

ST. BERNARD'S NEWS LETTER

Principal's News

Term 4 - Week 4 - Friday 4th November 2022

Dear Parents and Friends,

St Bernard's has been a little quieter this week with our Year 5/6 class away at camp in Rottneest. We will have a full update in our next newsletter, but it was lovely to welcome the students back yesterday and to hear such glowing reports of their behaviour - both from their teachers and the people they interacted with on camp. As always, our students were great ambassadors for our school and did us proud while they were away. Well done, Year 5/6 class!

School camps could not go ahead without the support of staff and parents. My thanks to all our parents who assisted with food for the camp, and a very special thank you to those staff who attended: Mr Myers, Mrs Marinoni, Mrs Atkinson and Ms Taplin. It's a big ask to be away from home for four days and on duty 24/7 but we are so lucky to have people willing to do that for our students.

Education

Teachers are busily getting ready for end of year reporting and handover, gathering data about where students are sitting. As well as the usual classroom and learning area assessments, students in Years 2-6 are completing Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT) in Reading and Mathematics. These tests are adaptive, meaning they adjust to the student's level of ability as they are taking the test. All students are also completing their Brightpath writing - this term focusing on the Persuasive text genre. The 'hot' writing task, completed after a period of classroom instruction, will be analysed against the 'cold' writing task, taken at the beginning of this unit, to track student progress.

Yesterday it was lovely to see students' learning taken outside in celebration of International Outdoor Classroom day. There were a range of different activities going on, as you will see later in the newsletter.

Catholic Identity

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation was celebrated last week with Essie Bell and Elsie Eyres and their families. This is a lovely sacrament which focuses on forgiveness - seeking it when we have made poor choices, and granting it when we have been wronged. Congratulations to Essie and Elsie, and my thanks to Miss Hewitt for preparing the girls so well.

Community

It is with great pleasure that we welcome new students and families to our school this term. Welcome to the Macri family - Leo in Year 1 and Vita in Year 3; the Robinson family - Montana in Kindy and Socheata in Year 3; and the Maunder family - Gypsee in Year 3.

We are also welcoming our 2023 Kindy families at the moment, with orientation sessions this week and next week. We had guest speakers and a morning tea for parents on Wednesday while the children were exploring the K/PP classroom with Miss Lock.

Stewardship

We are looking forward to listening to our Year 5 students present their leadership speeches in a couple of weeks. This is a time when these students step up into the school leadership role and we are always very proud of the job they do. Meanwhile, our Year 6 students continue to lead the school. We have been blessed with a wonderful leadership group this year and we will be sad to lose them, but send them on their way to high school confident they will continue to be amazing role models.

*Take care and God Bless,
Mrs Marino.*



Year 3 & 4 Class

It has been an extremely busy start to Term 4 in the Year 3/4 class. We started the term with Dance Sport with every student having a go at the different dance routines. It was amazing how well everyone remembered their dances when it was time to put it all together at the concert. This term we have also celebrated Elsie and Essie completing the Sacrament of First Reconciliation which was a lovely celebration for the girls and their families.

Week Two was another very exciting week as we travelled to Albany for our overnight camp. The two days were filled with fun activities and the class made lots of memories together. The first day we stopped in Mt Barker for morning tea and a play before travelling to Albany Indoor Adventures. Students completed ninja courses, rock climbing and mini golf activities - the teachers and parents even had a go at running up the warped wall! Then we travelled to Mt Clarence where we ate lunch and explored all the old guns and bunkers as well as enjoy the amazing view of the Albany inlet from the lookout. Middleton beach was our next stop and the students didn't let the rain ruin their time playing footy and building sandcastles. We then travelled to St Joseph's College and students set up their beds in the gymnasium, got rid of some more energy, and then settled in for pizza and the talent show. This year's show was filled with great acts including singing, dancing, comedy and basketball skills.

On day two we had some extremely early risers! We packed up our beds and bags, had breakfast and a play, and then headed off to Camp Quaranup for our shelter building activity. Students were shown two different rope knots and were placed into groups, each with two tarps, four ropes and one peg. Using these materials and anything they could find in the bush they had to build a shelter that would provide cover from rain. It was already raining but that didn't stop the students from constructing some amazing shelters! When the time was up, the students had to sit in their shelter and have water poured on top of the tarp to test it out. It was very impressive to see everyone working well together and coming up with some creative ways of using the natural materials around them. After this we drove to the Albany wind farm where we ate lunch and saw the huge wind turbines. On the way back we stopped again to finish off the food for afternoon tea in Mt Barker, before singing our camp song all the way back to school. Thank you to all the students for their amazing behaviour on camp, to Lachie and Justin, our parent helpers, and to Mrs Marinoni for being our amazing bus driver!

Thank you to all the parents helping with morning reading and times tables practice this term. We still have lots of events happening in class and as a whole school, and we are looking forward to the rest of Term 4.

Miss Hewitt



Outdoor Classroom Day & Bush School Pre-Kindy



Story hats in K/PP

St Bernard's once again celebrated the International Outdoor Classroom Day on Thursday 3rd November with all classes taking their learning outside for some or part of the day.

Students completed a variety of different activities and had lots of fun in the great outdoors.



A human bar graph in Year 3/4

On Friday 21st October we welcomed the first group of students for our Bush School Pre-Kindy morning. We have 16 students enrolled in this program which sees the students spend the morning in our Bush School area with teachers Mrs Matthews and Mrs Sumner.

Bush Kindy explorations!



Excavating ice flowers in Bush Kindy



Merit Award Winners



Congratulations!

***Fiona Rose, Evie Millar, Socheata Va, Vita Macri, Chevin Noonan
Year 3/4 Class
Year 5/6 Class***

Thank you to Elders, Kojonup

***Thank you to Elders, Kojonup, for donating sausages and buns for the
Year 5/6 camp fundraiser sausage sizzle in Term 3.***

***Also, thank you for the donation of sausages and buns for our St
Bernard's Feast Day, and the use of the Elders barbeque on the day.***

We greatly appreciate your support!

