Dear Parents and Friends,

At the Saturday evening Mass last weekend, we celebrated Pentecost. It was lovely to see the involvement of St Bernard’s students in the Mass. It certainly enhances the celebration for parishioners and assists our children to be more fully engaged.

Pentecost was the focus of our Staff Prayer this morning. I was touched by a section of the prayer that connected Pentecost to our every day lives. I share this with you...

“Whenever children learn something new, the biggest hurdle they face is fear. Sometimes physical pain deters them – fear of falling off the bike or on the ice skates. As they get older, more often fear of others stands in the way – fear of looking foolish in class or being rejected by a teenage crush. No matter how hard they work, how much they learn, or how long they practice, at some point they have to be willing to risk failure in order to have success.

We’re all afraid of something – whether it’s heights, public speaking, or spiders. We’re at our best, though, when we feel the fear and still manage to move beyond it. Children do this everyday, most of us adults don’t.

We celebrate Pentecost as the birthday of the Church because it is the day when the Holy Spirit overcame the fear the disciples were facing. In moments, those who were huddled in a locked room were preaching in the streets; those who feared persecution were inviting martyrdom. It takes courage to be human, and great courage to be a Christian. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to be our most human, best selves”.

Catholic Education, in support of the Early Literature Intervention initiative have donated hundreds of books for use in our Years 3-6 classrooms. This project is promoting a love of reading and writing, enhancing confidence and motivating students to read and write in all classrooms. If you assist in your child’s class, keep an eye out for the books with the round yellow sticker. These books will be labelled and will remain part of the classroom library.

Kindergarten 2017
It was my pleasure to welcome families to our Open Day last Friday. Thank you to parents who have returned enrolment forms. We have received many this week. It is most important that these are returned as soon as possible. Thank you in advance.

Enjoy the week ahead. Please know my door is always open should you need me.

Jacqueline Heffernan
Principal
Dear Parents

In preparation for Pentecost last weekend, I asked a group of Year 6 students if they would be attending Mass with us. One student looked at me and replied “I would like to go, but I’m not Catholic”. My heart felt heavy as I told him that he did not need to be Catholic to attend church, that he and his family were welcome regardless of their religious background. Pentecost Sunday is a day for opening doors. The coming of the Holy Spirit on the apostles at Pentecost marks the beginning of the time of the Church. Filled with the Spirit, the apostles preach in many languages symbolising the universal nature of the Church’s mission – membership of the Church is not based on race or language, but on love, the greatest of the Spirit’s gifts.

I recently read the following story. An old man had worked for a Catholic family as a farm hand for many years. When the family went to church on Sunday they would invite the farm hand along and he would go with them and over the many years that he worked for this family he did not show any inclination to actually go ahead and join the Church. Finally, when he was dying he asked to see a priest and when the priest arrived the old man asked if it was possible for him to join the church. The priest made the necessary enquiries of the old man and then baptised and received him into the Church. The good family that this old man worked for were astounded by all this and just before he died one of the family asked why he had waited so long before joining the Church. The old man’s reply was very simple, "Nobody invited me to!"

Please accept our invitation to attend school and weekend Masses. Also, If you are a non-Catholic and would like your child to receive the Sacraments, please don’t hesitate to come and see me or contact our Parish Priests.

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**Religious Education Term 2 Dates for your Diary**

- **Wednesday 25 May** – Reconciliation Retreat Day (Year 2)
- **Wednesday 1 June** – Anointing Mass - Year 5Y to attend (change of date).
- **Friday 3 June** – Grandparents Day Mass at 9.15am (Followed by Open Classrooms and Morning Tea)
- **Thursday 9 June** – Sacrament of Reconciliation at 5.30pm.
- **Friday 1 July** – End of Term Mass at 9.15 am. St Vincent DePaul Winter Appeal Mufti Day.

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**Pentecost Sunday**

“They were all filled with the Holy Spirit ...” (Acts 2: 1-11).

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Wishing you a lovely week with your family.

**Julie Valentini**
Religious Education Coordinator
Dear Parents

I hope you’ve had an enjoyable week. We have had a busy start to the term with sporting events, NAPLAN and Open Day being a part of our term thus far. A huge thank you to all our St Bernard’s Staff who assisted in the organisation of the day, their commitment and dedication was much appreciated. Also a special thank you to our Year 6 and Kindergarten students. They were exceptional in assisting throughout the morning.

Punctuality to School
Parents are reminded that the school day commences at 8:45am. Students need to arrive before the bell everyday so that they are ready to assemble with their class when the bell rings and begin lessons promptly. The Literacy Block and school routine is so important. Disruptions to the morning affect the class and learning time. Please assist in this matter by ensuring that your child arrives by bell time.

If your child is unavoidably late for school, please bring them to the front office so that they can be signed in by a parent or caregiver. In the same manner, if you need to collect your child early, please send a note to the class teacher and collect your child from the front office. If you need to speak with your child’s classroom teacher, please make an appointment. All teachers are happy to meet with parents to discuss any concerns. Classroom learning time is not an appropriate time. We appreciate your understanding in these matters.

Assessment for Learning
Over the next couple of weeks, all classroom teachers will be assessing the students in Literacy. These assessments take place in Term 2 and Term 4 each year. The Staff have developed an Agreed Practice to enable all students to be tracked throughout the Primary School Years. The assessments will assist teachers to:

- Determine the strategies students are using in their reading
- Make informed teaching decisions
- Observe changes in an individual student’s learning
- Inform learning and teaching

The data is collected and will be used in classroom programs to target individual needs and track student progress. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to speak with the classroom teacher.

Professor Kaye Lowe - CLAIM THE DATE
Professor Kaye Lowe will be facilitating a parent evening on Monday 30 May, focusing on spelling and writing. Each time I hear Kaye Lowe speak, I learn something new and gain inspiration! Childcare is available. Don’t forget to send in your RSVP so we can cater for numbers.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Premier’s Reading Challenge is well under way. Don’t forget you can log your books online using your own username and password from home or at school. Children in Years 3 to 6 are asked to read 20 books from a specially selected list. Kinder - Year 2 read 30 ‘shorter’ books. Please come and see us if you have any questions.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Johanna Wain
Assistant Principal
St Bernard’s P&F invites you to attend a night of great company and laughs... with a little bit of trivia!

**When:**  Friday 24 June 2016  
**Where:**  Catalina Golf Club  
**Time:**  7.00pm for 7:30pm start  
**Cost:**  $15 per head

Tickets are available for purchase from the Front Office.

Lucky door prizes

100 club

Games and Trivia.

Loads of prizes kindly donated by local businesses.
Stage 1 Transport Systems
Transport has been around for a long time. Transport systems are all around us and play an important part of our lives.

Stage One Intensive Reading
All students in Year 1 (1VS, 1H and S1S) participate in Intensive Guided Reading Intervention, scheduled 3 x 30 minutes per week. These sessions are planned and facilitated by the classroom teacher, and supported by the Learning Support Teacher and three Learning Support Assistants. Guided Reading is a teaching approach that is designed to help individual students learn how to process a variety of increasingly challenging texts with understanding and fluency. It is a strategy that supports students to discover the meaning of a text for themselves. So effective is this approach in improving student achievement and engagement in Reading, that in 2015 the Year 1 staff and Learning Support team won a Recognition of Excellence award from Catholic Education for its implementation. If you would like more information regarding the program, please contact Julie Valentini.
CATHOLIC AUSTRALIA’S FUTURE

More than 765,000 students attend 1,731 Catholic schools across Australia

Find out more at SchoolFundingFacts.com

Source: Australian Government Department of Education and Training. Authorised by Ross Fox, National Catholic Education Commission, Level 3, 156 Gloucester St, Sydney
Archdiocesan Cross Country
Carnival at Stromlo

The students had a great day, running their very best! Congratulations to everyone who competed on the day. A special congratulations to Emma P and Claudia H who have made it on to the next level at Eastern Creek.

Weyman Shield Rugby League Gala Day

We wish our Year 5 Rugby League team the best of luck next Wednesday at the Weyman Shield Rugby League Gala Day at Cobargo. A reminder to please bring in your permission notes by Monday 23 May. Mrs Metcalf will accompany the students on the day.

Expression of interest!

Sacred Heart Pearce is holding the Catholic Schools Netball Carnival on Sunday 30 October in Canberra. All students are eligible to enter as a team. Each team needs to have a coach/manager, umpire etc. Cost is $25 per competitor.

For registration and information, please contact Megan Grant at megan.grant@cg.catholic.edu.au

Megan Grant
Sport Coordinator
St Bernard’s Open Day

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
& EARLY LEARNING CENTRES
ENROLLING NOW
2 - 20 MAY 2016
I BELONG. YOU BELONG. WE BELONG.
Catholic.Edv.Au
SCHOOL BANKING NEWS $$$

Congratulations to these School Banking savers!

Charlee B (2F) earned a Wildlife Writer Set. Anjelica W (5Y) - flying snake tail. Mia B (5Y), Kate P (KJ) and Benjamin E (S1S) - a mud splat handball. Ariel A (2C) and Logan M B (S1S) - ET DVD. Wonderful saving!

Also congratulations go to the following students who received a Bronze Certificate: Benjamin F (6O), Ivy P (3C), Matilda K (4M), Charlee B (2F), Brianna G (2C) and Lachlan W (KB).

Canteen Roster - Week 5

| Mon 23 May | CANTEEN CLOSED |
| Tue       | CANTEEN CLOSED |
| Wed       | HELPER NEEDED  |
| Thurs     | HELPER NEEDED  |
| Fri       | HELPER NEEDED  |

Remember to check the Skoolbag App under “Canteen” for what is happening in the Canteen. The Term 2 Menu is on the App!

Canteen Week 5

Pasta carbonara.

$3.50 or $5.00 meal deal

The canteen clothing pool is in desperate need of uniform donations, especially girls!

Community News

LITTLE SELLERS ART PRIZE

SPONSORED BY EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

Budding artists between the ages of 5 and 18 are invited to submit an artwork for the Eurobodalla Shire Council’s Little Sellers Art Prize 2016. The theme for the prize is ‘Our Place’.

There are four age categories:

- Ages 5 - 8
- Ages 9 - 12
- Ages 13 - 15
- Ages 16 - 18

There are great prizes to be won and six finalists from each category will have their work framed and exhibited in the Eurobodalla libraries.

Entries open Monday 16 May 2016 and close on Friday 15 July 2016.

For conditions of entry and entry forms visit www.esc.nsw.gov.au.
The brilliant pianist, Simon Tedeschi, will perform in Batemans Bay at 3.00pm on Sunday 29 May in St Bernard’s Church, Batehaven. Don’t miss a wonderful afternoon of music, refreshments and a free Q and A after the concert.

Bookings online at www.southcoastmusicsociety.com
St Bernard’s Parent Workshop
Monday 30 May

How to help your child at home with spelling and writing facilitated by
Professor Kaye Lowe

Date: Monday 30 May
Time: 5.30pm - 7.00pm
Where: St Bernard’s iCentre

Childcare will be available in the Hall. We will also provide the children with pizza and some light refreshments for parents. Please fill in the slip below if you are able to attend. This will assist us with catering for the night.

This workshop is designed to eliminate the stress and anxiety that parents can experience when assisting their children at home with reading and writing. The emphasis will be on supporting your child at home with spelling and writing.

PLEASE RETURN BY WEDNESDAY 26 MAY

I will be attending the Parent Workshop on Monday 30 May at 5.30pm

My children will be coming for pizza:
__________________________________________ (Please add names)

Name of Parent: ____________________________________