

NEWSLETTER 2024 TERM 2 WEEK 6

St Bernadette's Primary School Dundas Valley

Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley 2117

Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au

Email : dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Telephone: 02 8846 2600



Week 6:

Thursday, 6 June : Stage 3 Leaving for Canberra Camp

Friday, 7 June : Stage 3 Return from Canberra Camp

Week 7:

Monday, 10 June: King's Birthday (Public Holiday)

Friday, 14 June : Year 2 Canteen Day (More information to follow)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear St Bernadette's Parents and Carers

We have enjoyed another two weeks of learning and growing at St Bernadette's since our last newsletter. I was very impressed when one of our student leaders, Ella, spoke to the students at our assembly on Monday morning. She spoke to the school about the importance of having pride in our school uniform, that when we wear it correctly we are saying 'I am proud to be a part of this school'. I couldn't have put it better myself!

What a fabulous night of dancing at our discos on Friday night. The costumes and decorations were **Out of this World!!** Thank you to the year 3 parents who planned a great night of dancing, snacks, fun and laughter. Thank you DJ Louie for the great tunes. We raised \$765 for the school!

I am accompanying stage 3 staff and students to Canberra this week and I really look forward to the opportunity to learn, explore and have fun together. Some of our highlights will include: Parliament House, the Australian War Memorial, Questacon, and the Dinosaur Museum. We know that overnight camps are often the events that students remember from their school days and I hope that the experiences and memories made will be lasting.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards

Michelle Yager

Principal



Sunday, 9 June 2024

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Gospel

Mark 3:20-35

Jesus went home with his disciples, and such a crowd collected that they could not even have a meal. When his relatives heard of this, they set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind.

The scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, 'Beelzebul is in him,' and, 'It is through the prince of devils that he casts devils out.' So he called them to him and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot last. And if a household is divided against itself, that household can never stand. Now if Satan has rebelled against himself and is divided, he cannot stand either - it is the end of him. But no one can make his way into a strong man's house and burgle his property unless he has tied up the strong man first. Only then can he burgle his house.

'I tell you solemnly, all men's sins will be forgiven, and all their blasphemies; but let anyone blaspheme against the Holy Spirit and he will never have forgiveness: he is guilty of an eternal sin.' This was because they were saying, 'An unclean spirit is in him.'

His mother and brothers now arrived and, standing outside, sent in a message asking for him. A crowd was sitting round him at the time the message was passed to him, 'Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you.' He replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking round at those sitting in a circle about him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.'

REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

Reflecting on today's Gospel, Pope Francis says that 'Jesus' response was not a lack of respect for his mother and his brethren.' He was not turning away from family, but rather widening the very concept.

'Jesus formed a new family,' the Pope explains, 'no longer based on natural ties, but on faith in him, on his love which welcomes us and unites us to each other, in the Holy Spirit.'

This is especially poignant when we remember that Jesus was just accused of being devilish. While Jesus' clever riposte turns the logic of the scribes upside down and puts them on the backfoot, the Pope suggests that 'this episode contains an admonishment which is useful to all of us.'

He points out that 'it can happen that deep envy of a person's goodness and good works can drive one to falsely accuse him or her.' This, after all, was the root of the accusation against Jesus. We must be alert to this temptation ourselves, especially in the Church.

We should also be alert to a little detail in this Gospel which is easily overlooked. Pope Francis draws our attention to it, because it highlights why Jesus attracted both accusations and concerns in the first place.

Jesus, the Pope points out, 'did not even have time to eat.' He was too busy encountering people and encouraging them. 'Jesus,' the Pope says, 'was like that: people first; serving people; helping people; teaching people; healing people. He was for the people. He did not even have time to eat.'

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

Why did Jesus' family think he was crazy?

Why did they want to get him away from the crowd?

What did Jesus mean when he asked who his mother and brothers were?

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Term 2 Mass/Reconciliation Roster

Week/Date	Other Celebrations	Wednesday Reconciliation	Friday Mass
Week 6 3 - 7 June			Whole School
Week 7 10 - 14 June		3 & 4	2, 3, 4
Week 8 17 - 21 June			Athletics Carnival
Week 9 24 - 28 June		5	5 & 1
Week 10 1 - 5 July		6	Whole School

FAITH IN ACTION: HELPING OTHERS TO SOAR IN 2024

Our whole school mission activity for term 2 is to support and raise funds for Ronald McDonald House, Westmead. Our **Dance For Sick Kids** week was a wonderful success and we raised a total of \$3166. We actually finished in the TOP 10 for Dancing Stars!!

By supporting **Dance For Sick Kids**, our school community has made an everlasting impact on the lives of seriously ill children and their families. What a great feeling it is to help others in need. Thank you so much for donating to **Dance For Sick Kids**. You have been extremely generous and it is greatly appreciated.

At the end of this term, we will continue to help Ronald McDonald House by **collecting pantry donations**. A lot of food and other supplies are needed to keep the pantries at Ronald McDonald House well stocked for the visiting families. Beginning in week 8, each class will have a different item to collect. Information about this will be handed out next week.

'By transforming our faith into living acts of love, we put ourselves in contact with God Himself, with Jesus our Lord.'

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Carly and the FIAT

CLASS PARENT REPRESENTATIVE MEETING

We invite all interested parents to our next class representative meeting which will be held in the school staffroom on Monday, 17 June at 5:30pm. Our parent representatives achieve so many things for our great school, and we are always happy to welcome new parents.

REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS

At the end of this term, student reports will be available on COMPASS. We encourage you to review the report and discuss it with your child. Our teachers will be available for meetings at the end of the term to discuss the reports or answer any questions you may have. More information will come home shortly regarding booking procedures for these interviews in week 10.

Here are a few key points we would like to share with you:

Report compilation: teachers are gathering data from various assignments, tests, and classroom activities to compile detailed reports. These reports will highlight your child's strengths, areas for improvement, and overall performance.

Assessment collection: to ensure a thorough evaluation, teachers are also collecting assessments. These assessments may include exams, presentations, projects, and other forms of evaluation that have been conducted over the two terms. These assessments will be available for you to view at the parent teacher interviews at the end of the term or on request to take at home.

Feedback and communication: once the reports are completed, we will share them with you. We encourage you to review the report and discuss it with your child. Our teachers will be available for meetings at the end of the term to discuss the reports or answer any questions you may have.

A GENTLE REMINDER

Please take the time to fill in the *Tell Them from Me* survey. It is a really valuable way for us to keep the needs of the parent community at the forefront of our decision making. This survey will close on Friday, 7 June. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community, we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St Bernadette's Dundas Valley.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey (20 different languages available) on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

<http://tellthemfromme.com/3p6pj>

NEWS FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

Bernie Bright Puzzle Completed

As you may or may not know, one of our reward systems at our school is the Bernie Bright Puzzle, otherwise known as the Star Jars. To put it briefly, each class has a star jar to fill to receive a puzzle piece. Classes receive stars for their star jars whenever they display good behaviour. Once completed, the star jar is taken to the closest assembly and the class's puzzle piece is added to the puzzle. When the puzzle is fully put together, meaning that each class filled their jar, it forms our school mascot, Bernie Bright, and a wheel is spun to decide on the whole school recognition reward.

Just recently, our whole school completed the puzzle, meaning that the wheel was spun. It landed on (drumroll please)... JERSEY DAY! We are all super excited to wear our favourite sports team's jersey in celebration of our good behaviour. So stay tuned for the date. We thank our teachers for their constant support and encouragement to make our puzzle-finishing possible. Can't wait to see what jersey you will wear!

Stage 3 Canberra Camp

This Thursday, our very own stage 3 students will travel to Canberra to further understand what we are learning about in our history lessons - Australia. This includes federation, parliament and more. This will be an overnight excursion as there is so much to learn about our beautiful country and how it is run.

The students are extremely excited to attend this year's camp and we are so grateful to be given this wonderful opportunity to improve our knowledge of Australia's government.

We are all tremendously appreciative towards our teachers who are willingly sacrificing their time for our enjoyment and education. Everybody is absolutely thrilled about going to Canberra. Can't wait!

By Ella Merheb, SRC.

Condolences

We wish to express our deepest condolences to Mr Andrew, our school crossing supervisor, whose mother recently passed away. Please keep Andrew and his family in your prayers and thoughts during this very difficult time.



OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Attendance

Attendance rate: 77% - To unpack this a little more, this means that 77% of our students have an attendance rate of 90% - 100%.

Next Assembly

Our next assembly will be on **Friday, 14 June** in week 7, starting at 2:30 pm in the school hall. The class presenting will be year 2.

Lateness to School

It is a school requirement that when a student is late to school, a parent or carer is to walk the child into the school office to sign them in.

Enrolments for 2025

If you are looking at enrolling your child at our school for next year and have not yet contacted the school office for an application form, please do so as soon as possible as we have started the interview process.

Representative Sport

Yesterday, Andy competed at the New South Wales Catholic Primary Schools Cross Country Carnival. Here, he ran against the best distance runners in all Catholic schools in NSW, which is an outstanding achievement! Congratulations to Andy on qualifying for this high level of competition!

Girls Soccer Gala Day

Last week, our stage 3 girls competed at a diocesan soccer gala day. They came up against some tough opposition throughout the day, though played in good spirit. The girls had a great day and enjoyed playing together as a team. Thanks to Mrs Boulous who managed the team on the day, as well as to Miss Tiberio who gave up many of her lunch times to coach the girls.

ROAD SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN

At St Bernadette's Dundas Valley, we believe that a road safety plan provides a framework of common understanding for students, staff, parents/carers and the community which interacts with the school to provide a safe environment. We recently updated our policy and would ask you to please take a moment to look at our Road Safety Management Plan. We would like to draw your attention to the additions made to the wet weather procedures, in particular, the extreme weather conditions highlighted below.

The safety of students as they travel to and from school each day is important. It is expected that parents/carers, grandparents and other family members will support the school through role-modelling safe road use behaviours. These include:

- Using designated footpaths or walking in areas away from the road
- Holding the child's hand (for those up to 8 years of age) and actively supervising all children as they walk to and from school
- Teaching children to Stop, Look, Listen and Think every time they cross the road
- Walking with children to cross roads (that is, do not call children from across the road)
- Crossing roads away from parked cars
- Parking correctly in designated areas
- Getting children in and out of the car on the footpath side
- Using seat belt restraints for all passengers before driving away
- Waiting safely at bus stops and waiting until the bus has departed before choosing a safe place to cross the road

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

<p>1. General Afternoon Dismissal Procedures</p>	<p>No child is to leave the school grounds unless they are accompanied by an adult, except children who walk home with parental permission. These children must wait in the Drive Through area and alert the teacher on duty before leaving.</p> <p>Parents/carers are expected to ensure that their children are collected by 3:30pm.</p> <p>If someone other than a child's parent is collecting them, parents must let their child's teacher know of the details in writing. If an unexpected change in arrangements is necessary, parents are to ring the school office.</p>
<p>2. Arrival and Departure Procedures for Walkers</p>	<p>Parent/carers and family members are encouraged to walk with their child to school to reduce traffic congestion around the school, to promote physical activity and to teach children about correct road use behaviours.</p> <p>Parents/carers, family members and students are expected to use the available pedestrian facilities around the school to cross the road. These include the flagged children's pedestrian crossing on Evans Road which is supervised by the Crossing Supervisor and also the car park crossing.</p> <p>Walk promptly and directly across the road, following Crossing Supervisor and teacher's instructions.</p>
<p>3. Bus Procedures</p>	<p>Students who travel home by bus assemble in the breezeway and wait for the teacher on Bus Duty to take them out to the bus waiting areas. Students proceed to the left and wait for a bus, waiting inside the bus shelter. The teacher supervising bus duty for the week will wait with the students on the far side of Evans Rd after crossing the road with the crossing supervisor.</p>
<p>4. Arrival and Departure by Car Procedures</p>	<p>For those parents/carers, and family members that need to drive their children to school, there are car parking spaces available in the parish car park. Park correctly and walk with your child to the school gate or front playground via the school crossing.</p> <p>In the morning the Kiss and Drop area along Cox Cres is available for parents to drop their children off. Children are to exit the car through the left side of the vehicle. This area is a No Parking area, it is drop off only. Drivers are expected to abide by these parking regulations.</p> <p>Restricted parking signs are in place around the school site to increase children's safety. Drivers must abide by these parking regulations.</p> <p>The school is located in a 40km school zone where a 40 km speed limit applies for the hours of 8.00-9.30am and 2.30-4.00pm on</p>

	<p>school days. The speed limit is lowered to 40km during these hours to increase the safety of the students arriving and departing the school. Drivers must abide by these speed regulations.</p> <p>Wet weather days are particularly hazardous for children as traffic increases, visibility of children is decreased and slippery roads make driving conditions more difficult. Reduce speed, park correctly and walk with your child from the school gate to your vehicle.</p> <p>Children under 10 should be supervised in the traffic environment and those 8 years and younger should always hold an adult's hand.</p>
<p>5. Parent Pick up Procedures</p>	<p>Students who are picked up by their parents/carers assemble under the undercroft and walk down to the COLA. A teacher opens backgate and parents walk up to COLA to collect their child. Children are not to walk through the parish carpark without an adult.</p> <p>Students riding home walk their bikes from the bike rack area (located at the front of the school near the main office doors) to the front gates where they exit from the school. They are only to ride their bikes once they have exited the school</p>
<p>6. Drive Through Procedures</p>	<p>In the afternoon, parents are offered a 'Drive Through' pick up service for their children. This operates along Cox Crescent Students assemble in the Hall under teacher supervision. The students are to sit quietly. One teacher calls the names of the students as their car arrives. Each family is provided with a laminated name sign for their vehicle.</p> <p>Additional procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children listen carefully for their name to be called. ● Students walk to the top of the driveway where they wait with a supervising teacher who directs them to their car. ● Children enter the vehicles from the kerb, no walking behind or around vehicles. ● Bags go inside the vehicle, not in the boot. ● Parents are not to exit the vehicle. ● Parents are encouraged to obey all safety signs and road rules. ● Parents must not be on mobile phones while using Drive Through. ● Parents are not to block the driveway into the Parish House.
<p>7. Wet Weather Procedures</p>	<p>As shelter is provided in all locations, dismissal procedures remain the same in the event of wet weather.</p> <p>Extreme weather conditions: In the event of heavy rain or a storm parents are informed via COMPASS that their child/ren will be kept in the Hall or the Undercroft and parents are to park and walk into the school to collect their child/ren from their planned dismissal points.</p>
<p>8. Parking</p>	<p>The following parking instructions must be adhered to at all times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Follow all parking restriction signs. ● Parents must pick up their children from the school grounds. Under no circumstances should a child enter the carpark or get into a car from the driveway unsupervised.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take particular care when reversing in the carpark - be aware of student movement • Take care to respect our neighbours by not blocking their driveways. • Remember that the council rangers and police do patrol the area regularly.
9. School Deliveries	<p>Delivery vehicles are encouraged to drive to the front of the school.</p> <p>No vehicles are permitted on school ground during school hours unless prior arrangement and proper supervision is provided for vehicle entering / exiting school ground.</p>
10. Travel to and from Venues for Sport	<p>When students travel to and from sporting venues by bus, safe bus travel procedures as above apply.</p> <p>A registered bus company is used.</p> <p>When walking to a venue in the town, students are led by a teacher. Footpaths and pedestrian rules are followed at all times. Students will be closely observed when crossing the road and the teacher will be the first and the last person on and off the road</p>
11. Travel to and from Venues for Excursions	<p>Students travel to and from excursion venues by bus or car.</p> <p>Safe bus travel procedures as above apply.</p> <p>On the rare occasion when staff drive students to events, the following safeguards are in place:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Licence, registration, insurance papers of volunteer drivers are requested and kept on file. b. The number of students is restricted to the number of passengers allowed in the vehicle. c. Students are reminded to correctly use seat belts and to act safely while in the car. d. Students are lined up in a traffic free area and escorted by an adult to the vehicle. e. A designated assembly area at the destination is pre-organised.
12. Travel During Excursion Time	See relevant 'Risk Assessment'
13. Discretionary Basis	The Principal has the right of discretion to make provision for departure from the plan or the application of the plan in the event of unforeseen and exceptional circumstances.

AS A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS



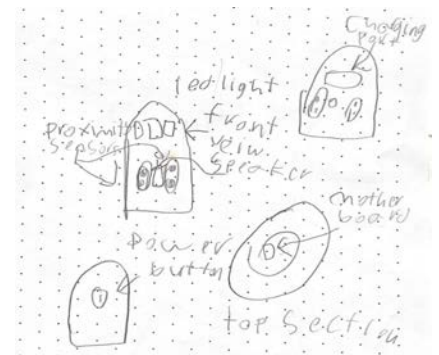
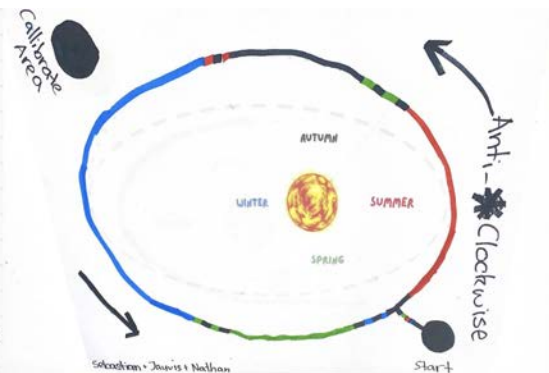
Stage 2 has been investigating earth and space. Our goal is to be able to answer our driving question:

How would our lives change if the Earth, Sun and Moon moved differently?

After learning how the Earth, Sun and Moon move in relation to each other, we investigated how we could simulate this motion with Ozobots. With the help of Miss (Rachael) Usher and Mr Kensell, our stage 2 cohort learned how to use basic line code and block code to program robots!



- slow
- fast
- turbo
- tornado
- zigzag
- spin
- backwalk



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS

We will once again welcome students from Kaichi Primary School from 21 - 24 August. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to be involved in and we are hoping that some of our families would be able to assist in hosting the students. If you are interested in being a host family, please contact the number below.



St Bernadette's Primary School Host Families Needed

St Bernadette's Primary School
will be hosting Japanese students from
21st - 24th August 2024.

Share your lifestyle & home whilst experiencing
another culture.

- **Students attend school on weekdays and enjoy family life with you on the weekend**
 - **Japanese language is not necessary.**
- **Students just fit in with your family routines – eat your food, they need their own bed but can share a room.**
 - **Families are paid \$50 per night.**

If you can assist in hosting a student or would like
more information, please contact.....

VS Oceania Pty Ltd
Ph: 02 9889 4366
Email : admin@vsoceania.com

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 6:

Thursday, 6 June: Stage 3 Canberra Trip

Friday, 7 June: Stage 3 Canberra Trip

Week 7:

Monday, 10 June: **King's Birthday** (public holiday - no school)

Friday, 14 June: Year 2 Canteen Day

Week 8:

Friday, 21 June: Whole School Athletics Carnival at Barton Park (more Information to follow)

Week 9:

Monday, 24 June: Reports Available on Compass this Week (date available TBA)

Friday, 28 June: Backup Date For Whole School Athletics Carnival at Barton Park

Week 10:

Friday, 5 July: Last Day of Term 2

SCHOOL FEES

Please be aware that Term 2 School Fees Statements have been issued and sent home to families. If you have not received your statement for any reason, please contact the office immediately. It would be appreciated if your payments are made in accordance with the due date (05/06/2024) as listed on your statement.

Should you wish to make an arrangement to suit your needs, or if you have any queries regarding your fees, please contact our Finance Officer, Mrs Haddad. All conversations are strictly confidential.

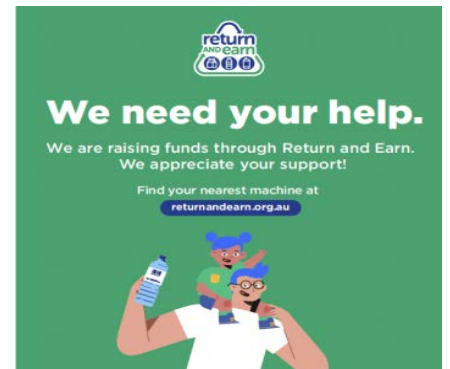
Thank you for your continuous support.

RETURN AND EARN

Would you like 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.



We would like to wish all the following children a very Happy Birthday

Antonio - 28/05
Thomas - 01/06
Hailey - 02/06
Sienna C - 06/06
Zahra - 06/06

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

NSWCPS Girls 7s Rugby (MacKillop and Polding)

Date: 14th August 2024

**Venue: Santa Sabina
College**

Eligibility: 11 Years - 12 Years

*Please check for
mandatory size/weight
ratios on the website

**Register via the
csnsw.sport/ portal before
2 August 2024**



NSWCPS Girls 7's Rugby (MacKillop and Polding) Trials

Date: 14th August 2024 Venue: Santa Sabina College

Eligibility: 11 Years - 12 Years GIRLS in 2024

***Please check for mandatory size/weight ratios on the website**

Register via the csnsw.sport/ portal before 2 August 2024



**BOOKINGS OPEN
JULY 3, 2024 AT 7PM**

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

REGISTER NOW



Let's get the kids active and moving these holidays with Active Parramatta's free School Holiday Program.

Classes include AFL, Frisbee, Netball, Hip Hop, Skateboarding, Golf, Tennis and Hula Hooping plus more.

Spaces are limited so you don't want to miss out



Active Parramatta



<https://bitly.ws/HEXe>



St Bernadette's Primary School

St Bernadette's Primary School, 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.

Address: Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley, NSW 2117 Australia

Phone: 02 8846 2600

Email: dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au