.

### **MASS OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS: 28 DECEMBER**

The principal celebrant for the Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents will be Fr Benedict La Volpe OFM Conv. Mass at 11:00am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, 8 Diana Ave, Kellyville, followed by a rosary procession to the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents. A luncheon will be provided – please bring a plate to share. Inquiries (02) 9629 2595.

### **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY VIGIL: 30 DECEMBER**

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite families and youth (aged 18-35) to join us for a Celebration Vigil for Feast of the Holy Family on Saturday 30 December at 2:30 pm. Pizza from 5:30pm. 116-132 Quakers Road, 2148 Marayong NSW. Please RSVP to Sr Paula by 28 December on [vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com) or 0449 656 406.

### **POSITIONS VACANT**

- \* Youth Minister - St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill
- \* Accounts Officer - Chancery Office, Parramatta.

More details at: [www.parracatholic.org/employment](http://www.parracatholic.org/employment)

### **CHRISTMAS 2017 MASS TIMES**

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation times across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains can be found by visiting: [www.parracatholic.org](http://www.parracatholic.org)

### **CHILD SAFETY HANDBOOK**

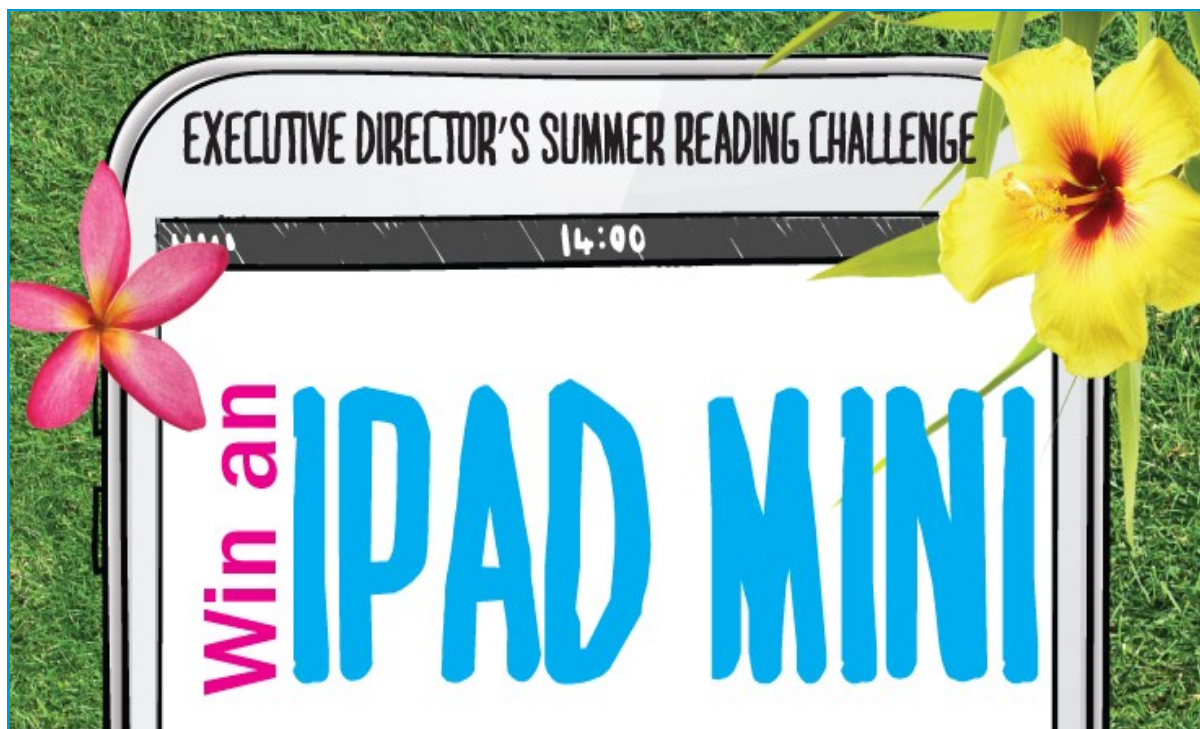
NSW Police Legacy [Child Safety Handbook](#) is now available in digital form. The Handbook provides advice to assist children, parents and teachers on a range of areas related to child safety, including cybersafety, bullying and crossing roads safely.

The direct link to the resource is <http://www.childsafetyhub.com.au/>



## EXTRA CURRICULUM

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



### EXPAND YOUR IMAGINATION BY READING THIS SUMMER

These summer holidays, the Summer Reading Challenge is on again, and encouraging all students to read, read, read! Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, piece of poetry, book, e-book or graphic novel. This year we have made the challenge easier to enter by removing the minimum number of books to read and provided students with more chances of winning a prize.

This competition is open to students enrolled in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Parramatta. Please read our Terms & Conditions found at [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au) before you enter this competition.

### HOW TO ENTER

It's simple! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it. The more material a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of four iPad minis.

**Entries close at 5:00pm on 5 February 2018.**

### READING SUGGESTIONS

It is acceptable to use books from the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge reading list.  
<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>



# e-Books

## ACCESS

Students can access the ebook platforms via the [elibrary catalogue](#) from school or home.

Students access the elibrary catalogue from home via [classm8.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://classm8.parra.catholic.edu.au)

Both ebook platforms provide instructions on how to download ebooks to your device.

### STUDENT EBOOK PLATFORMS

CEDP has access to two ebook platforms to support student reading access

- \* **ACEN (Australian Catholic Education Network) Overdrive Ebook and Audiobook platform**
- \* **Wheelers Student eBook platform**

A guide to accessing and using the platforms is available [here](#).

These instructions will work on a computer, ipad or tablet. Now that children have finished their library borrowing for the year and you can't get to a public library, eBooks is the answer. Why not enter the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge and borrow and read an eBook. **Happy Reading!**

### Student Guide for ACEN OverDrive eBooks & Audio

**Step 1:** Go to [classm8.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://classm8.parra.catholic.edu.au) then click elibrary.

**Step 2:** Log on using your school username and password.

**Step 3:** Click on Library

**Step 4:** Choose ACEN OverDrive Audio & eBooks to access audio and eBooks.

**Step 5:** Choose ACEN Member Collection. Click on Sign in.

**Step 6:** Choose a title. Remember the book symbol indicates an eBook and the headphone symbol indicates an audio book.

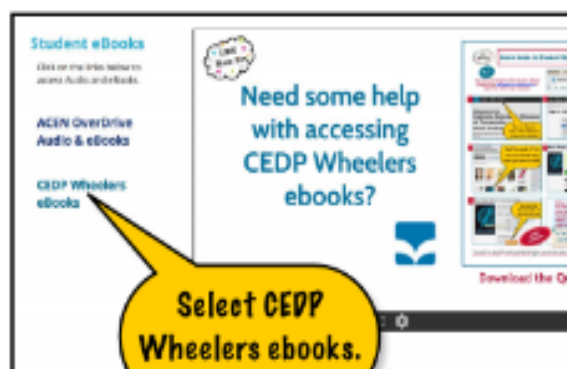
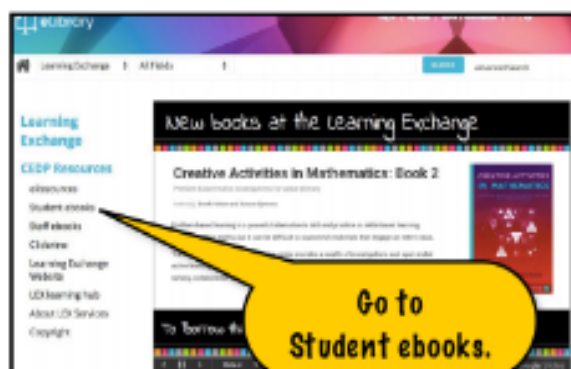
**Step 7:** Click on the title you wish to read and then click borrow.

**Step 8:** In the pop up window, select Go to Checkouts.

**Step 9:** Select Listen if you chose an audiobook or Read if you chose an eBook.

**Remember to check with your parents and teachers if you think a book is right for you. You are allowed to borrow 3 books at a time for a few weeks.**

# Student Guide for CEDP Wheelers eBooks



Remember to check with your teacher and parents if you think a book is right for you.  
You are allowed to borrow 3 books at a time for a few weeks.

11 December 2017



## Manning Foundation

Mrs Mary Ann Gatt-Petrini  
St. Bernadette's Primary School  
Dundas Valley

Dear Mary Ann

Our Manning Foundation members are keen to express their appreciation for the generous donations received this year from the St. Bernadette's school community.

Our charity was the beneficiary of your winter Happy Helpers Food Donation Day receiving canned goods which are always an important staple in the many food parcels given to our clients on home visits throughout each year.

Your students would have put time and effort into their preparations for the school's busking day in order to raise money and we applaud their involvement in this venture.

Chips and lollies were provided for all the tables at our very successful Christmas Party adding to their festive appearance and enjoyed by all who attended including our regular clients as well as numbers of homeless, aged and other lonely persons. Manning volunteers are also invited as a gesture of thanks and all would wish to show their appreciation to everyone who contributed.

We realise that such fundraising events require organisation, co-operation and much necessary support from teachers, students and not least, the parents.

Therefore we extend our thanks to all and believe the school staff should be commended for instilling in the children the most important Christian virtue of charity, the mainstay of our Catholic faith.

Wishing your school community a happy and holy Christmas,

Lorraine Bonisoli - President

Manning Foundation



Donations over \$2 are tax deductible

The Manning Foundation  
PO BOX 3215 Telopea NSW 2117 Phone: (02) 9683 7555 Fax: (02) 9989 8850  
ABN 72 390 311 376 Patron: Col Joye

[www.manningfoundation.org.au](http://www.manningfoundation.org.au)






# thank you



**St Bernadette's College  
Primary School**  
For your generous support of  
**The Children's Hospital at Westmead**



the  
children's  
hospital at Westmead

 The Sydney children's  
Hospitals Network

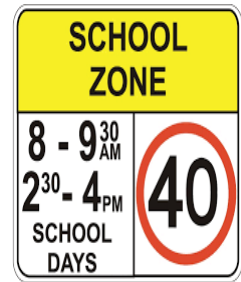
## SCHOOL ZONE REMINDER

A reminder to all our parents ahead of the Christmas holiday break at the end of Term 4 that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families.

School zones operate on all gazetted schools days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

Most NSW Catholic Schools school zones operate as normal until (and include) Tuesday, 19 December 2017 and resume on Monday, 29 January 2017.

**NOTE:** even though some schools will elect to have some of these days as pupil free days, school zones will be in operation on all gazetted school days, whether students are present or not.



**DUNDAS UNITED**

**REGISTER BEFORE  
JANUARY 31ST TO  
RECEIVE A \$20 DISCOUNT**

## PLAY WITH US

Dundas United offers opportunities to play  
**SOCCER and NETBALL**

All age groups are welcome in this friendly  
community atmosphere

Online registrations are welcome and links  
can be found on our website

**[www.durc.com.au](http://www.durc.com.au)**

In person registration will be;  
**Saturday 3rd February 2018 10am-1pm**  
Curtis Oval, Yates Avenue, Dundas Valley

Don't forget to register for the  
**\$100 'Active Kids Rebate'**  
Link can be found on our website  
or at the time of registering on  
'myfootball' or 'mynetball'

Contact-

**Netball- [durcregistrarnetball@gmail.com](mailto:durcregistrarnetball@gmail.com)**  
**Soccer- [durcregistrarsoccer@gmail.com](mailto:durcregistrarsoccer@gmail.com)**

