



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Our attendance percentage to date is: 88%

World Teachers Day - Thank you!

I'm truly overwhelmed and grateful to the Parents and Friends Association for their very generous gift of a special lunch for teachers on Friday 26th October and some very special gifts for the staffroom. The spread of food was very impressive, tasty and received with such gratitude from our hard-working staff.

Thank you also to the parents who were able to take a moment to thank their child/ren's teacher for their outstanding work - never underestimate the power of a thank you note or email.



Some very exciting playground news

I'm pleased to let parents know that Mrs Gerrard and I have been very busy meeting with CEDP staff and a number of builders as we plan for a new (very large) Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) for the basketball court. This COLA would not be possible without the financial support and expertise of CEDP staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them - particularly Mrs Kristy Gerrard from CEDP for organising and project managing this work - which is expected to commence soon. Whilst this project will cause disruptions to the playground, we know that it will be well and truly worth the inconvenience in the long run and provide a great, shaded area for the students, as well as an all weather venue for our school and parish community events.

Safety First - Parish carpark

We are very lucky at St Bernadette's to have the parish carpark at our disposal for parking in the morning and afternoon. The safety of your children is our greatest concern and we ask that you please follow the correct procedures, expectations and in some cases laws. Your cooperation in explaining these procedures to all relatives and carers who may collect your children from time to time would be appreciated.

Please show consideration for others and share in the responsibility of keeping our children safe. It is not an easy task to dismiss a large group of children in such a short time, so the cooperation of everyone is needed.

- Please **DO NOT** leave children unattended in the Church car park. As there can be a number of pedestrians, please reverse into the car spaces.
- Please **DO NOT** drop children off in 'No Stopping' zones near the crossing area. Please use the 'Drive Through' area in Cox Crescent if you wish to drop off or pick up your children without getting out of your vehicle.
- Please **DO NOT** use the Parish car park as a drop off before school.
- Please **DO NOT** park across the parish driveway or those of our other neighbours (The parish driveway is in constant use and, in recent time, the priests have been unable to leave their driveway due to cars parked across it).
- Please **DO NOT** try to turn around in Cox Crescent. It is a very narrow street and several near misses have occurred.
- Police regularly monitor the situation, particularly at dismissal time.

Peace and Joy,

**Mrs Baird
Principal**



A Community of Learners

As a community of learners we have our three big goals this year and since the beginning of this term, the St Bernadette's staff have begun the process of developing our three big goals for 2019. We are in the beginning stages of this important work and are working closely with our Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta peer colleagues to investigate our data, reflect on our progress of the 2018 goals and take into consideration student voice and the parent survey results from "Tell Them From Me".



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, 11 Nov 2018: Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



This is the most commonly misunderstood passage in the Gospels. It is usually read in a 'pat on the back' tone of voice, commending the widow for her generosity. But it should be read with the tone of white hot anger which Jesus had displayed against the money dealers whom he expelled from the temple only days earlier.

This vulnerable widow was exploited and brainwashed by the scribes and temple authorities so that she gave 'all she had to live on'. She was left destitute, unable to afford the necessities of life.

On the contrary, Jesus wanted to create a band of followers who would look after widows and orphans. Look at Acts 4:32-37 to see that in operation. In fact, deacons were created in the early Church precisely to care for non-Jewish widows.

The message for the Church from this Gospel story is that it must never exploit the religious fervour of the poor to build up its own resources. Pope Francis is emphasising that the flow must be the other way if we are to be authentic Christians.

We could pause a moment to pray that, imitating the earliest Christian communities, our parish practises true concern for the marginalised and vulnerable, ensuring that they have all the necessities of life in all its dimensions.

© Fr Michael Tate

Mufti for Manning

Many thanks to all the students and families for wearing their favorite hats last week as a fund-raiser for the manning Foundation. Our caring community raised \$285 which will go towards helping individuals and families within the local community who need support. This is one way in which students knew that they could reach out to others, and to act as missionaries.

Remembrance Day

Sunday 11th November marks the 100 year anniversary of the end of World War 1. The school will come together to commemorate this important occasion on Monday 12th November.



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



- Swimming Carnival - **7/11**
- **Staff Development Day. No students at school - 9/11**
- Cyber Safety Parent Education Program - **12/11**
- School Disco - **16/11**
- Fagan Park for K - 2 - **23/11**
- First Reconciliation Mass - **5/12**
- Reports home to parents - **12/12**
- Christmas Concert - venue confirmed - St Patrick's College, Dundas - **12/12**
- EOY Mass & Graduation - **14/12**
- Year 6 Dinner Dance - **17/12**
- P&F Free Ice Cream at lunch - **19/12**
- 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**

Assembly Information

Please note there will be **no** school assembly held this Friday due to our Staff Development Day and no children at school. To make up for this we will be extending our whole school assembly in Week 6 on **Friday 23rd November from 2:15pm - 3pm.**

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.

Kindergarten Orientation

Last week, we welcomed back our 2019 Kindergarten students and their parents for the second orientation session.

It was an opportunity for the students to play together and for the parents to enjoy a cuppa together whilst listening to our guest speakers.

Mary Harris Clarke from Hills Speech Pathology spoke to parents about the ways to help children speak clearly and correctly.

Jamie from the Commonwealth Bank explained school banking.

Representatives from our P and F invited mums and dads to the 2019 "Tears and Tissues".

We look forward to seeing all of their smiling faces next year for the start of their big school adventure.

SRC UPDATE

Diocesan Mission Mass

On Thursday Week 2, Mia, Justine and Rorie attended the Diocesan Mission Mass, where Mia received her prize from the Year of Youth Art Competition for coming 1st place in the Primary Division.

We thank Mrs Leanne for organizing to take us to the Parramatta Cathedral, and Mrs Baird for accompanying us.

Manning Foundation Mufti Day

On Monday Week 3, we were asked to wear mufti with our favourite hat. The gold coin donations were then sent to the Manning Foundation. We raised a total of \$285.80.

Thank you for participating in this event, your donations were much appreciated. Thank You!

EXTRA CURRICULUM

Thank you to our very flexible community for their understanding regarding our postponed Swimming Carnival this week. Decisions to postpone school events such as these are not made lightly. As the safety of all involved is always our priority, it was best to err on the side of caution when thunderstorms are predicted.

Mr Kensell is working on securing a venue and new date - stay tuned!

PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Kindergarten - **Liam M**

Year 1 - **Stefan S**

Year 2 - **Addison Rose P**

Year 3 - **Louis R**

Year 4 - **Rebecca K**

Year 5 - **Ryan M**

Year 6 - **Jerome B**



Lucas R - 8/11

Brandon N - 15/11

Christian M - 10/11

Tara L - 18/11

Caleb L - 12/11

Thomas F - 19/11

LEARNING MATTERS

During our Kindergarten Orientation week we had a special guest speaker, Mary Clarke from Hills Speech Pathology come and speak to our parents about the importance of speech and language development in our children.

Mary gave our new Kindergarten parents some great tips and strategies on how you can further develop your children's speech and language at home in a non structured, fun way.

1. Strategies to help receptive language;
 - * Simplify language
 - * Repeat information
 - * Make sure you have their attention
2. Strategies to help Expressive language;
 - * Be a good model
 - * Correct error sentences in context of conversation
 - * Expand short sentences
3. Strategies to help social language;
 - * Give specific feedback
 - * Praise appropriate behaviour
 - * Provide opportunity for conversation
4. Strategies to help Articulation;
 - * Try not to correct the child in front of others
 - * Ask your child to rephrase rather than repeat, or show you what they are talking about
 - * Emphasise or exaggerate the child's error sound, eg. "Yesss, my ssocksss are white".

Holiday Writing Competition

After reading all of the wonderful writing from our dedicated authors, the winners have been decided. They will be presented with their certificates at our Monday morning Assembly held next week.

Thank you again to all of the amazing writers for your hard work and effort.

P&F NEWS

School Disco - Theme "Around the World"

Our school disco is being held on Friday 16 November, 2018.

Infants Disco (K - 2) 5:00pm - 6:15pm

Primary Disco (3-6) 6:45pm - 8:15pm

Cost is \$5 and this covers entry, snack, drink and glowstick.

Our theme this year is "Around the world".



Thank you - Canteen Snack Day

Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered their time at our canteen snack day on Friday 26 Oct. A profit of \$230.50 was made.

Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley 2117
Phone: 8846 2600 | Facsimile: 8846 2699
Email: dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Year 5

Year 5 created artworks inspired by Wassily Kandinsky. The students first listened to various musical pieces to inspire their artworks and then used watercolours to create vivid captivating art.



Parish: Father Christopher Sarah
Phone: 9871 4414 | Facsimile: 9871 1151
Email: neversdv@bigpond.com
Website: friarsofstfrancis.org

Catherine McAuley Westmead Enrolments for Year 7 2020

Catherine McAuley Westmead is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2020.
The closing date for Year 7 2020 applications 1st round offers is
Friday, 22nd March 2019.

Parents and their daughters have the opportunity to tour the school campus
at one of our upcoming school tours specifically for Year 7 2020 applicants,
but open to any year group.

Monday 26th November and Thursday 6th December 2018
9.15 – 11am

These mornings will provide parents and students with the opportunity to
tour our school on a normal school day. You will be able to view our school
grounds and facilities, go into classrooms and meet our students and teachers.
Enrolment packs will be available on the day. Please note that following these
tours there will be no other school tours held until our Open Afternoon.

Contact our School Reception on 9849 9100 to book a place on a school tour.

Save The Date – The Catherine McAuley Westmead School Open Afternoon
will be held from 4.00pm – 7.00pm on Tuesday 12th March 2019.



Parents Representative Council
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Diocese of Parramatta
Partners in Learning
Partners in Faith

NEXT GENERATION SCHOOLS



What is the new normal for education?
Greg is at the coalface of designing and establishing the new normal for preschool to post school learning. He believes we need to adopt a continuum model of education, challenging educators to use time in creative and innovative ways. He'll explain how parents, teachers and enterprise partners can transform learning so that each student understands their strengths and capabilities. Greg is an educational leader with heart. He is passionate about enabling students to discover their strengths and find their purpose in this changing world.

Our guest speaker for the evening is:
Mr Greg Miller
Principal and Educational Leader

Register FREE now: www.prc.catholic.edu.au

Monday, 19 November 2018
Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm start (approx. 2 hours)
(Term 4 – PRC General Meeting will be held prior to our speaker session)
at St Luke's Catholic College, Lot 1104, Frontier Ave, & Northbourne Dr, Marsden Park
Tea, Coffee and light snacks will be provided and a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!

www.prc.catholic.edu.au  www.facebook.com/PRCParramatta  @preparra

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SPONSOR
Floral Expressions
For details on the School fundraising program
Call Charles Lukasik on 02 9683 1116