

# ST. BERNARD'S NEWS LETTER

*Principal's News*

*Term 3- Week 8- Friday 8th September 2023*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unfortunately, as we draw close to the end of Term Three, we are experiencing a lot of illness both in students and staff. Mrs Marino has had to take leave as she recovers from pneumonia, so in her absence we will do our best to give you a summary of the past couple of weeks and an outline of what we have to look forward to as we head toward the Term 3 holidays and a chance for everyone to rest and recuperate!

## EDUCATION

Even though Book Week has officially finished, the Year 1-6 students were very lucky to attend a session on Monday with Stig Wemyss who reads Andy Griffiths' Treehouse series audiobooks. The session was organised by our local librarian Loreen Greeuw. The energetic Stig kept the students entertained for an hour with his antics. Some of our students were lucky enough to come away with copies of audiobooks from the Treehouse series, library bags and stickers.



As this newsletter goes to print, our early years staff are in Albany attending the Great Southern Network for Maths in the Early Years alongside schools from Narrogin, Katanning and Albany. These days provide a valuable opportunity for our staff to participate in professional learning with staff from Catholic Education WA and to network with colleagues from other schools.

On Thursday we participated in the Eagles Rock My School program. The key messages of respect, healthy lifestyle choices and striving to achieve your best was well received by the students.

We wish the Year 3/4 class all the best as they participate in the Great Southern Network STEM showcase in Katanning next Thursday. The students have been working very hard with the support of Miss Hewitt on their projects.

## CATHOLIC IDENTITY

The diversity of the many cultures that make up the community of St Bernard's is something we pride ourselves on and wish to celebrate. We had planned to do this at the end of term with our annual Multicultural evening, but unfortunately, we are going to have to postpone this event. We recognise that building in students an awareness of other cultures helps them to contribute to a positive and accepting society which will benefit everybody, and we look forward to learning more about the many cultures in our school at a later date.

## COMMUNITY

Last Friday we began a very successful Faction Carnival Day with a Father's Day breakfast. The local Elders branch not only donated sausages, they also brought their BBQ trailer along and cooked for our Dads. Eggs were kindly donated by Katie Joy's Eggs and bread by our wonderful P&F. It was a fabulous way to start the day and we have received many positive comments about what a lovely opportunity it was for the dads and children to enjoy each other's company at school. We thank Elders and the Mason family for their continued support of our school community. Without such support we couldn't offer the many extra-curricular activities our students enjoy. This support continued at our Faction Athletics Carnival, with many volunteers assisting on the day. Under the expert guidance of Mrs Peta Marinoni, our helpers ensured another successful carnival was enjoyed by all. We wish our interschool team well for 15th September.

Last night, another dedicated bunch of school community members banded together under the leadership of Mrs Jayne Thorn catering for the Kojonup Dramatic Society production of Ruby Hood and the Wolf Who Was Good. We have it on good authority that it was an amazing spread!

God Bless,  
Mrs Venables and Mrs Bowen

## Enrichment Club

*On Saturday 26th August the St Bernard's Enrichment team travelled to Curtin University to participate in the Creative Edge Thinking Challenge. The team decided to tackle the Society and Environment Challenge titled, 'Those Who Follow'. There are many events and decisions from the past that have had a significant effect on future generations. In many cases the consequences have affected aspects of our physical and social environments. Will the choices we make today have a lasting effect on those who follow?*

*The students had six weeks to work on their presentation which involved writing their own scripts and constructing props. The historical societal event the group dramatised was the suffragette movement. Through time travel they intertwined this with the environmental events of coral bleaching of The Great Barrier Reef and the mining industry.*

*This presentation was followed by an impromptu challenge which required the team to solve an unseen challenge. Teams were allowed four minutes to prepare and up to one minute to present their solution. The students were shown a spiky object and told the object had been left behind after a meeting. They had to say what the meeting was about and why the object was there. The solution the group created was very creative!*

*It was a great experience for the students, who were supported by their families on the day. Congratulations on representing St Bernard's to such a high standard; Poppy, James, Adrianna, Darcie, Stu, Ryan, Grace and Chevin.*

*Mrs Bowen*

*Enrichment Team Coordinator*



# Faction Carnival

*Anyone driving past St Bernard's Primary School on Friday 1st September would have seen a sea of red and blue on the oval, as the students competed in their Faction Athletics Carnival. The day started with beautiful sunshine, but just as the races were about to begin, so did the rain. Luckily, it mostly held off for the remainder of the day and we all had a fun-filled day.*

*All the students competed well, and some long-standing records were broken, but the best part of the day was seeing all the smiles and everyone enjoying the day. McAuley Faction (red), under the leadership of Charlie Thorn and Ryan McKean, were too strong on the day and won the shield with 828.5 points. Mercy Faction (blue), led by Sam Clayton and Brax Webb, were great competitors ending the day with 690.5 points.*

*A huge thank you to all the parent helpers and staff on the day for helping make the carnival possible. The oval looked amazing, thanks to Karin Praetz and Warren Porter.*

*Congratulations to the Champions on the day:*

*6 year old champion girls - Honey Peneha-Patea and Kuini Whanarere*

*6 year old champion boy - Damon Mules, runner-up - Brody Ryan*

*7 year old champion boy - Reeve Noonan, runner-up - Leo Macri*

*8 year old champion girl - Evie Millar, runner-up - Aurora Kahn*

*8 year old champion boy - Gus Thorn, runners-up - Paddy Eyres and Patrick Wellstead*

*9 year old champion girl - Elsie Eyres, runner-up - Vita Macri*

*9 year old champion boy - Chevin Noonan, runner-up - Spencer Grace*

*10 year old champion girl - Daisy Wellstead*

*11 years and over champion girl - Darcie Clayton, runner-up - Xkyze Vioria*

*11 years and over champion boy - Logan Miotti, runners-up - Charlie Thorn and Sam Clayton*

*Records broken on the day:*

*Elsie Eyres: 9 year girls 400m (previous record 1:27:81 in 2015, new record 1:26:84); 9 year girls high jump (previous record 1.04m in 2010, new record 1.11m)*

*Logan Miotti: 11 years and over boys long jump (previous record 3.93m in 2017, new record 4.06m); 11 years and over boys triple jump (previous record 8.27m in 2017, new record 8.57m); 11 years and over boys high jump (previous record 1.29m in 2011, new record 1.30m)*

*Brax Webb: 10 year boys triple jump (previous record 7.67m in 2016, new record 8.08m); 10 year boys long jump (previous record 3.84m in 2022, new record 3.88m); equaled 10 year boys high jump (1.26m).*

*Gus Thorn: 8 year boys long jump (previous record 3.17m in 2021, new record 3.20m)*

*Well done to our record breakers on these outstanding achievements.*

*Good luck to the St Bernard's Interschool team travelling to Tambellup on Friday 15th September.*

*Peta Marinoni*

