

School Newsletter

Term Three | Week Seven

2020



St Bernard's
Warrina St
Berowra Heights 2082
Phone 9456 2104
Email us: sbb@dbb.org.au
Visit our [Website](#)

Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish

Fr Shaju John Parish Priest

Fr Joy Thomas Assistant Priest

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

[St Bernard's Berowra Heights](#)

[St Patrick's Asquith](#)

Due to social distancing, please call the Parish Office 9456 2450 to reserve a seat at Mass.

From the Principal



What lovely weather we are enjoying! It is lovely to feel the warmth of the sun, it always amazes me how sunshine can affect mood. The students have appreciated the longer transition into summer uniform with temperatures rising. As I said earlier in the week, I am accepting parental discretion on the wearing of either summer or winter uniform at the moment but ask that the children either wear one or the other and not a hybrid of both. Certainly this seems to be the case so far and I thank you for your cooperation. I would like to remind you however that **Full Winter Uniform** is compulsory on 17th September, Thursday Week 9 for our school photographs.

Fathers Day

As ever, Father's Day will be celebrated with enthusiasm and good cheer by our students. The teachers have been helping students prepare something in class for the special men in their lives and we sincerely hope that all dads and special friends everywhere have a special day on Sunday. Hopefully as many Dads as possible will be able to join us in the individual class liturgies that have been planned via Google Meet. This will be a very special event for the children who are excited at the prospect of celebrating "virtually" with their Dads at school. We have timetabled events so that Dads can join in each of their children's events in class.

I sincerely wish all Dads everywhere a very happy Fathers Day.

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Public Speaking

It has been my pleasure to take part in the judging of the Public Speaking Competitions in Years 4, 5 and 6 over the last weeks. I have been very proud of the standards achieved by our students, their confidence, their quality arguments and their presentation skills. We clearly have very talented students. It has also been wonderful to share these special moments with parents via Google Meet. If your child has been in one of the finals and you have managed to view, I hope you have enjoyed the experience. We have also recorded the speeches and these will be sent individually to parents. Thank you all for observing the protocols for privacy communicated to you. I very much appreciate your cooperation in this.

Kindergarten 2021

On Monday I was given the news that due to the demand for places at St Bernard's in 2021, Catholic Schools Broken Bay have allocated us an extra Kindergarten Class. I am very pleased to be welcoming more of the Berowra Community to our school and look forward to working with all of the new families and our current families who are bringing us another special person. This is wonderful news and I would like to thank all the teachers and administration staff who have helped in the process of communicating the great work that happens here. Word of mouth recommendations are a key factor in our success - so thank you all too, for spreading the word about our beautiful school. The good news is we have spaces now to welcome more students and will not have to turn anyone away. So if you do know of anyone who is still undecided on where to send their child next year ask them to give us a call.

Greater Links with St Leo's Catholic College Wahroonga

Recently I have been working with Mr Anthony Gleeson, Principal of St Leo's College in Wahroonga on improving the links between our schools. Mr Gleeson has been impressed by the calibre of students that leave us to continue their education at St Leo's. Their ability to work as a group, be self directed, communicate with others and be critical thinkers means that they are well prepared for high school and to continue their learning.

In 2021 therefore, St Bernard's will be a 'Priority School,' for entry to the college and we hope to begin planning greater curriculum links and student mentoring programs for our stage 3 students. More on this in the coming weeks as our plans are finalised.

Final Word

Times are hard at the moment and many are troubled. Please take time to be extra kind to one another. It can often be the thing that allows us to regenerate and continue even when it is very tough.

Please remember in your prayers all those who are isolated at the moment due to the extraordinary circumstance of the pandemic. Please continue to pray also for those who are separated from loved ones by distance in times of need.

Thank you all and May God Bless you.



From the REC (Jackie Tod)

First Eucharist

A huge congratulations to the Year 3 children who made their sacrament of First Eucharist last Sunday. It was only immediate family and the children who were allowed to attend and it was held over two Masses to ensure the church was able to maintain appropriate numbers and social distancing. The weather turned on a spectacular display of sunshine and warmth for this special occasion and the children all looked beautiful.

Congratulations to:

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Jackson C. | Sophia C. |
| Sophia C. | Ava D. |
| Kieran F. | Sienna F. |
| Caitlin L. | Christiana M. |
| Elise M. | Olive O. |
| Amy P. | Kieran P. |
| Ava P. | Archie T. |
| Katya V. | Jack W. |



Father's Day

The children at St Bernard's are very excited about sharing prayers and liturgies with their dads on Friday and I am sure they will maintain this enthusiasm for Father's Day on Sunday.



The Dish - Tuesday 15th September

This term, the arrangements for the Dish are remaining the same as earlier in the year, whereby the servers are no longer needed and instead myself and just one other will attend to take meals along. If you are on the roster for serving, thank you for volunteering but you will not be needed at this stage.

We still have the year 5 and 6 children making desserts and thank you in advance to **Anthea Fraser-Tarasov, Peta Tonkin and Chelsey Bradley** who are on the roster for making dinners for this.

Dates for Term 3:

Tuesday 15th September The Dish

From the AP (Anne-Marie Hutchins)

THE READING HOUR AT ST. BERNARD'S

This term the teachers have been engaging in professional learning opportunities to consolidate school pedagogy and practices in Literacy, in particular Reading. During our morning literacy block, all classes K-6 allocate 'The Reading Hour' to develop reading skills.

The Reading hour consists of:

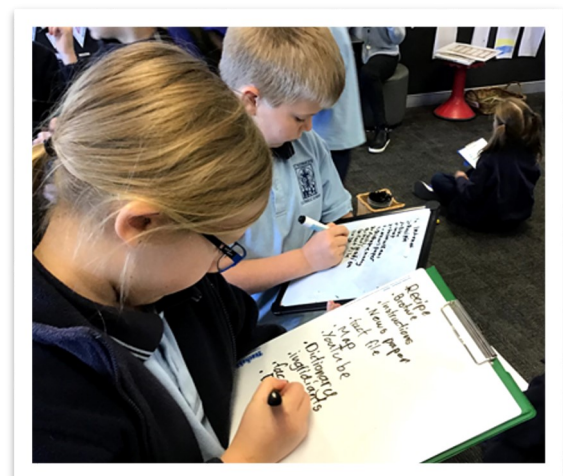
- Exploring a shared text as a whole class for specific language features and structures.
- Explicit teaching by the teacher related to a learning intention.
- Small Group Instruction through guided reading, reciprocal reading or Book Club to develop specific skills for different reading levels and abilities within the class.
- Reading Tasks that students work on independently to practise and develop personal skills in Literacy.
- Plenary to consolidate learning intentions and share learnings.

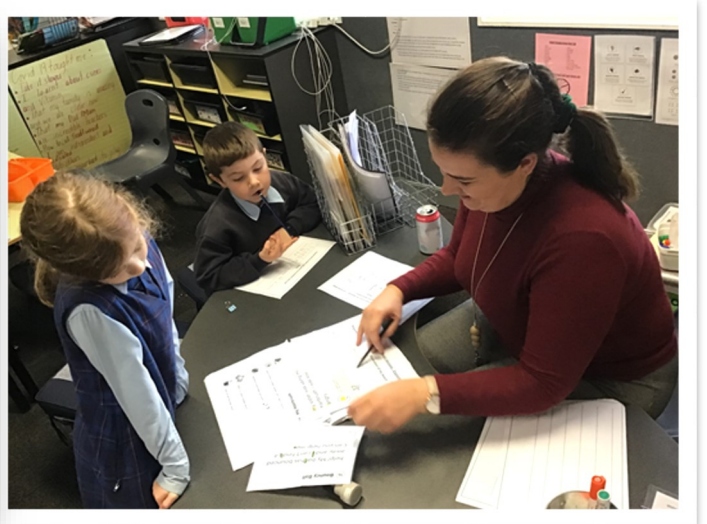
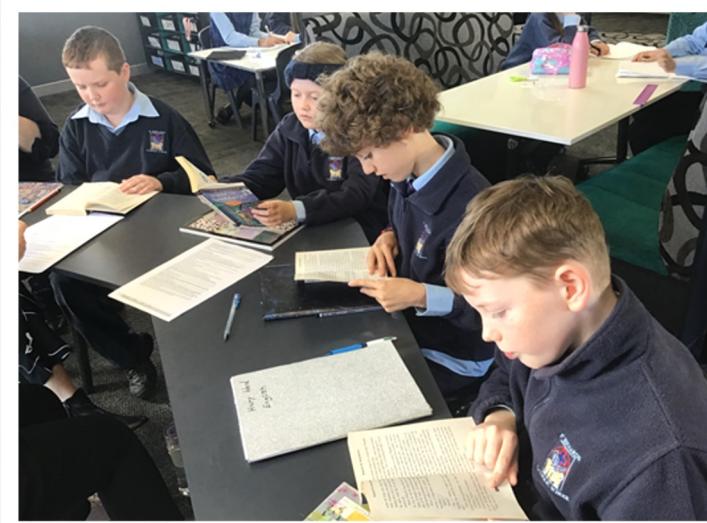
“The more you **read**
 the more **things** you know.
 The more that you **learn**
 the more **places** you'll go.”
 -Dr. Seuss

During our small group instruction the teacher uses guided reading to support students in learning *how to read*. Reciprocal Reading and Book Club are used when students can read fluently and the focus becomes more *comprehension based in understanding and analysing what they read*. Comprehension strategies that we develop as good readers include predicting, clarifying, questioning, summarising, inferring, visualising, making connections and synthesising.

As part of every student's development of reading, our parents are valuable in encouraging a love of reading and modelling good reading habits for their child. Reading to your child, modelling reading in front of your child and having discussions about books read has a huge impact on your child's engagement and development of reading skills. Our School Home Learning Policy prioritises children allocating the time to read every night.

THE READING HOUR IN ACTION







Descriptive writing using similes from Year 3

The Garden by Archie

I quietly entered the garden and felt the yellow spiky bottle brushes and they were like prickly echidnas. I heard the crunchy leaves. They were like munching teeth. I also heard buzzing bees as they were collecting their sweet powerful nectar going into my nose. I heard crunching pebbles and they were tickling my feet. Then I felt the wind softly blowing me away. I found a miniature little ant and it was carrying a little tiny crumb. The gentle breeze was like air conditioners softly pushing me away. I felt peaceful when I left the beautiful garden.

The Garden

As I entered the garden I heard the trees rustling like plastic wrappers. The branches looked like people waving their hands at a concert.

I went and sat on a seat that looked like a piece of ginger. I walked around the garden and I could smell the sweet lavender as I brushed my hand up against the Banksias. The air as cold as a freezer brushed up against my face. I made my way out of the garden. I heard high pitch chirping like a short scream from a girl.

I finally made it out and the world started to become much noisier. I could feel the pebbles crunching under my feet like when you crunch a apple.

By Elise



Olive's Time in the Garden

I slowly entered the garden. I sat down. The lush green grass was like smooth shreds of paper between my fingers. I saw some pink flowers almost like tiny cups sitting on the tree. Crisp brown leaves were like paper drifting on the surface of the ground. The stones sounded like two liquids slipping together but not joining under my feet as I walked into the sun-light. The light warmed like fire would. I felt as close to the earth as I could be. I sat and meditated on a rock for a while, calmly and peacefully. I came off the rock and kneeled on the ground as I buried my hands into the smooth, hot and small stones like they were diving into a deep ocean. As the bird chirped softly I knew I had to go so I left happily.



THE WONDERFUL GARDEN

AS I ENTERED THE GARDEN I COULD SEE THE AMAZING SUN SHINING LIKE THE BRIGHTEST LIGHT ON EARTH BUT I COULD FEEL THE COLD FRESH BREEZE LIKE WIND IN THE SNOW. THEN I FELT STICKS SCRAPING ME LIKE A SHARP SNOWFLAKE, I ALSO HEARD BIRDS CHIRPING AND CHILDREN TALKING AND LAUGHING LIKE IT'S PLAY TIME AT SCHOOL.

AFTER THAT I SAW A GIANT ABORIGINAL ARTWORK WITH FINGERPRINTS, HAND PRINTS AND ABORIGINAL SIGNS. IT WAS SO COLOURFUL. THE BEAUTIFUL, PURPLE FLOWERS SMELT LIKE DELICIOUS LOLLIES. THE FOOTSTEPS ON THE PEBBLES SOUNDED LIKE CHIPS GETTING STEPPED ON. AS I WALKED ON THE DIRT IT FELT LIKE NOODLES SWISHING AROUND MY FEET. I WALKED A FEW MORE STEPS AND I SAW A GIANT GUM TREE AND IT HAD SO MANY SCRIBBLES.

AS I LEFT THE GARDEN I FELT VERY ALIVE SEEING ALL OF THE NATURE AROUND ME.

BY KATYA



As I walked into the garden I heard the trees swishing in the breeze like someone crunching paper into a ball. Then I heard the crunchy pebbles like someone biting into a piece of celery.

As I walked through the garden, the tall green grass was like running on the beach and feeling the sand amongst my toes. I saw some small, delicate, white flowers glowing in the sun.

Then I saw some bright speckles of light on the path as I walked out of the garden. I felt so relieved that all my stress was gone when I left the garden.

By Caitlin

Wellbeing Week focus "Be Still" inspired writing



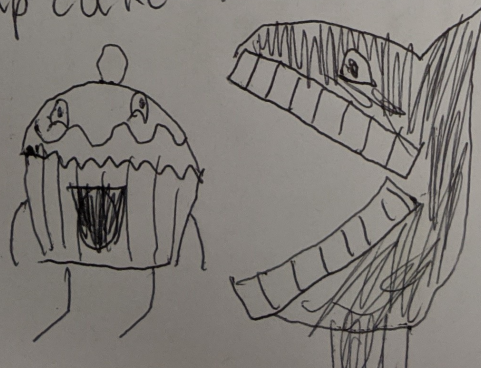
What is Batman thinking about when he has time to 'Be Still'?

^{Batman}
 # ~~He~~ Just saved the city and has time to relax. "No!" He says. "There must be something for me to do!" He has saved his city. ~~and~~ he checks on all the villains to see what they are up to. None of them are planning anything. He decides

to ~~he~~ go to a hotel and relax with all of his mates. He has been told to have some "be still" time to relax and think.

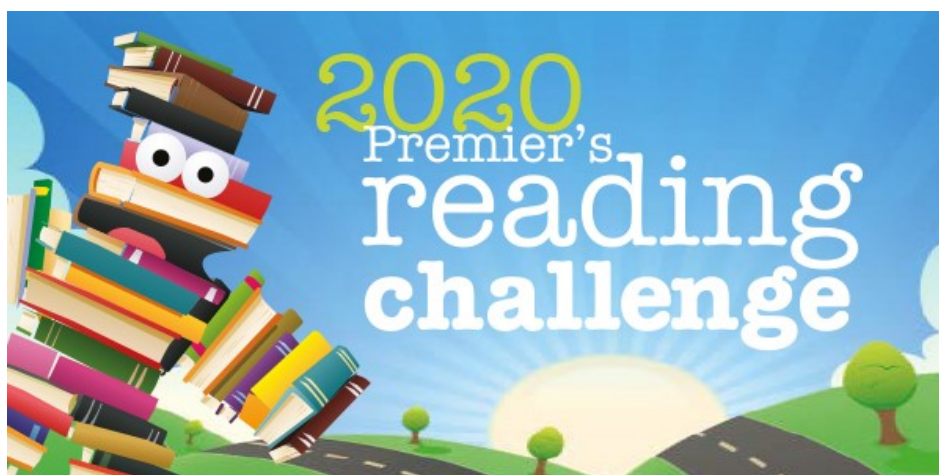
Batman doesn't know what to think about. Then he had an idea! He will go to sleep and dream of something because it was too hard to "think." He slowly falls asleep and guesses what he dreams about.

(cupcakes! (I have no idea why...))



Luka

What's been happening in **the learning hub?**



Congratulations to the following children who have joined the list of students to have completed the PRC at St Bernard's:

Kindergarten: Isabelle W.

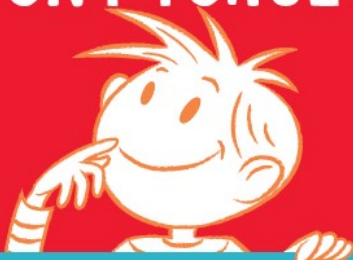
Year1: Eliana C.


Year 3: Sophia C..

Year 6: Alena H
Sacha N.

These final participants bring the St Bernard's total to 52 students who have completed the challenge this year.

DON'T FORGET!





Book Club

orders are due:
Thursday 10th September

Issue # 6



Book Club LOOP

for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON


Download on the


Events

For upcoming events, please refer to the Google Calendar on the News and Events page of the school website:

<https://www.sbbdbb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/google-calendar/>



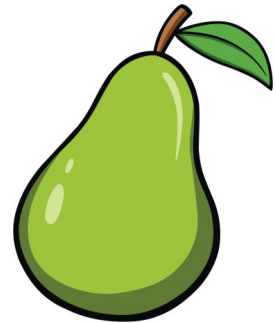
Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open on selected Fridays from 8.30—9.30. To order please use the QKR app.

Canteen

Lunch orders on Wednesday and Friday only.

To order please use the QKR app.



Community

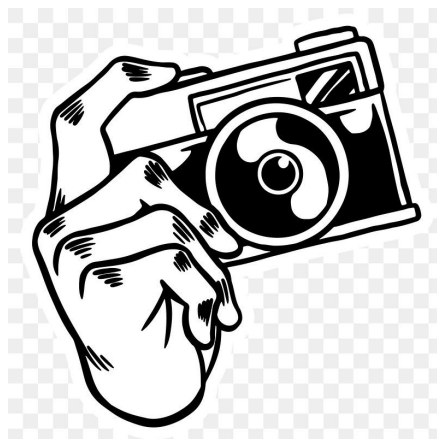
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

School photos have been rescheduled to **Thursday 17th September**.

Full winter uniform is to be worn on this day, NOT sports uniform.

Photo envelopes will be sent home today.

Please order online and return the envelope to the school office.



KU Berowra Preschool

Enrolling Now

KU Berowra provides high quality, not-for-profit preschool education for children aged 3 to 5 years old, including:



An educational, play-based curriculum



A comprehensive transition to school program



Imaginative and sustainable learning environments



Qualified, caring and experienced educators

"I was a very satisfied KU Berowra parent for six years. My children would count down the days to attend, because they enjoyed it so much. The friendships, staff and experiences empowered them to learn about the world at such an influential age." – KU Berowra parent

To learn more, visit www.ku.com.au or contact:

KU Berowra Preschool

Open 8:00am to 3:30pm, Monday to Friday,
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T 9456 2762 E ku.berowra@ku.com.au

