

# Newsletter



Issue # 2

Term 1

Thursday 13 February 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope your child/ren have had a wonderful start to the term and you are hearing the excitement in your child's voices as they embark on a new year with new learnings and challenges!

Last Saturday night at Mass the staff of St Bernard's were inducted for the new school year by Fr Martins. As a staff, we are committed to nurturing all those in our care so that we all may grow in a deeper awareness of God's presence and a greater understanding of God's teaching bringing to life the vision of our School Motto: *That All May Be One*. I feel very privileged to lead such a beautiful school and I very much look forward to the year ahead.

We have begun to feel the momentum – we are embarking on a new year with new targets and will continue to raise the bar to ensure our students receive the best possible learning opportunities at St Bernard's. Our goal is to continue to be a leading school for best practice, student growth and improvement. To do this effectively, we must begin with building relationships with the students and fostering a partnership with families. We must work collaboratively to challenge and build the capacity of all in our community.

## Our School Wide Targets for 2020

Each year we develop an Annual Improvement Plan with 3 goals and 3 targets for school improvement based on data. We use assessment data, satisfaction surveys, improvement surveys and feedback to determine our targets each year. This year our targets are as follows:

- To increase student growth in NAPLAN by 20% in English and Mathematics.
- To improve student agency and voice in Religious Education from 2.0 to 2.2; using the Student Satisfaction Survey.
- To continue to improve student learning, pro-social skills and wellbeing through the School Wide Positive Behaviour program and Berry Street strategies.

To reach these targets, we have implemented the following initiatives for 2020:

## Religious Education

Bernadette Scott and Lee Herden from the Religious Education Team at Catholic Education, are working with staff to develop an understanding and process for developing conceptual understandings, identifying concepts and understanding goals. This will filter through to other areas of the curriculum.

## Explicit, Direct Literacy Instruction K-2 – Teaching and Learning Pilot

This year K-2 teachers will be involved in an Explicit Teaching Project. This teaching and learning pilot will support Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 teachers from 3 NSW schools in the Archdiocese to increase their capacity to teach students using instructional strategies that are systematic, direct and explicit. It is a spaced program that will be implemented over four terms and it will be delivered by Associate Professor Lorraine Hammond. This pilot project will be supported by Catholic Education. Through a range of opportunities teachers will be supported to improve their knowledge of the learning brain and how it links to implementing instructional strategies to support literacy teaching and learning in Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two classrooms. All professional learning delivered as part of the project will link to the NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum - English.

## Maths Pathway

As part of our K-12 Pathway, St Bernard's Year 6 students will be engaging with the **Maths Pathway** resources to support their mathematical learning. This is in line with Carroll College and the introduction of this resource to Year 7 2020. This will support the smooth transition from St Bernard's to Carroll College at the end of the year. This opportunity will also allow for staff across the K-12 Pathway to work together and share in professional learning that benefits all our students.

We are looking forward to working in partnership with you to foster a love of learning with your child.

Johanna Wain  
Principal



## What's on

### Weekend Masses

Vigil Mass:

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 9.00am

Sunday: 5.00pm

### Week 4

**Monday 17 February**

**Swimming Presentation**  
1.45pm

**P&F Meeting 5.30pm**

**Tuesday 18 February**

Aboriginal Contact Meeting

**Wednesday 19 February**

**Southern Region**

**Swimming Carnival**

**Narooma**

**9.00am Swans AFL Visit**

**Thursday 20 February**

REC Meeting

**Welcome BBQ &**

**Disco 5.00pm-6.30pm**

**11.00am Enrichment**

**Program Carroll College**

**Friday 21 February**

## Birthdays

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

Whilloe H.

Scarlett W.

Caine B.

Steven M.

Kobi P.

Kasey S.

Marco H.

Dayton J.

Isaac V.

Baylin C-Mc

Georgia L.

Bailey B.

Luke D.

Naresh M.

Bonnie D.



# Parish News



## PLUCK IT OUT

*Mt. 5 vs 29*

This weekend, our gospel reading is the continuation of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount contained in Matthew's gospel chapter five. In the narrative, Jesus offered a new understanding of the Mosaic law, calling his audience to cultivate a better appreciation of the law compared to the teachers of the law, challenging them to a more authentic piety than that of the Pharisees, and a more positive attitude towards God, the world and neighbour.

In the passage he further challenged the disciple in strong terms to '*pluck out*' anything that might cause them to act in a manner that is incongruous with God's law and disrespectful of our neighbour. While scripture scholars warned against the literal interpretation of this expression, Jesus is insistent on the need for his listeners to eschew themselves from the possible occasions and events that might lead them to a reprehensible act and end.

At a time when road fatalities are blamed on human error induced by alcohol and phone usage; when domestic violence is blamed on drugs and addiction; with some families losing their entire wealth to poker machines and gambling; with some of our young people performing poorly in academics while spending hours on screens, the admonition of Jesus to '*pluck it out*' in Matthean gospel remains absolutely valid.

As governments around the world are being challenged to put ethical, social and environmental issues at the forefront, instead of being driven purely by profit and self-interest, we look to the gospel, fully trusting the words of Jesus as he calls us to live by the law of love. Led by his Spirit, we can open our hearts to the needs of the world.

"We give thanks to the families, staff and all those who participated at the Inaugural Mass that was held last weekend."

*Fr Martins*

# Religious Education News

## Staff Professional Development

We welcomed Bernadette Scott and Lee Herden: Religious Education & Faith Formation Officers **from** Catholic Education to school this week. Bernadette led our staff meeting on Tuesday afternoon. Her provoking question for our learning was, “**What is a Concept?**”.

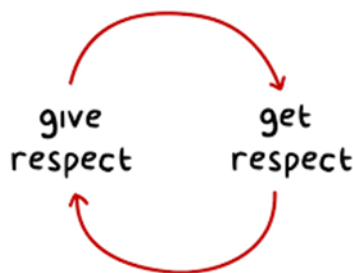
Educators have traditionally taught through topics and content – lots of factual information which students would regurgitate as a way of learning. We are currently being challenged to move away from this form of programming and teaching to move to a Conceptual framework. This change of programming and teaching will enable our students to organise their thinking and achieve a stronger understanding that has meaning and purpose.

It has been wonderful opportunity for teachers to workshop with our experts and their grade partners during the week. Bernadette will return in Week 11 to support us on our educational journey.

## What is Respect?

The word **respect** comes from the Latin word “*respectus*” meaning attention, regard or consideration. **Respect is a concept.**

- Respect is thinking and acting in a positive way about yourself or others
- Respect is thinking and acting in a way that shows others you care about their feelings and their well-being



**Year 3 are exploring the concept of Respect.** They are using an audio book called:

'Do Unto Otters' <https://youtu.be/AKzM3CZoWqY> by Laurie Keller. If you are wondering how to support your children in developing an understanding of this concept this audio story might be worth watching.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DATES for February—pop these dates into your diary!

February

Date	Event	Participants	Time
Tuesday 25	Shrove Tuesday	Classrooms activities	
Wednesday 26	Ash Wednesday	Whole School Mass	9.15am
Wednesday 26	Project Compassion Caritas - 2020	Whole School focus during Lent	
Friday 28	Mini Vinnies - Badge presentation	Whole School - Year 3 Assembly	9.00am



Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Blessings for the coming week - *Sharon Beashel REC*



# Assistant Principal News

Dear Parents

On Monday afternoon we acknowledged the Year 6 student leaders with a liturgy in the hall attended by all students and many parents and family members. Year 6 students were presented with a badge of leadership including school captains, sports captains, and members of the student representative team. The students pledged their commitment to leading the students of the school, upholding our school vision to *Begin with the Heart*.

We are confident that this group of students will share their gifts with others and lead by example.



## Leaders' Pledge

*As leaders of the school for 2020, we pray that all our actions, decisions and achievements will have a positive effect on our school in the future. We will try to Begin with the Heart, showing Compassion, Kindness, Respect and Honesty in all that we do. We make this commitment in faith. Amen*

## Welcome BBQ and Disco

We would love all families to join us next Thursday 20 February at 5:00pm for our annual Welcome BBQ and Disco. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information about this special event.

## Computer Use Agreements

Cyber safety is a very important. The 4Rs: *Respect, Responsibility, Reasoning, Resilience* have been promoted in the teaching of cyber safe practices. This week we sent home a **Computer Agreement Use** form to be signed by all parents and students from Year 2—Year 6 to commit to use computer technology in a responsible way at school. Please note the section on this form requiring permission to include your child in our school web page and in newspaper articles. These forms were sent home yesterday and will be required back at school by the end of next week, Friday 21 February.

## Communication

We place emphasis on high levels of communication between home and school to ensure successful learning outcomes for students. You would have received the first of the weekly emails from your child's teachers. I hope you have found this memo to be helpful. The format of Preview, Review and Prepare helps to keep our communication with you as succinct and informative as possible. The weekly email takes the place of the term Curriculum Notes.

## Parent/Teacher Introductory Meetings

On Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 February and Wednesday 4 March Parent/Teacher meetings will be held. The purpose of these meetings is to provide time for you to speak with your child's teacher to share information about your child which may assist them cater for their learning needs. Teachers will share some of their early observations and plans for the forthcoming year. A note will be issued early next week with more information about these meetings and a booking code to make an online booking using the Parent Teacher Interview website.

Enjoy your weekend.

*Karen Hadley*

Assistant Principal



# Sports News

## St Bernard's Swimming Carnival 2020

St Bernard's held its annual Swimming Carnival last Friday 7 February. It was not the day we had hoped for, but I am sure you can agree our area was desperate for rain. We made the difficult decision to go ahead with the carnival given that the forecast for the week ahead was for a lot more rain and we are pleased with the amazing participation of our students. The students all said it was great fun and thankfully it didn't rain that much except for one big downpour during the butterfly events. Thank you to Kelly Hage and the staff at Batemans Bay pool, the Sports Coaching students from Carroll College and our wonderful staff and parents for helping us run our day so smoothly. We will be having a house points assembly on Monday starting at 1:45pm in the Hall and you are all invited to attend.



The following students were selected to represent St Bernard's at the Southern Region Carnival on Wednesday February 19:

Annie F.
Campbell R, Oscar J.
Molly W, Claire Z, Hailey I, Lily D.
Rogan H, Kobi B, Lachlan J, Sam S-D.
Remi C, Zarly P, Olivia M, Amy C.
Leo H, Charlie J, John F, Henry A.
Summer H, Lizzy B, Emma I, Maya B, Chelsea T.
Nicholas W, James C, Luke D, Indi F.
Bronte E, Minny H, Charlotte W.
Cooper T, Lincoln D, Kadyn M, Miller W.

Congratulations to the students who were selected to represent St Bernard's at Southern Region level. Thank you to all those who were so flexible in making our carnival such a fun event especially my colleagues.

# Sports News



## Summer Representative Sporting Trials



Congratulations to Bonnie D, Georgia L and William L who competed against student from all over Canberra-Goulburn for a place in the Tennis team. The students had a wonderful time and enjoyed the experience and competition. Also on Tuesday Sonny B and Ben E trialled for Canberra-Goulburn basketball we congratulate them as well. Both boys agreed the experience was awesome and are going to try out again next year. Most of our students who trialled are in Year 4 or 5 and were competing against Year 6 students.



We are very proud to announce that Georgia L won her tennis competition is and is now the number 1 girls player in the Canberra-Goulburn team. Georgia will play at the MacKillop Tennis trials in Wollongong on 28 February. Congratulations on your outstanding performance and for representing our school with pride. We wish you well with your training and upcoming games.





# Sports News

## ASA Football

Last week we were visited by Rocco Polistina from ASA Football in Sydney. He came to St Bernard's to drop off donations for our students. ASA Football has very generously given us soccer balls for the playground as well as tracksuits and playing kits all brand new. It was wonderful to meet Rocco, who heard our story on the radio and was so moved to help our students. If you would like any of the clothing please just call into the front office we are happy to share everything with all our students.





# Sports News





# Year 1 News

**Year 1 enjoyed creating portraits inspired by the art work of Modigliani**



PIC•COLLAGE

# Banking & School News

COMMONWEALTH BANK

STUDENT BANKING

**YOUR BANKING DAY IS WEDNESDAY**



## 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

Small Wraps 20cm x 25cm \$3.00 each

(Sandwiches, small bowls)

(Lunchbox snacks)

Qty

Qty

## 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](http://imb.com.au/beehive)

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

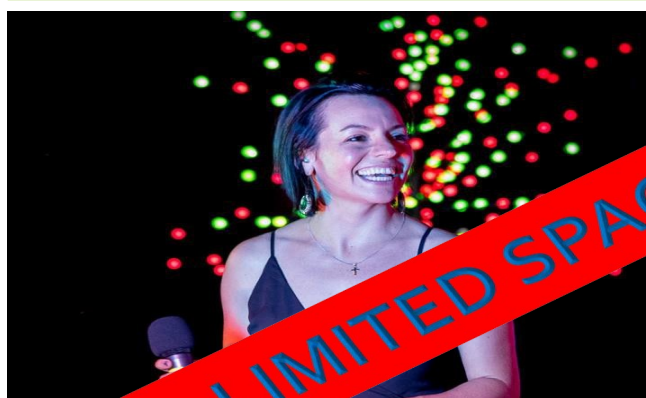
**imb**  
BANK

\*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

## SINGING LESSONS



LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

## Singing Lessons with Dee Farnell

Currently taking group and individual students for 2020, Deanna Farnell has over 15 years' experience in vocal tutoring, choir directing and professional music, musical theatre and acting performance. Good vocal technique, building confidence and enjoyment are at the centre of her music education philosophy and she cannot wait to continue working with the wonderful St Bernard's students in the new year!

Dee is a registered Creative Kids Provider and CK Vouchers can be redeemed with her.

Spaces are filling up with some groups already full so if you'd like more information, please text or call Dee: 0424 044 043

OPSM ❤️ 👁️

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



**Visit OPSM Batemans Bay today**  
Citi Centre Ph: 4472 7088

# 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.



# Community News



## BECOME A MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDER

to support friends, family members, colleagues and others

About 1 in 5 Australian adults experience a common mental illness each year. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training will teach you practical skills to support someone with a mental health problem. Make a real difference to people in your community.

### STANDARD MHFA TRAINING BENEFITS

#### KNOWLEDGE

Improves knowledge of mental illnesses, treatments and first aid actions.

#### CONFIDENCE

Increases confidence in providing first aid.

#### DE-STIGMATISING

Decreases stigmatising attitudes.

#### SUPPORT

Increases the support provided to others.

*"I enjoyed learning the skills to be an MHFAider. The content was interesting and the facilitators made me feel at ease, even with the more sensitive content." - Georgia*



#### LEARN PRACTICAL FIRST AID SKILLS

- Recognise common mental health problems
- Provide initial help using a practical, evidence-based Action Plan
- Seek appropriate professional help, and
- Respond in a crisis situation



This is a 12-hour educational course, not a therapy or support group.

#### HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Registrations through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/58079456217>

Email enquires to [supportworks@outlook.com](mailto:supportworks@outlook.com) or ring either above numbers

Ticket have been set at concession rates to make this training accessible for everyone

**DATES** 6th & 7th April 2020

**TIMES** 9am - 4.30pm both days

**COST** \$160

**VENUE** The Olive Tree  
Batemans Bay

#### FACILITATOR/S

**Donna - 0419221665**

**Anita - 0434945066**