



# St Bernard's School Newsletter

15 May 2023

Term 2, Week 4

## Upcoming Events

### May

- 16 – Brooklyn Library, Rm 2
- 16 – Central Zone Cross Country
- 17 – Whole School Mass
- 18 – Rocket Challenge Rm 4
- 19 – Wellington Zoo, Whole Schl
- 23 – Brooklyn Library, Rm 4
- 30 – Brooklyn Library, Rm 1

### June

- 01 – Rocket Challenge Rm 4
- 02 – Assembly
- 05 – Kings Birthday
- 06 – Brooklyn Library, Rm 4
- 07 – Whole School Mass

## 2023 Term Dates

- Term 1 Thur 2 Feb Jul - Thur 6 Apr
- Term 2 Wed 26 Apr - Thur 29 Jun
- Term 3 Mon 17 Jul - Fri 22 Sept
- Term 4 Mon 09 Oct - Tues 19 Dec

## Teacher Only Days

- Mon 24 April
- Fri 30 June

## Contact Us

Office@stbernards.school.nz  
 www.stbernards.school.nz  
 Ph: 04 3899 377

## Principals Message

The past two terms have seen a reduction in our regular attendance figures. Please consider the points below. A day here and there might not seem that much, but it can have a detrimental effect on learning.

### Why is it so important to attend school every day?

- Learning is a progressive activity; each day's lessons build upon those of the previous day(s).
- Reading the material and completing work independently does not compensate for the loss of insight gained during class discussions or the loss of competency acquired through explanation or supervised activities/tasks.
- Teachers use discussions, demonstrations, experiments and participation, as part of the daily learning activities, and these cannot be made up by those who are absent.
- Regular student participation in daily classroom activities plays a significant role in a student's school success.

## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



## Uniform

Over the past few weeks, we have had a number of polar fleeces going missing. Please label your child's fleece using a permanent marker. If the label has been removed let me know as I have a label maker and so could print off an iron on one for you. Otherwise, you could write their name on the reverse side of the school badge.

## Zoo Trip

As you know, this Friday we will be visiting Wellington Zoo. Please ensure your child has their **polar fleece** and a **raincoat** with them. The weather forecast is not looking so good so suitable clothing is vital. Thank you to the wonderful parents who have volunteered to join us.



Lisa

### From the DRS

A reminder that this Wednesday at 9am in the school hall we will have our Whole School Mass. All are welcome. We will be celebrating the Ascension.

### Parish Newsletter

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

## School News

---

### Brooklyn Library Visits

This term we will resume our twice termly visits to Brooklyn Library. If your child wishes to borrow a book during the visit they need to bring their personal library card with them. We will return books on the next visit if they are brought back in time. Books not brought on the day of the visit will need to be returned by yourselves. If you would like to leave your child's card in the classroom between visits then teachers will find a safe place to keep them.

Room 1:	May 30	Room 2:	May 16	Room 4:	May 23
			June 06		June 13

### Message from The Attendance Dues Team

Just a friendly reminder that full payment of the Attendance Dues for 2023 is due by 31 May 2023. If you are paying by regular instalments, payments should be set up to close the balance by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 or by arrangement with the Dues team.

The May invoice/statement was emailed or posted to all families on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Please check that the invoice has not gone to your Spam/Junk Inbox and that all your children are listed on the statement.

Financial assistance is available to families experiencing financial hardship (loss of income/redundancy, family reasons, etc.). It is a condition of the assistance application that the family has an affordable regular payment in place.

If you have any questions, please contact us:

Phone: 0800 462 725      Email: [dues@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:dues@wn.catholic.org.nz)      Text: 021 08907902

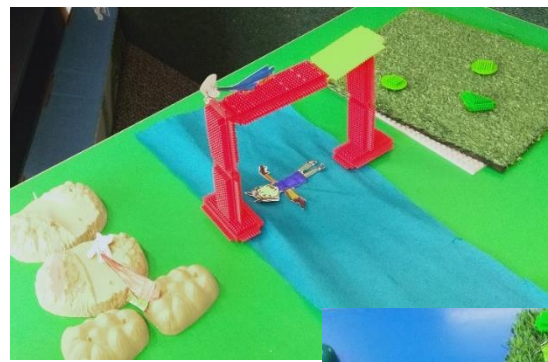
## Class Programmes

---

### Room 1

We have been listening to the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff and learning about the characters and the setting. We drew our own set of characters on cardboard and cut them out, and then used equipment to create the setting with the rocky hillside, the flowing river and the green meadow with the fresh green grass! Thanks to mums and dads who were able to pop in after school to see our creations and here are some photos so you can ALL see!





In maths we have had a sorting table of all sorts of objects and have been exploring different ways to sort.

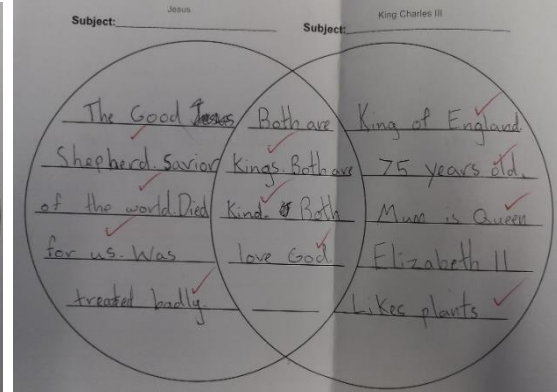
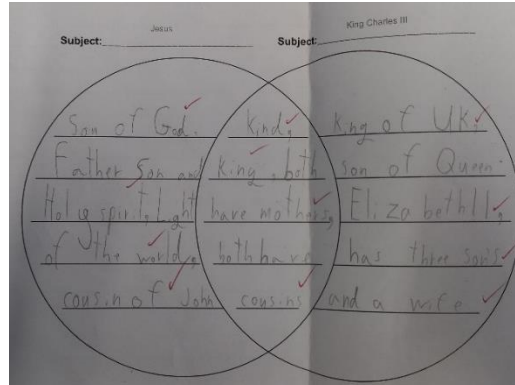
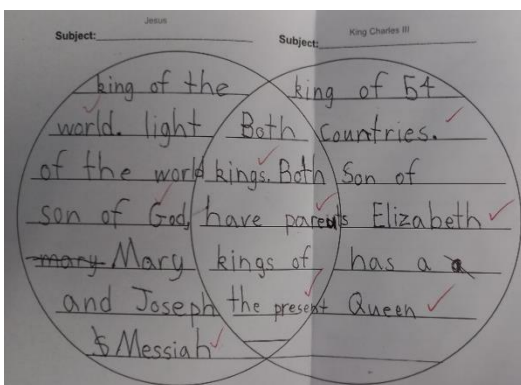
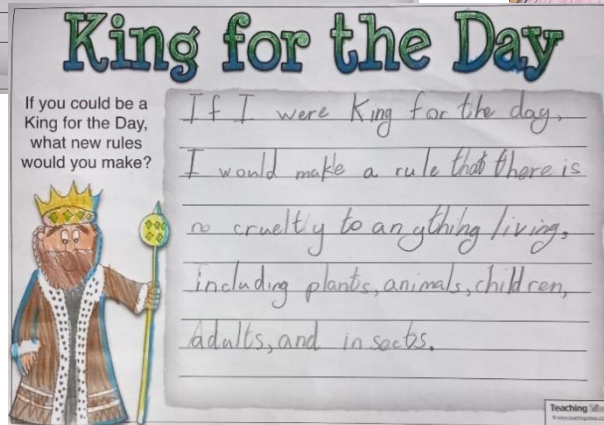
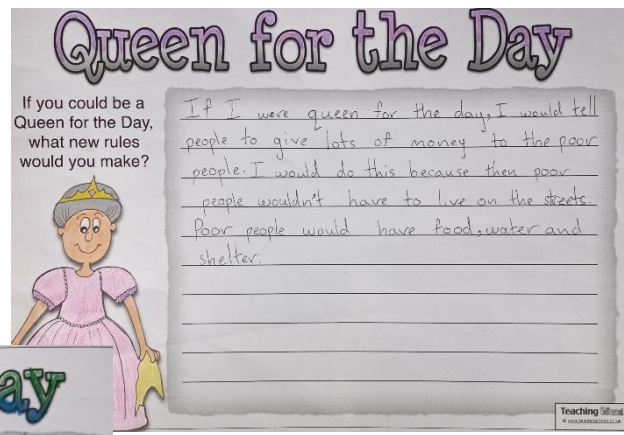
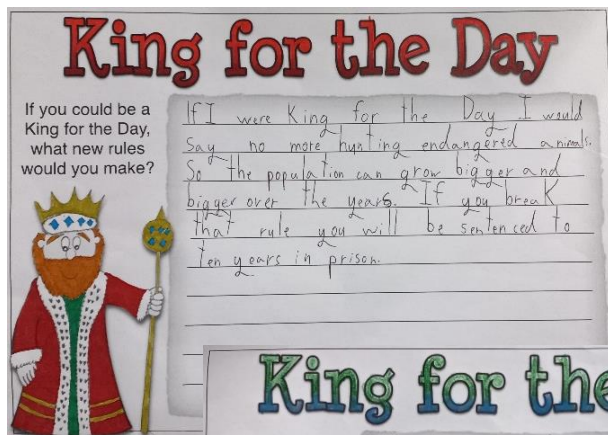


## Room 2

In Mātauranga Whakapono/R.E. the students continue to link the events of Easter and meeting the risen Lord with their learning of the Jesus Strand. They reflected on ways they can become closer to God on their hikoi wairua/spiritual journey during their lives. They wrote their ideas on footsteps creating our wall display.

Following on from the King's Coronation last weekend, the students discussed how Jesus Christ our King and King Charles III are both kings. They identified their similarities and differences using a venn diagram. The students also published their "King for a Day" and "Queen for a Day" writing.





## Room 4

Room 4's writing focus for the first part of the term is persuasive writing. The purpose of persuasive writing is to promote a particular view/opinion, in order to influence what people do or think. The first topic that the Room 4 children are writing about is:

*Everybody between 18 and 20 will go into the army for two years for compulsory military training.*

The children had strong opinions about this statement, planned their arguments, and then began to draft their persuasive texts. Below is a sample of their introductory paragraphs.

**Clara:** Young people should not be forced to go into the army for two years. My first reason is that people might have anxiety or phobias. The second reason is some people may have physical disabilities and need special care that the army cannot provide. My last reason is people should be able to control their lives.

**Danica:** I disagree with the compulsory military training for everyone aged 18 to 20 for 2 years. This is because you would not be treated fairly. Some people want to be with their family. People should be able to choose and not be forced into the army. I will give you more detailed reasons why this is not a good idea.

**Mason:** Young people should be forced to go into the army. If you enlist in the army you will become stronger. People can learn lots of new skills in the army. Our country could be invaded in the future and we will need people who are ready to fight. There are lots of reasons why this is a good idea.

**Toby:** I disagree that if you are between 18 and 20 you have to go into the army for two years. There are three main reasons for this. The first reason is no choice, the second reason is loneliness and the last reason being there is no point. I do not think it is a bad idea, it is just not the best idea. If I was the Prime Minister, I would let the people of New Zealand vote on it. I think that most people would disagree.

### College News

On June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, St Catherine's will be holding an open evening. It is a good idea to start thinking of colleges before Year 8 and one of the best ways is to visit and get a feel for the place. We are blessed with good colleges in Wellington but it is important to find the one that is the best fit for your child. This link below is to book a tour for the evening. St Catherine's is Mercy College and so has the same values that we here at St Bernard's encourage in our students.

[college tour](#)

### Public Notices

---



#### Matariki Ahi Kā

6PM – 9PM | THURSDAY 13 JULY – SUNDAY 16 JULY |  
WELLINGTON WATERFRONT

Wellington City Council invites you to Matariki Ahi Kā, to celebrate the Māori New Year. Come and enjoy a spectacular, free, whānau-friendly experience. Share kai each evening at the Odlins Plaza kai court and honour our culture and history with an immersive Wellington Waterfront walk-through journey including large-scale projections, fire, and performances on multiple stages. Kanikani at the Star Light Disco on Saturday 15 July at 6pm and join us for Hiwa-i-te-rangi: the Wishing Star ceremony at 8pm each evening. Write down your wishes, which will be burnt in a brazier to send them to the heavens. [wellington.govt.nz/matariki](https://wellington.govt.nz/matariki)

### Rhythmic Gymnastics

We still have spaces available in our recreational classes this term. Come along and try out our new badge programme. Your daughter or son will work through Levels 1 to 10 over time. Email [info@rhythmicgym.nz](mailto:info@rhythmicgym.nz) to arrange a FREE trial. For more information about Elements and our classes, visit [www.rhythmicgym.nz](http://www.rhythmicgym.nz)

### Something, Something Club

On Saturday 3 June (King's Birthday Weekend), we are hosting an all-ages gig at Vogelmorn Hall called 'The Long Weekend'. This will be a family-friendly event, with a sausage sizzle to boot!

Something Something is a student-led initiative, focused on supporting new music and artists within the Wellington community. Get in touch with us at [somethingggsomethinggg@gmail.com](mailto:somethingggsomethinggg@gmail.com) or [www.something-something.co.nz](http://www.something-something.co.nz)

**BIG BANG**  
DIRT DUATHLON  
NAVIGATE ON FOOT AND BIKE, DAY & NIGHT

Join us for the Dirt Duathlon adventure race series 2023.

**Race 1:** June 18th – Horowhenua

**Race 2:** July 23rd – Greater Wellington

**Race 3 (in the dark!):** – August 19th – Kapiti

Grab your team and enter now!

[www.dirtduathlon.co.nz](http://www.dirtduathlon.co.nz)

