

PRAYER for ADVENT

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel - God with us - the Hope of all people.

He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us.
He is the Saviour of us all.

O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the third advent candle this weekend - the candle of Joy. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. Amen.



COME LORD JESUS - FILL OUR HEARTS WITH YOUR JOY
St Bernadette - pray for us.

Quick reminders:

TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER - LAST DAY OF THE YEAR
Children can wear casual clothes on this day
Final assembly and staff farewells at 10:00am
School finishes at 12:00 noon

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

This is the last newsletter for what has been another wonderful year at St Bernadette's. As I look back on all that we have achieved this year, I feel very proud to be part of such a diverse, welcoming, caring and talented community.

It was so great to see many of you at Mass and supper last Thursday to celebrate the end of the year and the approaching Christmas season. A highlight of the mass was the beautiful contribution from our School Choir led by Mrs Marshall. They just get better every time!!

Tomorrow night we celebrate our Year 6 Graduates. These young people have once again been great examples of all we stand for at St Bernadette's. They are a vibrant and mature group of individuals who have shown great leadership, dedication to learning and support for each other and their teachers. Congratulations to these children and their families. We wish you well as you move onto secondary school.

Congratulations also to our Newcomb Team who will compete in the Interschool Sport Grand Final this Monday. We wish them well. Huge thanks to Mr Miller and the teachers for coordinating and

St Bernadette's respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as the owners of the land on which we live, play and learn at St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

All students attending St. Bernadette's Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school.

supervising the Interschool Sports this year. As a warm-up for them, they will play a friendly game against the staff on Thursday 12th December at 2:30pm. All parents are welcome to come and watch the game.

We have our final assembly on Tuesday 17th December at 10:00am. We will once again celebrate our Year 6s, recognise our 2024 school leaders, present our 2025 school leaders and farewell the staff that are leaving. We will then gather again at 11:45am on MacKillop Sports Area to say our final goodbyes to our Year 6s and leaving staff and students. All parents and carers are invited to join us for these celebrations.

We bid farewell to Mrs Christine Roberts, Mr Nicholas Tresize and Ms Kate Wills who are moving onto new and different things. Each one of these staff members, in their own individual ways, has contributed greatly to our school.

- Mrs Roberts (Chris) is retiring after 47 years in Catholic Education. Chris started teaching at Christ the King, Braybrook in 1977. She came to St Bernadette's in 2002. In those 23 years, Chris has held many different roles, including classroom teacher, teacher/librarian and Specialist Teacher - Digital Technologies. Chris will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered for her dedication, dress-up days, sense of humour and commitment to her students, colleagues and families. Thank you Chris for all you have contributed to St Bernadette's. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement.
- Ms Evans (Mel) has had a busy few years at St Bernadette's, taking on many different roles and supporting many programs. She is a teacher who quickly establishes wonderful relationships with each of her students. Mel is a committed and dedicated teacher who works hard to promote the learning and wellbeing of every child. We thank her for all that she has contributed to St B's. We wish her well as she moves to Kilbreda College next year.
- Ms Kate has had a wonderful year with the Year 4s and they have also enjoyed their time with her. She is a caring and compassionate teacher, who has developed wonderful relationships with both students and staff. Kate has always demonstrated a willingness to learn and to be involved. We thank Kate and wish her all the very best for the future and look forward to seeing her around the school as a relief teacher.
- Mr Tresize (Nick) has had a wonderful year in Year 6 as he transitioned from Secondary to Primary Schooling. He has demonstrated a willingness to learn and to be involved in all aspects of the school. He takes time to build relationships with students, families and staff, and always has such a positive outlook. We thank Nick and wish him well as he moves to St Fidelis next year.

Each one of these staff will be sadly missed. As a staff we will miss their friendship, support and collegiality.

In 2025, we welcome back Ms Emma Scerri, Mrs Sarah Turner and Mrs Kim Nguyen who are all returning from leave. A full list of staffing for 2025 will be published soon.

We acknowledge and farewell the following families who end their time at St Bernadette's this year:

Cha Chai, Grech, Ho, Keliher, Low, Mai, Mualhlun, Nguyen(Abigail), Nguyen(Alice), Nguyen(Andrea), Nguyen(Jenny), Nguyen(Leo), Nguyen(Minh), Nguyen(Monica), Pham, Ta(Lucas & Isaac), Ta(Matthew), Tchen, Thai, Tran(Christina), Tran(Leo), Tran(Missie), Truong, Vo, Guri, Jong, Justyna, Nguyen(Aston), Nguyen(Hayden) and Phu Ting Families.

We thank them for their contributions to our school community and wish them all the very best for the future.

Thank you to the children of St Bernadette's who are an absolute joy to work and learn with. Their interest and enthusiasm in every learning opportunity and challenge is to be commended. From the youngest to the oldest, they bring joy, respect and curiosity to their learning spaces and the playground. They have worked very hard, and should be very proud of their efforts.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and families who constantly support our school and the work we do with your children. You have been a wonderful support to your children's education this year. Thank you for entrusting your children to us — it is a privilege to care for and nurture your children and we appreciate your support, interest and friendship.

Thanks also to Fr Silvio for his spiritual guidance, leadership and support of our school over the year. Fr Silvio has become a valued part of our school community with his friendly and approachable nature. He is a very important and valued part of our faith community.

Finally, a very BIG thank you to all the staff who give of their gifts, talents and time so freely to enable your children to grow and flourish as learners and as young people. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated staff who truly commit themselves to enabling ALL students and families to reach their full potential by providing wonderful learning opportunities and a safe, caring and welcoming environment. We are truly blessed. Thank you.

SCHOOL FEES/LEVIES 2024

Thank you to those families who are up-to-date with or who have paid their fees. Could all families make sure their fees/levies are paid in full by Friday 6th December.

LIBRARY AND CLASSROOM BOOKS/RESOURCES

Could you please have a look at home for any school library books or resources and return them to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

During this Christmas Season, may you and your families be blessed with . . .

the spirit of Christmas, which is peace;

the gladness of the season, which is hope;

the heart of the season, which is love.

And may the New Year bring you good health and happiness and a refreshed spirit.

Have a great holiday everyone.

I look forward to your safe return in 2025.

God bless, Brendan



GOD LOVES US - LET US LOVE GOD

ST BERNADETTE'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2025

SCHOOL CAPTAINS	Chantelle Gueco	Nashe Cedric Chirenje
SCHOOL VICE CAPTAINS	Elisha Sacol	Damian Du
MAHONEY HOUSE CAPTAIN	Stephanie Luu	
MAHONEY VICE CAPTAIN	Genevieve Luu	
MACKILLOP HOUSE CAPTAIN	Teresa Nguyen	
MACKILLOP VICE CAPTAIN	Eli Caluzzi	
MCKAY HOUSE CAPTAIN	Chanel Gueco	
MCKAY VICE CAPTAIN	Isaac Le	
MAMO HOUSE CAPTAIN	Lachlan Dong	
MAMO VICE CAPTAIN	Austin Luong	

PARISH CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

St Bernadette's Parish will be holding Carols by Candlelight in the School grounds on Friday 20th December, starting at 7:30pm till 9:00pm. BYO picnic rugs. Candles and limited snacks for sale. **Please NO chairs, they will be provided.**



A reminder that all dates appear on the school website www.stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au

Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding the Newsletter.

Should you need to contact any staff member, please phone on 9311 8872 or email the staff member. Emails are simply first initial and surname followed by @stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au. For example Brendan Gill - bjill@stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au. I can also be contacted at principal@stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 4:

- **Step Up Day** - Classes for 2025 - Thursday 12th December
- **Year 6 Graduation** - Thursday 12th December @ 7:00pm
- **End of Year Assembly** - Tuesday 17th December @ 10:00am
- **2024 School Year finishes** - Tuesday 17th December @ 12:00 noon

ADVERTISEMENTS AND PUBLIC NOTICES

EXPERIENCE MUSIC

Experience Music is offering their program to the students at St Bernadette's. Lessons are available for guitar, keyboards, drums and voice. For more information and how to enrol, please visit www.experiencemusic.com.au/enrolment.



CAMP AUSTRALIA

Camp Australia are our before and after school care provider. Please contact them on 1300 105 343 or email info@campaustralia.com.au should you wish to book a place.



Camp Australia acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and Elders, both past and present.

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH, SUNSHINE NORTH CHRISTMAS MASSES 2024

Tuesday 24th December

6:30pm - Family Nativity Play & Mass
8:30pm - Christmas Eve Mass

Wednesday 25th December

8:30am - Christmas Day Mass
9:45am - Polish Mass
11:00am - Christmas Day Mass
12:30pm - Christmas Mass Vietnamese

