

NEWSLETTER 2023 TERM 4 WEEK 8

St Bernadette's Primary School Dundas Valley

Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley 2117

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 8:

Friday, 1st Dec : Year 1 & 2 Excursion

Friday, 1st Dec : Yr 6 Dinner Dance

Week 9:

Thursday, 7th Dec : Christmas Concert

Friday, 8th : Principal Award Assembly

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we begin our last few weeks of school for 2023 it's a great time to celebrate our learning success at St Bernadettes. The staff have been looking at some of the results achieved in NAPLAN, Pat Reading (Pat-R) and Pat Maths (Pat-M) standardised tests. In Year 3 and Year 5 our students are achieving results that are well above the state results in both Literacy and Numeracy. This is a huge achievement as it means that our students were able to make growth even with Covid interruptions.

Both the Pat-R and Pat-M tests are conducted in Term 4 each year from Year 2 - 6. Once again our students have demonstrated growth and when compared to the norm, our results are strong.

These results are to be celebrated as it means that our teachers have prepared lesson sequences that not only support growth but are engaging for students.

Our staff over the coming weeks will be diving into our data further and will be involved in handing over all of their student data to the teacher who will be teaching these children in 2024. This is a practice we undergo each year so that when planning for 2024 the teachers have a clear plan of where to begin.

Last night myself and a number of staff members had the privilege of attending First Reconciliation. It was a lovely celebration of this special Sacrament. Congratulations to these Year 2 students.

Love & Light



Lisa Gerrard

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

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

The term is finishing very quickly, the students have been busy completing their final assessments for 2023 and the teachers have been using the data collected to write their students' reports.

These reports will be accessible via the Compass Parent Portal from 8th December.

To access the reports please ensure you have downloaded the Compass App and have created an account. You will need to download the reports and save them to your desktop.

Please remember that once your child leaves St Bernadette's you will no longer have access to these documents.

The student work sample portfolios will be sent home on Friday 8th December. Please read through these portfolios, remove the work samples and send the empty folder back to school by Monday 11th December.

Please contact the school office if you have any questions or concerns using this app to access your child's report.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Boidin
Assistant Principal

Sunday 3 Dec 2023

First Sunday of Advent Year B

Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Timely Living and the End of History

Our Lord portrays himself as the Master who goes away on a journey. It is certain that he will return, even if no-one in his household knows exactly when. That is *our* situation. What do we do in anticipation?

Our Lord, the Master, indicates we have a choice. We can close our eyes and enter into the world of dreams where we create our own fantasy futures, or we can stay awake and alert to do what Our Lord wants us to do: 'He left his *servants* in charge, giving to each his work.'

You and me – his servants – have a particular role or work in and for this phase of human history. A deep down intuition, prompted by the Holy Spirit, indicates what this is. We must be true to this assignment.

We could take a moment to pray that, when the Lord returns, we may hear: 'Come, good and *faithful* servant, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.'

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

What are some things you look forward to?

How do you get ready to prepare for them?

Today we begin Advent – what are we preparing for in Advent?

Jesus asks us to watch out and be ready as we make our preparations to celebrate Christmas.

How can we make Advent a time of preparation this week?

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*We invite you all to join us for our celebration
of Advent/Christmas at 9:15 am on Thursday, 14th December
in the school Hall.*

Term 4 Mass/Reconciliation Roster

Week/Date	Wednesday Reconciliation	Friday Mass
Students return to school Wednesday 11 October - no Reconciliation/Mass		
Week 2 16-20 October	6	6 & K
Week 3 23-27 October	5	5 & 1
Week 4 30 Oct-3 Nov	ALL SAINTS Whole School Mass	No Mass
Week 5 6-10 November		Swimming Carnival No Mass
Week 6 13-17 November	3 & 4	2, 3 & 4
Week 7 20-24 November	6	5 & 6
Week 8 27 Nov-1 Dec	5	Whole School
Week 9 4-8 December	Christmas Concert	
Week 10 11-15 December	Year 6 Graduation & Christmas Liturgies	

SCHOOL NEWS

Attendance

Attendance Rate: 75.8% - To unpack this a little more, this means that 75.8% of our students have an attendance rate of 90% -100%.



Staffing for 2024

Kindy - Miss Tiberio

Year 1 - Miss Simone & Mrs Beard

Year 2 - Miss Vaughan

Year 3 - Miss Alanson

Year 4 - Miss Strawbridge

Year 5 - Miss Leanne & Miss Zeiter

Year 6 - Miss Steph & Miss Carly

Mrs Yager - Principal

Miss Boidin- Assistant Principal, Diversity, EMU & Minilit

Mrs Brooker- REC (Director of Mission), AUSLAN , Maclit

Miss Carly - FIAT Coordinator

Mr Kensell - Instructional Leader Numeracy, Coding & EMU

Miss Maria - Literacy Support

Miss Kerrie - RFF Library & PDH

Miss Louise - RFF Creative Arts

Miss Simone - Literacy Lead & PBS4L

Assemblies for the remainder of the year.

We will hold an assembly Monday, **11th December**, to farewell Sensai Michelina. We will also present our Reading Recovery and EMU students with their graduation certificates at this assembly.

On **Thursday 14th December** we will hold an additional assembly after our Christmas Liturgy. At this assembly we will present the Principal Awards.

School Library Books & Home Readers

As we draw closer to the end of the year, now is the time to look around your house to see if you have any school library books or home readers. These are valuable teaching resources so we greatly appreciate it if you could locate these and return them.

If you are unable to find the book(s) which are overdue please make a payment for the book at the school office so we can replace it.

Thank you



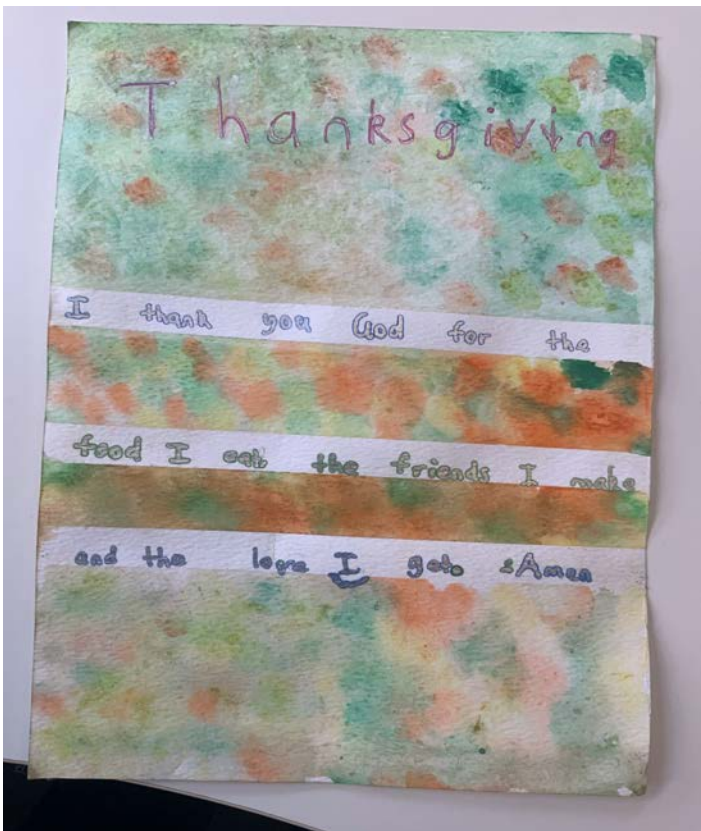
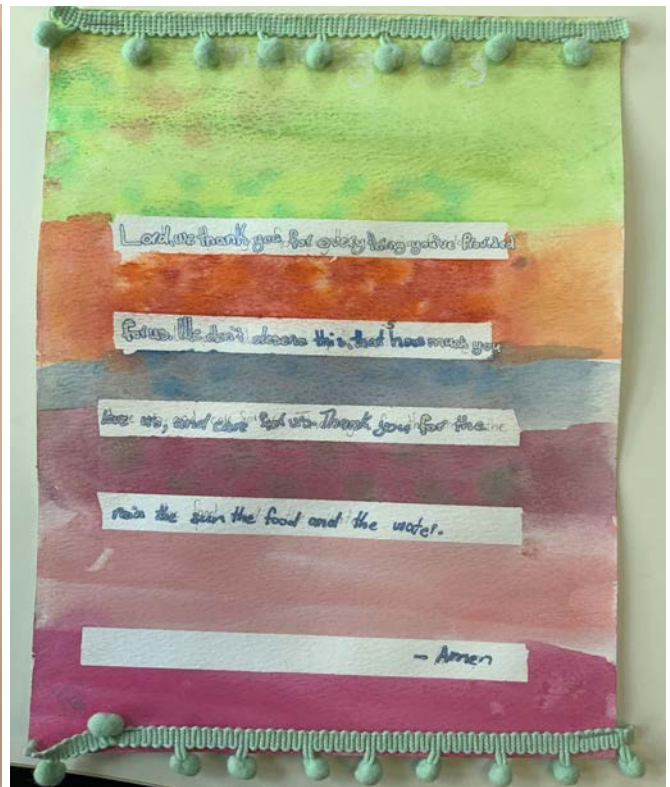
As a community of Learners:



Year 3 has been learning about how we can strengthen our relationship with God through prayer. Each child wrote several prayers including prayers of petition, praise, sorrow and thanks.

They chose one to decorate with watercolours.

Here is a selection of these beautiful prayers.



Important Dates To Remember

Week 8:

Friday, 1st December : Year 1 & 2 Excursion

Friday, 1st December : Year 6 Dinner Dance

Week 9:

Thursday, 7th December : Whole school Christmas Concert

Friday, 8th December : Reports Live On Compass Parent Portal

Week 10:

Monday, 11th December : Morning Assembly

Monday, 11th December : Students Meeting Their 2024 Teacher

Wednesday, 13th December : Year 6 Graduation Liturgy (More details to follow)

Thursday, 14th December : Whole School Christmas Liturgy & Assembly (Held in the hall at 9:15am)

Friday, 15th December : Year 6 Fun Day (More details to follow)

Friday, 15th December : **Last Day Of School For Students**

2024 Calendar

Term 1:

Week 1:

Tuesday, 30th January : SDD (no school for students)

Wednesday, 31st January : SDD (no school for students)

Thursday, 1st February : First day back for years 1 - 6

Thursday, 1st February : Kindergarten 2024 MAI testing day

Monday, 5th February : **First day of school for kindergarten students**

St Bernadette's Christmas Concert 2023
Christmas Through the Eyes of Mary



We invite you all to attend our Christmas celebration on Thursday, 7th December.
This celebration will be held at **St Patrick's Marist College, Dundas** (171 Kirby St, Dundas).
Students are to be dropped off to their teacher no later than 5.15pm. Concert will start at 5:30pm



Lachlan B - 20/11
Arabella - 23/11
Harry - 28/11

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

Leaving School

Please notify our office as soon as possible, if you know that you may be leaving St Bernadette's at the end of this year. As you know, you are required to give ten weeks' notice if you are leaving.

Please contact our office for a copy of a leaving form that must be completed.

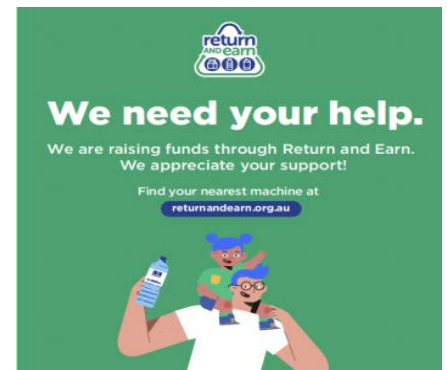
Return and Earn

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.



With the festive season coming up please make a big effort to save all of those empty containers and bottles and drop them into the Return and Earn centre at Rydalmere.

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.



Motiv8sports will be back in Term 1 2024 for a 8 week After School Sports Clinic.

When: TUESDAY afternoons - 8 weeks starting Tuesday Feb 6th

Time: 3.05pm - 4.35pm (pickup)

Where: Held on school grounds

Cost: \$110 for 8 weeks or \$60 if you use your NEW \$50 ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER

For more event information and to book please see the link below.

https://motiv8sports.com.au/m8_event/2023-11-15-term-1-tuesday-st-bernadettes-dundas-valley-8-week-after-school-sports-clinic-6-2-26-3/

Spots are limited to 80

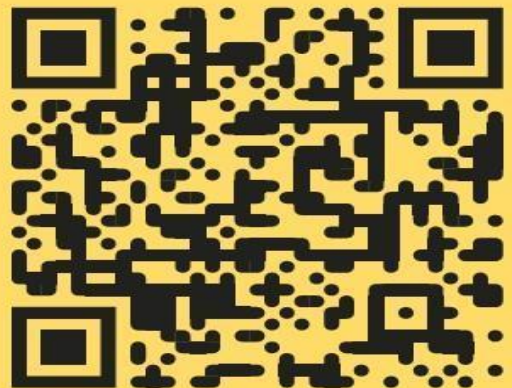
1st Carlingford Scouts



FRESH CHRISTMAS TREES

Saturday 2nd December

PRE-ORDER NOW



*Early bird sale ends 16th November
Pickup Saturday, 2nd December
8:00am – 1:00pm
20 Boundary Road, Carlingford, 2118*

carlingford-1st-scout.square.site



PLAYERS WANTED!

Mini Footy (4-8) & Mod Footy (9-12)

Safe Play modified rules for boys and girls
U6-U12 playing on a Sunday.

League Tag Girls Teams (7-Opens)

"Non-Contact" League Tag for girls aged 7
and above playing on a Sunday.

Rugby League (13-Opens)

Rugby League for boys U13s-U16s
and Opens playing on a Sunday.

Girls Only Rugby League (11-16)

Rugby League for girls U12s and above
playing on a Saturday.

"COME & TRY" NIGHTS

Thursday, December 7, 2023 and Friday, December 15, 2023

Friday, February 2, 2024 and Friday, February 16, 2024

5.30-6.30pm at Sir Thomas Mitchell Reserve, Dundas Valley.



**If you have any questions please contact
us on rego@carlingfordcougars.com.au
or call on 0418 158 027**



Discipline • Team Work • Fair Play

INAUGURAL CSNSW SPORT AQUATHLON

TUESDAY, 19TH DECEMBER 2023

Age Groups:
8 Years - 19 Years

Cost:
Entry - \$35 4th Dec
Late Entry - \$55 11th Dec

Eligible Students:
Affiliated schools to
Catholic Schools NSW

Register Now!



First Race: 8:30AM

Max Parker Leisure & Aquatic Centre

**NSW
TRIATHLON**

csnsw.sport/sports/csnsw-sport-programmes/aquathlon

**CSNSW
sport**

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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