Dear Parents,

Last Thursday we saw many talented swimmers participating in the St Bernard’s Swimming Carnival. We had a wonderful day with all students having an opportunity to partake in a race. Timed events, novelty races and the 25m race were definitely enjoyed by many. A huge thank you to Mrs Grant for her high level of organisation and preparation for the day and a special thank you to all our parents and the Carroll College students who assisted us on the day. It was wonderful to see so many parents supporting the Carnival, cheering on their child/ren and chatting with other families. It was lovely to see the St Bernard’s community come together after the holiday break.

Lent

Last Tuesday the students celebrated Shrove Tuesday with our Year 6 students assisting classes with making pancakes. Traditionally Shrove Tuesday was the day that families used up all their ‘luxuries’ in the cupboard, ready for Lent, a season of fasting. Yesterday, students from Years 3 - 6 attended Mass for Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. In the past children have been asked to give something up for Lent but today, we encourage the students to reflect on how they can help others at home, school or in their community. Ashes are placed on the students forehead as a sign that we are ready to begin the Lenten journey.

Evacuation Drill

I am sure many of you would have read in the news over the past week about hoax calls being made to schools across Australia. Last Friday we practised our Emergency Evacuation Procedures with the students in order to be prepared. Each year we review our policy and run through procedures with the students in case of an emergency.

Parents & Friends AGM

The P & F AGM was held last Tuesday evening. I congratulate and thank the following parents who accepted leadership roles and were appointed to the P & F Executive:

- President: Victoria Rayment
- Vice President: Amelia Brown
- Treasurer: Nicole Powell
- Secretary: Nicole Allen

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rebecca Henderson, P & F President 2015 for her time and commitment to St Bernard’s. Melissa Franzen will be the P & F representative on the School Board. Last week I advertised two positions available on the School Board. Please find another copy of the nomination form further on in the newsletter. I would encourage you to think about taking on a leadership role and be a part of building our wonderful school.

Welcome BBQ and Disco

Next Thursday afternoon, the staff extend an invitation to all families to attend the Community Welcome BBQ and Disco. Come along with your family to enjoy a sausage and a dance with DJ Matt Brown. Disco entry and sausage sizzle will be available at no cost to families. Full details are outlined in the flyer attached to this newsletter.

On Saturday night at the 6.00pm Mass at St Bernard’s all Staff are being inducted for the new school year. All families are invited to join us.

Johanna Wain
Principal Acting

This week we welcomed Leyla and Abbie S to 1H, Katelyn R to 3BT and Bethany R in 6D. A very warm welcome to you all!
Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to Year 6 for leading us in prayer at Mass yesterday for our Ash Wednesday Mass. We had many parishioners and parents come forward to congratulate them on their first leadership role as servant leaders in our community. Thank you also to Miss Emma Davies who led us with music, it was great to see the children so enthusiastic with some of our songs. We have a number of Year 6 students who have been practising with Miss Davies to assist in enlivening music in our school community. They will be playing along side Miss Davies at our Opening School Mass next Friday 19 February.

Opening School Mass

Next week on **Friday 19 February** we will be gathering as a whole school for our **Opening School Mass & Induction of Year 6 Leaders at 9.15am** in the church. This is a commissioning Mass where our Year 6 students officially take the reigns of leadership in the school. All families are welcome to join us.

Sacrament of Confirmation

On Tuesday night we had a number of families come to an information evening for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you were unable to attend and would like some further information, please contact myself or Fr John Armstrong on 4472 4153 to receive an information pack as soon as possible and a workbook.

Key Dates:

- **Sunday 6 March 9.00am:** Confirmation Candidates Commitment Parish Mass at St Bernard’s Church.
- **Tuesday 8 March:** Confirmation and Year 6 Retreat Day at Carroll College combined with St Mary’s Moruya.
- **Thursday 10 March** practice for children receiving Confirmation at Carroll College (after Combined School Mass as students already on site).
- **Sunday 13 March** **Sacrament of Confirmation** at Carroll College at 3.00pm.

Year 6 Leadership Day

Next Wednesday 17 February Year 6 will be travelling to St Mary’s Moruya to work with their Year 6 students in a Leadership retreat. The students will be looking towards the discipleship of Jesus and how we too can minister in our school using him as our model.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday symbolises the start of our Lenten season. At St Bernard’s we use this opportunity to reflect on how we can reach out and assist others in our school community, local community and wider world. Each class has been given a large **PROJECT COMPASSION** Box which is displayed on their prayer space. I know we are often asked to donate money for so many charities but I would like to personally extend an experience where I was able to see Project Compassion at work. In my early years in teaching I worked in a smaller school in Western NSW, and was able to see the hands on assistance this great charity had with families suffering through drought, mental health concerns and education for rural and remote families. It was able to provide some authentic assistance that goes straight to areas of need around the world including Australia.

You may see some posters around the school promoting this wonderful cause with the message “**PUT OUR COMPASSION INTO ACTION**”. The posters demonstrate how a few spare coins can go towards providing a real difference to someone else less fortunate. We will be asking classes to look at creative ways of how this Lent we can look outward to others and how we can make a positive change in our community. There is some great videos and information on their website which show how their projects create long term positive solutions in communities. [http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)

Thankyou,
Carla Durnan
Religious Education Coordinator Acting
Dear Parents

How quickly the first two weeks of term have flown by. There is a certain ‘buzz’ of excitement that can be heard as you walk through the school. Students are busily engaged in their learning and developing bonds with their new classmates and teachers. Term One is off to a brilliant start!

**School Interviews**

Last week, you would have received information regarding **Parent Introductory Meetings/Interviews**. These Interviews will be conducted on **Tuesday 16, Wednesday 17 and Tuesday 23 February** (Weeks 4 and 5). There are some classes with variations to these dates mainly due to teacher Professional Development commitments. This year we are again using the online booking system at [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au).

Please be aware that this system works on a first come first served basis. If you have more than two students at the school you are advised to book sooner rather than later. For those who require interview times outside the available slots, you will need to make alternative arrangements with the teacher. It is suggested that you do not make back to back bookings. The booking form opened at **4.00pm Thursday 4 February**. Bookings will close on **MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY at 5.00pm**.

For quick and easy reference to access the site, Go to: [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au). Type in the code **DVENH** in the **Event Code** and press GO. Continue on to add your information.

Once registered, you will be emailed a link which takes you directly your ‘bookings’ page, where you can add or change bookings. Bookings are filling fast, so if you haven’t already booked your interview, please do so as a matter of urgency.

If you have any issues, questions or concerns regarding this process, please don’t hesitate to contact the office or come and see me.

**Life Education**

Next week, students will bring home information about Life Education. The Life Education van will be visiting the school from **21 February - 30 February**. The cost per child is **$10.00**. Life Education has been empowering children and young people to make safer and healthier choices through education for more than 35 years. They are the largest non-government provider of drug and health education to children and young people, and their families and communities, Australia wide. The Primary School program consists of **13 curriculum based modules** focusing on issues around food and nutrition, personal safety, physical activity, cyber safety, safety with medicine and legal drugs; tobacco, alcohol and caffeine. By taking a comprehensive approach to drug and health education the modules help children to develop relationship skills, positive communication (both face to face and online), problem solving and decision making skills.

If you would like more information about the Life Education program, please visit: [http://www.lifeeducation.org.au/parents](http://www.lifeeducation.org.au/parents)

**Walkers Pick –Up**

A reminder for parents picking up their children from **Walkers**, please do not park in the area directly behind the designated pick-up area. Visibility is very poor when reversing, making it quite unsafe for families walking to their vehicles. Unfortunately, the signs seemed to have disappeared from this area over the break and are now in the process of being replaced.

For K-2 Parents in particular, if you haven’t notified your child’s teacher about pick-up arrangements please do so ASAP. The office will also take calls prior to 2.20pm if arrangements change.

Wishing you a lovely week with your children,

*Julie Valentini*

Assistant Principal (Acting)
Assessment for Learning

During the next two weeks students from Years 1 – 6 will be involved in ACER PAT online assessments. Formative assessment is a powerful tool to improve teacher practice and ultimately improve student learning.

The results of these assessments will give teachers current information about the needs of the students in Literacy and Numeracy and will be used in conjunction with students to plan for individual goal setting.

Muddy Puddles

Muddy Puddles is a not for profit organisation that provides family support and development opportunities to children and young people who have a delay or disability. It offers targeted programs with clearly defined outcomes to assist children in reaching their potential.

As a new organisation they want to hear more from the community about how they can better assist children with additional needs and support their families.

If you are a parent or carer of a child aged 0 to 17 years with a developmental delay, impairment, disability or other condition impacting their ability to participate fully in the community, Muddy Puddles want to hear from you.

Please take 10 minutes to complete this survey which is a separate document attached to the Newsletter email. The results of the survey will assist us to develop programs and services that meet the needs of families in the Eurobodalla Shire.

Your responses will be confidential. Muddy Puddles will not collect identifying information such as your name and email address unless you give us permission to do so.

For the purposes of this survey, the term 'disability' will mean any limitation, restriction or impairment which has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least six months and restricts everyday activities. (This includes physical, intellectual, social and emotional restrictions).

If you would like to find out more about Muddy Puddles before or after you complete the survey, please feel welcome to contact Barb Pike on 02 4472 6939 or 0409 275 696.

Sharon Beashel
Learning Support/Coordinator

Happy Birthday to the following students:
Jaycob G
Taylah H
Lincoln K
Kasey S
Jack W
Baylin C
Georgia L
Sharna K
Charlotte L
Sienna K
Caleb S

BREAKFAST CLUB
All students are welcome to join us every Wednesday morning from 8.00am in the School Hall. Breakfast consists of:
- A bowl of cereal
- Toast (plain and raisin)
- Fruit
- Yogurt
- Milo or a glass of milk
A gold coin donation is most appreciated.
St Bernard’s Primary School Welcomes You to the 2016 School Year

Please join us for a Family Sausage Sizzle and Disco!

Sausage sandwiches will be complementary and you will also be able to purchase yummy treats from our canteen!

Date: Thursday 18 February
Where: St Bernard’s Primary in the Hall
Time: 5.00pm - 6.30pm
All Families are welcome!
2016 TERM DATES – NSW CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Day 1 of Term 1 is designated as a staff development (pupil free) day, which is to be used for staff planning and Professional Development before the students commence the school year the following day. One staff development day each year is to be devoted to religious and/or spiritual formation.

**Term 1**
- **26 January**    Australia Day Public Holiday
- **27 January**    Term 1 Starts - Staff Planning Day
- **28 January**    Students Return for Term 1
- **25 March**      Good Friday
- **28 March**      Easter Monday
- **8 April**       Term 1 Ends
- **11 April - 22 April**    Term Break
- **25 April**      Anzac Day Public Holiday

**Term 2**
- **26 April**      Term 2 Starts - Staff Development Day
- **27 April**      Students Return for Term 2
- **13 June**       Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
- **1 July**        Term 2 Ends
- **4 - 15 July**   Term Break

**Term 3**
- **18 July**       Term 3 Starts – Staff Development Day
- **19 July**       Students Return for Term 3
- **23 September**  Term 3 Ends
- **3 October**     Labour Day Public Holiday
- **26 September - 7 October**    Term Break

**Term 4**
- **10 October**    Term 4 Starts - Staff Development Day
- **11 October**    Students Return for Term 4
- **16 December**   Term 4 Ends for All Students
- **19 December**   Extra School PD Day #1
- **20 December**   Extra School PD Day #2 and Term 4 Ends for Staff
- **16 December (Friday)**    Term 4 Ends for All Students

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**Code Club**

I will be running a code club during lunch time on **Fridays (the day has changed)**. The program Google CS First is a creative and fun way for students to learn computer science. Students will learn to create awesome computer programs that they can share with family and friends. While they build, create and play, they will learn skills that they can use to make the world a better place.

[https://www.cs-first.com/](https://www.cs-first.com/). Places will be limited to the first 20 students from Years 3-6 to return their note. So get in quick!

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**Dear Mrs Burtenshaw**

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I give permission for ________________________________to participate in the CS First code club.

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Signed------------------------------------------------------------
Sports News

St Bernard’s Swimming Carnival

Last Thursday, St Bernard’s held our annual swimming carnival. Despite the cloudy start, the weather cleared to a beautiful day! Our students swam with great enthusiasm and I was very proud of the way they competed against each other with good sportsmanship.

The cheering was also excellent, being led for the first time by our Sports Captains. A very big well done to all competitors and cheer squads for such an enthusiastic attitude towards the day.

I must also say a big thank you to the Carroll College sports students and all the parent helpers on the day. To the starter, timekeepers, place judges, marshalls, caterers and those who help set up and pack up – I really appreciate it.

And to the wonderful staff of St Bernard’s - who support me in my role of Sports Coordinator, THANK YOU! A special thank you to Jo Wain who ran the carnival so efficiently and Jeni McCarthy for her help with the organisation in the lead up to the event.

The overall house winner on the day was MacKillop. Congratulations to the whole team for your participation.

Age Champions

The St Bernard’s Swimming Age Champions and Runners Up are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Boy</th>
<th>Junior Girl</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Runner up – Bill E</td>
<td>Runner up – Emma P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age Champion – Samuel B</td>
<td>Age Champion – Sophie E</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11 Yr Boy</th>
<th>11 Yr Girl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Runner up – Luke Sh</td>
<td>Runner up – Tyne P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Champion – Jackson B</td>
<td>Age Champion – Keira L</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senior Boy</th>
<th>Senior Girl</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Runner up – Jake B</td>
<td>Runner up – Alana G/Kyla J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Champion – Timothy M</td>
<td>Age Champion – Makadde E</td>
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Below is a list of the students who have been chosen to represent St Bernard’s at the Southern Region Swimming Carnival being held at Narooma on Tuesday 16 February. Congratulations to these students on your selection! If your child is unable to attend this carnival, please let myself know at your earliest convenience so that a replacement can be found. Permission notes will be sent home in coming days. Any parents who can assist on the day would be greatly appreciated.

St Bernard’s Southern Region Swim Team 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr 2</th>
<th>Yr 3</th>
<th>Yr 4</th>
<th>Yr 5</th>
<th>Yr 6</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Sam B</td>
<td>Sophie E</td>
<td>Keira L</td>
<td>Timothy M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronte E</td>
<td>Mitchell W</td>
<td>Alex Y</td>
<td>Tyne P</td>
<td>Makadde E</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minny H</td>
<td>Illia M</td>
<td>Sarah M</td>
<td>Jackson B</td>
<td>Kyla J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy R F</td>
<td>Marrissa Mac</td>
<td>Emma P</td>
<td>Brooke W</td>
<td>Emma M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper T</td>
<td>Sam B</td>
<td>Luke G</td>
<td>Luka B</td>
<td>Chris U</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bill E</td>
<td>Lachlan C</td>
<td>Kyle Y</td>
<td>George C</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Riley B</td>
<td>Joshua S</td>
<td>Luke Sh</td>
<td>Alana G</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maxine L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Courtni W</td>
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<td>Ben F</td>
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<td>Jake B</td>
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<td>Jakob B</td>
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</table>
We are looking forward to another great day of swimming at Narooma next week. We wish our competitors the very best of luck!

**Basketball and Tennis Trials**

We also wish good luck to the following students who are trialling for Archdiocesan teams in Cricket, Basketball and Tennis on Friday.


Best of luck and we can’t wait to hear all about the events on your return.

**St George Illawarra Dragons School Visit**

Last Wednesday, we were visited by the some current and up and coming players for the St George Illawarra Dragons NRL team. The purpose of the visit was to promote a healthy self, wellness and a sense of wellbeing. Adam was discussing the importance of getting lots of sleep, drinking lots of water and making sure we get outdoors and exercise. The students were involved in some interactive games and lots of fun was had. We thank the management and players for coming to our school.

Wishing you a very happy week ahead and feel free to contact me if you are able to help out at Narooma on Tuesday.

Megan Grant
PE Teacher/Sports Coordinator

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**PARENT HELPERS**

Have you completed your Child Protection for Volunteers Training? If you are interested in helping in the classroom, canteen, gross motor or school excursions, you will need to have completed a Working with Children Form. You can find the form on our School Website under the ‘Parents’ tab or at [http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check) If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to come and see us.

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**Canteen Special: Week 4**

**TUNA PASTA BAKE**

**$3.50 OR $5 MEAL DEAL**

Remember to check the Skoolbag App under “Canteen” for what is happening in the Canteen. The Term 1 Menu is on the App!

**Have you booked in for your Parent Teacher Interviews?**

- Go to: [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)
- CODE: DVENH
St Bernard’s Swimming Carnival
YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR
BOOK FAIR

Tuesday 23rd February – Friday 26th February

Open from
8am – 8:45am before school
2:45pm – 3:30pm after school

In the iCentre
St Bernard’s Primary School, Batehaven

YOU COULD WIN!
ALL STUDENTS (WITH NO OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS) WHO
BORROW A LIBRARY BOOK DURING WEEK 3 & 4
WILL GO IN THE DRAW TO
WIN A $20 BOOK FAIR VOUCHER!
(Don’t forget your library bag!)

Please note:
Students will be given an opportunity to view the books and complete a ‘wish list’
during the book fair. Payment for any, or all, of these books can be completed on-
line at home (as per instructions on wish list). Please return wish list to school with
receipt number and books can be collected immediately from the book fair by the
student. This option will assist in ensuring children aren’t bringing larger cash
amounts in to school, in situations where parents can’t attend.
Wish lists are available at the counter of the book fair at any time.
ST MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO FABULOUS 2016

COME AND JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED

TRiVIA Night

THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY
7:15P.M. FOR A 7:30PM START

TABLES OF 10 AVAILABLE
$10 PER PERSON
OR
$100 PER TABLE
IN THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

REGISTER YOUR TABLE GROUP AND CONFIRM WITH PAYMENT TO THE FRONT OFFICE
02) 4474 2817
“BE MASTER OF YOURSELF”

Ever been interested in learning Self-Defence?

Welcome all members of St Bernard’s Community both children, parents and friends.

The Peter Morton Academy of Self Defence has a Martial Arts school at St Bernard’s.

Training Night: Term 1 Week 4

Wednesday 17 February 2016

Juniors 8yr -13yr 5:30-6:30 pm
Seniors 14yr + 6:30-8:00 pm

For more information please contact:

Peter Fetterplace 0458 711 157
Robert Nedwich 0411 285 533

BROULEE SURF SCHOOL PRESENTS SHANE’S SURF SQUAD

- Learn to Surf lessons for kids aged 6-16 years
- Tuesdays from 4.00pm-5.30pm at North Broulee
- Thursdays from 4.00pm-5.30pm at Surf Beach
- Only $150 for 8 week intensive program
- Soft surfboards and wetsuits included

FOR MORE INFO or TO ENROL call 4471 7370.
Batemans Bay football club invites all families interested in playing soccer in the 2016 season to come along to our registration day.

We have teams from under 6’s to All Age divisions. Training is on a Wednesday afternoon and competition day is on a Sunday.

Registration Day:
When: Saturday 13 February 2016
10.00am – 2.00pm.
Where: Soccer grounds @ Hanging Rock sports fields.
(behind the tennis courts)
Free sausage sizzle on the day.
Please bring along your child’s birth certificate. Our first training session will be 2 March 2016, 4.00pm @ Hanging Rock Sports Grounds
Contact Jeni McCarthy 0405 682 573 for more details.

Batemans Bay Junior Boars Rugby Union Club is now taking registrations for the 2016 competition. Junior Teams aged from Under 10 – Under 18’s will be playing in the ACT Junior competition on a Saturday, playing both home and away games.

Training is held at Hanging Rock on Tuesday from 4.30pm commencing 11 February. Thursdays will commence in March.

Registration costs are $90. Program is fully supported by ACT Brumbies.

For further information, https://www.facebook.com/bayboarsjuniors or contact Ronnie: 0408 247 644 or Kylie 0428 743 471 or email: juniorboars@gmail.com