

PRAYER TO ST BERNADETTE

Saint Bernadette, you saw Mary and listened to her. Teach us to listen to God's voice and to be humble, just like you. Gift us with a generous heart, so that we may help others. May we always trust in God's love and in our devotion to Mary.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

St Bernadette - Pray for us.

St Patrick - Pray for us. St Joseph - Pray for us.



SCHOOL PHOTOS - TOMORROW - THURSDAY 20TH MARCH

The uniform expectations are as follows:

- Students are to wear **full summer uniform (NO SPORTS UNIFORM)**
- Hair ties/accessories in school colours only
- **BLACK** School shoes (if your child has PE they are to bring their runners to change into - **NOT THE PREPS**)
- No jewellery, other than studs/sleepers - 1 pair only
- No make-up, false eyelashes, lipstick, etc

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday we celebrated the life of **St Bernadette** with a whole school mass in the parish Church. St Bernadette's feast day is on April 16th, however, it falls during the holidays. It was a beautiful celebration of St Bernadette - the person and our school. It was nice to see many parents join us as well. On Friday, we will have our Feast Day activity day, with Kaboom Sports and a great art activity focussing on the heart of St Bernadette.

Last Monday was St Patrick's Day. St Patrick is the Patron Saint of our Archdiocese, and the Cathedral in the city bears his name. It is also **Catholic Education Week** this week!! During this week we celebrate all the wonderful learning and teaching and community building and support that happens in Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. St Bernadette's is a wonderful

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.

example of all that is good about Catholic Education and we all should be proud of what we have achieved and what we continue to do here in Sunshine North. On Friday, Mrs Rosemary and I will accompany 9 of our School Leaders to St Patrick's Cathedral to celebrate the Catholic Education Week Mass with Archbishop Peter Comensoli

And if the week isn't already busy enough, it is also **Harmony Week**. Being a school that is blessed with diversity, I could not let this week go without acknowledging it. Harmony Week is a celebration that recognises diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Here at St Bernadette's, we are so lucky to have the diversity of cultures that exist in our school. We need to make sure we continue to promote respect, tolerance and harmony within our school, our homes and our community.



It was great to see so many of the Prep parents and carers at the Information session last Wednesday night. Key aspects of teaching and learning at St Bernadette's were discussed, and how to support your child's learning at home. Hopefully, those who attended feel more confident in supporting and engaging in their child's learning. Thank you to those parents who attended and to the staff for organising and facilitating

PRINCIPAL PILGRIMAGE - IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL - March 26 - April 10th

On Wednesday 26th March, I will be joining 27 of my Principal colleagues from neighbouring Catholic Schools to travel from Athens to Istanbul to retrace the journey of St Paul as he spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. This promises to be an enriching and spiritual experience, as we study the history and context of the Early Christian church. Paul's courageous and committed leadership is one to aspire to. I look forward to sharing some highlights on my return next term. Mrs Chapman will be Acting Principal in my absence.

PARKING ON WESTMORELAND RD - AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN!!!!

Drop off and pick up times on Westmoreland Rd are a real concern at the moment. People are not obeying the road or parking laws. The behaviours that NOT SAFE and most concerning are:

1. parents/carers parking in the drop off zone and leaving their cars
2. parents/carers making u-turns from the drop off area and close to the school crossing
3. parents/carers double parking
4. parents/carers not parking correctly - back of car still on the road
5. children getting in and out of the driver's side of the car



This behaviour **MUST** stop for the safety of our children and of all drivers. Thank you.

PROJECT COMPASSION THIS LENT

Toefuata'iga - (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) is a 13-year-old primary school student from Samoa. Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Toefuata'iga's school community struggled without reliable access to clean water, which impacted students' education and hygiene. Teachers often had to leave the school to fetch water from nearby homes, disrupting lessons and adding strain to the community. When the water ran out at the school, students were sent home which meant they missed out on valuable learning time.

Thanks to the support of Caritas Australia in partnership with Caritas Samoa, Toefuata'iga's school now has a 10,000L water tank through a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education. "Now that we have the water tank, things are so much better, we can stay at school all day, and I get to spend more time learning and playing with my friends. I'm happy that we don't have to go home early anymore," said Toefuata'iga.

This transformative story is just one example of how Caritas Australia's Project Compassion creates waves of change around the world.



DO YOU QUALIFY FOR FREE HOME INTERNET UNTIL JUNE 2028?

School age students with access to online learning at home are more likely to engage in classroom activities.

Check if you qualify for free home internet today!

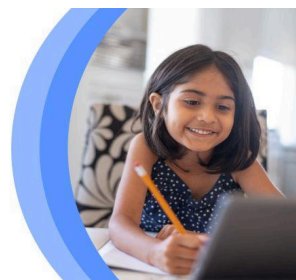
Contact the National Referral Centre at 1800 954 610 (Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm AEDT) or complete a webform by visiting www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet



FREE HOME INTERNET PROGRAM

Extended to 30 June 2028.

Find out if you qualify today.



UNIFORM - WINTER UNIFORM NOW AVAILABLE

Our supply of Winter uniforms has arrived. Please complete an order form, or come into the office to purchase the items you need.

We also have a very healthy supply of second hand uniforms, especially jumpers, in the office. These are available, in person, at the office for \$5 a piece.

PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2026



ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUNSHINE NORTH

9311 8872

ENROL NOW 2026

ENROLMENTS FOR PREP 2026 ARE NOW OPEN.

IF YOUR CHILD TURNS 5 BY APRIL 30TH 2026, THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO START SCHOOL NEXT YEAR. PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE www.stbsunshinenth.catholic.edu.au WHERE YOU CAN **BOOK A TOUR AND/OR COMPLETE AN ENROLMENT ENQUIRY.**

GRIP STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - REFLECTION

Written by Nashe Cedric Chirenje, Chantelle Gueco, Elisha Sacol and Damien Du

On the Tuesday 4th of March 2025, the School Student Leaders and SRCs from Year 5 and 6 went to the GRIP Leadership Conference in the city at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. GRIP stands for Generous, Responsibility, Integrity and People. The teachers who attended with us were Ashleigh Cahill (Student Wellbeing Leader) and Eliza Katz (Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Schools Leader). The bus ride took about 40 minutes and we arrived at 8:40am.

The reason we went was so we could learn how to be better student leaders and make our school a better place. We communicated together as school leaders and collaborated with different schools. The day was broken up into different sessions, all of them on a different topic about Student Leadership.

Session 1 was talking about the Responsibilities of a Student Leader

Session 2 was Leadership Through Friendship and New Ideas to Help Others.

Session 3 was Achieving Your Ideas Before the End of the Year.

The day ended with Q & A with the GRIP Leadership Team and a fun Loud Noises session. Loud Noises sessions were similar to Brain Breaks to enable us to refocus and re-energise and lots of students were chosen to volunteer.

Our favourite activities:

Nashe: Leadership Through Friendship and The Responsibilities of a School Leader sessions because I had the chance to learn how other students from other schools ran leadership at their schools.

Chantelle: Leadership Through Friendship and The Responsibilities of a School Leader sessions because they taught me how to lead others by example.

Damien: Loud Noises and Leadership Through Friendship session because they were engaging and I learnt that conversations are more effective than instructions and making something fun is more effective than forcing someone to do something.

Elisha: Loud Noises and Leadership Through Friendship session because they got me energised and I learnt that being a fun leader is more effective than being a forceful leader which I will remember as a student leader.

We had a great day and we all learnt a lot about student leadership. It was great being able to collaborate with each other and other schools. Thank you to Mrs Cahill and Mrs Katz for organising the excursion and supervising us on the day.

Attendees:

Teachers - Ashleigh Cahill, Eliza Katz

Students - Chanel Gueco, Chantelle Gueco, Nashe Cedric Chirenje, Elisha Sacol, Damien Du, Stephanie Thien Luu, Genevieve Luu, Teresa Nguyen, Issac Le, Lachlan Dong, Austin Luong, Eli Caluzzi, Vitty Brussa, Eva Tran, Sophia Hoang, Hannah Pham Nguyen.

SOME GENERAL REMINDERS

- **School Assembly** is held fortnightly on a Friday at 2:30pm in Pioneers Hall. All families are invited to attend.
- If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the office via phone 9311 8872 or email your child's teacher by 9:15am.

Have a wonderful week,
Brendan Gill - Principal

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2025 (as at 19/3/25)

- **School Photos - Thursday 20th March TOMORROW**
- **St Bernadette's Feast Activity Day - Friday 21st March**
- **Catholic Education Week Mass/Concert - Friday 21st March**
- **Assembly - 5L - Friday 28th March**
- **End of Term Mass - Friday 4th April @ 9:15am**
- **School Term 1 finishes - Friday 4th April @ 1:00pm**

SACRAMENTS

- **First Eucharist (Year 4) - June 21st (6:30pm) and June 22nd (11:00am)**
- **Confirmation (Year 6) - Wednesday 27th August @ 7:00pm**
- **First Reconciliation (Year 3) - Tuesday 25th November @ 7:00pm**

CAMPS

- **Year 5/6 Camp - April 22 - 24**
- **Year 4 Camp - September 10 - 12**
- **Year 3 Camp - October 14 - 15**

SCHOOL PRODUCTION WEEK

The 2025 School production will take place in the week Monday 27th to Thursday 30th October.

NO SCHOOL - PUBLIC HOLIDAY / SCHOOL CLOSURE

Monday 21st April - Public Holiday - Easter Monday

Friday 25th April - Public Holiday - ANZAC Day

Monday 9th June - Public Holiday - King's Birthday

Wednesday 11th June - School Closure Day - Staff Conference (NEW)

Thursday 3rd July - No School - Learning Conversations

Friday 31st October - No School - Time in Lieu

Monday 3rd November - No School - Time in Lieu

Tuesday 4th November - Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup

Tuesday 2nd December - School Closure Day - Planning Day for 2026

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.



experience music

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.



Your
OSHC.



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.