



ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM 4, WEEK 2, 25 OCTOBER 2018

NEWSLETTER



Our attendance percentage to date is: 88.4%

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to Term 4

Welcome to Term 4. It promises to be a term of hard thinking and great learning. We have so many teaching and learning activities planned as well as many extra-curricular activities which parents can be involved in. Please see our Skoolbag app for events, dates and times.

Last week, parents received notification that I have been appointed Principal Leader at St Paul the Apostle, Winston Hills, commencing in 2019. Please be assured that it is "business as usual" at St Bernadette's and I remain passionate about ensuring consistency for student learning outcomes and I thank you for your continued support. Mrs Christine Howe and Father Christopher will advise us when a decision has been made about an Acting Principal for Term 1 and 2 next year.

On Friday, November 9th **all** staff will be offsite for Professional Learning (the office will be closed also). The focus of this day is Religious Education/Formation. A tremendous thank you to all parents for making other arrangements for the supervision of your children on this day.

World Teachers Day

Friday, October 26th is World Teachers Day. World Teachers' Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and thank our hard-working teachers for creating opportunities for our students and empowering their young minds to make a difference. As you would know, teaching is not a 9 to 3 job! Teaching takes dedication, passion, organisation and resilience. So, I encourage you to take a moment to thank our wonderful teachers for all that they do for your child/ren.

Playground update

During the school holidays, we were very fortunate to have the three awnings constructed to cover some of our walkways. This helps to keep our students and staff dry in wet weather. A big thank you to Mrs Gatt-Petrini for planning and organising this work prior to her leave. Unfortunately, the wet weather in the holidays delayed the installation of the artificial grass. However, it has come along nicely and is now ready for play.

Safety First!

Please note that the driveway to the parish presbytery is in use **at all times**. Therefore, Fr Christopher has asked that all drivers be courteous and not park across their driveway at any time (including morning drop offs and afternoon pick ups). Your cooperation is appreciated.

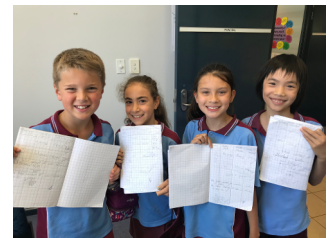
Peace and Joy,

Megan Baird
Principal

A Community of Learners

As a community of learners we have our three big goals this year:

- **Religious Education:** For all students to continue to improve their understanding of Scripture.
- **Numeracy:** For all students to improve their multiplicative thinking.
- **Literacy:** For all students to improve their use of vocabulary when writing.



This week, Mr Kensell, our Leader of Learning, Numeracy explains how the teachers are developing students multiplicative thinking skills and the ways in which you can help your child at home.

Developing Multiplicative Thinking Skills

At St Bernadette's, a major focus in Mathematics over the past years has been to develop sound multiplicative thinking skills in all children. At school, this is done by exposing the children to rich problem solving opportunities, where a diverse range of approaches can be used to work through problems. Children are becoming used to being challenged and having to persist when working on a task. Through this focus on hard thinking and trying to find multiple methods to solve problems, children are learning that the hard work along the way is often just as important as the answer itself. The children are also learning that mistakes are part of the path to greater success. By encouraging our children to solve problems in two or more different ways, we are building their capacity to be flexible and confident mathematicians.

Outside of school, there are so many opportunities to get your children to think mathematically! Whether it be setting the table, organising a collection of objects or helping you shop, mathematics is everywhere. Word games such as scrabble are opportunities for children to practise a range of calculations. By engaging with your children in these ways you are helping to foster curiosity and interest in Mathematics.

Mr Kensell
Leader of Learning Numeracy

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, 28 Oct 2018: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Bartimaeus sat on the side of the way, having pilgrims throw coins onto his cloak spread out before him. But the presence of Jesus encouraged him to abandon his cloak, jump up from his ground level existence and ask to truly see the way from Jesus' perspective.

Jesus responded to this act of faith by curing the disease so that Bartimaeus could see ahead in the same way as Jesus and follow him on 'the Way' (the earliest name for Christianity).

You and I can remain with the security of a familiar existence, hoping to be tossed a few coins of consolation to satisfy our various hungers. But Jesus wants us to take courage, to jump up and to share his vision.

This takes faith, but we are in a better situation than Bartimaeus. *He* knew only that Jesus was on the way from Jericho to Jerusalem. *We* believe that, in Jerusalem, Jesus was lifted well above ground level and then had the astounding victory over the worst that death could do.

We might pause for a moment to pray for the courage to abandon whatever is keeping us grounded, so that with Bishop Richard of Chichester we may see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly.

© Fr Michael Tate

Education Mass

Rorie L, Mia V and Justine M joined with Mrs Baird and Mrs Cakmakci to represent our school at the Diocesan Education Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta this morning. It was also at this event where the winners of the Year of the Youth art competition were announced. Mia was able to see her artwork displayed with all of the other winners.

Year of the Youth Art Competition

We are so pleased to inform you that Mia V, Year 5, won the 3-6 primary division and Addison-Rose P was Highly Commended in the K-2 division. Mia was very proud to receive her prize at the Education Mass. A big congratulations to these two creative girls.



Mufti for Manning Foundation

On Monday 29th October students are encouraged to wear a favourite or crazy hat as well as mufti clothes as a fund-raising event for the Manning Foundation. So find a crazy hat, find 'gold or fold' and support our local charity. This is one way in which you can show that you are reaching out and supporting those in need.



SCHOOL NEWS

Upcoming Activities Term 4

Reminders on upcoming activities and events around our school, please use the SkoolBag App. This will give you the most up to date information on what is happening each week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- Canteen Snack Day - **26/10**
- Mufti Day - **29/10**
- 2nd Kindergarten Orientation Session - **31/10**
- Swimming Carnival - **7/11**
- Staff Development Day. No students at school - **9/11**
- Cyber Safety Parent Education Program - **12/11**
- Reports home to parents - **12/12**
- Christmas Concert - venue confirmed - St Patrick's College, Dundas - **12/12**
- Last day of school for students - **19/12**
- Staff Development Day. No students at school - **20/12**
- Staff Development Day. No students at school - **21/12**

NSW Primary Syllabus

Families are able to go online and view the NSW Primary Syllabus. <https://syllabus.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

The guide is designed to give parents an overview of each of the Key Learning Areas and provide support when talking to teachers about teaching and learning activities. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the curriculum with your child's teacher, please make a mutually convenient time by calling the office for an appointment.

School Fees

Thank you to all of the parents who have finalised their account for 2018. If you haven't already made an arrangement please contact the office as soon as possible to discuss your options.

THINKUKNOW - Cyber Safety Education Program

Our school will be hosting a ThinkUKnow - Cyber Safety Education Program for adults only. It will be held in the school hall on Monday, 12 November 2018 at 6:30pm. The program is delivered by a local law enforcement member and is designed to educate parents and carers on how people are using technology, the challenges they may face online, and how to help them safely. A note has gone home to all families.

New Awnings

Even with all the wet weather in the holidays, our builders were able to construct our three new awnings - giving great rain protection for the students and staff as they move around the playground. These awnings would not be possible without the financial support of the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) Staff.



Kindergarten Orientation

This week we welcomed our newest members of the 2019 St Bernadette's Community with our first Kindergarten Transition morning.

The students were so excited to come to "big school" and enjoyed meeting each other and working in the Kindergarten space.

A big thank you to Mrs Sadler, Mrs Hanna and Mrs Gerrard for ensuring a very smooth transition to school. Thank you also to the very generous SBD staff who supplied morning tea for the parents and our visiting speakers Tom Geroulas (Optometrist) and Louise Duff (Occupational Therapist).

We are looking forward to seeing our 2019 Kinder students and parents again next Wednesday too!

PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Kindergarten - **Skye T**

Year 1 - **Ansh T**

Year 2 - **Alexander C**

Year 3 - **Marcus K**

Year 4 - **Samuel F**

Year 5 - **Kiara B**

Year 6 - **Lauren C**



Mikaella M - 19/10

Lucy F - 04/11

Daniel J - 22/10

Matilda E - 04/11

Molly C - 24/10

Alexander H - 05/11

Tyana N - 26/10

Henry S - 28/10

Ella T - 31/10

Ricardo F - 31/10

Andre N - 01/11

SRC UPDATE

Swimming Program - this was a great program that was enjoyed by all of our students. We certainly have had a great time to practise for the upcoming school swimming carnival.

Confirmation (yr 6) - As a team the SRC would like to say congrats to our Year 6 students on making their confirmation. You all looked great!

Thanks to our great Parish Sacramental team who helped us to find out more about this special sacrament.

EXTRA CURRICULUM

Supporting Positive Choices

For the 1st four weeks of Term 4, our counsellor Janette Mansour will be working with our students on the playground at recess or lunchtime in an effort to support positive choices. If you do not wish for your child to participate, please email the office by the end of term.

LEARNING MATTERS

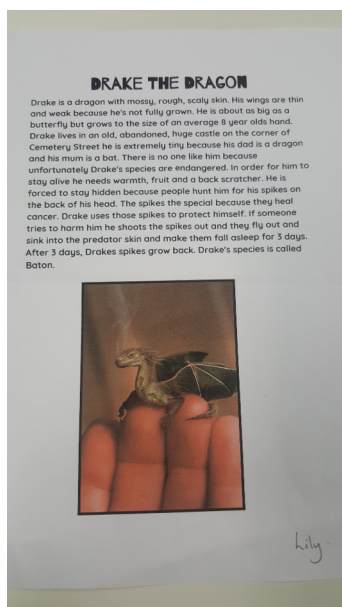
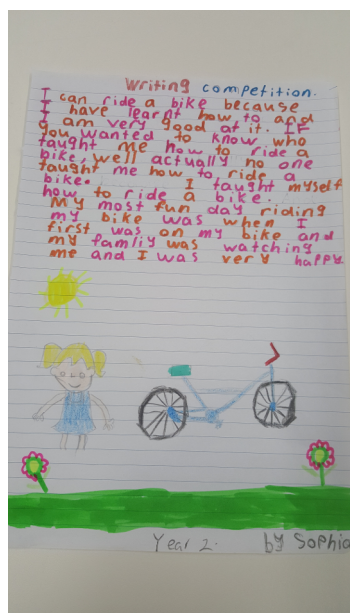
Holiday Writing Competition

Wow! What amazing stories I have received over the past week. I thank everyone who entered for their passion and dedication as authors.

Due to the enormous amount of writing I received from our dedicated authors, I am still in the process of making the difficult decision of who the winners will be.

The winners will be announced by next week, where they will be presented with a certificate.

Mrs Gerrard - Assistant Principal.



P&F NEWS



Canteen Snack Day

This Friday the 26th October, the canteen will be open at recess for your child/ren to purchase a snack. Remember to bring along your coins to buy some yummy morning tea!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Kindergarten

Last week Kindergarten went on an exciting excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm. They have been extending their learning on farm animals in the classroom and doing some wonderful learning.

