

ST. BERNARD'S NEWS LETTER

Term 1 - Week 1 - 14th February 2020

Principal's Report

A warm welcome to the 2020 school year to all St Bernard's families. It is lovely to have all students and staff back with us – and to welcome new staff, students and families to St Bernard's. The year has started well, and we look forward to a wonderful year of learning and community-building.

Welcome

We welcome the following new students and families to St Bernard's this year: the Amoncio family – Shui in Kindy, the Bell family – Nancy in Kindy and Essie in Year 1, the De Guzman family – Jack in PP and David in Year 3, the Marsh-Meyer family – Eli in Kindy, and the Treeby family – Mitchell in Kindy and Alec in Year 1. We also welcome siblings of current families: Paddy Eyres, Aurora Kahn and Gus Thorn in our Kindy class; and Jake Perry in our PP class. We begin the year with 80 enrolments – three more than last year.

We also welcome our new staff members: Mr David Bell and Mrs Lee Bell (Year 5/6), Miss Casey Hewitt (Year 3/4), Miss Tanya Pavlovic (Year 1/2) and Miss Tess Plakakis (K/PP). You can read more about our new staff later in this newsletter.

Learning

There has been exciting learning going on already at St Bernard's, and as I have walked around the classrooms, I have seen happy, engaged students. Classroom routines and expectations are being explored and students are learning and practicing key skills they will need for their learning throughout the year. Beginning of year testing is also underway to determine where our students are in their learning journey and how we can best help them to progress.

Homework

Please support your child/children to establish a homework routine of around 20 minutes per night. At this stage, homework should involve reading, spelling and Maths activities. Home reading books will be issued to all students by Week 3. The Accelerated Reader program for independent readers starts next week. Please spend 10 minutes each night (including the weekends!) sharing 'to, with or by' reading with your child. Reading 'to' is where you read to your child; reading 'with' is where you share the reading; and reading 'by' is where your child reads to you. Home reading books should be easy for your child to read, with harder texts reserved for instructional learning in the classroom. Please celebrate your child's reading achievements at home!

Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum

Staff have attended training in the Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum (KS: CPC) which begins at St Bernard's this year, replacing the Protective Behaviours program. The KS: CPC is a respectful relationships and child safety curriculum that teaches all children and young people they have the right to be safe and they can help themselves to be safe by talking to people they trust. The KS: CPC is delivered by teachers to children and young people each year from age 3 to Year 12. The KS: CPC fits primarily within the Health and Physical Education learning area of the Australian Curriculum but can be taught across multiple learning areas. Parent brochures will be provided over the next few weeks, but you may like to visit <https://childsafce.cewa.edu.au/> to learn more about CEWA's Child Safe Framework and work to keep children safe in all Catholic schools.

Enrichment program

In 2020 St Bernard's is running the Optiminds enrichment program, led by Mrs Melissa Matthews. Seven students were selected from a pool of 13, following completion of a number of learning challenges. Congratulations to Thomas Clayton, Charli Guidi, Chaaya Jury, Alexander Mathwin, Kate McGuire, Moana Te Aotonga and Codi Trethowan on their selection in the St Bernard's Optiminds team. These students will be working with Mrs Matthews every second Monday in the Library.

Little Stars

Our Little Stars playgroup for 0-5 year olds started on the first day of Term 1 with 17 little people coming along with their parents. Little Stars is a fun way for parents to come together while their children play – doing craft and cooking activities, singing, dancing and listening to stories and rhymes. Please spread the word if you know anyone with children in the 0-5 years age bracket who may be interested. Tea, coffee, fruit and morning tea are all provided and there is no charge to attend Little Stars.

St Bernard's branding

Hopefully you have seen our wonderful new banners hanging on the fence of the Nature Playground and you may have noticed the new format for our notes and newsletter. This is the work of our talented parent, Mrs Lisa Hart, and we are sure you will agree that it looks amazing. This work leans heavily on our school motto – Reach for the Stars – and celebrates the vibrant, happy learning community that is St Bernard's. Our thanks to Lisa for all her hard work in this area.

Pupil Free Day and Swimming Carnival

Please remember our pupil free day next Wednesday 19th February, when all staff will be travelling to Perth to attend professional development in the Learning Sprints program. A full update on the Swimming Carnival will be provided in the next newsletter.

*God Bless,
Mrs Marino*

**WELCOME
BACK**

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New Teacher profiles

Hello, my name is Tess Plakakis and I am the new K/PP teacher at St Bernard's! I was born in Port Lincoln and moved to Perth to do most of my schooling at Our Lady of Grace Primary School and Sacred Heart College. I went on to study Psychology, Criminology and Justice and after graduating in 2015 went on to obtain my Graduate Diploma in Education, Early Childhood Studies. I have moved around Perth doing relief teaching since 2017 and was lucky enough to move to Wyndham in the Kimberley last year where I taught Year 1/2. I am an extremely avid football supporter (go Port!) and enjoy watching as many games as I can during footy season. I have already felt so welcome and supported in my short time at the school and living in the Great Southern, and I look forward to getting to know the wonderful families at St Bernard's over the year!



Healthy Lunch box session

Our Healthy Lunch Box - Packed with Goodness session went well! Thank you to Daisy De Guzman and Leah Garcia who attended. Please call into the office if you would like a copy of the information that Bruce from the Cancer Council left for us.



Optiminds Enrichment Team

Congratulations to our Optiminds Enrichment team: Tom Clayton, Charlize Guidi, Chaaya Jury, Alexander Mathwin, Kate McGuire, Moana Te-Aotonga (absent), and Codi Trethowan.



Term Calendar

	February 17	February 18	February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22/23
3	Little Stars - 9-11am Year 5/6 Canberra Camp update KDHS Yr6 classroom 5.30pm	Circus Incursion P&F Meeting 9am	PUPIL FREE DAY	School Board Meeting 5.30pm		7 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27	February 28	February 29 / March 1
4	Little Stars - 9-11am	Shrove Tuesday - Pancakes for recess	Ash Wednesday - Start of Lent Whole School Liturgy 9am (Library)	Classroom Information Sessions 5-6.30pm	Merit Assembly Newsletter	First Sunday of Lent

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New Teacher profiles

My name is Tanya Pavlovic and I am the new Year 1 / 2 teacher. I have recently moved to Kojonup and I am very excited to be here at St Bernard's! At the end of 2019, I graduated from the University of Notre Dame. This year will my first year of full-time teaching, and I cannot wait to see what the year has in store. Thank you so much to the amazing community at St Bernard's and Kojonup for making me feel welcomed.



Hello, my name is Casey Hewitt and I am the new Year 3/4 teacher at St Bernard's. I recently graduated from Notre Dame University in Fremantle, in December of 2019, and I am very excited to be a part of the school community in my first full time teaching position. I grew up in Dunsborough, going to Our Lady of the Cape Primary School, and travelled to Bunbury to attend high school at Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School. I am a big West Coast Eagles supporter and have always really enjoyed swimming and playing sport such as Netball and Basketball. Thank you for making me feel welcomed to your school, and I look forward to getting to know everyone throughout the year



Year 5/6 Teacher - Lee Bell: I was born and grew up in Perth. After school I completed a Science degree and teaching Diploma in Education. I have worked in a number of Catholic schools in Perth and have also travelled and worked overseas. Last year David and I spent the year living up north, with the majority of time spent working in remote Kimberley communities. This was an amazing experience and also gave us the opportunity to share a 3/4 classroom teaching role. Our children are, Essie (Year 1), Nancy (Kindy) and Walter (2 yrs). Thank you to the school community for making us all feel so welcome and we are looking forward to meeting more families and the year ahead!

Year 5/6 Teacher - David Bell: I was born and lived in Kojonup until 2000, attending St Bernards, then KDHS, then boarding school for Years 11 and 12. My main profession before teaching was as an environmental technician in the Perth and Pilbara regions. From 2015 to 2018, I completed a Bachelor of Primary, Health and Physical Education 1-10 degree at Murdoch University. In my final year I completed an internship at Scotch College Middle School, Perth. As Lee mentioned, my first year comprised of a range of teaching roles in the Kimberley, which included relief teaching in Broome, Physical Education and relief teaching at Sacred Heart School, Beagle Bay, and a 3/4 classroom teacher at Ngalangangpum School, Warmun. This is my second year of teaching and I'm excited to be back in Koji and grateful to be sharing the role with Lee!



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Congratulations



Assembly Achievements

Congratulations to this week's Merit Certificate Winners - Jack Sibley, Amelia Te-Aotonga, Essie Bell, Alec Treeby and the Whole Year 3/4 Class (who we couldn't fit into the photo!!)

Birthday messages

LETS CELEBRATE - Hip Hip Hooray! -

Jack Leusciatti	Jan 7
Kate McGuire	Jan 8
Ollie Hornby	Jan 10
Chaaya Jury	Jan 12
James Pajares	Jan 12
Jake Perry	Jan 16
Sam Macri	Jan 25
Braxton Webb	Jan 27

Olivia Fisher	Feb 2
Sophie Greenup	Feb 11