

ST. BERNARD'S NEWS LETTER

Principal's News

Term 3- Week 10- Friday 22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of Term Three, I would like to wish all St Bernard's students, families and staff a very happy and safe holidays. It was fantastic to finish the term with the Year 1/2 assembly this morning - such a great showcase of learning and fun at St Bernard's!

EDUCATION

STEM Showcase: Congratulations to Miss Hewitt and our Year 3/4 students for their participation once again in the Great Southern Network STEM Showcase. The students presented their projects to the audience of CEWA staff and students from the four Great Southern network schools and were great ambassadors for St Bernard's. As you will read later in the newsletter, we had one category winning project and another which was one of the three finalists chosen on the day, which will go on to compete in the national STEM MAD competition. Well done!

Interschool Athletics Carnival: Congratulations, also, to our St Bernard's interschool athletics team which competed in Tambellup last Friday, taking out first prize on the day. Once again, our students conducted themselves with great behaviour and sportsmanship. Thank you to Mrs Marinoni and all staff who attended, as well as the staff who stayed behind at school with students not involved in the carnival. They had a great day as well, preparing a healthy lunch of salad wraps, squeezing fresh orange juice and toasting marshmallows on the Bush School fire.

Reading Rewards: I have been lucky enough to accompany two groups of students to lunch at Country Kitchen this week as a reward for reaching 90 nights of home reading. We have also been catching up with the 30 night milkshake rewards and the 150 night ice cream rewards. Well done to all our students for their great effort with home reading – and to parents for supporting your children. Please keep reading in the holidays – it really does help to keep those critical reading skills sharp ready for the return to school. Next term, we look forward to our **Book Fair in Week 2** with students and parents once again having the chance to select some quality books and games from Child Education Services in Perth. All books purchased earn credits for new books for our school library, so please support our Book Fair again this year.

Cinderella production: Mrs Thorn and our students and staff have been working hard to get ready for our school production, Cinderella. We are very excited to watch our Year 6 students lead the school in the final production on Tuesday 17th October at 1pm in the undercover area after lunch. Please put the date in your diaries – the rehearsals this week have been amazing and it promises to be a fantastic show.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Wonder and awe: I picked up my two-year-old granddaughter from daycare last Friday afternoon and, as we left, she stopped to gaze at a puddle of clear water near a drain in the car park. It was something I would have walked past without a second glance, but for her it was the most wonderful thing in the world – at least for a few minutes! When we teach the Religious Education units of work at St Bernard's, one of the key components is encouraging children's natural sense of wonder and awe at the world around us, work of the great Creator. As teachers it is wonderful to be part of this experience and to be reminded of how important it is to stop every now and then and to gaze at things like puddles – so simple and yet, so amazing!

STEWARDSHIP

Farewell: I am very sorry to have to announce that Mrs Lisa Cavanagh has decided to leave her position in Administration at the end of the year, due to a very busy year planned for next year. With a new house and garden to complete, national and possibly international water ski events to prepare for, as well as grandchildren to visit and caravan trips to make, there is not much time for work, so Mrs Cavanagh has reluctantly made the decision to step aside, with our very grateful thanks for her time at St Bernard's.

Sadly, we are also saying farewell to Montana Robinson in our Pre-Primary class and Socheata Va in our Year 3/4 class. We wish them well in their future endeavours and hope they will treasure their time at St Bernard's.

Welcome: Next term we welcome the Kondonis family, who have come to Kojonup all the way from Zimbabwe. Daniel will join our Pre-Primary class and Rhys will be in Year Three. We hope you have a long and happy association with St Bernard's.

COMMUNITY:

Car Wash Fundraiser: Yesterday saw our school oval and car park turned into a car wash with lots of cars lined up to get a wash from our Year 3/4 students. It was all in the name of raising money for the Year 3/4 overnight camp to Busselton in Week 3, Term 4. Thank you to Miss Hewitt and our parents who supported our hard-working students, and thank you to those who paid to have their cars washed. Camps are a great experience but can't be done without some fundraising, so we are very grateful for your support.

Enjoy your holidays.
God Bless,
Mrs Marino



STEM

St Bernard's Year 3/4 class attended the Great Southern Network STEM Showcase at St Patrick's in Katanning. Also attending were Year 3 and 4 students from St Matthews in Narrogin, St Joseph's in Albany and St Patrick's. Throughout the day students from each school spent time taking turns presenting their group's project and looking at all the other projects on display.

CEWA judges chose the winners in four categories: Inspired by Nature, Wellbeing, Integration of Technology and Social Entrepreneurship. St Bernard's had a couple of winners on the day, including Daisy Wellstead who had a winning entry in the Wellbeing category with her '**Helping Hand Robot**'. Daisy's robot is designed to provide homeless people with items they need including blankets, first aid, clothing, food and water.

We also had a winning group in the three overall winners chosen on the day, which will enter the online National STEM MAD competition, competing against Catholic primary schools across Australia and against year levels up to Year 6. Our winning group comprised Archie Millar, Chevin Noonan, Archie Thorn and Patrick Wellstead with their project '**Steve the Coral Cooling Swordfish**'. This project is a coral cooling device that injects frozen water into coral to stop bleaching from occurring. This group will now begin creating their STEM MAD video submission which will be sent off to STEM MAD, with the online results of this competition being announced on November 1st.



The other projects from the class include:

The Micro-Limiter: a device stopping microplastic in waterways (Elsie Eyres, Evie Millar, Georgie Matthews and Vita Macri).

Eli the Electric Boat: rubbish collection device for oceans (Tapi Henderson, Jake Perry, Spencer Grace and Charlie Miotti).

The Rubbish Drone: a drone collecting rubbish on land (Gurarpan Singh Chahal, George Garcia and Leeam Vioria).

The Underground Farm: Aims to decrease deforestation by farming underground (Alec Treeby and Scott Bilney).

Walter the Water Filter Robot: A device that filters dirty water for places around the world that don't have access to clean water (Hannah Jiril and Merlia Gementiza).



Each group has worked extremely hard on these projects over the last three terms and should be extremely proud of what they have achieved and the way they presented their projects last week. Stay tuned next term for the STEM MAD results and a school showcase for students and parents to attend.

Miss Hewitt
Year 3/4 Teacher



Interschool Athletics Carnival

We wrapped up our term of athletics training by taking an enthusiastic group of students from St Bernard's to Tambellup to compete in the Interschool Athletics Carnival last Friday.

It didn't look promising on the weather front as we drove down in rain and strong winds. As the starting time drew near, the rain stopped but the wind continued! This did not deter the students who tried their hardest in all the events.

Overall St Bernard's won the day with a more convincing win than last year against Frankland River. It was a tight tussle all day between Tambellup, Frankland River, Kendendup and Cranbrook primary schools.

Well done to all the students on our interschool team, especially our champions and runner-up champions:

Kuini Whanarere - Champion 6 year old girl
Imogen Perry – Runner-up Champion 7 year old girl
Reeve Noonan - Champion 7 year old boy
Patrick Wellstead – Runner-up Champion 8 year old boy
Gus Thorn – Champion 8 year old boy
Vita Macri – Runner-up 9 year old Champion
Elsie Eyres – Champion 9 year old girl
Chevin Noonan – Champion 9 year old boy
Brax Webb – Champion 10 year old boy
Logan Miotti – Runner-up Champion 11+ year old boy

What an effort by an amazing group of students! A special thank you to our sports captains Charlie Thorn and Sam Clayton, who did an amazing job training the students for their team games throughout their lunch times.

Congratulations to all the students who competed and represented St Bernard's so proudly.

Mrs Marinoni
Physical Education teacher



Merit & Reading Award Winners

CONGRATULATIONS to all the students who have received their awards for excellent reading! The students are encouraged to reach a reading goal of:

- 30 nights of reading - a milkshake reward.
- 90 nights of reading - lunch with Mrs Marino
- 120 nights of reading - an ice cream reward.

Keep up the great reading, St Bernard's! Don't forget to read over the holidays.



Congratulations to our award winners this week: Charlie Miotti, Kuini Whanarere, Daisy Wellstead, Gus Thorn, Xkyze Vilorio and Georgie Matthews. Congratulations, also to carnival record breakers: Elsie Eyres, Brax Webb, Gus Thorn and Logan Miotti.

