At St. Bernard’s School, the six basic rules to which all members of the school community are expected to adhere are:

- Follow directions.
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- Listen to the speaker without interrupting.
- Move safely at all times.
- Treat all property with care.
- Speak appropriately.

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Reflection

On the weekend, the whole of Australia rejoiced as Pope Benedict XVI confirmed that Mary MacKillop, a nun revered for her work with needy children as much as for her rebellious streak, will be Australia’s first saint. The Pope announced at a meeting of Cardinals in the Vatican, that the canonisation ceremony of Mother Mary, would take place on 17th October.

Mother Mary was born in Melbourne in 1842 to poor Scottish immigrants. She established her first school in a disused stable and founded an order of nuns at the age of 24. She spent her life educating the poor, taking learning to the harsh outback, but she was not without controversy. She was excommunicated in 1871 for alleged insubordination before being welcomed back to the Church four months later. She later sought Pope Pius IX’s approval to continue her work with her order and by the time of her death, she led 750 nuns, ran 117 schools and had opened orphanages and refuges for the needy.

Mother Mary, who died in 1909 aged 67, passed the first stage to sainthood when Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1995 after recognising a first miracle attributed to her, in which a woman was said to have been cured of terminal leukaemia. Pope Benedict XVI recognised, in December, a miracle in which Mother Mary apparently cured a woman of cancer.

The following poem was inspired by retreat notes Mary wrote in Rome on 27th May 1874.

If I Could Tell The Love Of God

The love of God
Whispers
The Love of God
Beauty barely seen
Love of God
Women hidden
The love of God
Women working hard
Love of God
Christ
Love of God
Mends a broken world.

Noel Rowe, 1995 (from retreat notes written by Mary MacKillop)
In Service Days

We have two upcoming In-Service/Professional Development days, one this term on Thursday 11th March and another on the first day of second term, Monday 12th April. This means that the children will return to school on Tuesday 13th April.

These days provide an opportunity for the staff to work together on particular programs, topics or areas that have been identified through our Review process, in both the School Reflection Report and subsequent recommendations.

Our area of focus at our first day will be a review and rewrite of our School Vision statement and work on the Principles of Learning and Teaching. Both these form important understandings and foundations for our work.

The second day will be the continuation of work we have started on Numeracy, which has been an identified area of focus. More information will be available throughout the year.

Photos

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 9th March. Information and order forms were sent home last week. If you require a sibling photo, please obtain a form from the office.

School Concert DVD

A reminder that the School Concert DVD orders close this Friday 26th February. Forms are still available at the office.

Fete Countdown

This week we begin the official countdown to our Fete on 17th October. It’s happening. It’s exciting. Get ready to hear more only 235 days to go!!!!!!!

Education Maintenance Allowance

A reminder to all eligible health care and pension card holders that EMA forms need to be returned to the office before 26th February 2010. If you have not already obtained your form, please do so and return it by the due date. This form needs to be completed every year.

Regards,

Joanne Doherty.
Principal

St Bernard’s School Board

Last Thursday 18th February, the St. Bernard’s School Board met for the first time for 2010. The evening was spent developing a draft Constitution for the Board, outlining the Board’s aims, functions, responsibilities, practices and procedures. We hope to finalize the Constitution at our next Board meeting. For our families, we would like to reintroduce our school board members:

- Leanne Abela
- Mark Ballinger
- Frank Bonavia
- Andrea Hoare
- Rosalba Iannuzzi
- Sylvana Tropeano
- Stephen Vale.

Rosalba Iannuzzi. (on behalf of the Board)
OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT
CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

Come along to an enjoyable night out amongst friends. It’s a great opportunity for our Prep and new families to get to know others in our school community. Enjoy a picnic dinner (BYO) with your family and afterwards mingle with the crowd while the children watch a movie. This event is only for St. Bernard’s families.

**Date:** Friday 26\(^{th}\) February  
**Time:** 6.30pm  
**Place:** St. Bernard’s School Ground  
**Cost:**  
- Adult $10  
- Child $5 (children 3 years & under free)  
- Family $25 (2 adults, 2 children)

**Movie:** Are We There Yet? 

**BYO:** Everything, i.e. dinner, drinks, snacks, picnic rugs, chairs. Please do not bring any chairs that have sharp edges or legs that will damage the turf.

Tickets can be purchased by completing the form below and returning it with the correct money in an envelope marked ‘Movie Night’ to the office. Tickets will be on sale from Friday 12th February.
Movie Night Tickets

Name: ____________________________________________

Eldest Childs Name: _____________________________ Class: __________

No. of Tickets Required: □ Adult □ Child □ Family