



St Bernard's School Newsletter

21 November 2022

Term 4, Week 6

Upcoming Events

November

21 - Swimming

28 - Swimming

December

05 - Swimming

05 - Leavers Dinner (TBC)

07 - Leavers Mass 9am

08 - Nativity Play 6pm

12 - Swimming

16 -Term 4 Ends, 12.30pm

2023 Term Dates

Term 1 Thur 2 Feb Jul - Thur 6 Apr

Term 2 Mon 24 Apr - Thur 29 Jun

Term 3 Mon 17 Jul - Fri 22 Sept

Term 4 Mon 09 Oct - Tues 19 Dec

Fri 30 June – Teacher Only Day

Contact Us

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Principals Message

Working Bee

A huge thank you to those families who joined us for our working bee yesterday. What a busy bunch we were. The school is now looking a lot cleaner and tidier.



Before



During



After





Time Keeping

Our school day starts at 9am and finishes at 3pm. Children can, however, be onsite from 8.30am which gives them time to get their belongings organised, connect with their friends, get a drink, and go to the toilet, so that they are ready for learning.

Whilst we appreciate that there are some mornings that don't go to plan, we have a number of children who are late for school on a regular basis. Arriving early and being ready for learning teaches students good self-management skills and shows respect for their teacher and fellow classmates. Long term, this develops good work ethic, being able to meet deadlines and be on time for appointments and the workplace.

Recently students have commented that if another child can be late why should they get ready quickly in the mornings. Arriving late can be disruptive to the class and be embarrassing for your child.

Our day, as a Catholic school, begins with prayer. We feel it is important that we all join together at this time. At our last whole-school Mass 5 children walked in, up to twenty minutes late.

Please consider how you can support us by ensuring children are on time, ready to learn and participate in all aspects of school life.

Raffle

Congratulations to Lea who won our bike raffle. Thank you to all who bought tickets to help with our fundraising for Caritas. We raised a total of \$255 from the White Elephant stall and raffle. Once this is matched by the government, 3 for every 4 raised, that will mean Caritas receives a total of \$1200. Great job everyone!

Exercise Books

A note from teachers. If your child still has room in their books from this year, we are happy for them to use the rest of the pages at the start of 2023.



Special Character

Parish Newsletter

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

Wreath Blessing – Friday 25 November

Our whole school Advent Wreath Blessing Liturgy is this Friday, 25th November at 9am in the School Hall. Please bring along your advent wreath for a blessing. All whānau welcome.



School News



Happy Birthday to Beatrice who turns 13 tomorrow, we hope you have wonderful, fun filled birthday.

Class Programmes

Room 1

We are really enjoying our Nativity rehearsals in Room One. We love the Christmas songs and cannot wait to share our lovely singing with all of our families in a couple of weeks.

In writing this week, we have been talking about the sounds, smells and activities of summer! We have started writing poems called "Goodbye Winter, Hello Summer!"

Have a read of some of our great ideas.

Hello sun hats. Goodbye beanies.

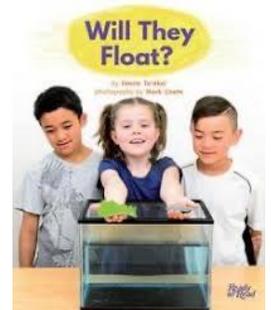
Hello freezing cold ice cream. Goodbye hot tomato soup.

Hello hot sandy feet. Goodbye rainy days.

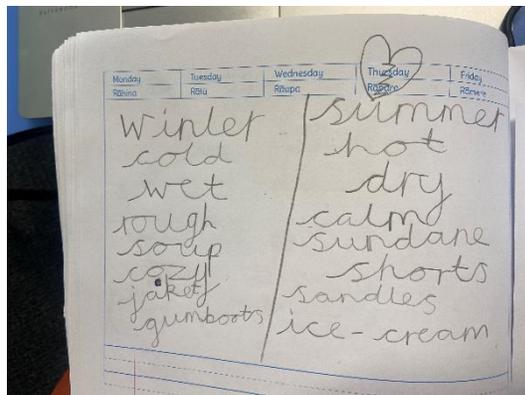
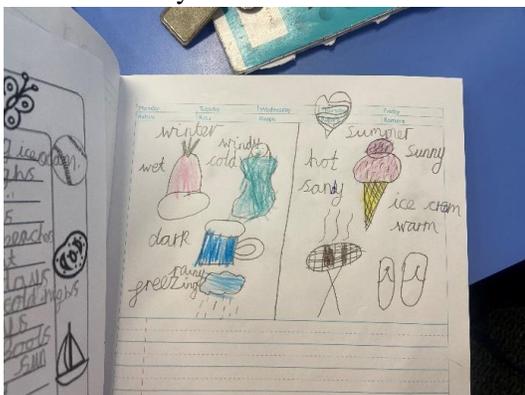
Hello warm bright sun. Goodbye rough cold nights.

Hello sandy jandals. Goodbye warm fluffy boots.

Hello cool dresses. Goodbye fluffy onesies.



We discussed the differences between winter and summer and developed picture plans. We have been working on using adjectives to help our poems sound more interesting. We have been loving the sunny weather and had the opportunity for some water play as well as some investigating. We read the book "Will it float?" and tested different objects to see if they would float.



Room 2

On Tuesday Room 2 students made their worry dolls - a task we didn't manage to squeeze into our Caritas 1 Day Challenge. We showed lots of perseverance as we learnt how to cut and twist pipe cleaners then carefully wind wool around different parts of the pipe cleaners to make our dolls.

In response to our first advent lesson of this year, we chose between making our own advent wreath craft or creating an advent candle pastel drawing.

What the wreath represents:

- The circle and green represent God's never ending love
- The first candle represents prophecy and HOPE. We have HOPE because God keeps his promises (Romans 15:12-13)
- The second candle represents FAITH. It is sometimes called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-7)
- The third candle is often pink, it is sometimes called the shepherds candle. Pink represents JOY. The angels sang a song of JOY (Luke 2:7-15)
- The fourth candle or Angel Candle represents LOVE. The angels share the good news that God sent Jesus because he LOVES us (John 3:16)
- (Optional) The fifth candle placed in the middle represents Jesus. One of Jesus' names is The Prince of PEACE (Isaiah 9:6)



For the next couple of weeks, we are hosting the parish Mary statue. She travels around parish homes and is a real treasure.



Room 4

Throughout the year, Room 4 has worked independently on writing prompts. Writing prompts are a set of 10 statements or questions about which the children write their thoughts, ideas and opinions. Here is some of their amazing writing.

Writing Prompts Set 7: Logan F

Question 3:

Do you like the beach or the mountains? Why?

I like the mountains because they are great for having adventures in vehicles such as exploring, rock crawling, vehicle testing, and overland endurance challenges. I also like the mountains because there's a surprise around almost every corner. The beach, on the other hand, is windy on even the best of days, cold and bleak on the others, and unexciting because it's just sand and water. In the mountains, there are plenty of challenges and places to explore. On the beach, there are just sand dunes and the sea. Although that is not to be said that you can't have fun on the beach, it's just that different people have different preferences. My favourite place is the mountains.

Writing Prompts Set 8: Danica

Question 4:

How would your life change if all motor vehicles were outlawed?

My life would change because every day I would be walking, biking, and scootering to school. We wouldn't be able to go anywhere on the motorways very far unless you want to walk or something for a VERY long time. My Dad would have to get another job since he's a taxi driver. My Mum would have to walk to her work all the time. My sister would have to walk to university. My Grandma would have to walk to the Temple (She, I and Dara always walk to the Temple just not on rainy days) or tell my Mum to buy food from her work because she works at the supermarket.

Writing Prompts Set 7: Kenzi

Question 5:

Write a diary entry for an alien that is stuck on Earth on day 100.

Day 100

As I have been stuck here for 100 days, I have learned quite a bit about humans. Humans are greedy for power and some are selfish, they have been doing quite a lot of battling. There are even games about battling. They have quite a lot of money (a thing they use to live?) they all have different languages and cultures (I'm speaking in English I think?).

Writing Prompts Set 7: Sam

Question 5:

Write a diary entry for an alien that is stuck on Earth on day 100.

Day 100

Life... is painful. These earthling creatures called hoomans are so interested in me. They point things called microphones at me and make bright flashes with things called cameras. Back on my planet we have microphones that are the size of a pinhead and put them on our jackets so they pick up our voices so much easier. We also have cameras but they are much more advanced, smaller and easy to carry around. The human cameras are massive, and they always have me talking to this guy who has had lots of plastic surgery. He basically is plastic. These humans are addicted to making themselves look good.

Public Notices

Home of Compassion Events

Book Launch with Fr James Lyons

November 24, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

"The Lord's Prayer is not for anyone. It is for everyone."

Join us to celebrate the publication of The Lord's Prayer For Everyone. Father James Lyons explores this cherished prayer line by line and applies it thoughtfully to a variety of people and situations.

Refreshments provided, RSVP to events@compassion.org.nz

Advent Retreat with Joy Cowley and Fr John O'Connor

Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th November, 9am-3pm

Join us at our peaceful Island Bay site to celebrate the start of Advent by exploring what the Christmas story means to us and our spirituality. You are welcome to join one day or both, tickets can be purchased through the Event Finda link below with all proceeds going to the Sisters.

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2022/advent-retreat-with-joy-cowley-and-john-orconnor/wellington/tickets>