

# ST. BERNARD'S NEWS LETTER

Principal's News

Term 1- Week 7- Friday 17th March 2023

Dear Parent and Carers,

We are very excited for our biennial P&F Goods and Services Auction being held tonight. Thank you to everyone in our staff and parent communities who have worked so hard to make this night a success – I hope everyone has a wonderful time!

## EDUCATION

**NAPLAN:** NAPLAN testing has been taking place for our Year 3 and 5 students this week. Tests for Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language (Spelling and Grammar & Punctuation) and Numeracy have been completed, with catch-up tests scheduled for students who have been away. NAPLAN is taking place in Term One from this year on, in an attempt to have results back to students, parents and teachers earlier in the year when the analysis of the data can be used to guide learning for the remainder of the year.

**Noongar Language Workshop:** Our students were very fortunate to attend a Noongar Language Workshop with Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse at Kodja Place last week. Gina and Guy introduced the students to lots of Noongar words and phrases, all while having lots of fun singing and telling stories. Many thanks to Jill at Kodja Place for organising the workshop and to the local organisations who funded the event.

**Clean Up Australia:** The whole school took part in a Clean Up Australia activity last Tuesday, collecting rubbish from inside the school, outside around the perimeter of the school and around St Bernard's Church. Adele from Kojonup Landcare was there again to help sort and classify the rubbish once we had collected it. We were heartened to see there was not too much rubbish gathered from inside the school grounds, but our students gathered a lot of rubbish from outside, helping to make our environment more beautiful through their efforts.

## CATHOLIC IDENTITY

**Staff Commissioning at Mass:** Our staff will be commissioned at Mass this Sunday at 8.30am and all parents are invited to join us. New staff, Mrs Donaldson and Mrs Macri will be commissioned and existing staff re-commissioned by Father Marlon. Students undertaking the sacraments this year will also be enrolled at Mass. Please join us at school for morning tea after Mass.

**Service Learning:** Each of our classes has adopted a service learning project as part of their commitment to the gospel value of service. Our Jnr. Stars are doing Containers for Change, and we have a containers bin in the Undercover Area if you would like to contribute. The PP class will be taking on community and Bush School gardening and regeneration projects. Year 1/2 students will visit Springhaven residents and will be joined by the Kindy students later in the year. The Year 3/4 class is continuing to collect rubbish and our Year 5/6 class will help our church with cleaning and gardening.

## COMMUNITY

**P&F:** As noted earlier, a big thank you to our P&F for co-ordinating the Goods and Services Auction – more news and photos from the auction in our next newsletter. The P&F will meet next Monday, 20th March in the Rainbow Room at school at 9am. All welcome! As well as discussing the auction, the Easter raffle will be discussed.

**Families:** Sadly, we are farewelling Kristy Falls in Year 5 and her family from St Bernard's as they make the move to Mt Barker. We wish Kristy and her family all the very best for the future. Also, our condolences to the Webb family on their recent loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

## STEWARDSHIP

**Meetings:** I attended the CEWA Leaders' Forum in Perth last Monday with other principals and system leaders. Parent engagement was one of the topics of discussion on the day and I would recommend taking a look at the Catholic School Parents WA (CSPWA) website for some great resources on engaging with your child's school: <https://csp.wa.edu.au/>

**CSAC:** Our Catholic School Advisory Council met for the first time this year on Wednesday. Thank you to our new chairperson, Joel Treeby, and members Michael Rose, Raymond Noonan and Kate Clayton. We have the capacity for a six-member school advisory committee, and would welcome anyone who is interested in filling the remaining two spots. Please get in touch with myself or any of the committee members if you would like further information or would like to join the committee. It is a great way to support our school and students.

Till next newsletter, take care and don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries.

God Bless,

Mrs Marino

## Year 3/4 -

This term has been busy and exciting in Year 3/4, getting to know everyone and developing our class expectations and routines. So far, the term has been flying by with lots of activities, and it is hard to believe we are over half-way.

In HASS we have been learning about the difference between rules and laws and how they impact our daily lives in different communities and situations. Students have been doing lots of different role plays of rules and laws and the consequences that occur if a rule or law is broken. We have also been learning about healthy eating and the five food groups in Health, as well as the journeys different foods take to get to our plates in Technologies.

In English, the class has chosen to read *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and the students are loving it! We have been learning how to write detailed procedures, particularly for science experiments. Student have completed a dancing rice experiment and instructed a robot (Miss Hewitt) on how to make fairy bread or a jam sandwich, which ended up in a bit of a mess if students weren't specific enough!

In Maths, students have been getting back into thinking mathematically with lots of mental maths games, creating length monsters and measuring a range of objects, singing a very catchy measurement conversion song, learning about odd and even numbers and developing their times tables recall.

This year each class has a service learning focus they will be carrying out in the community. As the students are very interested in protecting the planet and they engaged so well with Clean Up Australia Day, we have decided that once or twice a term the class will choose a location around town to do a rubbish pick up. We will be doing one towards the end of this term and parent helpers would be greatly appreciated when more information is sent home.

It has been a great start to the year, and we can't wait to see what the rest of the year holds for Year 3/4.

Miss Hewitt



*More photos on the St Bernard's School website Galleries:  
<https://stbernards.wa.edu.au/category/events/>*



## Bush Kindy

Bush Kindy is already in its third week and Mrs Matthews and Mrs Sumner have enjoyed watching our little bush explorers discover amazing things around the Bush School area. Some of the activities that the children have enjoyed so far include nature weaving, potion making, making patterns in playdough with nature, bark painting, and observational drawings. The children have been eager to find plants and wildlife that that they have seen in our reference books. Unfortunately, there is a lack of kangaroos and emus but the children are very hopeful that they will appear eventually! The children continue to make use of the structures that the bigger students have created, such as the teepees, climbing over rocks and stumps and giving the swing a workout.



*More photos on the St Bernard's School website Galleries: <https://stbernards.wa.edu.au/category/events/>*

## Goods & Services Auction Harmony Day

**Harmony Day - Tuesday 21st March**  
Next Tuesday we will be celebrating Harmony Day at St Bernard's. We will enjoy a picnic lunch together and children are invited to bring a favourite food in their lunch box that represents their own culture. It will be a free dress day, but wear something orange to represent mutual respect and cultural diversity in our St Bernard's community.



**P&F Goods and Services Auction - Tonight**  
Please note change of venue to the Memorial Hall due to the weather

## Award Winners & MJR Gotcha Prize Winners



### Award winners

Congratulations: Poppy Atkinson, Stewie Eyres, Xkyzes Viloría, Deeann Collins, Socheata Va and Honey Pencha-Patea



### Gotcha Prize Winners

Congratulations: Leeam Viloría, Poppy Atkinson, Damon Mules and Gus Thorn