



St Bernard's School Newsletter

22 August 2022

Term 3, Week 5

Upcoming Events

August

- 22 - ASB Sports Centre, Yrs 1-8
- 30 - Scientist Visit, All Classes
- 29 - ASB Sports Centre, Yrs 1-8
- 30 - Scientist Visit, All Classes

September

- 02 - Onsie Day
- 05 - ASB Sports Centre, Yrs 1-8
- 07 - Scientist Visit, All Classes
- 20 - Scientist Visit, All Classes
- 29 - Celebration of Learning 2pm
- 30 - Term 3 Ends, 3pm

2022 Term Dates

Term 3 Mon 25 Jul - Fri 30 Sept

Term 4 Mon 17 Oct - Fri 16 Dec

Contact Us

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Principals Message

Last Tuesday, we held our termly fire drill. We were all out and rolls were taken safely and quietly in a record breaking 2 minutes and 18 seconds. All classes have also held earthquake drills in their rooms.



Masks

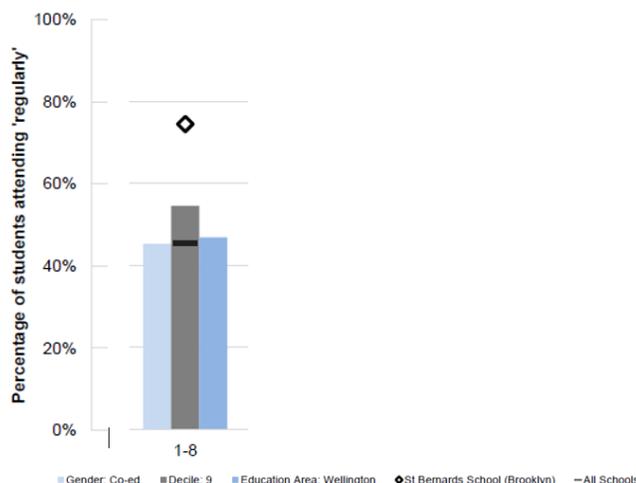
The following paragraph is from our latest Ministry Update.

Increased levels of winter illnesses at the start of term are a common trend and when coupled with COVID-19, these can put significant pressure on your schools and communities. The Ministry of Health modelling in July shows that numbers of severe respiratory illness cases, including both COVID-19 and flu, are well down. Your efforts will have certainly contributed to this outcome.

Our students have been great at wearing their masks consistently and without complaint. We have had only one family come down with Covid this term and our attendance rates in Terms 1 and 2 were much higher than the rest of Wellington.

'Regular' attendance, by Year level (Term 1, 2022)

Comparing the proportion of students with 'regular' attendance at your school with national and like-school benchmarks.



The Update also said:

It is also strongly recommended by public health officials that face masks are worn by students and staff in Year 4 to 13 when indoors, including combined classes when learning and during indoor assemblies.

We want to ensure as few interruptions to learning as we possibly can. We need to keep staff well and in classes. As a result, we will continue with our current expectations on mask wearing for students, parents and visitors to the school, until the end of this Winter term. If you have any questions, feel free to pop in and see me. Thank you for your support.

Language of the Week

Our language this week is Tigrinya, one of the languages spoken by the people of Ethiopia. Here is Alna sharing her mum's native language. [Alna](#)

Special Character

Parish Newsletter

This week's Parish newsletter is available [here](#)

St Bernard's Feast Day

On August 20th we celebrate the Feast Day of St Bernard of Clairvaux.

St Bernard was born in France in 1090, one of seven children, and from an early age wished to become a monk, a wish looked down upon by his noble family.

At the time of his death, he had been the Abbot of the Monastery of Clairvaux for about 38 years and he had founded 68 monasteries around Europe. He was canonised a saint in 1174 and in 1830 was named a Doctor of the Church. Because of his inspiring writings, his eloquent way with words and the magnificent hymns he wrote in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, he is often referred to as "The Honey-Sweet Doctor". Because of this title he was later named the Patron Saint of bee-keepers.

Also considered one of the 'shining lights' of the world, St Bernard is the patron saint of candlemakers.



Feast of the Assumption

Last Wednesday we celebrated a beautiful Mass for the Feast of the Assumption. Thank you to Mrs Tiller for planning the Mass, our liturgy team for leading us so respectfully and Miss Kriechbaum for accompanying us on the piano.

Fr Cirilo told the children about a message his mother taught him as a child about Mary. When we are upset, worried or in trouble we should place our right hand on our heart and recite the words, "Ave, Maria". He said that this makes him feel better, takes his troubles away and is a way to call Mary to pray to Jesus for us. What a beautiful message of how our faith can help us in our lives.



School Administration

Term Dates for 2023

Term 1: Thursday 2nd February- Thursday 6th April (6th Feb Waitangi Day holiday)

Term 2: Monday 24th April- Thursday 29th June (25th April ANZAC public holiday, 5th June Queen's birthday public holiday, 30th June is a teacher only day)

Term 3: Monday 17th July- Friday 22nd September

Term 4: Monday 9th October- Tuesday 17th December (23rd October Labour Day public holiday)

Class Programmes

Room 1

In Room One, we finished our Sacrament Strand last week all around Baptism. We enjoyed acting out the sacrament of Baptism. Joseph had wonderful 'parents' and 'godparents' while our priest, Daniel, performed the sacrament. It was a fun way for us to end our unit, discussing all of the important people who are present during the sacrament.



In writing, we continued with our Leo and the Octopus story. We used a venn diagram to sort statements about Leo and Maya (the octopus) to see their differences and similarities. We then wrote statements using either 'but' or 'and'.

e.g. Leo **and** Maya don't like crowds. Leo has two arms **but** Maya has eight.

In maths, we have been having a basic facts blitz! We would love it if you could test us at home, based on our stage. We could practise using flashcards or using the website - [Hit the Button](#). Keep an eye out in our bookbags for our next basic facts goal. We should be able to give instant verbal recall, without working out the answer. [Have a look at stages 1-5 here](#). Some children in Room One are also almost ready for Stage 6!

Room 2

For science this week, the students investigated how many drops of water a twenty cent coin could hold before spilling onto the table surface. Using an eyedropper the students took turns, counting how many drops they could drop onto the coin before it overflowed. They were amazed to see the water form a dome shape on top of the coin. Some managed to drop up to forty drops onto the coin. Why? Because of surface tension. What is surface tension? Ask your child to explain.



On Wednesday, our lovely Year 2 students joined us for some buddy reading. Students shared stories with each other then we played hangman. What is this phrase?

Answer: The more you read, the better you read.
It's great to see children loving reading.



We are learning to write persuasively. To convince someone to agree to your way of thinking requires emotive language and explaining why something would be beneficial. Here are three examples of our first attempts at persuasive writing:

Mum, Dad, I really, REALLY need a mobile phone before I'm 13. It would mean the world to me. Firstly, I wouldn't say to you all the time "I'm bored! I don't know what to do!" I wouldn't fight with my sisters. I'd be as quiet as a mouse if I had my own phone. Secondly, when Bea goes to high school, I will be walking home alone. What if something happens to me? I would have NO communication with you. What if I got kidnapped? Although I may know how to fight someone, it would be better if I could text or call for help. Thirdly, I wouldn't ask questions all the time, annoying you. Also, I barely know my extended family because they all live in Australia. I would be able to keep in touch with them if I had a phone. I would also be able to join the Fluffy Wordle Championships. Anyway, I think you get the memo; I REALLY need a mobile phone. PLEASE ... I would be the happiest, BESTEST daughter EVER!! (Plus it would be a great way to annoy my sisters :-))
By Clara (Y5)

I really, really want a chicken for a pet! I can feed it and I can carry it. It will keep me company. I can play with it. I can learn all about chickens. I'll have a broken heart if you don't give me one. I really, really need a chicken.
By Saskia (Y3)

Of course we need to play Minecraft at school because it will help expand our minds. Firstly, Educational Edition would help us learn about history! We should play it because it would be a great reward. It would make us not rush our work so that we get to play Minecraft as we would know that only quality work would be rewarded. Also, it would help our creativity. Wouldn't you like it if we were happy, creative students?
By Ethan (Y3)

Room 4

Last Wednesday, while our seniors were attending technology, our Year 5s joined Room 4 for a transition experience. Year 6 introduced them to Game of Awesome which they really enjoyed. They chose cards which had ideas and themes on them and used them to create their own creative stories!



Last Friday, Room 4 started to construct 3D shapes, identifying the number of faces, edges and vertices before constructing some complex shapes. Natalie built an obelisk, Danica made a dodecahedron and Vincent a decagonal kaleidocycle!



Public Notices

Catholic Social Services have an opening for Creative Social Worker. If you or anyone you know might be interested this link gives more details. [advert](#)

Kelly Sports Summer Series Football/Netball Competition 2022/2023

Join us for another fun-filled year of Friday night Football and Netball!

Football is a 5 aside competition held at Ian Galloway Park.

Netball caters for 5/ 6/ 7-a-side and is held at Marsden & Karori Normal Schools.

Competition runs from term 4 through to term 1 (with a break over Xmas).

To register and for more information go to:

www.kellysports.co.nz/netball2022

www.kellysports.co.nz/football2022