

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to our beautiful St Bernard's community, here at Berowra Heights. Our mission is to provide an educational context where the wellbeing and development of each child is central to all our endeavours.

St Bernard's Catholic Primary School was established in 1971 by the Sisters of Mercy. The Mercy tradition of "holistic education for life" continues at St Bernard's today and is espoused through the Community's commitment to collaboratively strive towards developing a faith filled learning context where trust, integrity and the dignity of each person is paramount.

At St Bernard's we have committed, professional and caring staff, who collaboratively work towards ensuring a quality learning environment where children are inspired by the Gospel values of respect, joy, hope, justice and faith.

Our staff prioritise the needs and strengths of the students in our care to ensure the wellbeing of each individual is supported. Ongoing professional leaning, collaboration and communication are paramount to the community at St Bernard's. A range of extra -curricular activities are provided to the students that enrich school life, these include lunch time clubs, the PoD (Place of Discovery), participation in school, cluster and Diocesan sporting activities, Chess Club, local and state community events, Gateway (gifted and talented program), band and music tuition.

Our classrooms utilise flexible learning spaces that support twenty first century learning skills and knowledge such as communication, problem solving, higher order thinking, collaboration and independent learning. Technology enhances student learning, Kindergarten to Year 6, by engaging the learner in information literacy skills i.e. the ability to recognise when information is needed and have the skills to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information. Our school also boasts large open spaces, ideal for team sports and imaginative play areas, including mud kitchens and a dry creek bed where children can explore and play.

Our extensive Transition program offers both children and parents the opportunity to deepen their understanding of "Big School", as well as support open and positive relationships between school and home. Our buddy system and orientation sessions are fun and child centred.

We recognise the importance of community and therefore nurture the relationships between children, parents, staff, parish and the wider community. This creates a safe, happy and welcoming school.

Thank you for considering St Bernard's Catholic Primary School for your child, we understand it is a very important decision and so please do not hesitate to contact the school if further information is required. You may also wish to visit our Facebook page or website.

Kind Regards Gill Austin Principal