

# School Newsletter

Term Three | Week One  
2020



St Bernard's  
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**Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish**

Fr Shaju John Parish Priest

Fr Joy Thomas Assistant Priest

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**St Bernard's Berowra Heights**

**St Patrick's Asquith**

*Due to social distancing, please call the Parish Office 9456 2450 to reserve a seat at Mass.*

## From the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers.

Welcome back to term 3. The children have come back refreshed and the teachers have prepared a full program for the term ahead. This term brings with it much of the same challenges as last term and we are continuing to practice social distancing as a staff in our communal areas. We continue to operate with the same hygiene and sanitising arrangements as last term to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everybody on site - this is my highest priority.

With the pandemic there have been many changes to the way we live and work and the fact we have done so well is testament to the resilience we are all capable of. I am however very disappointed that the pandemic has interfered with the life of our community. I regret that parent access to teachers is naturally limited by the necessary restrictions. Yesterday you received information about planned parent teacher interviews for week 3. I very much wanted to have face to face meetings but feel that it is in the best interests of teachers and parents not to proceed with face to face interviews at this time. Once again I find myself asking for your patience and urge you to contact me if you have any concerns.

### **An attempt at normality...**

I am determined to make term 3 as 'normal' as possible, as far as events at school are concerned, and am trying to ensure that the students benefit from the usual opportunities that term 3 brings. Events may look slightly different but they *will* happen. Below are some of the plans for the coming term - all of them, of course, are dependent on school continuing as normal.

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### School Concert

We are not currently allowed to gather for more than 15 minutes in anything more than a regular class size and so concert rehearsals and a performance in the usual way seems a little beyond reality. We are not daunted, we will continue, the children will get a chance to prepare an item as a class and perform in front of the school via Google Meet. The senior children will be gathered and small group / solo group performances will be organised. We will film this spectacle and make sure you have the opportunity to see it.

### Public Speaking

This is continuing as usual and some of you may be aware of topics and preparations that are underway already. Again, audiences will gather via Google Meet. Parents of finalists can join in and will be sent a link to watch their child's speech. The Diocesan final is still scheduled for week 10. Fingers crossed we have an entry!

### Library

The students will be allowed to borrow books this term as the 'quarantine' time has been reduced to 24 hours.

### The St Bernard's Games

Covid got the better of our athletics carnival but hopefully it won't get the better of our 'St Bernard's Games', planned for Friday 21st August. Year 6, with the help of teachers, will be planning and organising a fun day of races and sports on the oval. If parents are still not allowed on site, the year 6 media team will make sure that you are up to date with all the events and the great sporting moments.

### Leap Into Learning

We will be running several play sessions for our Kinder 2021 class and also inviting others from the community who may have missed out on essential play experiences due to the pandemic. These sessions have been planned for much later in the term in the hope that we can safely have the children here without risk. If you know of anyone who is still undecided as to where to enrol next year please tell them about us and ask them to give us a call. I am conducting single tours, appropriately social distanced after school hours.

### Leap into Learning Play Dates

Wednesday 2nd September  
Wednesday 9th September  
Wednesday 16th September  
Wednesday 23rd September

All participants must [register for the sessions](#) via the school website prior to attending to comply with current guidelines and restriction of numbers.

### And Finally...

Please keep all those affected by the virus and the loss of a loved one due to the virus in your prayers.

Please stay safe, do the right thing and stop the spread.



## COMPASS news

Parents & carers please note:

Only whole day absences for your child should be entered via the COMPASS APP.

If you are dropping your child to school late or collecting them early, absences should be recorded via the COMPASS Kiosk in the school office foyer.



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## From the REC (Jackie Tod)

### A prayer for our grandparents

Sunday is the Feast of Saint Anne and Saint Joachim who are the parents of the Virgin Mary. This is the time when we would usually celebrate Grandparent's Day at St Bernard's. Sadly this year it is not possible to have this celebration in the traditional way, however, we would like to encourage children to contact their grandparents this weekend or in the near future.

Below is a prayer that we would like them to share with their grandparents and we would love for them to share some of the learning they have been enjoying at school at this time. It is really important for us at St Bernard's to keep the strong connection we have with our community and the grandparents are a special and important part of this. Thank you grandparents for your continued support of our school and the education of your grandchildren!



### A Prayer for our Grandparents:

Dear God,  
 Please watch over my grandparents and protect them always.  
 May the sun shine on their path, I pray.  
 Thank you for the kind and loving example they have given to us.  
 The way they love and nurture the whole family.  
 Let them know that I love them unconditionally.

Amen

(Written by Emily, Abby and Alena)

### Dates for Term 3:

Friday 7th August	Class Liturgies for Saint Mary of the Cross
Friday 14th August	Class Liturgies for the Feast of the Assumption
Thursday 20th August	St Bernard's Day
Friday 21st August	St Bernard's Games - Fun Day (TBC)
Friday 4th September	Father's Day Prayer
Tuesday 15th September	The Dish

## From the AP (Anne-Marie Hutchins)

### St Bernard's Public Speaking 2020

Dear Parents,

This term is an opportunity for all students to develop their public speaking skills.

According to research, Public Speaking benefits include:

- ◆ Improved academic performance in other areas.
- ◆ Increased listening skills.
- ◆ Courage to voice opinions and influence others for good.
- ◆ Public speaking empowers you to overcome fear.
- ◆ Preparation for the future.



All students prepare and present a speech to their class. All teachers use the recommended Diocesan marking criteria to select their finalists. Due to the current circumstances with pandemic restrictions and social distancing requirements, students can only present their speeches to their own class, but we are hoping to invite other classes and parents whose children are finalists to join us via a link to Google Meet and provide a virtual audience. At the finals, each year group is awarded a first and second place medal. Below are the specific guidelines for each year group.



#### General Guidelines

Years K-2 children will be preparing their speeches as part of their home learning and the Stage 2 & 3 students will prepare during class time and may practise their speech at home.

Class teachers will inform parents if their child is a finalist.

Class teachers will provide modelling, criteria and scaffolds to support the process.

Children can use palm cards, but no props are allowed.

<b>Year 6</b>	<p><b>3 minute</b> speech prepared during class.</p> <p>6 finalists selected from Year 6 (will need to present their speech and do an impromptu speech for the finals.)</p> <p><b>Year 6 Public Speaking Finals – Week 4: Friday 14th August.</b></p> <p>2 finalists will be selected for the North Shore Cluster Final in Week 6.</p>
<b>Year 5</b>	<p><b>3 minute</b> speech prepared during class.</p> <p>4 finalists will be selected.</p> <p><b>Year 5 Public Speaking Finals – Week 6: Friday, 28th August.</b></p>
<b>Year 3</b> <b>Year 4</b>	<p><b>2 minute</b> speech prepared during class.</p> <p>4 finalists selected from each grade.</p> <p>Year 4 Public Speaking Finals – <b>Week 7: Wednesday, 2nd September</b></p> <p>Year 3 Public Speaking Finals – <b>Week 7: Friday, 4th September</b></p>
<b>Kinder</b> <b>Year 1</b> <b>Year 2</b>	<p><b>1 minute</b> speech prepared at home.</p> <p>4 finalists selected from each grade.</p> <p>Year 2 Public Speaking Finals – <b>Week 8: Wednesday, 9th September.</b></p> <p>Year 1 Public Speaking Finals – <b>Week 8: Friday, 11th September.</b></p> <p>Kinder Public Speaking Finals – <b>Week 9: Friday, 18th September.</b></p>

## What's been happening in **the learning hub?**



Congratulations to the following children who have joined the list of students to have completed the PRC at St Bernard's:

**Kindergarten:** Emily M. & Noah S.

**Year 2:** Caitlin M. & Jack N.

**Year 4:** Tahlia T.

**Year 6:** Suzie T.

### Book Club LOOP

for Parents

**Issue # 5**

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club  
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:  
**[www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)**

**DON'T FORGET!**

### Book Club

orders are due:  
**7th August 2020**

### Use of personal communication devices during school hours.

In some instances, parents may deem it necessary for a child to carry a mobile phone. As stated in the [St Bernard's Parent Handbook](#), these devices are to be kept in the student's school bag and only used for sending and receiving calls & messages outside school hours.

All communication during school hours should be directed to the school office by phone or email.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter.



## Events

For upcoming events, please refer to the Google Calendar on the News and Events page of the school website:

<https://www.sbbdbb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/google-calendar/>



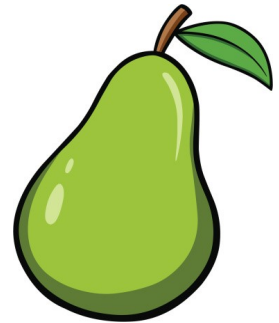
## Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open on selected Fridays from 8.30—9.30. To order please use the QKR app.

## Canteen

Lunch orders on Wednesday and Friday only.

To order please use the QKR app.



## Community

### SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Playground supervision commences at 8.25am on each school day. Any students who need to arrive before this time must be enrolled in before school care.

Class commences at 8.55am. Once the bell rings, the school gates are locked. Any students arriving after this time need to be signed in by a parent or guardian via the Compass kiosk in the school office foyer.

Thank you for your understanding.

