

ST. BERNARD'S NEWS LETTER

Principal's News

Term 4 - Week 2 - Friday 21st October 2022

Dear Parents and Friends,

Thank you for the lovely, warm welcome back to St Bernard's after my Long Service Leave in Term 3. I had a wonderful break, but I am very happy to be back and looking forward to Term 4. Mrs Scanlon has also asked me to pass on her thanks for the lovely St Bernard's welcome while she was Principal in Term 3.

Last Friday, Mrs Matthews, Mrs Sumner and I had the pleasure of attending the CEWA Quality Catholic Education Awards at the Hyatt Ballroom in Perth. St Bernard's was a finalist in the Stewardship category for its Bush School and Jnr. Stars Kindy initiative and we were thrilled to be announced the winners! With 79 schools entering the awards this year, this was no mean feat, and our school was one of only two country schools featuring in the awards and the smallest by far. Well done, St Bernard's!

A video outlining our award submission was shown at the awards ceremony and this can be viewed on our website at <https://awards.cewa.edu.au/2022-winners/>. I wasn't sure if an acceptance speech would be needed, but I had one prepared and would like to share some parts of it with you – it acknowledges some people who were very important to our win!

The idea for Bush School came about as a practical way to get our Pre Primary students out of their room so that we could begin our 3 year old program, in a bid to introduce more families to our school and what it has to offer, hopefully leading to more enrolments. I would like to thank three groups of people for turning that idea into such a successful venture.

Firstly, the amazing Early Childhood teaching team at St Bernard's, and especially our Bush School teacher, Mrs Sue Sumner, and our 3 year old Kindy teacher, Mrs Melissa Matthews. These two wonderful Early Childhood educators bring such expertise, skill and passion to their roles and I am constantly in awe of how they apply the craft of teaching to mould and shape the learning of the young lives they lead.

Secondly, our incredibly supportive school community which took the slightly crazy idea of a Bush School to their heart and gave it their full and enthusiastic backing. While it may not have been such a big leap for our farming families, to see it embraced by our CALD and townie families has been wonderful.

And finally, our Bush School students whose love for learning in the bush inspires us every day. There is nothing better than to head out to Bush School and see our students using their critical and creative thinking skills to problem solve and push the boundaries of their knowledge and understanding in God's amazing outdoor classroom. And, of course, their capacity to find dirt and mud - and to cover themselves in it - is a constant source of wonder and joy.

Finally, I'm pleased to let you know that, as of next week, our 3 year old enrolments sit at 22, and also our new initiative of Bush School Pre Kindy on Friday mornings begins with 16 enrolments.

Term 4 has started at a cracking pace with Dancesport, Book Fair, the Kojonup Show and the Year 3/4 camp already happening. Next Thursday we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with our Year 3 students – please keep our candidates Essie Bell and Elsie Eyres and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Finally, a reminder that our school and parish will host the annual Rosary Rally on Sunday starting at 9am with Mass and Benediction, followed by morning tea at the school and the Rosary Rally in front of the grotto. Please join us if you can.

*Take care and God Bless,
Mrs Marino.*



Year 5 & 6 Class and Kojonup Show

Welcome back to Term Four everyone, from the Year 5/6 Class! It's been another cracking start with much happening around the school and in our classroom.

We are busily preparing and fundraising for our Rottneest Camp which will be held in Week 4. The Koji Show Chocolate Toss was a great success, and we thank all the families who donated blocks of sugary goodness for our fundraiser.

In class we have been learning about persuasive texts and how to properly structure them in preparation for the Year 5 Leadership speeches. In HASS we are looking at different governance styles used around the world and how our democracy fits within these models. Some allegations have been made about Mr Myers being a great example of a dictator!

In Week One we were able to show off the moves we learnt with Debbie-Anne and Jennefer at the Dancesport Concert. We thank them very much for their help in preparing our routines. A huge thank you to our parents and friends who came to support us on Friday afternoon too.



The Kojonup Show was a huge success and enjoyed by all, young and old. All the children's art work, from 3year old through to Year 6 was on display, showing off their hard work and talent produced over the year with help from their class teachers and Art teacher, Mrs Sophie Atkinson.

For your information

Catholic Diocese of Bunbury



66th Rosary Rally

St Bernard's Parish, Kojonup

PROGRAM

9.00am Mass and Benediction at St Bernard's Church
followed by morning tea and the Rosary at St
Bernard's School
Tea & coffee provided—please bring a plate of morning tea to share
Children attending are asked to wear white, if possible

Sunday, 23rd October, 2022

St Bernard's Primary School, Kojonup has the following employment opportunities commencing 01.01.2023: Part Time Administration Officer & Full Time Early Childhood Teacher. Refer to our school website for further details on these employment opportunities (stbernards.wa.edu.au) or contact the principal via email: Sharon.Marino@cewa.edu.au or phone: 0456 777 954. Applications close 4pm Monday 7th November 2022.

Dance Sport



Dance Sport is a fantastic program run annually by Humphris Dance Studio, Perth.



Debbie—Ann and Jennefer conducted lessons every day with each class, teaching them different dance styles and how to enjoy dancing together.



On Friday, 14th October, the children held a concert for their parents and guardians and showed their talents in different styles of dancing and appreciation for music and fellow students.



It was a great concert, one that even the teachers joined in with and had some fun! Thank you to our wonderful P&F for making Dancesport Week possible!

