



Thank you
Mr Higgins

Term 4, Week 9 2024

Important Dates

Year 6 Graduation
6.00pm

Monday 9 December 2024

Year 6 Farewell
Assembly 2.15pm

Wednesday 11 December
2024

Last Day of Term 4
normal finish of
3.00pm

Wednesday 11 December
2024

Student Free Day -
Staff Planning for
2025

Thursday 12 December 2024

Student Free Day -
Staff Planning for
2025

Friday 13 December 2024

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Please note: If you are reading this newsletter from your email, you will not see any photo galleries or videos featured within it. Click read more to view the internet version of our newsletter so that you don't miss out on seeing our latest photos and videos.

From our Leadership Team

Dear Parents/Carers,

The weather was warm, the faces were smiling, the entertainment was outstanding...what a beautiful evening we enjoyed together at our **Carols Night** on Wednesday! Thank you to so many of our parents, grandparents and friends for attending, to Alison, our music teacher for co-ordinating and organising so brilliantly, to our staff who supported her, and especially the children for sharing their talents and behaving impeccably.

On Monday at the **Year 6 Graduation Evening**, we will send forth an outstanding group of 35 young people who have completed their Primary education. We use the term 'send forth' rather than 'farewell' quite deliberately, as we want anyone who moves on from St Bernadette's to know they will always be part of our community and are welcome to come back for a visit at any time. This cohort of students have been amazing student leaders during the year, and we have every confidence that they will excel in their endeavours in the future. We congratulate and thank them!

For 13 of our families, this is the end of your time as a parent of a student at St Bernadette's, and we thank you for your trust, support and friendship over the years. Please know that you, too, will always be part of our community.

Also, on Monday you will receive your child's end-of-year report outlining their achievements throughout this semester. Please celebrate these achievements and discuss with them where there are areas for growth, which we all have. A page outlining the 2025 class structures and teacher placements will be included in the report envelope. If your child is in Reception, Years 1, 4 or 5, a slip will also be included in the report envelope indicating who your child's teacher will be in 2025.

Finally, we wish to thank each and every one of you for your friendship, trust and support throughout 2024. Your children are amazing young people, and we are so appreciative of you, the parents, carers and grandparents, for your willingness to work in genuine partnership with us and the staff. Our diverse, yet inclusive community continues to hold true to its Dominican values, and we can all look forward to an exciting 2025.

Have a very happy, holy Christmas and a great beginning to the New Year!

God bless,

Matt, Michelle and Ray

...and a further message from Ray

I have been overwhelmed by the messages of gratitude, love and best wishes from so many in our community over the past few weeks, and the end of year Mass and farewell last Thursday. Of the 42 years I have taught and led schools in Catholic Education, the last 6 at St Bernadette's have been the most rewarding and enjoyable. This is because of you, our families! Your children are incredible, and your trust and support of me has made the role of Principal here incredibly fulfilling. From the bottom of my heart...THANK YOU!

From the Year 6's

If you haven't already heard, the Year 6's have gone to Canberra in week 5 and had the best time of their life. They all went to a science museum called 'Questacon' and majority of them say it was the best thing throughout the trip. Questacon was soo big and had on of the best gift shops. There was a gravity slide that made you feel like you were falling in zero-gravity. The earthquake house and a few others were some famous attractions. Overall, it was great fun and we all enjoyed it.

By Millar and Aarav

Arboretum

The national arboretum is a Zoo for trees, which sounds boring but with the inclusion of a treasure hunt (orienteering) and kite making it was lots of fun. Some people were good at flying the kites and others did better at the treasure hunt. The playground at the arboretum was very interesting because it had lots of tiny areas that were filled with interactive items. My personal favourite was the bongo tent.

By Raj

Cycling

Cycling around Lake Burley-Griffin was an amazing experience. Even though many people had a couple of accidents and crashes, we still had fun going around the beautiful city of Canberra. Our friendly instructors helped us immensely to improve our cycling skills, and they didn't need to be asked twice to tell us more about Canberra. Overall, it was an experience for the ages, and we loved every moment of it. It was a blast. Just before we finished our bus driver joined on his mountain bike. Overall, it was a great experience one that I am sure everyone will cherish and remember.

By Rhitvik and Aaroha

Museum

At the museum in Canberra, we did a treasure hunt and we had to find an object that matches the word we got from a lucky dip from our tour guide in groups of 2-3. It was a great experience. We also learned about the Ngunnawal people the traditional owners of the lands we were on in Canberra.

By Sienna and Sophia

Canberra Park

Whilst in Canberra, we stayed at 'Canberra Park'. Our accommodation was huge with many buildings, camping grounds & grass fields to fill the land up. Our building consisted of many dormitories. The dormitories had amazing layout that kept us feeling comfortable during our stay. The Homestead was where we ate our delicious meals which included chao mien & butter chicken, we also got dessert each night, such as ice cream cakes and eclairs! After dinner we had so many fun activities including movie nights & games nights. There was so much greenery and life there and the landscape was beautiful. I would definitely go there again!

By Kiana

Galleries

While in Canberra, we went to two art galleries. One of them was the National Portrait Gallery, where we looked at all different types of portraits, and we also got to draw portraits of our peers and teachers. We also went to the National Gallery of Australia on another day, where we got a 90-minute tour and art lesson. At this attraction, we saw all sorts of interesting art works. Even before we went inside, we had already seen a massive sphere/ball just floating in the air, and inside we saw a mysterious painting that had no description of what the painting was, so we had to use our imagination to describe what we thought the painting was, and after we had to make a poem about the painting.

Parliament House

We started off by visiting the old Parliament House, which is also known as the Constitutional Museum and Reclamation by Parliament. When we visited the old Parliament House, we went to a program called mOAD, which stands for "Museum of Australian Democracy". It taught us about how to vote when we're 18 and it taught us about Australian Democracy. On the Friday (our last day in the nation's capital), we arrived at the new Parliament House. It's where all the ministers, assistant ministers, and the Prime Minister work. We saw the House of Representatives and the Senate. We also learnt that there is a Speaker for the House of Representatives and a President for the Senate. Yesterday, we met Mrs. Louise Miller-Frost, the federal member for Boothby, who paid us a special visit to our own school as parliament was not 'sitting' while we were in Canberra.

Australian Institute of Sport (AIS)

At the AIS, we had an hour long tour with some athletes leading us around. The first bit of the tour involved us going into a room called the Sportex. In this room, we got to play some interactive and online games. There was a mini basketball court where 5 people were allowed to go in and have a short game. There was also a rowing machine, bike, skiing game, soccer, rugby, as well as football goal kicking games. There was a pull up bar to see how long you can hang on for. The next bit of the tour saw our tour guides take us to the volleyball court, swimming pool, gym, and the gymnastics space. Luckily, we got to see some gymnasts train (even a current Olympian!) and get to learn about all the stadiums. At the end of our tour, we got to go in the gift shop where many of us bought souvenirs.

As you can see above, students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government contributed funding of \$90 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate was paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion. We are looking forward to taking our current Year 5 students to Canberra next year as part of their Year 6 education – it truly is an amazing trip!





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DROP N SHOP XMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAM!



Drop the kids off while you shop! Let us entertain the kids while you get your Christmas shopping done. There will be LOADS OF CHRISTMAS FUN with modified sports games throughout the day to keep your children entertained. Sports include: Foam hockey, Soccer, Basketball, Cricket, AFL, Netball, Teeball, Mini Olympics and Picnic Games. We will also have dance, arts & craft, scavenger hunt and a VISIT FROM SANTA! For boys and girls aged 5-12 years.

We also have access to Brighton Cricket Club should the weather be too hot for outside activities

WHEN: Monday 16th December 2024
LOCATION: Brighton Oval, Highet Ave Brighton
TIME: 8:30am - 5pm
COST: \$66.00 incl.GST

All Kelly Sports coaches have mandatory working with children employment screening checks

Bring a Friend OR Sibling discount available - please contact 0421 888 400

What you need to bring: appropriate clothing, hat, drink bottle, lunch and snacks.

To enrol, register online at www.kellysports.com.au. Payments can be made online at www.kellysports.com.au or by EFT to Kelly Sports Adelaide Metro BSB 035 045 A/C No 342581.

Website: kellysports.com.au/events
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