Dear Parents,

Last Monday we were very privileged to host the Archdiocesan Public Speaking Competition. Representatives from Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 came from the Southern, Western and Northern regions to compete. All students spoke confidently and with poise. It was a very difficult decision for our adjudicators. Congratulations to Ivy P (Year 3), Bill E (Year 3) and Zac H (Year 5) who made it to this elite level. A special congratulations to Bill E and Zach H who both won runner-up in their age groups. Thank you to David Day (Learning Technologies), Elizabeth Moroney (School Services at Catholic Education) and Paul Cullen (English Teacher at Carroll College) for adjudicating the Public Speaking. We had a number of parents comment on how welcomed they felt from the St Bernard’s students and what a beautiful school we have on the Coast. Thank you to Sam B and Alicia G who ran proceedings and to our Year 6 Leaders - Captains, SRC and Sports Captains for their assistance on the day. A special thank you to Julie Valenini for coordinating the event. It was a wonderful morning.

Storyline Presentation of Learning
Next Thursday 22 September from 11.30am - 12.30pm parents are invited to visit classrooms to view the students’ learning over the term. Each class will present their learning journey, a culmination of their History/Geography units of work. Students will share their knowledge and understanding of the characters they became during the term.

- Kindergarten will be showcasing their farms
- Stage One will be Toy Experts in their Toy Museum
- Year 3 will be celebrating the Grand Opening of the Eurobodalla Fact Room
- Year 4 will be providing a guided tour of their National Park Environments
- Year 5 will be showing you life on the goldfields
- Year 6 will be launching their books titled ‘The Lonely Planet’

All families are invited to join in the celebration of learning.

Calming Spaces
Last term the Staff completed a workshop lead by Christine Wanjura from Catholic Education, focusing on student wellbeing. Our focus was on the learning environment and how to create a calming space. The learning environment fosters a sense of belonging, enhances the joy of learning, honours diversity, allows for student choice and promotes respectful relationships. The physical classroom environment relays strong messages about what is valued and the pedagogy that takes place (Calming Spaces in Archdiocese Schools guidelines, 2016). All classrooms will have a designated area within the classroom as a calming space by the end of 2016 with support from Catholic Education. It is important to know that the space is not seen as a particular student’s calming space, but an area that ALL students are able to access.

St Bernard’s Bus Contract
A St Bernard’s Bus Contract has been developed this term in conjunction with Priors Bus Company and will be sent home this afternoon for all students to sign who travel on the bus. We would like all contracts returned to school by Friday 23 September. I encourage you to talk with your child/ren about the contract and acceptable bus behaviour. If you have any concerns, please don’t hesitate to make contact.

Mrs Valenini will be on leave for the last week of term and Mrs Sue Dickson will be teaching 1VS for the week. We wish Mrs Valenini an enjoyable and safe holiday with her family.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Johanna Wain
Assistant Principal
There can be times when our lives are driven by how much we earn and the bills we have to pay. This can cause anxiety for people especially when there seems to be more money going out then coming in. In an age of easy credit and the ability to respond instantly to purchase something off the television, the internet or even tap and go, it is possible to quickly find ourselves trapped into patterns of behavior which we would prefer to be free from. We do not simply work to pay bills. We are called to discover something which brings substance and meaning to our lives. When our lives become driven by something beyond our grasp or our decisions are based solely on what they cost we lose sight of the treasure that lives deep within and what truly brings value. The gospel calls us to reflect on this. We are called to be people who discern what God is calling us to and then see what is necessary to reach that end. When we allow money to be the sole determiner of what is good and worthwhile we lose a sense of ourselves and our calling to be formed into the image and likeness of God. We are called to use money not money using us!

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

Dear Parents,

As I reported in last week’s newsletter, I wanted to feedback the results of our recent school survey responses this week. The following is the collation of 131 responses from all parents. The responses have not been changed in any way.

This parent satisfaction survey at St Bernard’s Primary School BATEMANS BAY K-6 was undertaken in August 2016. Invitations containing a link to the on-line survey instrument were sent to all parents.

The survey remained open for 14 days. Parents who had not completed the survey were sent a reminder three days before the survey closed.

131 of the 231 parents completed the survey (57% completion rate is considered excellent).

This week I share the section of the report which includes ALL comment responses in answer to:

The BEST thing about this school is...

The teachers have lovely relationships with the teachers.
Environment.
The high standard and care factor for students.
Friendliness of staff.
The discipline.
Great network of children and their families.
It teaches my child about religion.
How welcomed you feel.
The teachers are quick to respond to concerns quickly.
Size and number of students.
Children are happy and respectful.
The BEST thing about this school is...

The best thing about this school is the sense of community and the willingness to help my children achieve and better themselves.

Great staff and facilities.
Friendly and Approachable staff, educational activities, communication with parents.
Family oriented.
The staff.
Overall environment.
Friendly and approachable professionals.
The staff.
The feeling of community and the feeling that my children are well catered for.
Great facilities.
Julie Ireland and Sharon Beashel.
Having a good variety of good teachers.
The friendly staff at this school are amazing. My child absolutely loves going to school here.
School spirit. Emphasis on technology.
Teacher approachability.
The sense of community.
This school is engaging the children in a variety of things such as school assembly hosting; plays; code clubs which is expanding their learning experiences.
Quality education.
Class sizes.
Wonderful caring teachers.
The staff and their approach to my children receiving the best possible education.

THE Staff
It makes an effort at all times to try and make the child and parents feel welcomed and included. The care and support they provide for my child with a medical condition.
So friendly.
The teachers providing a great education This is the school of my Faith.
My child is happy.
All round great school.
Friendly and positive community spirit.
My child seems to be happy and runs in the gate every morning and loves her teacher. She feels safe with her teachers and that is extremely important.
Teachers and ethics.
Friendly environment.
Equality between students.
My children love going to St Bernard's and we love talking about their school day at dinner time :-)
Community feel, the pastoral care.
Strong community and pathways.
The teachers are invested in my children and my children are happy everyday to go to school.
The school community, the communication and the beautiful friendly teachers.
Open communication with parents, always wanting to listen.
The facilities.
Always made to feel welcome.
The safe and highly engaging learning environment. My child loves coming to school. All Staff are caring and dedicated to the students and families at St Bernard's. We feel reassured that our child's education and wellbeing is in the best possible hands. We thank the Staff for their hard work and time they provide to all students.
They always come home talking enthusiastically about something they've learnt during their day. It's very heartening. The care shown by all staff and teachers. The communication with home about school news and events.
The school environment and setup.
Great community spirit.
That my child has had a positive experience.
Approachable teachers.
My children love their teachers and this is obvious by the great outcomes they have achieved so far this year. It's a very warm and friendly environment.
Kids feel very included. Great for them!!
The BEST thing about this school is...

The majority of the staff are incredibly pleasant and helpful. It is a clean and healthy school. St Bernard's have excellent resources in their classrooms. Great interactive learning - which is vital in today's society. Also for those kids who want to misbehave, they are pulled up rapidly.

The ongoing support and inclusion of all children and their abilities.

It's friendly caring approach.

The whole school community, the students, teachers and families are welcoming and encourage participation in the school.

My child feels safe and enjoys the sport offered at school.

Good culture.

The students.

Recent change in school principal, the school has improved dramatically.

The friendly approachable teachers.

Great facilities.

The teacher.

Communication between teachers and deputy principal.

The new shade cover area so the children can have shelter from the summer sun.

The children's access to technology to assist their learning.

They teach the kids to be kind and caring. And the kids look smart in their uniform. The school also emails relevant information like newsletter.

Mrs Hicks

My child is happy.

The friendly staff and fantastic resources.

Most concerns I have regarding my child's time at school are usually identified and addressed before I raise the issue with the teacher. I love the proactive nature of the staff in this regard.

The school uniform always looks tidy.

My child seems to like it.

The fact that my child loves attending and is thriving with their education.

The teaching staff are fantastic.

Friendly atmosphere.

JACQUI HEFFERNAN IS A GREAT PRINCIPAL.

My child's teacher.

It is a friendly school and easy to feel comfortable and achieve the highest level of education to each child's abilities. The teachers have a high level of impact on this.

How friendly and approachable the teaching staff are.

How well my son has adapted to kindergarten. Thanks to his wonderful teachers who just know how to make the process as seamless as possible. My son is loving school and learning and I'm very very grateful. It could have been an anxious transition but it has been a dream.

The infrastructure is excellent. Communication with current teacher.

THE SCHOOL IS VERY FRIENDLY AND MY CHILDREN ENJOY GOING.

Student numbers are not too high allowing smaller class sizes.

The community feel to the school.

The staff and positive environment.

The support to the children's education.

Attention to education in individual student needs. The education given great standards.

The support and caring.

The love and care some teachers have.

Community spirit.

My children are excited and happy to go to school. My children tell me what they are learning in class each afternoon which demonstrates quality teaching and learning. My children's teachers are approachable and caring. Skoolbag app keeps me up to date. Newsletter shows what the classes are working on and student achievement. Uniform is really nice, neat, simple to wash and iron. Kids look smart in them.

Teachers very engaged, in tune.

Thank you for your participation in our 2016 Survey. Next week I will include the areas you felt could be improved upon at St Bernard's. I welcome your feedback because as a learning community we are always focused on improvement. Sometimes it's not what we do, but rather why we do it. Our work is research based and focuses on best practice.

Jacqueline Heffernan
Dear Parents

On Wednesday 31 August, Jo Wain and I, along with Frs John and Dominic, attended the annual Clergy, Principal and Religious Education Coordinator day held by Catholic Education at Manuka, ACT. School leadership personnel and clergy from all over the Archdiocese participated in a shared agenda relating to Catholic education. The day provided opportunities for input, discussion and reflection with our colleagues from Carroll College and St Mary’s on current issues within the school, parish, Australian and global Church. The day enabled us to look through the lens of our own parish community and reflect on areas which work remarkably well and areas that may require further input and discussion. Although a robust and productive meeting, there were moments of stillness and reflection - urging us to keep God central to our work as educators and faith leaders.

NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY @ Mass 29 & 30 October 2016

NCLS Research is a world leader in research focused on connecting churches and their communities. Decades of rigorous and thoughtful research has focussed on well-being, spirituality and church health. The most well known five-yearly project is called the National Church Life Survey, which has had millions of participants. The aim of the research is to inform practice, to nurture signs of life in the church and its leadership and to encourage the wider community to reflect on their spirituality and the churches place within it. NCLS Research focuses on these areas: Who Goes to Church, Healthy Churches, Leadership, Spirituality and Wider Community & Wellbeing. Please attend Mass on Saturday 29 October 6.00pm or Sunday 30 October 9.00am and have your voice heard!

Andrew Chinn

If you attended the Andrew Chinn Concert last week you were in for an afternoon of faith and fun. Throughout the course of the day, Andrew held workshops with each stage and then presented to the school a concert which kept our toes tapping and bodies jiving for days. Six members of the Parish Choir also attended a workshop with our school Choir. One spritely young fellow who has been singing in choirs for 82 years said he thoroughly enjoyed himself and loved the music! Please see the next page photos that attest to the fun we had!

Term 4 Dates

We have a busy Term 4 ahead. Please keep the following dates in your diary:

Friday 21 October - Mufti Day and Crazy Socks Day (Gold coin donation)
Friday 21 October - Mission Day Mass @ 9.15am
Friday 21 October - Mission Day Markets @ 11.30 am—12.30pm
Saturday and Sunday 29 & 30 October - National Church Life Survey
Tuesday 1 November - All Saints Day Mass 9.15am (Year 3 Hosting)
Wednesday 30 November - Giving Mass 9.15am (Kindergarten Hosting)
Wednesday 7 December - Year 6 Graduation and Candle Ceremony

With fingers crossed that I will be rid of this cold that has plagued me all week, I am flying to Townsville on Friday for my niece’s wedding and starting my holidays a week early. I hope that you too have time with your family these holidays and enjoy the spring sunshine together.

Blessings on the week ahead,

Julie Valentini
Religious Education Coordinator
"Be mindful of Your mercy, O Lord..." (Ps 25:6)
Religious Education News

Andrew Chinn
Archdiocesan Public Speaking Competition

Last Monday 12 September, St Bernard’s had the honour of hosting the Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn Public Speaking Competition. Twenty four students competed for the prestigious award of Archdiocesan Year Group Champion. Students from as far as West Wyalong made the trek down the mountain to show why they were named regional champions—and show us they did! The speeches were of an incredibly high standard, leaving the adjudicators with the unenviable job of deciding the winners of the day.

Representing St Bernard’s was Zachary H, Bill E and Ivy P. All three speakers spoke with poise and confidence, wowing the audience with their humorous and information-packed anecdotes. Zachary was awarded Runner Up in the Year 5 section and Bill was also awarded Runner Up in the Year 3 section. All participants should be extremely proud of their achievements at such an elite level. Congratulations!

A huge thank you to our adjudicators; Elizabeth Moroney, Paul Cullen and David Day. Their job was made very difficult with only 1 or 2 points between winner and runner up. Thank you also goes out to our Year 6 school leaders, SRC and Sport Captains who became ushers, welcomers, food servers and computer operators. Particular gratitude goes to Sam B and Alicia G who chaired the proceedings like seasoned professionals. As always, Samuel L and Dillon C managed the computer with ease and offered to lend a hand whenever it was needed. The morning wouldn’t have run as smoothly without the help of Amanda Fitzgerald and Jo Wain who assisted with the set up, ensuring that all visitors were well catered for. Many visitors commented on our ‘beautiful school’. They said they were made to feel very welcome and the children were extremely well behaved. Many commented also on our wonderful grounds and contemporary buildings. Sometimes we just need to remember how lucky we are!

Kind regards

Julie Valentini
Last Tuesday 13 September St Bernard’s hosted ‘Tapstar’ supported by the Eurobodalla Shire Council. Tapstar is an interactive pantomime about saving water. Kinder to Year 6 students attended the performance along with Stage 2 students from Batemans Bay Primary and Sunshine Bay Primary School. The students gained some useful tips on how to save water in our environment.
Muddy Puddles is offering free support to families navigating the NDIS.

Please contact Cate on 02 4472 6939 to talk about how we can help you and your child get ready for their first NDIS plan.

Check our website for all the latest on programs, services and events. Our website is:

www.muddypuddles.org.au

Our email address is:

info@muddypuddles.org.au

We are located at 8-10 Sharon Road
Batemans Bay, NSW 2536.

Free autism workshop for families in NAROOMA on 12 October 2016.

Like all school-age students, children on the autism spectrum benefit from strong, positive relationships between the home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and carers in your local community.

If you are interested in this support opportunity please refer to the hard copy enrolment that went home in our Week 8 newsletter or go directly to this link.

**MacKillop Athletics**

Next Monday, 19 September, 7 students from St Bernard’s will be representing the Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese at the MacKillop Athletics Championships at Homebush in Sydney. This is such a huge achievement for our students who are competing in a wide range of events such as high jump, running, discus and shotput to name a few. We wish the following students lots of luck and congratulations on achieving at this level of competition. We look forward to hearing of your experiences on your return.

Best of luck goes to: Sam B, Jackson B, Dillon C, Kayden R, Sam L, Annabell G, Ethan B and Ashley J.

**Eurobodalla Netball Gala Day**

Netball NSW would like to invite students in Years 3 and 4 who have played Netball, to attend a Netball Gala Day on Friday 11 November 2016. The event will take place at Eurobodalla Netball Association, Captain Oldrey Park, Elizabeth Drive Broulee, and will be a fantastic opportunity for our students to compete, have fun and learn new skills with other students their own age.

While this is a standalone event, it will provide our students with a taste of netball before they are eligible for the Netball NSW Schools Cup next year.

- **Date:** Friday 11 November 2016
- **Where:** Eurobodalla Netball Association - Captain Oldrey Park, Elizabeth Drive Broulee
- **Time:** 10.00am – 2:30pm
- **Cost:** $15 per team
- **Age Group:** Years 3 and 4
- **Bring:** Patches, own ball, drink bottle, sunscreen and a hat

**Registrations Close:** Friday 28 October 2016

If your child currently plays Netball and is interested in being a part of a St Bernard’s team, please contact me at school or via email at megan.grant@cg.catholic.edu.au. Also, if there are any parents who would be able to assist with coaching and umpiring on the day, please let me know.

Megan Grant
PE Teacher/Sport Coordinator

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**Year 5 News**

Year 5 are learning about the early gold rush in Australia. Last week Mr Talbot came into Year 5 to talk about his job as a miner and the old ways to mine gold. He showed a PowerPoint presentation and photos and he brought in some models of trucks that he used in the mines in South Australia and some gold samples. We learnt a lot.

Thank you Mr Talbot.

**Hannah and Sophie**

**Year 5 Students**
We have been…

\[ \text{COMING VERY SOON!} \]

**2C’s Fascinating Museum**

*When: Thursday 22 September*

*Time: 11:30AM – 12:30PM*

*Where: RDDM 5*

Creating our curators…

Designing dinosaurs…

Planning and producing puppets!

**Fabuloso 2F!**

**2F’s Magnificent Museum**

*Thursday 22 September*

*Time: 11:30AM – 12:30PM*

*Where: RDDM 6*
PARMESAN ENCRUSTED CHICKEN DRUMSTICK SERVED WITH FRIED RICE
$3.50 OR $5.00 MEAL DEAL.

ON FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER, FREE ZOOPER DOOPER WITH EVERY LUNCH ORDER. PARTY FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 50 CENTS TO $3.00 AT RECESS.

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS $$$

Congratulations to the School Banking savers who received the following:
Janaki C (6O), Dijana G (1VS) and Kira V (1H) - a Wildlife Writer Set. Jada S (1VS) and Emma Moses (6D) - a Jump and Skip Rope. Kadyn M (2F) - Intergalactic Rocket. Wonderful savings!

Also congratulations go to the following students who received a Silver Certificate: Janaki C (6O) and Floyd Prior (KH). Well done!

P & F NEWS

Can you believe we only have a week and a half left of term. How fast has it gone!

The canteen is getting busier and we are after some parent helpers. If you are able to help even for an hour in the morning that would be fantastic. Please remember to sign in and out at the front office and to hand in your Working With Children Check to the office.

Thank you in anticipation.

Tori Vincent
St Bernards P & F President

CLAIM THE DATE

All parents are invited to our Learning Journey Display on Thursday 22 September, 11.30am - 12.30pm. All classes will display their learning for the term and the children are very excited about sharing their hard work.
Community News

DRAMA HOLIDAY WORKSHOP
At Stellar Performing Arts Academy we provide a fun, safe and stimulating environment with the aim to boost your child’s confidence and enrich their self esteem. In our two day OUT OF THIS WORLD holiday workshop, students will learn fun new skills through improvisation games, mini scripts, creative costumes, craft, movement, outdoor play and lots more!

The benefits of this unique programme extends far beyond the performance space, ultimately equipping your child with essential life skills, helping them to be more creative and more confident.

Junior Holiday Workshop
St Mary’s Performing Arts Centre
Thursday 29 & Friday 30 September, 8:45am - 3.00pm, ages 7-11

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL $75 for one 2 day workshop (payments before Monday 5 September 2016)
STANDARD PRICE $85 for one 2 day workshop (payments after Monday 5 September 2016)

Please make sure you bring water, a hat, a packed lunch and morning snack.

For more information and to book your place email us at stellarperformingarts@gmail.com or call Brooke on 0439 718 828.

FOSTER CARERS WANTED
Foster carers come from different backgrounds and lifestyles, but they all have a passion for improving the lives of young people.

MacKillop Family Services are currently seeking foster carers for children and teenagers in the Eurobodalla area.

Date: Tuesday, 27 September 2016
Time: From 7.00pm
Location: Shop 5, 1 Clyde Street, Batemans Bay
For more information: Call (02) 4411 8100 or email geoffrey.berry@mackillop.org.au

THE BAY THEATRE PLAYERS YOUTH
PRESENT
HAPHAZARDLY EVER AFTER THE MUSICAL
23 OCTOBER - 19 NOVEMBER 2016
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT BARGAIN BOX, BATEMANS BAY
PHONE 4472 5984

"Opera Highlights in the Bay"
SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 3.00pm
The South Coast Music Society will present its third concert for 2016 at St Bernard’s Church, Batehaven. Eleven soloists from Opera Australia Chorus will be performing favourite operatic arias, ensembles and opera choruses and will be led by Chorus Master Anthony Hunt. Refreshments will be served at interval and a Q and A will take place after the concert.

Tickets for the concert are available at the door or online at www.southcoastmusicsociety.com. Adult tickets are $35; members and pensioners $30. All school aged children accompanied by an adult will be free. Phone Julie Stuart on 0438 590 505 if you need further information.
Musical Instrument And Accessory Sales
Music Lessons For Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Piano, Keyboard, Ukulele, Mandolin, Vocals and Music Technique etc.

We Sell And Trade Musical Instruments And Accessories.
Learn To Play Music With Our Music Lessons $33 Each.
Ten Week Semesters That Line Up With The Public School Terms.
All Ages And Levels Welcome From Beginner To Advanced Adult.

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