

# Newsletter



Issue # 8

Term 4

Thursday 5 December 2019

Dear Parents



*Blessings for  
Advent*  
HOPE · PEACE · LOVE · JOY



It has been a difficult week for many staff, families and the broader community with the uncertainty of the fires. Thank you for the many ways parents and staff have stepped in to support our

community. Please continue to keep our families, staff and members of the broader community who are affected in your prayers. We will communicate any information as we receive updates.

The season of advent has now begun. Last Sunday we lit the first candle on the Advent Wreath as a sign of hope. Last weekend I read a reflection written by Fr Daniel O'Leary on how the light of God can touch us in many ways. I know myself I have seen the light through the kindness in others. Fr O'Leary writes "I realise that this is the only way that God can reach us, touch us, console us. Since the first Christmas, God is forever committed to healing and holding us through each other. That is the real magic of this season – the essential reason for all the celebrating we do". As Christians, it's a timely reminder that we consider those families in need. During our final week of term, on Monday 16 December at 5.00pm we will gather for our Christmas Carols, presenting gifts to St Vincent de Paul to give to those less fortunate. Kindergarten will be leading us in nativity, and each class will lead us in song. We look forward to welcoming many families to this Christmas Celebration.

## Year 6 Graduation Mass, Awards and Morning Tea

We are currently in preparation for our Year 6 Mass and Awards ceremony. This significant celebration will take place next Friday, 13 December at 9.15am in the Church. This is a whole school event involving Kindergarten to Year 6 students, staff, families, parish members and special guests. It is a time of reflection for our Year 6 students as they remember their primary years at St Bernard's. We also give thanks for the many blessings on the year, and recognise the achievements of our senior students as they move into their secondary education. The Recognition Awards for Year 6 and the leadership handover to Year 5 will follow Mass in the Church. Morning tea and the cutting of the Year 6 Graduation Cake will then occur outside the Church with the Year 6 students and their families. Please join us for this special occasion. All families are warmly welcome.

## P&F Christmas Party

It was lovely to celebrate Christmas with our dedicated parents at Corrigans Cove last Thursday night. I sincerely thank our amazing parents who contribute in so many ways to making St Bernard's a wonderful school! On behalf of the staff, thank you!

Mrs Hadley is Principal (Acting) tomorrow and Monday as I will be away on leave.

Blessings on the week ahead.

**Johanna Wain**  
Principal



## What's on

### Weekend Masses

Vigil Mass:

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 9.00am

Sunday: 5.00pm

### Week 9

#### Tuesday 10 December

Village Centre  
Performance  
Year 2 & 4

11.30am-12.30pm

#### Wednesday 11 December

Kindergarten  
Excursion

9.30am-12.30pm

#### Thursday 12 December

Reports sent  
Home to families

#### Friday 13 December

Year 6 Graduation Mass  
& Awards  
9.15am start

Year 4 Waste Warriors  
Beach Afternoon  
11.30am-2.00pm

## Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our students who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week:

Elliot Q.  
Paige L.  
Amy C.  
Linken McC.





**D**uring Advent we can seek to see the world with childlike eyes, so that our vision might take in the kingdom of God in our midst, to change how we look and listen to the sounds and sights around us. Let us pray and ask God that we be blessed with a pure heart that is open to see the world as God sees it.

Our readings today are beautiful. Isaiah paints a picture of Peace. The whole world of people and animals living together in harmony. What a wonderful thought! This may challenge us to ask what words or actions can I do that would help this to come about.

The Psalm too speaks of this hope for peace and justice for all. Saint Paul, when he writes to the Romans, also mentions the hope which can be found in Scripture. This Hope is spelled out in the gospel where Matthew presents Saint John the Baptist, with the message: *'Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'* Let us look at how we can answer John's call: Firstly by preparing the wilderness of our human hearts to be free from the clutter that may be grudges or resentments or something personal to you.

God is asking us to change some of our paths. Where do I need to change within myself? In my dealings with my family, colleagues, friends and even strangers? Perhaps I may see in myself, as the Pharisees were targeted, a complacency that is quite soul destroying, if we continue this laziness in preparation for Christ.

Let us take time during these busy days of Advent to **STOP** and spend even a few minutes a day to acknowledge the Divine Presence and talk about my day...it's joys, sorrows, frustrations and why I feel the need to be with God today. The one thing that we can be sure of is this: God hears every prayer but we need to be still to hear a response.

Mindful of this week's readings and opening prayer of the Mass, I can perhaps look around me and, whether by word or deed, encourage others to join me as I set out in haste to meet Jesus this Christmas.

*Sr Marie*

## **ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA**

To say thank you to our wonderful parishioners, there will be a breakfast/morning tea next Sunday 8th December after the 9am Mass. Bacon and egg rolls, sausage sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee. Come and help say *"Thank you"*. **All are welcome**. Volunteers are needed to help cook and serve the BBQ.

*See Bernie or ring 0428 227 384*

**THE CHILD SAFEGUARD TRAINING SESSION** scheduled for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December has been cancelled due to road closures and the bushfire emergency in the area. We hope to re-schedule it in the New Year and look forward to seeing many parishioners attend.

# Religious Education News

## Second Sunday of Advent Year A

**“A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.”  
Matthew 3:1-12**

### **Prepare Ye!**

John the Baptist's call to 'Prepare the way of the Lord' is a summary of the purpose of the season of Advent. Every year, as we celebrate the Nativity, we celebrate once again the presence of God in our world. God became incarnate in the world through Jesus but also always was and continues to be incarnate in the world through each person.

If we are to accept this reality and live it out, we need to remind ourselves this Advent to prepare the way for the Lord to be present in and through us every day of our lives.

**Our prayers and concern continue for those members of our community who have had to evacuate their homes due to local bushfires. The staff are busy collecting toiletries to drop off to St Vincent de Paul to assist with their appeal for our community.**

### **December Dates to Remember**

**Friday 13 December** – Year 6 Graduation Mass in St. Bernard's Church 9.15am

**Monday 16 December** – Christmas Carols with Nativity scene & St Vincent de Paul Christmas Giving Tree. St Bernard's Church 5pm

**Tuesday 24 December** – Christmas Eve Children's Mass 6pm. Children's Nativity and Christmas Carols included as part of the Mass.

### **ADVENT**

God,  
there is no other source  
of comfort and peace than you, you alone.  
You alone are mercy and justice.  
You alone have called me beyond myself  
to proclaim your coming.  
My path is filled with distractions,  
but you call me to see forward clearly,  
to unclutter the way  
and build a highway for you –  
singing all the way!  
Every day this Advent,  
may I answer faithfully to you  
and be the bold prophet  
that you ask each of us to be.  
Help me be more daring  
than I have ever been before,  
to withstand ridicule and mockery  
and risk everything  
that is comfortable and easy.  
While the roadway may be dangerous,  
the finish line is victory unsurpassed!  
You come into my life  
and take away my fear.  
You lead and feed me  
with all that I need.  
I hear what you announce to me –  
peace, kindness, truth  
and justice.  
All you have promised,  
and all comes from your hand.  
May I know your strength  
while I prepare your way –  
safe travel for all of us. Amen.

(Haas, *Praying with the Word*, pp. 16–17)



Take care of each other as we travel through what lies ahead.

# Assistant Principal News

Dear Parents

This week has been difficult for many families and we sympathise with everyone who has been faced with the fear of fires. Fortunately we have been able to enjoy time at school this week starting a range of end of year activities including rehearsing the nativity play in Kindergarten and singing Christmas Carols for our upcoming **Carols night** which will be held on Monday 16 December in the Church.

## Leadership speeches

Yesterday a large number of students in Year 5 presented a speech for a position on the Student Representative Council or to be a House Captain in 2020. The students spoke very confidently about why they would be excellent leaders, making the selection process for Year 3, 4 and 5 students very difficult. The announcement of leaders for 2020 will be made at the **Graduation Mass** next Friday 13 December.

## Environmental Calendar Winners

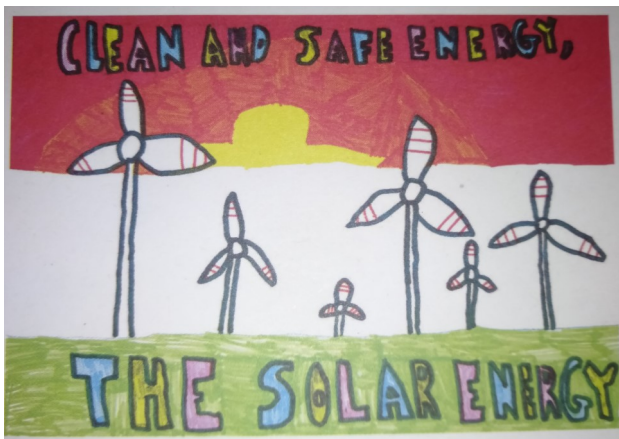
On Monday Mrs Beashel attended the Eurobodalla Shire Council launch of the 2020 Environmental Calendar, where James and Bonnie of Year 4 were announced winners in the calendar competition. James and Bonnie each designed an art work that was chosen to be part of the calendar.

Please see their winning art work below.



James C

Bonnie B



## Reports

Semester 2 reports will be sent home to families next Thursday 12 December. Please look for these documents in your child's school bag next week, which will be in a sealed envelope addressed to you. We hope that you find these reports informative, providing an insight into what your child can already do and areas for future growth. Handover meetings between teachers have started to occur now that classes have been decided. This is important so that the needs of each child can be considered to ensure that there is a smooth transition for the year ahead.

# Assistant Principal News

## Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser

This Sunday the P & F and other volunteers will be running the BBQ outside Bunnings to raise money for the school. If you are planning a trip to Bunnings please look out for them. We thank the P & F for the time they give to our school.

## Probus Public Speaking

On Monday Bill E, Erin D and Bronte E presented their finalist speeches from the Archdiocesan Public Speaking event for the Probus Club at the Batemans Bay Community Centre. The students impressed the audience with the excellent delivery of their speeches, covering contemporary issues including care of the environment, use of drones in society and health issues in an informative and entertaining way. Congratulations to these students!



## Woolworths Earn and Learn

Thank you to Woolworths Earn and Learn we have received some great Edison Robotic equipment and stationery. Thank you to the families that collected 1000's of stickers and sent them into school.



Keeping everyone in our thoughts over the coming days, especially the amazing work of the people fighting fires.

*Karen Hadley*

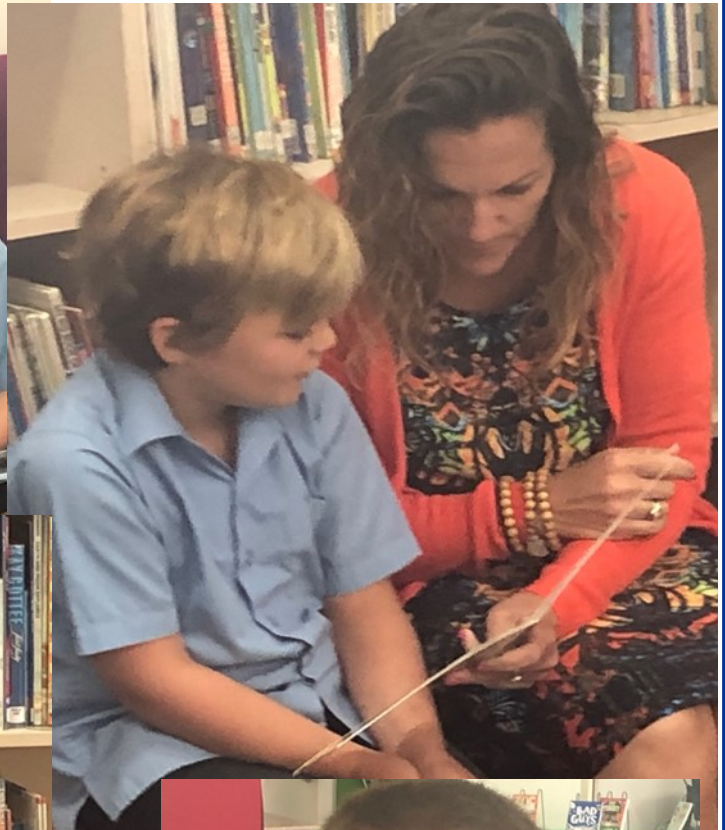
Assistant Principal

# Early Morning Reading News

That's a RAP.

The Early Morning Reading Program – now known as the AM RAP (Morning Reading and Phonics), had its final session for 2019 on Wednesday. Parents were invited to join us for a breakfast celebration; listen to their children read and share in the excitement of receiving their certificates. All students in the program during 2019 have seen over a year's academic learning growth. This is a great accomplishment. Thank you to the parents, students and CSA's who supported this program. And yes, we will be back in 2020.

Jeni McCarthy—Intervention Teacher

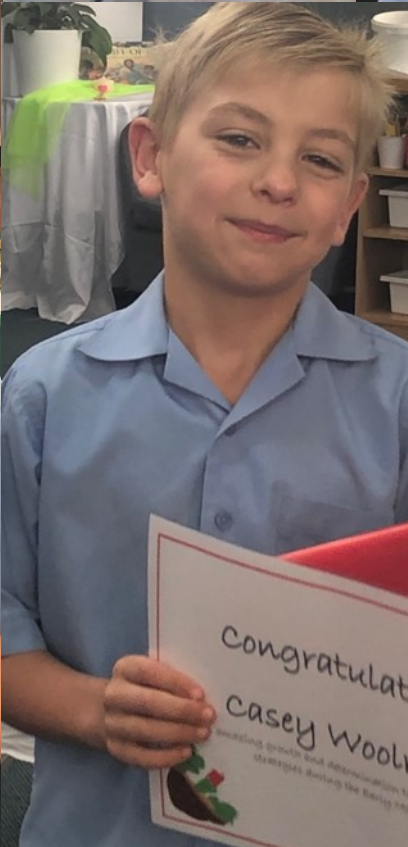


Reading is Fun

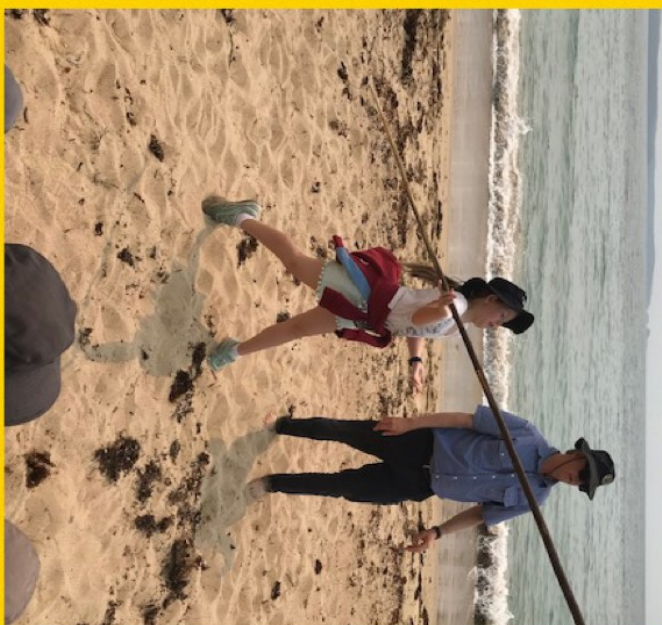


# Early Morning Reading News

20 Minutes  
Reading a day.....  
Makes a  
difference



# Fisheries Excursion





# Year 5 News



**Year 5 enjoyed looking after their Kinder buddies on orientation morning.**



# Banking & School News

COMMONWEALTH BANK

STUDENT BANKING

Congratulations to the following student:

Mia A - 1B - Icicle Slapband Ruler

Well Done!



## Beeswax Wrap



Let's reduce the plastic used in lunchboxes. Have you thought about using beeswax wraps? Made from 100% cotton and beeswax. Wrap a sandwich, cheese, produce, and cover a bowl.

**Reusable:** Wash with cool water and gentle soap, and reuse.

To order please return the form below and return to the Front Office or order through QKR.

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Large Wraps 32cm x 32cm \$4.00 each  
(Sandwiches, small bowls)

Small Wraps 20cm x 25cm \$3.00 each  
(Lunchbox snacks)

Qty

Qty

## BEE A SUPER SAVER

School Banking is back for Term 4.

Power up your savings with regular deposits on school banking day.

Your school banking day is

**Wednesday**

Remember, every 10 deposits earns a free gift\*, like these eye-catching Zoo-laces.



For Buzzy's savings tips, worksheets and other fun activities, visit the beehive [imb.com.au/beehive](http://imb.com.au/beehive)  
Don't have an account for school banking? Visit IMB Bank Batemans Bay, 21 Orient Street. Ph 4297 3400.



\*Limit of one per member for each 10 school banking deposits made. Gift will be the current IMB Bank School Banking Gift being distributed at the time that the member becomes eligible to receive the gift. The information is general advice only and does not take into account your individual situation, objectives or needs. Please consider the PDS available from IMB before making a decision about this product. IMB Ltd trading as IMB Bank ABN 62 087 651 974. AFSL/Australian Credit License 237 391.



## Learning Labs 2020

April School Holidays

# Save the Date!

**LITTLE LEARNING LABS (YEARS 1-2)**

**EARLY LEARNING LABS (YEARS 3-6)**

Learning Labs is coming again to UOW Batemans Bay!

Learning Labs is targeted at students from Years 1 to 6 during 2020, who are excelling in their area of interest within their year group; and are passionate, self-motivated and curious learners.

It is designed for students to participate in challenging, fun and innovative workshops, which will be held over two days and are presented by academics and professionals with specialist training or a specific interest in gifted education.

### **DETAILS**

**15 & 16 APRIL 2020**

**9.00 AM TO 3.30 PM**

**UOW BATEMANS BAY CAMPUS, HANGING ROCK**

Look out for more information coming in Term 1 2020!

Please contact the Batemans Bay Learning Labs team if you have any questions at [bbay-learninglabs@uow.edu.au](mailto:bbay-learninglabs@uow.edu.au)



UNIVERSITY  
OF WOLLONGONG  
AUSTRALIA



# TENNIS

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP

**EARLY BIRD  
SPECIAL  
3 DAYS \$75  
BOOK BY 20TH  
DECEMBER**



**AGES 5-15**

**9AM-12PM ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**

**CAMP 1 - BATEMANS BAY TENNIS CLUB**

**MON, TUES & WED**

**JANUARY 6TH, 7TH & 8TH**

**1 DAY \$35 - 2 DAYS \$65**

**3 DAYS \$90**

**CAMP 2 - TOMAKIN SPORTS & CLUB**

**MON, TUES & WED**

**JANUARY 13TH, 14TH & 15TH**

**1 DAY \$35 - 2 DAYS \$65**

**3 DAYS \$90**



**SOUTH COAST  
TENNIS ACADEMY**



**FOR BOOKINGS CALL BRAD**

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