

# School Newsletter

Term Four | Week One

2020



St Bernard's  
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Berowra Heights 2082  
Phone 9456 2104  
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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.*

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, the Guringai people, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community.  
We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

## From the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to the final term of the year. Time has flown and preparations for this term were completed in the holidays, it is definitely a big one with a lot to look forward to.

We have kicked off early with our schools regular PAT testing (more about this later) but it is important to note that we will spend some considerable time analysing the data, to look for trends in growth; what we are doing well in and which areas have potential for development. Student assessment data is crucial to planning strategic direction and maximising student outcomes.

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### Some changes to our Covid 19 safety guidelines

There has been some relaxation in restrictions on activities at school this term. Band, chess, and Spanish can all now recommence as long as a Covid safety plan is in place, reviewed and monitored. Unfortunately many restrictions do remain in order to maximise the safety of the children and teachers. We are still not allowed to have parents on site but please, if you feel you need to contact the school for any concerns, contact the office and a suitable meeting will be arranged. Please continue to connect with your child's teacher as much as possible.

### International Teachers Day

On Tuesday the teachers enjoyed a wonderful morning tea, supplied by our P&F and organised by the Year 2 class parents, Amy Lawson & Natasha Plunkett. The teachers have asked me to pass on their thanks - we truly had a feast and it was a lovely start to the term. (A photo of this magnificent spread is on Page 1.)

### Parent Survey

Thank you for completing the survey sent out by the Diocese just before the holidays. I am expecting the results early next week and will be considering the data as I plan strategically for our 5 year School Improvement Plan. Parent voice is essential to our plans, so thank you for responding.

### Uniform Additions

Our uniform offering is set to have some additions, thanks to the survey which asked about preferences for summer shorts and blouses for the girls. Respondents opted strongly in favour of the box pleat short and the blouse with red piping. The uniform shop is now organising supplies, but with the pandemic, lead times are lengthy. Thank you for your patience.

### Year 5 Leadership Day

This term is an important one to Year 5 as they prepare for their leadership roles next year. Unfortunately their traditional leadership camp had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. I was keen however, that they are nurtured and developed into their roles and so have arranged for 'Youthworks Christian Outdoor Education' to visit for the day (17th November). The day will be full of fun leadership tasks, team building activities and reflections on how we can each make positive contributions to various situations. I hope they enjoy the day but also find it of great value as they begin to prepare for leadership.

### St Leo's Priority Feeder School

We launched our priority feeder school project with St Leo's College in the last week of term 3. I have had many positive comments about the project and am due to meet with Mr Anthony Gleeson next week regarding projects to link our two schools. Projects may include science links, creative arts and or leadership mentoring.

It is a positive advantage that should a student wish to attend St Leo's, the process will ensure no additional application form or fee. The 'Compass' team at CSBB is working on ways to transfer all the data seamlessly without the extra paperwork and so hopefully removing any stress for parents.

Mr Gleeson and I are keen to set up an information night, early in 2021, at St Bernard's which will explain the process and the links between our schools. There will be more on this as the term progresses.

### Year 6 Graduation

Year 6 Graduation will of course take place this year, I am working with the leadership team to ensure the students have a wonderful day. Unfortunately parents are not permitted to attend but we do plan to share the celebrations via an online platform. It is our intention that, despite Covid, we will be celebrating our wonderful Year 6 students and all that they have achieved while at St Bernard's. Further information will be forthcoming very soon.

Thank you all and May God Bless you.

Gill Austin

## From the REC (Jackie Tod)



### Catholic Mission Fundraiser

On **Friday 23rd October**, we will be learning about Catholic Mission and the many ways they support over 160 countries in our world. Children in Year 6 have been busily working to prepare their presentation that they will share with the whole school on this day.

Children can come dressed up to the Book Week theme: 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds' and are asked to bring in a **gold coin donation** for Catholic Mission and a **pair of new socks** that will be donated to 'The Dish' in Hornsby. It would be great to see some crazy socks as part of the costumes on this day too!

To tie in with both Book Week and our Catholic Mission Fundraiser day, grandparents are invited to connect to classrooms and share in a special story time with each class. Please RSVP to this via Compass and ensure that grandparents have been provided with the Zoom link to use (each class will have a different Zoom link and book sharing time.) We are very aware that grandparents haven't had the opportunity to come and celebrate with us this year and that many of them may be feeling quite isolated in this current climate so we are very excited to be able to connect in this way.

### Times for Book Sharing with Grandparents:

Kindergarten - 12:30pm

Year 1 - 9:30am

Year 2 - 11:30am

Year 3 - 12pm

Year 4 - 11am

Year 5 - 2:30pm

Year 6 - 2:30pm



### Dates for Term 4:

|                         |                                              |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Friday 23rd October     | Catholic Mission Fundraiser Day              |
| Wednesday 11th November | Remembrance Day Prayer                       |
| Tuesday 17th November   | The Dish                                     |
| Tuesday 8th December    | Year 6 Graduation Mass                       |
| Friday 11th December    | Andrew Chinn Workshops and Christmas Concert |
| Wednesday 16th December | End of Year Mass                             |

## From the AP (Anne-Marie Hutchins)

### STANDARDISED TESTING

Early in Term 4 during the first weeks, all students from Year 2 -6 will be involved in PAT Standardised Assessments for Maths and Reading to gather further data about your child and enable future planning and direction. The data is informative for teachers to get additional glimpses of your child's strengths and needs to cater for their learning. It is important to remember that these tests are a small snapshot of the abilities of your child and need to be balanced against their everyday class work and achievements. Some students find standardised testing stressful, while others thrive in this style of assessment. NAPLAN is another standardised Test that normally occurs In Years 3 and 5 but was cancelled for the 2020 year due to COVID.

#### What is PAT?

Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) are a series of tests designed to provide objective, norm-referenced information to teachers about their students' skills and understandings in a range of key areas.

#### Why do we use PAT?

ACER's Progressive Achievement Tests are used in thousands of schools in Australia and around the world. The approach focuses on assessing and monitoring student growth over time and is underpinned by an understanding that students of the same age and in the same year of school can be at very different points in their learning and development.

#### What impact does PAT have on teaching and learning?

In adopting and using Progressive Achievement Tests for Maths and English we can investigate and diagnose student learning and monitor progress over time. Teachers are working within a growth mindset, with the benefits of targeted teaching, increased levels of student engagement and improved learning outcomes.

#### Further Reading on Standardised Testing

<http://www.renlearn.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Standardised-testing.pdf>

#### Definition of a standardised test:

"A standardised test is any form of test that (1) requires all test takers to answer the same questions, or a selection of questions from a common bank of questions, in the same way, and that (2) is scored in a "standard" or consistent manner, which makes it possible to compare the relative performance of individual students or groups of students."

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



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## St Bernard's Book Week Events: 17th October - 23rd October

|                                         | Event/ Activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Term 4 Weeks 1, 2 and 3                 | <p><b>Display of shortlisted books in the Hub</b><br/>Teachers will be reading with their class from the collection of the shortlisted books displayed in the Hub. Children will be able to borrow these books to enjoy as a family from Week 3 onwards.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Currently                               | <p><b>Taronga Zoo Live Authors</b><br/><a href="https://www.cbcansw.org.au/curious-creatures-wild-minds">https://www.cbcansw.org.au/curious-creatures-wild-minds</a><br/>Families can use this link to enjoy live videos from Taronga Zoo with a selection of the authors discussing their books as well as a few curious creatures at Taronga Zoo.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Monday 19th October                     | <p><b>'Books Are Magic' Show.</b> Performer Joel Howlett is an internationally acclaimed magician and his show promotes and encourages reading.<br/><i>Held outdoors with COVID Safe Plan</i><br/>11:30-12:00 Kinder, Yr 1 &amp; Yr 2<br/>12:00-12:30 Yr 3 &amp; Yr 4<br/>12:30-1:00 Yr 5 &amp; Yr 6</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Tuesday 20th until Tuesday 27th October | <p><b>Scholastic Book Fair in the Hub</b><br/>Students will get the opportunity to visit the Hub with their class to view the books that are on sale and fill in their 'wish list'.<br/>On the back of the 'wish list' are the details for online payment. Unfortunately this year all purchases need to be online and parents will not be able to attend the book fair.<br/><b>PLEASE RETURN</b> wish list with the books you have purchased clearly visible as well as the <b>RECEIPT</b> number. (I can't supply books without the receipt).<br/>St Bernard's earns a commission from the Book Fair, which allows us to provide ongoing and up-to-date resources both within the library and the classrooms.</p> |
| Monday 19th-Friday 23rd October         | <p><b>Drop Everything and Read</b><br/>Every day in Week 2 children will participate in an outdoor reading session for 15 mins with their class to promote enjoyment of reading.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Friday 23rd October                     | <p><b>Dress up to the theme 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'</b> Students and teachers can dress up related to the theme or as any book character if they prefer.</p> <p><b>Grandparents Storytime Zoom Sessions</b><br/>Grandparents use the individual class links for the day to participate in class sessions. See Compass Event for details and registration requirements for the event prior to the day.</p> <p><b>Catholic Mission Donations</b><br/>Children are asked to donate a gold coin and a pair of new socks to raise funds for Catholic Mission.</p>                                                                                                                                                |





# McGrath

## K – Year 6 Artist Competition ‘Complete the picture’ Artwork

Competition open between:

**25 September and 26 October 2020**

(Berowra Public School, Wideview Public School,  
St Bernard’s & Berowra Christian School)

**Create your best house & garden themed artwork**

(if you did not receive this from your school, please  
enquire at our reception desk)

**Prizes for your school - \$1,000 / \$750 / \$500**

As well as prizes for the kids – Vouchers &  
Certificate

**Let your child’s imagination  
run wild!**

## 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/>



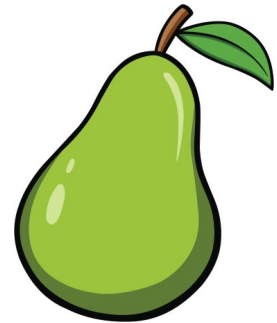
## Uniform Shop

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



### Northern Districts Little Athletics



“A community-oriented not-for-profit organisation for Family, Fun and Fitness”

#### ***New Season Starts October 2020***

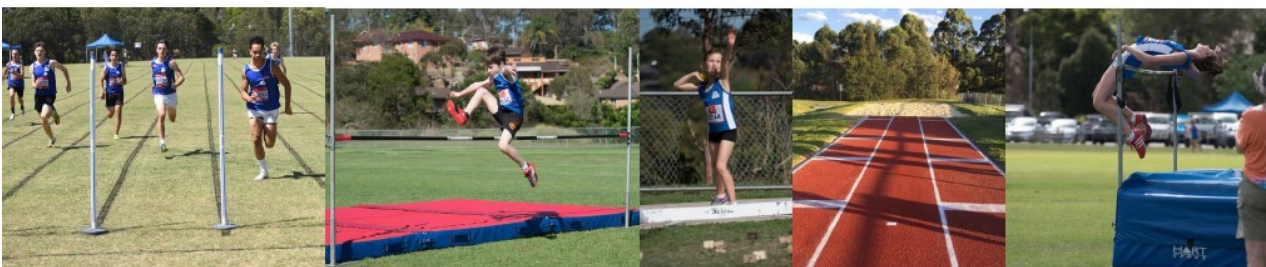
*Friday Twilight Athletics Workshops 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> October from 6pm  
Followed by Saturday program beginning 24<sup>th</sup> Oct. from 830am through to March 2021*

**ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN. LANSW Covid Safety Plan approval in place.**

Weekly programs for Ages U6-17 (ask about our Tiny Tots Program)

**A great way to stay active over Spring & Summer, with a focus on achieving your Personal Best**

Held at Foxglove Oval, Mt Colah. See our website [www.ndlac.org.au](http://www.ndlac.org.au) for more information



Hello Parents and Tweens

We kick off Boys Tween Boxing at 4.30pm tomorrow for the last term of 2020 (I'm sure everyone is happy to see 2021 is near)!

We also kick off girls TWEEN Boxing on Thursdays at 4.30pm , though we are happy for girls to join the Monday and vice versa also.

It is \$150 for the term but if one member of your family already trains with Envisage Fitness it is only \$120 (20% discount as a thank you for letting us get your family fit).

Should you have any questions please let e know! We look forward to seeing you all soon!

In Health & Fitness

Katie Turner

Owner @ Envisage Fitness

Co-founder @ The Pod Hub

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