

NEWSLETTER 2023 TERM 3 WEEK

St Bernadette's Primary School Dundas Valley

Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley 2117

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 7:

Thursday 31st August : Father's Day Stall

Friday 1st September: Father's Day Breakfast & Student presentation in hall

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

What a great week we have had this week!

Beginning last Friday, we launched Book Week for 2023 with an amazing author visit. Kate and Joel Temple put together a great show for our students. They spoke about the process that they go through as authors and really engaged the children through their obvious love of literature.

Our Book Week Parade was awesome! Thanks to all of our students and their parents for making this such a fun event.

Thanks to all of the parents who attended our Term 3 Parent Committee meeting. I know you will soon be hearing from your class parent about what events are coming up and the details of our Family Fun Afternoon next term.

Currently, I am also looking into Lowes providing the options of winter pants for the girls, a warmer spray resistant jacket and a long-sleeved sports shirt for winter. They will be providing me with some samples over the next few weeks to see if they will work for our community.

To all of our dads and granddads, Happy Father's Day and we look forward to seeing many of you next Friday morning at our breakfast. Don't forget to send in your choice of breakfast for our catering purposes.



Love & Light

Lisa Gerrard

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

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Movie Night. The children had a great time with their peers.

We raised \$726.19 which will go towards our sensory garden. These events demonstrate a strong sense of community and enable the students to enhance their social development.

I look forward to the upcoming disco, organised by the parent committee, where the students and teachers will be able to dance the night away and continue to build strong, healthy relationships, an aspect that is extremely important at St Bernadette's.

Regards

Rebecca Boidin
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday 27 Aug 2023

**Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A**

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20



When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA



The readings highlight two different but related themes: the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Christological reflections reach a climax in the question posed to the disciples: Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. Who is this one who multiplies loaves of bread, who walks on turbulent waters, who breaks the boundaries that separate insider from outsider? It is none other than the messiah.

When Peter testified to Jesus' identity, it was a relevant religious and political statement, for messianic expectation was a burning question at that time. But what does it mean for the average Christian today? Many believers consider messianic expectation a theological theme that belongs to the past. They feel that it is difficult to get excited about the coming of someone who we believe has already come and gone. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer?

Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were – good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

In today's Gospel, what question did Jesus ask his disciples?

What did Simon Peter boldly say?

Let us take a few moments to think how we might answer Jesus' question.

Who do you say Jesus is?

Jesus is both God and human.

How does believing in Jesus change us?

We pray that Jesus will be with us this week as we live as his disciples. © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

SCHOOL NEWS

Attendance

Attendance Rate: 76% - To unpack this a little more, this means that 76% of our students have an attendance rate of 90% -100%.



Next Assembly

Our next assembly will be **Week 7, Friday September 1st**. There will not be a class presenting at this assembly, however we will hear one of our Voice of Youth winners' speech.

School Fees:

Thank you to all our families who have settled their school fees account or continue to pay fortnightly/monthly installments.

Term 3 invoices have been issued and sent home to families. If you have not received your statement for any reason, please contact the office immediately. Please note the due date for term 3 invoices was 23rd August 2023

If your school fees are still outstanding and you are experiencing financial difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact our finance officer, for a confidential discussion on options available to you.

Please notify our office as soon as possible, if you know that you may be leaving St Bernadette's. As you know, you are required to give ten week's notice if you are leaving. Please contact our office for a copy of a leaving form that must be completed. We thank you for your ongoing support.

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!

Gentle Reminder

When using the drive thru option before or after school please ensure that you do not leave your car as the Rangers will consider you parked which can secure a \$340 fine. Also be mindful that queuing across the crossing or blocking Evan's Road can also result in a fine.

Children must enter the car from the curb side and at no time be going behind the car or getting in on the drivers side.

Each child takes a different amount of time to get into the car and belt up so please be patient and don't overtake the car in front as this is not safe.

We do not buckle the children into the car so if your child cannot put their own seatbelt on, please consider using the pick up via the back gate option.

As a staff we work really hard to ensure that the children in our care are where they need to be on time. If we are all patient and considerate, drive thru works quite efficiently.

Please don't do three point turns in Cox Crescent. Follow the road right around to the end of the Crescent.

When dropping your child off in the morning please be mindful of the following:

- Please don't park and leave your car after 8.30am.
- Watch out for children walking along the footpath and please don't do three point turns in Cox Crescent.
- Don't block residents' driveways.
- Don't park on the opposite side of the road and allow your children to cross Cox Crescent.
- Children being dropped at Cosch need to be walked in by their parents or carer as staff are arriving at this time and parking in the staff car park.

It's our job to work together to ensure that our students are safe.

Community Of Learners



For the past five weeks, Year 6 have been busy writing and practising speeches for the Voice of Youth competition. All students participated in this, however, three were selected to represent St Bernadette's at the Voice of Youth Rydalmere Cluster Final. We had Ella T, Eva L and Richard Y participate in the Rydalmere Cluster Final on Thursday, 24th August.

The topics for each speech were as follows:

Ella T: *Don't change yourself for social media*

Eva L: *Scoliosis*

Richard: *Taking a chance*

Ella, Eva and Richard spoke brilliantly! We are very proud of their efforts as public speaking is no easy feat.

Congratulations to Eva who achieved second place on the day.

Congratulations to Ella who achieved first place on the day. Ella will now go on to represent St Bernadette's at the Eastern Semi Finals which takes place on Wednesday, 6th September. We are looking forward to cheering Ella on at this event. How exciting for everyone!



Father's Day Celebration



We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming Father's Day celebration on Friday, 1st September. We have planned a special morning to honour and appreciate all our wonderful fathers and father figures.

Starting at 8:00 am, we will begin the celebration with a delicious breakfast for fathers to enjoy with their children. We then welcome you into the Hall from 9:00 - 10:00 am to be entertained by the children, who have all been preparing special items in their classes.

We hope that you can join us for this special occasion and make some wonderful memories with your child and the school community.

Important Dates To Remember

Week 7:

Monday, 28th August : Motiv8 after school program

Thursday, 31st August : Father's Day Stall

Friday, 1st September : Father's Day Breakfast (8am)

Week 8:

Monday, 4th September : **Staff Development Day (No students at school)**

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 School & 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.

Book Week Celebrations

What a busy Book Week it has been and we have had a lot of fun celebrating. The week kicked off with Kate and Jol Temple visiting our school and sharing their amazing books with the children. Not only did they read their books to us, they shared what inspires their writing. They also brought along their pet ibis who we had to make sure did not drop the chips and rotten banana!





Once again we were amazed at the level of creativity and imagination at St Bernadette's, with students parading in wonderful costumes. There were characters from books like *Where's Wally*, *Harry Potter*, *Dr Seuss* and *Wings of Fire*, *Marvel* and *DC universe*, *fairy tales* and much more.









The Book Fair was open and we had many children pop into the hall to purchase something to add to their bookshelves at home. Our school also received a generous donation from one of our families, thank you, these books will be a great addition to our library.

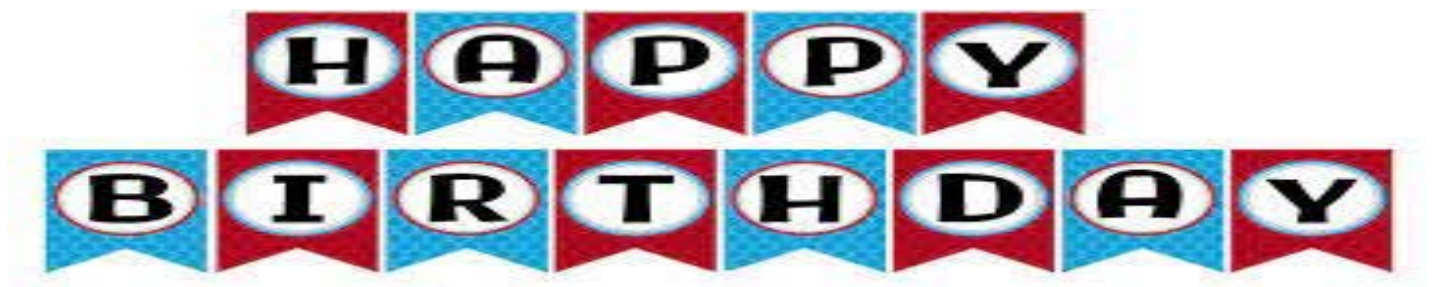
There was also a guessing competition. The infants children had to guess the amount of “worries” in the jar inspired by the book *The Huge Bag of Worries*. The primary children guessed the amount of pages in a long novel. Congratulations to our winners:

Early Stage 1: Charlotte V

Stage 1: Tri P

Stage 2: Sienna P

Stage 3: Lachlan B



Lachlan B -15/08

Youssef - 25/08

Junhee - 27/08

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

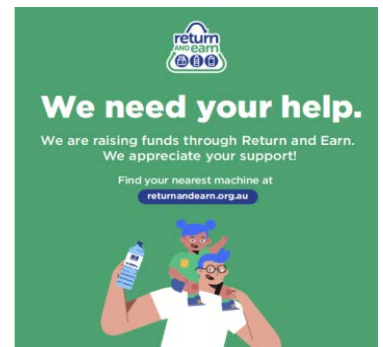
Return and Earn

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?



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

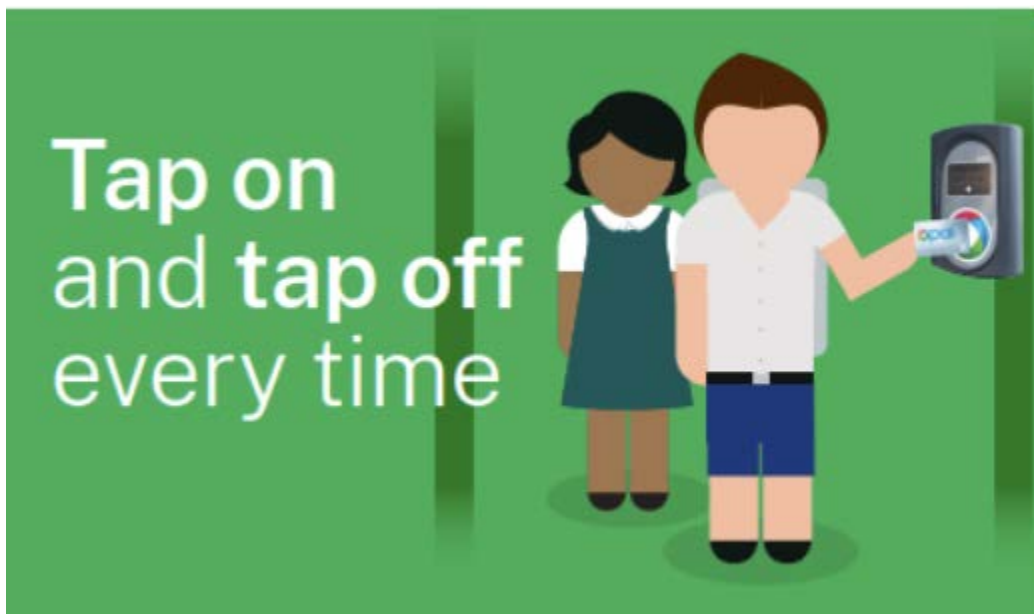
WE ARE ONLY OFFERING LIMITED SPOTS. TO ENROL, SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW

EMAIL -
INFO@LITTLEBOOMERSBASKETBALL.COM.AU



APPLY NOW





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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