

Newsletter



Issue # 1

Term 1

Thursday 6 February 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you enjoyed your Christmas with your family and were able to find some time to relax over the holidays. It has been devastating to see what has happened to our community over the break. Our hearts and prayers continue to remain focused on our families, staff and members of the broader community who have been affected by the fires. The efforts of our firefighters and strength and support in our community has been extraordinary.

As a staff we came together last week to debrief and discuss the impact and affect of the bushfires. As a school, we are supporting our students by:

- Acknowledging their feelings
- Discussing any concerns raised in a manner that takes into account students' age and maturity
- Answering questions in a simple honest way, using language that is age appropriate and without including personal views and opinions
- Assisting students to communicate their concerns to parents and carers
- Expressing hope in the future
- Helping the students to feel safe

*In Wisdom and Love You
created our Earth To sustain
us and give us life. We turn to
you now in these
troubled times as we cope
with the tragedies of the fires
across our country.*

<https://headspace.org.au/assets/Uploads/headspace-mh-support-following-large-scale-incidents-March-2019-v2.pdf>

I have heard from some families that their children are anxious and nervous as a result of the fires. This is understandable and you may be unsure of how best to respond. Extra counselling hours have been provided to the school by Catholic Education through the service Catholic Care. Faith Costigan is available to speak to any families requiring extra support. Referral forms can be collected from Mrs Hadley or I. We all need to go gently this term. Our door is always open, please come and see Karen or I if we can support you in any way.

We are looking forward to many exciting and rich experiences across the year. Welcome back to all students and families returning to St Bernard's for 2020, and a special welcome to our new families. After a difficult start to the year, I know myself as a parent that it has been great to return to the routine of school.

Welcome...

It is my pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to our 2 new members of staff, Kate Fetterplace and Sarah Davis. Kate will normally be teaching in KB every Thursday (Aboriginal Contact Teacher Time/Explicit Teaching Project). Sarah will be teaching 1 full day in S1S every Friday (Executive Relief). Note, this has changed for the first five weeks of term. Kate will be teaching 6B and Sarah will teach KB & S1S.

A very special welcome to our Kindergarten students for 2020. Today was their first day and it's been wonderful to witness their enjoyment as they gain confidence in their new learning environment. A warm welcome to our Kinder parents new to St Bernard's, and to our existing families who are already a part of this special community.

School Board Positions

Two positions have become available on the St Bernard's School Board. Mr Daniel Coffey and Mrs Nicole Powell have resigned from their positions. If you are interested in nominating another parent or yourself for this position, please complete the attached nomination form and return to the school office by Friday 21 February. A copy of the Constitution for Catholic Archdiocesan School Boards, detailing Criteria for Membership can be collected from our Front Office. If more than two parents are nominated an election will follow. On behalf of the St Bernard's community, I thank Daniel and Nicole for their leadership, time and commitment to St Bernard's school community. Their dedication and genuine desire to support our school has been most appreciated.

I hope you are settling in well to the new school year. Please know we are here to support you in every way we can.

Johanna Wain
Principal

What's on

Weekend Masses

Vigil Mass:

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 9.00am

Sunday: 5.00pm

Week 3

Monday 10 February

Year 6 Liturgy and
Presentation of Badges
@ 1.45pm in the Hall

Tuesday 11 February

P&F Meeting 5.30pm

Wednesday 12 February

Kindergarten Rest Day

Friday 14 February

11.00am Yr 6 Enrichment
Program at Carroll College

Explicit Instruction

Leadership Workshop -

Mrs Hadley, Mrs Smith

& Mrs Wain

Early Career Teacher Day -

Miss Fetterplace

Birthdays

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

Maicee D.
James C.
Indie A.
Christian F.
Charlie J.
Floyd P.
Jasper B.
Mitchell B.
Sebastian L.
Lleyton F.
Maya B.
Khari T.
Gracie P.
Alexis D.



Parish News

PARISH WEEKLY NEWS

Inaugurating the 2020 School Year

This weekend, our Parish family celebrates and inaugurates the 2020 School Year. This annual event brings together the staff of St. Bernard's Primary School, Parents and Children and the faith community in order to commit the new school year to God in praise and prayers.

*Every school year is different. And this is noticeable in very simple ways. The children find themselves in different classes and the teachers have new pupils. However, 2020 is a year with a huge difference. It all started on the note of the bushfires, with multiple evacuations, exposing the children to trauma, distressing the parents, with the staff returning to school without a restful holiday. Indeed, a summer holiday turned fire holiday! Miraculously, amid this mess a strong community spirit is born. Sustaining the bond is critical for the good of all, knowing that together we can. Together, we can collaborate and become co-responsible in providing the needed education and ensuring the pastoral care of the school children this school year, responding to their individual needs in a safe and re-assuring space; in the spirit of the Gospel that invites us to be the **salt** and **light** for them in the context of the home, classroom and church environments. Significantly, while, we aim at the wholistic education and development of the children, during this school year only one of the three sacraments will be celebrated. The Sacrament of Confirmation. This will be received by the girls and boys in year six in order to equip them for witness as they look forward to Grade Seven next year. The sacrament of reconciliation initially administered in year two will now be administered in year three, with the sacrament of the Eucharist administered in year four instead of year three. This will allow for more maturity on the part of the children and a time of formation for parents, the first educators of their children (Compendium no 460). Our hope is to re-develop and enrich the sacramental program that is parish based, family focused, and school supported.*

We, therefore, thank and welcome parents, teachers and the school children to the 2020 school year with the inauguration this weekend during the 6 pm Mass.

As we inaugurate the 2020 School Year, we ask God:

To bless the parents, for bringing their children to St. Bernard's.

To bless our school children, for being the most important part of our community.

To bless our dear teachers, for accepting the most important job.

To bless all parishioners, for being a major part of the journey.

To bless the 2020 school year, as we work together, "that all may be one".

Wishing our school community, a fruitful 2020 School Year.

Fr Martins

Religious Education News

Welcome

Welcome back to what has been a challenging start to the year for us all. I hope that if you have been impacted by the recent fires, support is coming your way in one way or another. We have been assured that the best way to access major support is by visiting the Disaster Recovery Centre located in the Soldier's Club, Batemans Bay. Please call in and see Jo, Karen or myself if you or your children need specific support or counselling opportunities.

Opening School and Commissioning Mass—Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

All families and friends are invited to join us for our Opening School and Commissioning Mass this Saturday evening 8 February at 6.00pm at St. Bernard's Parish Church. A big thank you to those parents and children who have taken on roles in this celebration.

On Saturday evening Father Martins will read from Matthew's Gospel. This scripture reading encourages us to share our talents with our community—when we do this we are the light of the world!

Gospel Reading [Mt 5:13-16](#)

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Leadership Liturgy and Badge Presentation

I look forward to seeing many of you on Monday afternoon at 1.45pm for the Year 6 Leadership Liturgy and Badge Presentation. This will take place in the school hall.

Kindergarten 2020

Welcome to the families and children of our new Kindergarten classes. It was wonderful to see the children settle so well this morning, enjoying their well prepared classroom spaces prepared by their teachers Mrs Brady and Mr Ward. I know that you are going to love being part of the St. Bernard's community.



Begin With The Heart

God's Blessings for the coming week

Sharon Beashel REC

Assistant Principal News

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been wonderful to be back at school to start the new school year. The students have been happy over the past days meeting with their school friends and getting to know new teachers. Never before has the routine of school and familiarity of friends been more important after the very difficult time experienced with the fires. Our essential goal is to care for each individual in an even more focused way than ever over the coming months. We appreciate all the love and support that our school has already received from members of our Catholic school community and beyond. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you require extra help.

School Website <http://stbernardsbb.nsw.edu.au>

Have you visited our school website lately? This is a great place to visit if you are looking for extra information. The Communication tab will lead you to our weekly newsletter and the current Canteen Menu and the updated School Calendar can be found on the Home page. The website is also a great place to direct family or friends who may be looking to enrol their child at St Bernard's and require information or a link to an enrolment form.

St Bernard's Primary Skoolbag App

Have you downloaded the St Bernard's Skoolbag App? It will assist you in keeping abreast of current school news. It is a free app that can be downloaded onto both smart phone devices (such as iPads and Android tablets). If you go into the App store and search for 'St Bernard's Primary School Batemans Bay', the App will appear for you to download. Upcoming events, school newsletters, emergency notifications and excursion Information will be regularly posted. You will receive an alert each time new information is added (similar to a text message). If you have any questions, please come and see us in the office.

Qkr! App

Qkr! (pronounced quicker) is an app that is designed to make your life easier. Payments for school events as well as canteen orders can be made using this app on your phone. Permission notes requiring payment can be completed and signed through the app. After first installing the Qkr! app you will need to select St Bernard's Primary School. You will be prompted to add a student profile for your child or children who attend the school. Before using Qkr! to make a payment, your card details need to be entered. Once payment is approved you will be able to review your receipt and have it sent by email. Payment receipt details are included on notes to assist with transactions in the office.

FACEBOOK If you don't already follow St Bernard's School on Facebook now is the time! Don't miss out on our regular posts highlighting learning and school life at St Bernard's.



SPICE Playgroup returns next Thursday 13 February. Join facilitator Amanda Fitzgerald for a morning of play, song and fun with your children aged 0-5. Please feel free to invite your friends with young children to our playgroup as everyone is welcome.

Breakfast Club will commence next Wednesday morning. Ham and cheese toasties will be on offer as well as For a gold coin donation.

Have a lovely weekend. Let's hope that the rain comes!

Karen Hadley
Assistant Principal

Kindergarten's First Day at St Bernard's



Year 3 News

Year Three have had an enjoyable start to the 2020 school year. They have been excited to reconnect with each other. Year 3 have been participating in activities that promote and develop friendships. Friendship is an important concept to explore and being a good friend is an important life skill. **Remember – the only way to *have* great friends is to *be* a great friend.**



Banking & School News

COMMONWEALTH BANK

STUDENT BANKING

At CommBank, we've been awarded CANSTAR's Youth Banking Award for eight years running from 2011 to 2018 in recognition of our commitment to supporting the financial wellbeing of Australian children and communities with education initiatives as well as banking services including the School Banking

SCHOOL BANKING IS BACK
YOUR BANKING DAY IS WEDNESDAY



St Bernard's Swimming Carnival 2020



St Bernard's annual Swimming Carnival is tomorrow Friday 7 February. Both students and teachers are preparing for a fantastic day. Students will compete in age groups from 8 years to 13 years. Come down and see us at Batemans Bay pool during the day. All students who participate in 50 and 25 metre races will receive points in the House competition.

Summer Trials

Good luck to our students who will compete at the Tennis and Basketball trials in Canberra on Tuesday 11 February. We can't wait to hear all about the experience.

Angela Holmes

BEE A SUPER SAVER

School Banking is back for Term 1.

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

The first school banking day
for 2020 will be
**Wednesday,
12 February**

Remember, every 10
deposits earns a free
gift*, like this eye-
catching slinky.



For Buzzy's savings tips, worksheets and other fun activities, visit the beehive imb.com.au/beehive

Don't have an account for school banking? Visit IMB Bank Batemans Bay, 21 Orient Street. Ph 4478 4400.

imb
BANK

*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 52 087 651 974, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237 391.

Community News

OPSM  

**80% OF
CHILDHOOD
LEARNING
IS VISUAL.**
SEE THE POTENTIAL.



Visit OPSM Batemans Bay today
Citi Centre Ph: 4472 7088

Breakfast Club and Spice Playgroup

St Bernard's Spice Playgroup will commence on Thursday 13 February starting at 9.00am. Please come and join us for a morning of play, activities and singing. We look forward to seeing you here.



Breakfast Club will resume on Wednesday 12 February from 8.00am. Ham and cheese toasties will be on offer as well as For a gold coin donation.



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)

Qty

Small Wraps 20cm x 25cm \$3.00 each

(Lunchbox snacks)

Qty

SCHOOL ZONE offences – as a 1 January 2020

To avoid receiving a fine when you are dropping off or picking up children from school please observe the road rules associated with signs around schools. These are a guide only and are subject to change without notice



SPEEDING OFFENCES

There has been an increase to the monetary fines applicable to Speeding Offences in School Zones

Maximum Penalty

\$3895

+ 7 Demerit Points



DOUBLE PARKING

You are not permitted to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb

Penalty

\$344

+ 2 Demerit Points



CHILDREN'S CROSSING

Not stop at children's crossing- pedestrian on crossing

Penalty

\$572

+ 4 Demerit Points



NO PARKING

You may stop for no more than 2 minutes, but only when engaged in picking up or dropping off passengers and you must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle. Otherwise no stopping is permitted.

Penalty

\$191

+ 2 Demerit Points



NO STOPPING

Under no circumstances are you allowed to stop here (unless there is a medical or other emergency)

Penalty

\$344

+ 2 Demerit Points



BUS ZONE

You are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus

Penalty

\$344

+2 Demerit Points



U TURNS

Make a U-Turn without giving way to pedestrian or vehicle in a School Zone

Penalty

\$457

+ 4 Demerit Points



MOBILE PHONE USE

You must not drive while using a hand-held mobile phone in a school zone

Penalty

\$457

+ 5 Demerit Points

For information about Australian Road Rules call 13 22 13 or visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au

This information was provided by Eurobodalla Shire Council Road Safety Officer. 16 January 2020

The information in this document is intended as a guide only, and is subject to change at any time without notice.

School Board Nomination Form

School Board Nomination Form

I wish to nominate _____ (myself / parent) as a member of the School Board for 2020.

I have read the Constitution for Catholic Archdiocesan School Boards, including Criteria for Membership.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Please return to the school office no later than Friday 21 February 2020.