



St. Bernard's

Catholic Primary School, East Coburg

23rd April 2025

Dear Parents and Families

After many wonderful years at St Bernard's, I am writing to let you know that I will be taking extended long service leave beginning Monday 21st July 2025, (that is from the beginning of Term 3, 2025) and following this, I will officially be retiring from my role as Principal. This means that my last day at St Bernard's will be the final day of Term 2 (Friday 4th July 2025). I plan to share this news with the students on Thursday.

This decision has not been made lightly, as being part of this wonderful school community has been one of the great joys and privileges of my life. I have been blessed to work alongside dedicated staff and Fr Leo, supportive families, and, most importantly, remarkable students who have inspired me every single day. However, I am excited that my next chapter will allow me to spend time with my family and travel.

Over the years, I've witnessed countless milestones—big and small—and I am incredibly proud of everything we have achieved together. From camps, assemblies and excursions to classroom triumphs and playground laughter, these are the moments that will stay with me forever.

The process of appointing the next principal of St Bernard's begins next week. Rosa Wilkinson, the Senior Leadership Manager for the Northern Region of MACS, will meet with a group of students, parents and staff to gather and share information. You are all invited to attend the parent session at the school, on Wednesday 30th April at 2:45pm. There is no need to formally respond please sign in at the office on your arrival.

St Bernard's will always hold a special place in my heart. I'm grateful for the friendships, memories, and shared dedication to nurturing a supportive and enriching environment for all our students.

Thank you for your unwavering support over the years. It has truly been an honour to serve this school community and I look forward to a wonderful term ahead.

Warm regards,

Joanne Doherty
Principal