Dear Parents,
Welcome to the 2017 school year. This year we welcome 5 new staff members, 82 preps and 8 new students between years 1 - 6.

Joining a new community can be daunting for all concerned. Students, parents and teachers who join with us for the first time will need our care and understanding. Hopefully many folk will extend a warm welcome to our newcomers. Feeling at home can take some time.

Above all, we want every child at Bethany to have a successful year. We want every child to love being part of our community.

A Warm Welcome to Our New Families
A very warm welcome to the following new students and their families:

- Yar Ayuek (Leadership Centre) and Ater Ayuek (Bridging Centre) and their mother Yar Mangony.
- Marie Emily Bijoux (Bridging Centre) and her parents Marie Jeanine and Jose Gilbert.
- John Caluza (Leadership Centre) and his parents Cecile and Michael John.
- Tanishka Hiremath (Bridging Centre) and her parents Sheetal and Anand.
- Peter Marett (Bridging Centre) and his parents Suzanne and Peter.
- Lani Waymouth (Bridging Centre) and her parents Peta and Jordan.
- Bethany Ganta (Bridging Centre) and her mother Supriya.

We hope your time at Bethany will be a rewarding and enjoyable experience.
A Warm Welcome Also to Our Five New Members of Staff

**Brendan Byrne** – Facility Manager. Brendan will join Shan and Emmanuel in ensuring the safety of our students and in maintaining a clean and well ordered school environment.

**Amy Freeman** – Bridging Centre

**Niamh Nestor** – Bridging Centre

**Anita O’Connell** – Discovery Centre

**Helena O’Connor** – Leadership Centre

We are delighted that Brendan, Amy, Niamh, Anita and Helena have chosen to work at Bethany and are confident that the wealth of experience and gifts that each one brings will help all of us in our privileged work of educating and caring for your children.

We are also extremely happy to welcome back Ash Hudson from maternity leave. Ash will work Tuesdays and Wednesdays and will be a member of the Leadership Centre Team.

The Leadership Assembly and School Open Night are two opportunities to personally meet our new members of staff, however I am confident that parents will make every effort to assist all new staff to very quickly feel at home within the community.

**Staff Re-Structure**

Re-structure is and always has been an ongoing process at Bethany. To this end in 2017 the school structure will be as follows:

**School Leaders**

School Leaders work within a distributed model of leadership assuming responsibility for the total life of the school.

In 2017 the School Leaders are:

- Marlene Monahan (Principal)
- Gemma Gowland (Deputy Principal)
- H. Kelly (Deputy Principal)
- Jackie Byrne
- Michael Gowland
- Kate Flanders
- Loretta Freeman
Centre Leaders:
Centre Leaders assume responsibility for Individual Learning Centres.

This year the Centre Leaders are:

**Exploration Centre:**  Kathryn Camilleri

**Discovery Centre:**  Vanessa Machado
Olivia Wallace

**Bridging Centre:**  Loretta Freeman and Kate Flanders *will assume the role within the School Leader portfolio*

**Leadership Centre:**  Kirrily Wallis
Sheree Hegarty

Team Leaders:
Team Leaders assume responsibility for a range of individual learning areas.

**Curriculum Design and Development:**
Michael Gowland  H. Kelly
Rachael Dewhurst

**Religious Education:**
Kaye Scaletti  Loretta Freeman
Marijana Jerkovic  Natasha D’Cunha
Lisa Dolin  Simon Beraldo
Hang Cao

**Physical Education:**
Kirrily Wallis  Kathryn Camilleri
Olivia Wallace  Leanne Shiels

**Home / School Partnership:**
Kathryn Camilleri  Michael Gowland
Melanie Foulkes  Marlene Monahan
Bron Humphries

**School Administration**
Sue Sherriff  Bronwyn Humphries
Kylie Scott  John Coppini

**Student Wellbeing:**
Helen Murray  Melanie Foulkes
H. Kelly  Karen Sephton

**eLearning Team:**
Kate Flanders  H. Kelly
Leanne Shiels  Jenna De Muri
Hang Cao  Amy Acciarito
Natasha D’Cunha  Sheree Hegarty
Di Nowinski

**Performing Arts:**
Trish Hollenbach
Michaela Callaghan

**Facility Maintenance**
Shan Benson (Facility Manager)
Brendan Byrne (Facility Manager)
Emmanuel Vasquez

**Student Health and Wellbeing**
Lea Arida

**Horticulture and Food Technology**
Kate Hockley  Melanie Foulkes
Centre Educators:  
Centre Educators have a specific responsibility for the wellbeing and academic progress of all students within their Centre.

**Exploration Centre: Foundation(Prep)**

Kathryn Camilleri (Centre Leader)  
Lisa Dolin  
Mariela Aparo  
Maree Day  
Hang Cao  
Alex Williams  
Michael Gowland (School Leader)

**Discovery Centre: Year ½**

Olivia Wallace (Centre Leader)  
Vanessa Machado (Centre Leader)  
Steffanie Hall  
Simon Beraldo  
Amanda Defina  
Amy Acciarito  
Anita O'Connell  
Margaret Cunningham  
Karen Sephton  
Elaine Scanlon  
Emily Orr  
Lisa Gloster  
Susan Gurrie  
Jackie Byrne (School Leader)

**Bridging Centre: Year ¾**

Rachael Dewhurst  
Kaye Scaletti  
Leanne Shiels  
Jenna De Muri  
Genevieve Murray  
Kym Young  
Amy Freeman  
Marilyn Gerace  
Niamh Nestor  
Meg Wilkinson  
Trish Hollenbach  
Kristy Varenica  
Kate Flanders (School / Centre Leader)  
Loretta Freeman (School / Centre Leader)

**Leadership Centre: Year 5/6**

Kirrily Wallis (Centre Leader)  
Sheree Hegarty (Centre Leader)  
Jo Allison  
Hayley Fenech  
Di Nowinski  
Kate Hockley  
Marijana Jerkovic  
Natasha D’Cunha  
Aoibhean Barry  
Liadhan Cushen  
Helena O’Connor  
Ash Hudson  
Gemma Gowland (School Leader)

Communication Creates a Vital Link

Our school vision challenges us to “create authentic relationships so that we can be successful in our living”. Such relationships are based on our ability to create trusting dialogue.

To this end, I strongly encourage parents and teachers to take every opportunity to communicate with each other - in person, over the phone or through letters.

On Wednesday, 8th March there will also be an Open Night - an opportunity to spend time touring the school and chatting with all our educators.

In the meantime, we encourage parents to take the opportunity to chat with teachers any night after school.
Creating Community
During the course of the term we intend to provide many opportunities for families to engage in dialogue that will focus on our Family Engagement Framework.

The Family Engagement Framework aims to build and strengthen strong Home / School Partnerships and it is shaped by the Bethany Vision “Creating authentic relationships for successful living within a Catholic tradition”.

Our Family Engagement Framework sits on 8 understandings.

One such understanding states: “All school families want the best for the students in our care.”

With this belief in focus let us approach our 2017 school year with a sense of hope and with deep respect for one another. May such hope and genuine spirit of respect translate into a great year for all.

Three groups supporting Family Engagement:

1. Sub-Committee Groups
2. Family Group
3. School Community Group

Come along to our first School Community Group night and find out more.

The term 1 School Community Group meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 2nd March at 6.45 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Tangible Ways to Strengthen our Community

Leadership Assembly – Thursday, 23rd February at 9.00 a.m.
Attend the first assembly of the year and support our Year 6 leaders as they respond to the call to leadership. All students from Foundation (prep) to year 6 attend this assembly and we are hopeful that a large number of parents will join with us for the celebration.

Open Night – Wednesday, 8th March from 5.30 – 7.15 p.m.
Keep this evening free – an opportunity to visit the school, to tour the Centres and informally chat with teachers. The evening is scheduled from 5.30 – 7.15 p.m. There is no set organisation. Some families visit for a short time. Some families linger longer. A great night to meet all teachers in all Centres.

Our Open Nights are optional events, but those who respond to this invitation always benefit from the experience.

The Bethany Festival
The Bethany Festival will be held in March. A date will be published next week.

The Festival is a great night – a great way to both experience and help create the Bethany Spirit for which we are so well known.
The Festival is an opportunity for Foundation (Prep) to year 6 students and their families to enjoy a great fun night. Held on the grounds of MacKillop College, the evening consists of bush dancing, a picnic tea and a series of great acts.

In particular I encourage all families who are new to the school to make every effort to attend the Festival – a great way to connect – a great family night – a great opportunity to see your child connect with their friends.

Festival tickets will be on sale early March.

**Parent Sub-Committee News**

**Fundraising**
The first fundraising activity for the year is our School Fee Raffle. This raffle is always extremely popular with the first prize being the payment of a school fee (valued $1,390).

Should you have already paid your fees you can claim the money or use the prize to pay 2018 school fees in advance.

A book of tickets will be sent to each family in the near future.

**Hospitality**
Members of this group are responsible for our term one cuppas and chats.

Join with us on:

- Friday, 10th February: 8.50 – 9.30 a.m.
- Tuesday, 14th February: 8.50 – 9.30 a.m.
- Thursday, 23rd February: after assembly 9.20 – 9.45 a.m.

All welcome – a great way to meet other parents.

**Service**
The leaders of this group are calling for volunteers to assist with the icypole roster. Without such generous volunteers the various services offered in the school couldn’t take place. If you are able to assist, please register your interest by clicking on the following link or by phoning the school office on 9742 9800: [https://docs.google.com/a/bswerribeenth.catholic.edu.au/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfd5lp8 günlq9OmjXlbsFYfdkA6rBSz_5VNCB44R0k276Skmw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/a/bswerribeenth.catholic.edu.au/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfd5lp8 türlq9OmjXlbsFYfdkA6rBSz_5VNCB44R0k276Skmw/viewform)
Finances
Student fees of $335 per student are now due.

Should you not be in a position to finalise your account, it is vital that you communicate with us.

Schools, like homes have to make ends meet and it is always helpful when families trust us with their difficulties so that we can adjust the school budget accordingly. Such discussions are always held in confidence. Rest assured that no child will ever be denied a Catholic Education due to difficulty in finalising fees.

School Fees
A reminder that first instalments of $470 are due by Thursday, 9th February.

Health Care Card Holders
Families with a Health Care Card current on Monday, 30th January, 2017 may be eligible for the CSEF (sports and excursion fund) payment of $125 per student.

Applications for this fund can be made at the main office. It is most important that you provide a copy of your Health Care Card when making an application.

Families eligible for this fund will only need to pay $210 per student for the Student Fee. The CSEF will cover the remaining $125.

Student fee: $210 (general resources)
$125 (sports / excursion)
$335 per student

All applications must be complete by Tuesday, 14th February.

Working in Partnership

Reading Helpers ~ Lots of Help Needed
The Grade One Reading Tutor program involves parents coming into the school two mornings per week (Wednesday and Friday) for thirty minutes to assist grade one children with reading skills. (You do not have to have a grade one child to participate).

Parent volunteers will be trained in how to support the skills that are being covered in the classroom reading program.

The program gives:
• Parents an opportunity to be involved in the school program.
• Strategies to help parents work with their own children at home.
• Students the opportunity to receive positive feedback and build confidence.

Over time we have come to see that the single biggest benefit of this program is the close relationship that
builds between the tutor and the student. The children experience the support and encouragement of an adult who is there ‘just for them’. We would really appreciate your support with this. Ideally we would like parents to commit to both Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8.50 - 9.20 a.m., but we can also offer you either a Wednesday or Friday if this suits your personal arrangements better. Please indicate your interest by clicking on the following link or by phoning the school office on 9742 9800: https://docs.google.com/a/bswerribeenth.catholic.edu.au/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfVZAIs3mTn7CwsIoXFHzvnW546Z9Vi-3sN8MUCbHqP8U-uQ/viewform

**Specific Dates for Parent Tutoring**
- Wednesday, 22nd February between 8.50 - 9.20 a.m. is an opportunity to see how the program works.
- Friday, 24th February between 8.50 – 9.20 a.m. is another opportunity to see how the program works.
- Parent Tutoring will begin on Wednesday, 1st March at 9.00 a.m.

**Athletics Carnival Helpers**

**Bethany Athletics Carnival, Friday, 10th March.**
**V.U.T. Track, Werribee**

As you are already aware the date for our whole school Athletics Carnival is scheduled for Friday, 10th March. To make the day a huge success for your children we do need your help on the day. We know many people prefer to come along and support their children on the sidelines but we do really need your support and assistance to make our day run smoothly.

We would like to especially invite new prep parents to come and assist on the day. You would actually be helping at your child’s events and still get to see them compete in the now famous prep sprint events.

If you are interested in supporting this amazing sporting event, please indicate by clicking on the following link or by phoning the school office on 9742 9800: https://docs.google.com/a/bswerribeenth.catholic.edu.au/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd9U_8M4SZ_V9q0qRjxEmGwR11caxZIkze883P04Bb1vASZA/viewform

Even if you can only help out for part of the day let us know and we will have a job for you.

Our Sports Committee will run a parent meeting on **Friday, 3rd March from 9.00 - 9.30 a.m.** The meeting to be held in the Bridging Centre 100 Room will give you more information on your task for the day. However, this is not compulsory for helpers as the committee will still send home your task and you can catch them at 9.00 a.m. on the morning of the carnival at the track.

Please indicate if you will be attending this meeting so we have a seat ready for you. If you have any queries at all about the carnival, please chat to Marlene, Kathryn, Kirrily, Leanne, Olivia or to Centre Leaders. Looking forward to your support.
Punctuality
This week and every week of the year we will be stressing the importance of punctuality.

All students are asked to go straight to their hubs from 8.40 a.m. when a welcome bell will ring. It is important therefore that children arrive at the school gate at 8.45 a.m. at the latest.

We need to encourage every student to be conscious of the need to develop a habit of punctuality. Arriving on time is a matter of courtesy. Arriving late for class makes life extremely difficult for teachers and for other students.

Daily Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1:</td>
<td>8.50 a.m.—10.50 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recess:</td>
<td>10.50 a.m.—11.20 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 2:</td>
<td>11.20 a.m.—12.50 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch:</td>
<td>12.50 p.m.—1.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 3:</td>
<td>1.30 p.m.—3.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please do not collect your child during morning or lunch recess times unless it is an emergency.

Collecting Children from School at Times Other than 3.00 p.m.
If you need to collect your child before the official dismissal time at 3.00 p.m., we ask that you come to the office before 2.45 p.m. and sign them out. Once you have signed your child out, you will be given a slip, which you then take to your child’s hub and give to your child’s teacher. If you go to the Centre without the slip, the teacher will send you back to the office before you can collect your child. Unless it is an emergency, no child can be collected between 2.45 – 3.00 p.m.

Retford Close Access - Limited Opening Times
The Retford Close gate, closest to the Discovery Centre, will be opened daily between:

8.30 a.m. - 8.50 a.m.; and
2.50 p.m. - 3.10 p.m.

This gate will be supervised by a teacher and will only open at the above times.

Please note these times carefully. The gate will be locked on the 8.50 a.m. bell each day as after this bell students are late and are asked to enter by the usual Retford Close gate and proceed to the main office for a late pass.

Early Arrival
Students are asked not to arrive at school prior to 8.30 a.m. as there is no direct supervision available.
If you need supervision prior to 8.30 a.m. it is expected that you access care at Quantin Binnah (Ph 9742 5040).
Lunch Orders
Lunches can be ordered on any Monday from Monday, 13th February. Lunches are prepared by a local provider.

Lunch orders are collected from the school by 9.00 a.m. so if your child should arrive at school after this time it is not possible to place an order. A price list is included with this newsletter.

Sports Uniform Days
Students are asked to wear full sports uniform on their sports day. Runners may only be worn to school on sports days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Centre</th>
<th>Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Centre</td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridging Centre</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery Centre</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploration Centre</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Icypoles
Students are able to purchase icypoles each Tuesday and Thursday during Term 1, beginning February 16th.

Zooper Doopers (30 cents)

It would assist class teachers greatly if correct money could be provided. Children are free to purchase one icypole only. Orders and money are collected first thing in the morning. It is not possible to accept late icypole orders.

An Update on Student Safety
Anaphylaxis
There are a number of children in our school with anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction which is caused by certain foods. Peanuts and other nuts are the most likely foods to cause anaphylaxis.

All of our staff have been made aware of this situation and have been instructed in the correct procedures in recognising and responding to anaphylaxis.

An important understanding in the prevention of food anaphylactic reactions in school children at risk, is the essential step for the children to develop strategies for avoidance of particular foods at school and in the wider community. This occurs at the appropriate age for each child.

However as an additional support to children suffering this condition, we ask that you do not send foods to school that contain peanuts or nut products.
This is helpful as in a school setting, cross-contamination is the greatest risk for this type of allergy. It would therefore assist the children at risk if you do not send these foods.

After School Safety
After school, parents and carers are responsible for the supervision of the children in their care. It is very important that parents and carers collect their children from outside their Centres unless they have arranged for them to go on the walker’s line, bikers line or After School Care. As children cross the carpark it is expected that they would walk with their parent or carer.

The Fitness Track, Fort and Sandpit are out of bounds after school.

If parents choose to allow their children to play on the larger play equipment at the Heath's Road end of the school, then the children must still follow the rules set by Bethany. This means that children can only play on the age appropriate equipment that they are allowed on during school time.

- Children in the Junior School can use the middle playground
- Children in year 3/4 can use the equipment closest to Heath's Road
- Children in year 5/6 can use the equipment closest to the carpark.

Parents with a child in prep need to be aware that at this stage prep students have not been briefed by the school re safety when using the junior play equipment.

If children play on the equipment, then an adult must be present at the equipment and supervising the play.

The school will not be held responsible for any accidents or difficulties that arise after school when the children are in the care of their parents and carers.

Children may not be on the equipment without a supervising adult.

All school gates, except the main gate, will be locked between 3.45 - 4.00 p.m. daily. The Retford Close bottom gate will be locked at 3.10 p.m.

No Smoking
A reminder that Bethany is a no smoking zone. Thank you for respecting this policy.

No Pets
In the interest of student safety we also ask that no pets are brought onto the site.

Sad News
During the past week, our community was very sad to hear that Daniel Stark, a parent at Bethany, had died in a traffic accident.

As this news spreads through the community, I know that everyone’s love, thoughts and prayers will be
with Daniel’s wife Belinda and his daughter Makayla. They will need the love and care of our community forever.

In the Bridging Centre and the Leadership Centre the students spoke about Daniel and the times that each of us have known deep sorrow. We prayed, remembered those we love and gave thanks for the strength of our Bethany community.

As always counselling is available for any student, parent or teacher should it be required.

We are aware that many families have suffered personal loss throughout the years and that such grief can take forever to heal. Tragic circumstances are a reminder to us that life is precious, fleeting and that now is the moment to live and love.

May we continue to be sustained by our faith and our care of one another. Gestures of gentleness and kindness can support us as we live through our grief.

The things that matter most in our lives are not fantastic or grand. They are the moments when we touch one another with love and hope.
### Werribee Village Bakery – Deli Menu and Price List

#### HOT FOOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party Pies</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sausage Rolls</td>
<td>$2.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Dog with sauce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Dog with cheese and sauce</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schnitzel sandwich</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schnitzel sandwich with lettuce and mayo</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Sandwich

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwich</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ham / salami</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Roast Chicken and salad (lettuce, carrot, tomato)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham and cheese</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>Tuna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham and tomato</td>
<td>$3.30</td>
<td>Vegemite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham and salad (lettuce, carrot, tomato)</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
<td>Salad (lettuce, carrot, tomato, cucumber, beetroot)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
<td>Rolls add 20 cents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese and salad (lettuce, carrot, tomato)</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>Ham and Cheese Croissant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg and lettuce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Cheesymite Scroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roast Chicken</td>
<td>$3.80</td>
<td>Cheese Bacon Roll</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Cakes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cakes</th>
<th>Extra</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cinnamon Donut</td>
<td>Sauce</td>
<td>$0.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iced Donut</td>
<td>Mustard</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jam Donut</td>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choc Jam Donut</td>
<td>Each salad</td>
<td>$1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croissants</td>
<td>Paper Bag</td>
<td>$1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamingtons</td>
<td>Toast</td>
<td>$2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple cake</td>
<td>Butter</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Mud cake</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedgehog</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muffin (Choc chip / Blueberry)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happy/face</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Drinks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drinks</th>
<th></th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prima (Orange / Apple)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Big M (Chocolate / Strawberry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple and Raspberry / Tropical</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remarks:
- Cheese and cheese sandwich
- Roll add 20 cents.