Dear Parents,

Last week, I attended the Principals’ Retreat in Bowral with Director, Moira Najdecki, Senior Officers from Catholic Education and Principals from across our Archdiocese. Archbishop Christopher Prowse led us in prayer and emphasised the Year of Mercy, highlighting the three practices of Lent, praying, fasting and almsgiving. As we journey through the Lenten Season, let us take time to think of others, praying into the Heart of Mercy.

Catholic Schools Week

To mark Catholic Schools Week, the communities of St Bernard’s, Carroll College and St Mary’s joined together in prayer today at Carroll College to celebrate Mass. There were approximately 1,200 students, teachers and parents celebrating together. Having all the students together from Kindergarten to Year 12 celebrating Mass is very special and unique to our South Coast Region, another true example of our strong Pathway for Catholic Education on the coast. It was also wonderful to see so many parents here yesterday for our open classrooms. I know the children very much enjoyed sharing their learning and their classroom with you!

Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to all our students receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, this Sunday 13 March. This is an important part of each students’ faith journey as they are making their own commitment to their faith. Archbishop Christopher Prowse will confirm the students at 3.00pm at Carroll College. St Bernard’s, St Mary’s and Carroll College are a community coming together to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is our Catholic identity that unites us. I warmly invite all families to join with us in celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation. Special thanks to all involved in preparing the children to receive this Sacrament, especially Fr John, Fr Dominic, Carla Durnan, Rebecca Klarica, Justin O’Neill and Emma Davies. I would also like to acknowledge the time and planning that has occurred at Carroll College. A BIG thank you to Steve Bath, Erica Drewsen, Belle Barling, Ros Maher and Emma Murdoch. As time goes on, our K - 12 Pathway for Catholic Education is growing stronger. Congratulations to Jakob B, Samuel B, Sophie C, Tamara D, Ruby H, Jack M, Emma M, Ethan R, Anna T, Christopher U, Jayden P and the Year 6 students from St Mary’s Primary School who will be receiving the Sacrament this weekend. You will be in our prayers.

St Bernard’s School Board

I am pleased to announce that Nicole Allen and Nicole Powell have been appointed to the School Board. Our School Board Members for 2016 include: Fr John Armstrong, Steven Tuckwell, Phil Willcoxon, Bernie Beatty, Johanna Wain, Julie Valenitni (in Jacqui Heffernan’s absence), Annette Hynes, Nicole Powell, Nicole Allen and Melissa Franzen. Please find later on in the newsletter a brief introduction of our new school board members.

Have an enjoyable weekend.
Johanna Wain

Principal Acting
Message from Fr John

This weekend we have the distressing scene of the woman who is dragged before a crowd who want to stone her. It is more distressing not because of the accusations that are hurled against her but that she is being used to bring accusations against the person of Jesus. She is simply seen as a means to an end. Yet in the face of torrents of abuse, Jesus simply bends down and writes on the ground. Many people have speculated about what he wrote. I guess we will never know. However, when he straightens up he asks the person without sin to cast the first stone and then bends down again. The people accusing the woman drop their stones starting with the eldest and walk away. Eventually, all the accusers have left the scene and Jesus is left alone with the woman. He asks if any of those who accused her remain. She states that none are there. He then says go and sin no more.

What is essential to this gospel passage is that we are not brought to the point of conversion by coercion, abuse or gossip. The only way to experience that conversion is to encounter love in the person of God. It is only in the realisation that we are loved by God that hearts can change. This is at the centre of the Gospel it is not by pointing the finger but in liberating the person from their slavery that lives can change. What enslaves us from living a life which God desires for us? What assists us to love others who are struggling with an addiction to sin?

Fr. John Armstrong
Parish Priest of Batemans Bay
Administrator of Moruya
PO Box 3220
Batehaven NSW 2536
02 4472 4153
jarmstrong@cg.org.au

St Patrick’s Day
Wednesday 17 March
All parents are welcome to join us for Mass at 9.15am.
Don’t forget to come dressed in Green!
Dear Parents and Carers

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

We are currently amidst Catholic Schools Week. It has been wonderful to see so many parents come into our classrooms this week to see the amazing things we have been doing. I am sure you all enjoyed visiting your child’s learning space as well.

Today we have joined together as three schools to celebrate Catholic Schools Week as one community on the South Coast. It is a great opportunity for students from St Bernard’s, St Mary’s and Carroll College to see older siblings, past students such as their buddies and experience what we have to offer as part of our K-12 pathway. This year’s theme ‘I belong, You belong, We belong’ was definitely celebrated today as it was a day of inclusivity and belonging where we were able to share Mass and morning tea together.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

On Tuesday our Year 6 classes from both St Mary’s and St Bernard’s travelled to Carroll College to participate in a retreat day in readiness for our students who are making their Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. The students were involved in activities developed by Year 10 students at Carroll College. The feedback from the students was very positive, they had a great time! We would love families to join us this Sunday at 3.00pm at Carroll College for this special Mass with Archbishop Christopher Prowse as celebrant with Fr John Armstrong and Fr Dominic Byrne. The Year 6 students have also put their Saint projects up on display in the church in preparation for this Sacrament if you would like to have a look at all of their hard work. If you could please keep Jakob B, Sam B, Sophie C, Tamara D, Ruby H, Jack M, Emma M, Jayden P, Ethan R, Anna T, and Christopher U in your prayers this week as they prepare for this special time.

ST PATRICK’S DAY

Next week Thursday 17 March we celebrate the life of St Patrick. He explained our faith to the World and it is a great opportunity to celebrate it by wearing green to remind us of the clover leaf he used to explain the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We come together for Mass at 9.15am as a school, then we will work on some activities on St Patrick. Next week is St Joseph’s day which falls on Saturday 19 March. As a school that was started by the Josephite Sisters we continue to hold great relationship with some of the Sisters of St Joseph who live next door to us. We will be hosting morning tea for them after our St Patrick’s Mass.

Thankyou,

Carla Durnan
Religious Education Coordinator Acting
Dear Parents/Carers

This week, St Bernard’s joins with more than 620 Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate the annual Catholic Schools Week (CSW). The 2016 CSW theme ‘I Belong. You Belong. We Belong.’ ties with the Church’s celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which recognises our Catholic faith values of forgiveness, compassion, strength, aid and love.

We are immensely proud of our Catholic Heritage. About 20% of all Australian school children are now enrolled in Catholic schools. To showcase the many wonderful things happening in our school, we held an ‘Open Classroom Morning’ yesterday from 9.00 am—10.00 am. It was great to see so many parents involving themselves in classrooms activities and the smiles on the very proud student faces, was priceless. Please see some snapshots of the morning on the following page.

Car Parking
As we pass mid-term, I would like to communicate some reminders about after school pick-up. If you are collecting your children from Walkers, please come to the covered area to collect them. It is difficult to ensure the safety of all students if parents call their children to the car or beyond the fenced area. Please do not park in the area adjacent to the fence as it creates poor visibility when reversing. If someone else is collecting your children, please communicate these procedures to them. Safety is a priority, and the teachers who are on duty are focused on the students in the pick up area. If you are catching up with other parents, please ensure your children are well supervised and in the appropriate areas.

Further to this, if you are parking along David Street in the afternoon, please do not double park, park in driveways or on nature strips. This has been of some concern to local residents and has been referred by them to parking authorities. We thank you for your vigilance on this matter.

Uniform
At St Bernard’s, we take great pride in our uniform. Please continue to uphold our high standards and the expectations that we have on uniforms. We are noticing some inappropriate footwear, hair ties and jewellery being worn. Please ensure that sport shoes are predominantly white, with white laces. Vans, skate shoes and gym boots are not to be worn. Jewellery should be kept to a minimum and long hair must be pulled back with, where possible, colour coordinated ribbons, bands, clips etc. If you are unsure of our uniform policy please visit our website on; http://stbernardsbb.nsw.edu.au/parents/schooluniform.html

Life Education
Next week, the Life Education Van arrives at St Bernard’s Tuesday 15 March. The program runs through until Wednesday 30 March. K-2 classes have 1 hour sessions and Years 3 - 6, 1.5 hour sessions. Life Education has been empowering children and young people to make safer and healthier choices through education for more than 35 years. 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 have not returned permission slips and payment, please do so as a matter of urgency. A price list of items available for purchase (should you wish) is attached to this newsletter.

Starting School Expo
On Saturday 19 March, St Bernard’s will be hosting a stall at the ‘Be Ready Starting School Expo’ at Riverside Park, Moruya from 9.00 am —12.00 pm. Please pop in to say hello an try out our Gross Motor activities and tasty fruit cups. Visit a variety of stalls that focus on giving parents and young children vital skills for school readiness. Please spread the word!

Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Julie Valentini
Assistant Principal (Acting)
Catholic Schools Week
St Bernard’s Makerspace

The Digital leaders have been helping me prepare a presentation for an Innovation Expo in Canberra on Friday where I will be presenting our Makerspace to other schools in the Archdiocese.

The Makerspace has been packed to the rafters all term with tinkerers and makers from all grades. The creations have been ingenious.

We are also running a **Garage Band Battle of the Bands**. Students are asked to put a band together and practise on the playground during recess and lunch. They will then record their song using the Garage Band App. In Week 10 we will play the songs over the PA and vote for a winner.

Our Enrichment groups are going well. Eight students from Years 3 and 4 are working on building Hummingbird robots and eight students from 5 and 6 are learning to use the Arduino boards.

The **Code Club** has been using Scratch to program their own game. They have designed their own Sprites and are constructing race tracks to race them around.

Our Makerspace is certainly a place where Imagination thrives.
Sport News

**Archdiocesan Winter Trials**

Last Monday, several of our senior students travelled to Queanbeyan to trial in Netball, Girls Soccer and Rugby League. From all accounts, it was a very hot day but most importantly, all the students had a great time playing sport and meeting new friends. The competition at these events is quite tough, having to compete against students from Southern, Western and Northern Regions of our Archdiocese. Congratulations to all the boys and girls who travelled to represent our school. You are outstanding ambassadors for St Bernard’s. Congratulations also must go to our students who have been successful in gaining selection for the Archdiocesan teams in Rugby League and Girls Soccer.

**RUGBY LEAGUE**: (Opens): Jed S

**GIRLS SOCCER**: Tyne P

Below are some comments from some of the students about the trial events. (Sorry, I couldn’t get to them all!)

**Kye F**: The hardest thing was to get the ball because everyone was in a bunch. The best thing was to get selected for the next stage with Eli, Luka, Luke and Matty!

**Isaiah M**: The hardest thing was to get in there and get the ball. The kids we were versing were massive! The best thing about the day was running the ball.

**Eli C**: The best thing about the day was having my name called out for the rep team!

**Luke Sh**: The best thing was hearing my name in the rep team.

**Matt C**: My favourite thing about the footy trials is when I got called out for the team and I really liked playing with my mate. I liked playing in the hooker position.

**Tyne P**: The best thing about the trials was tackling the other people. The worst thing was the other teams getting tries.

**Jack A**: The best thing about playing football was playing with my friends. My position was second row.

**Amber D**: I went to the Netball trials in Queanbeyan and my favourite part was playing the game.

**Georgia K**: I loved being able to play against the other schools Soooo fun!

**Hannah K**: Netball was kind of hard because there were lots of other good girls that were very tall. I liked the drills we did but the best part was playing the game.

**Sophie Mc**: The best thing was that I got picked in the ‘possible/probably/list. It was fun playing with new friends.

**Tyne P**: Being able to play against other girls was a great experience. Also, playing in different positions was fun.

Again, congratulations to you all on your selection. These students will now travel to Canberra in May for the Mackillop Trials team selections. We wish them the very best of luck at the next level of competition.

**Summer trials events.**

Tyne P (Tennis), Alana G (Basketball) and Jack Mc (Cricket) have all participated in the next level of competition for their chosen sports over the past few days. Congratulations to these students for their excellent achievements in these sports. If any parents have some photos from these events (Summer and Winter trials) I would love to put them into the newsletter in coming weeks. Please email them to megan.grant@cg.catholic.edu.au

**Rugby Union**

Over the past 4 weeks, Years 3 – 6 students have been participating in Rugby Union clinics at school. We were fortunate enough to be granted funding from Sporting Schools Australia to allow these sessions to take place at our school. We thank Angus and Nick from the ACT Brumbies for all their help and fun skills sessions. The clinics will culminate in a Union Gala Day next Friday 18 March at Surfside Playing fields. Please feel free to come along and watch on the day. The students will be placed into teams of ‘tackle’ and Viva 7’s (touch). Only students who have played a tackle football code will be able to play in the tackle teams. (It is important that students have been taught the correct ‘safe play’ code) All students playing tackle will require a mouthguard (compulsory) and any other protective gear that you already have. Thank you to the Year 3 – 6 teachers for taking the students on the day. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact either the class teacher or myself.

**Rugby League Gala Day**

Next Wednesday, selected students will be playing in a League Gala Day at Mackay Park. These students were selected from their current roles within the football community. They will be playing in the ‘Weyman Shield Gala Day’ and they will be playing other schools from our area. We wish them lots of luck on the day and hope that the weather is a little cooler than we’ve been experiencing lately! More information will be sent home with the selected students in coming days.

Wishing you a safe and happy week ahead,

Megan Grant
PE Teacher/Sport Coordinator
(Kinder)
Lucas C, Charlie J, Joshua T, Elyssa W, Baylin Mc, Oliver F, Anthony N, Henry A,
Jasper S, Teleesha S

(Year 1)

(Year 2)
Lily P, Erin P,

(Year 3)

(Year 4)
Lachlan D, Emma L, Corban Mc, Beaux C, Evan L, Antonio V, Kody P

(Year 5)
Eli C, Ella C, Kayden R, Madeleine T, Calli V, Christopher B, Matthew C, Summah F,
Caden G, Anjelica W

(Year 6)

French

Congratulations
A Brief Introduction to our New School Board Members:

Hi, my name is Nicole Allen and I have 2 children at St Bernard’s Primary School, one child in Year 3 and one in Kindergarten. I am committed to the provision of quality education and find it imperative as a parent to be actively involved with the school community, forming a strong partnership for the benefit and well being of our children. I am myself a local business owner in Batemans Bay and am involved in the children’s services sector. I am trained in both the early childhood and primary education fields and have a Masters Degree in Special Education. With 3 children of my own I feel I am in tune with the challenges, rewards and commitments that are essential for a role on the school board.

My name is Nicole Powell and my association with St Bernard’s Primary School began in 1981, attending the school from Kindergarten to Year Six. My daughter, Lily, currently attends the school and younger daughter, Evie, will attend the school in the coming years. I am currently the P & F Treasurer (2015 and 2016). My husband and I, run our own electrical contracting business where I am the accounts manager, responsible for the businesses financials, accounts, payroll, superannuation and BAS. I am hoping to join the Board to help maintain the integrity and traditions of the school.

My name is Melissa Franzen and I have lived all my life in the Eurobodalla, being educated in Moruya and now a co-owner and the Licensee-In-Charge of the family owned real estate business South Coast Property Specialists in Malua Bay. Running a business of 7 full time and 2 part time staff has provided me with a wide range of business skills including business planning, staff management/payroll, financial management and occupational health and safety. I have a keen interest in using information technology including utilising social media for business purposes. I have been married to my husband Tom for 10 years. My son Shaun started at St Bernard’s this year and my daughter Charlotte will be starting at St Bernard’s in 2019.

P & F News

I hope you all have had a great week so far and were able to come along to the open classes. Just a quick reminder to please bring in an Easter egg if you haven't done so yet. There are boxes in your child/ren’s classes for them to be placed in. We are also looking for helpers to wrap the eggs for the raffle. Our next P & F meeting will be on Tuesday 22 March at 7pm so please come along and join us. It’s a great way to meet people and take a role in our school community. If you would like more information please feel free to contact me or just turn up.

Look forward to seeing you all around the school.
Tori Vincent
P&F President
tori_vincent@hotmail.com
0433988254

Canteen Special: Week 8

SHEPHERD’S PIE

$3.50 or $5.00 meal deal (includes icy pole & popper drink )
FEBRUARY ARTICLE

Handwriting Tips
Students who struggle with handwriting may know the content, but have trouble putting their knowledge/thoughts onto paper. Creating messy, illegible writing after so much effort is frustrating and demoralising, and will lead to more learning issues as the student falls further behind.

General Tips
✓ Find a pencil grip that works and invest in a few.
✓ Write letters in multiple contexts, eg. sand, shaving foam, foam/mirror, concrete using chalk, etc.
✓ Warm up hands before starting to write.
✓ Encourage correct body posture, eg. sit at the desk, not laying on the floor, etc.

Tips for Home
✓ Encourage your child to learn keyboard skills.
✓ Put the alphabet in plain view when working on writing.
✓ Help your child with written homework, eg. let them dictate to you.
✓ Use cutlery to eat to encourage fine motor skills.
✓ Play games with small pieces, eg. Lego, jenga, marbles, etc.
✓ Write letters on your child's back and vice versa.
✓ Encourage the writing experience eg. add items to the shopping list, write down a dinner choice, write notes to each other, etc.

Tips for School
✓ Allow students to print if cursive is too hard.
✓ Provide a photocopy of instructions rather than expecting the student to copy everything.
✓ Allow the use of a computer if needed.
✓ Have the alphabet stuck on the desk for quick reference.
✓ Break tasks up eg. 1. Complete writing task, 2. Add punctuation, 3. Check spelling, etc.
✓ Give less work to be complete by hand, eg. five sums instead of ten.
✓ Allow more time to complete work.


Have you read this article...

Have you seen this book...

Have you googled this website...
http://www.rci.org.au/ot/information_sheets/Kids_health_information/
A great range of fact sheets relating to pencil grip, hand strength, low muscle tone, etc.

RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT
ASSISTING STUDENTS WITH ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER
A Guide for Secondary Teachers, By V Hastings

An overview of ADD - what it is, how it affects the student, how to assist the student (re behaviour, organisation, social etc), the parent’s role and the school’s role.

$10 for LDC members
$15 for non members

See www.ldc.org.au for details
Be Ready
starting school expo

Let's get ready for school

Saturday 19th March 2016
9am–12pm Riverside Park Moruya

Meet the teachers of the Eurobodalla
Children's activities Fun for the whole family
FREE goodies to give away FREE ENTRY
Dear Parents,

Life Education NSW is a not for profit community-based organisation that relies heavily on fundraising within the community to assist in meeting the shortfall left after receiving minimal assistance from Government funding.

The sale of Harold merchandise to the children whilst the program is visiting each school supports the fundraising activities of local committees and all proceeds support Life Education within each local area. These products help to remind children about the messages delivered to them during their Life Education session and have either a picture of Harold or the Life Education logo on them.

The educator will provide the opportunity for children to purchase these products during the school visit. Please provide the correct money in an envelope with the item written on the face of the envelope along with your child’s name and class. This allows the educator to process orders efficiently and accurately. Orders will be returned by the conclusion of the visit.

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Name: ___________________________ Child’s Class: ___________________________

NB Harold Products are subject to availability
Life Education NSW thanks you for your support.

☐ I would like to donate ___________ to Life Education NSW. Gifts of $2.00 or over are tax deductible.

Name: ___________________________ Phone (optional): ___________________________
Address: _________________________ Postcode: _________________________
Suburb: _________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Email (optional) ___________________________ Child’s Class: ___________________________

Visit Life Education at www.lifeeducation.org.au or www.healthyharold.org.au
Peppers Netball Club Registrations

Peppers registrations are being held at the Soldiers Club on the following days:

**Saturday 12 March 10:00am – 12:00pm**

This year all players are required to register online through the My Netball portal, with printed form and payment receipt being handed in on either of the above dates (or register online and bring cash payment on the day).

A newsletter containing online registration details will be emailed to last year’s members. Newsletter/rego information for new members can be obtained by emailing Fiona Crow (fionacrow@hotmail.com) or Annette Kobold (nettykob@hotmail.com). Season commences Saturday 30 April.

**NetSetGo Comp** – 8 and 9 years

**Juniors** – 10, 11 and 12 years

**Intermediate** – 13, 14 and 15 years

**Senior** – 16 years and over

“I need an Easter Hat for tomorrow!”

If this is familiar, come to the library for a simple Easter Hat making session in time for this year’s run of Easter Hat Parades in our schools.

**Narooma Library**  14 March 3.30 - 4.30pm

**Batemans Bay Library** 15 March 3.30 - 4.30pm

**Moruya Library**  16 March 3.30 - 4.30pm

Free event. Bookings essential.

JUNIOR RUGBY – BROULEE DOLPHINS

Dolphins Rugby are looking for more players to join their club this season. There are places available in U11s, U13s and U18s

Teams are graded and training is at Broulee on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There are six home and six away matches on Saturdays over Terms 2 and 3. (No matches in school holidays)

Help with transport is available for training and away games.

Players do not have to be experienced to sign up.
We are looking for players who are willing to learn the game, respect their team mates, officials and opponents and do themselves, their families and their club proud.

For more information please call Karyn Starmer 0427 522 227
Or check out the website www.dolphinsrugby.com