

Dear Families,

Welcome to term 2!

As we return from the Easter season, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you. I hope the holy days brought moments of peace, reflection, and joy to you and your families, and that the hope of the risen Christ continues to strengthen and uplift your hearts.

I also want to personally thank each and every one of you for the unity, compassion, and grace you have shown during the deeply challenging events of the final week of term. In a time of great sorrow, your support and care have been a powerful witness to the Gospel values we hold so dear.

To our dedicated staff and school leadership team, I offer my sincere thanks. Your strength, compassion, and unwavering commitment in such difficult circumstances have been truly Christ-like. You have served our students and families with extraordinary care, and I am profoundly grateful for your leadership and love.

I would like to especially thank Kate Flanders, Kirrily Wallis, and Sheree Hegarty for their outstanding leadership throughout this time. Their calm presence, wise guidance, and deep pastoral care have been a source of strength and reassurance for our entire community.

During my recent pilgrimage *In the Footsteps of St Paul*, I was deeply comforted by the knowledge that our community, even in my absence, responded with such faith, love, and unity. As I stood in places where St Paul himself walked, preached, and suffered, I was reminded that the early Church, like our own community, found strength not in the absence of hardship, but in the presence of Christ and in the love shared among believers.

As a faith-filled community, may we continue to walk together in the light of Christ, guided by His peace, strengthened by His resurrection, and united in His love.

### **Pope Francis: A Humble Servant of the Church**

Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires, Argentina, became the 266th Pope of the Roman Catholic Church in 2013. As the first Pope from the Americas and the first Jesuit to hold the office, he brought a renewed spirit of humility, compassion, and simplicity to the papacy. Throughout his leadership, Pope Francis focused on mercy, care for the poor, interfaith dialogue, and protection of the environment. His papal teachings—especially through *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti*—challenged Catholics to live out the Gospel through love, service, and unity.

His final Easter message offered this:

Christ is Risen!  
These words capture the entire meaning of our existence,  
For we were not made for death but for life.

His life remains a profound gift to the Church and a powerful example of Christ-like leadership in our time. To celebrate his life the school will have prayer daily this week for the Pope and the future of our church.

Eternal rest grant unto Francis, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon him. And may his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Reminders for the coming weeks: -

We will have our **Bethany Day Celebration** tomorrow, **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April**. This day celebrates our patron saints- Martha, Mary and Lazarus- Jesus' best friends. On this day we learn about Bethany and these saints and their love for Jesus, as well as spending time in Houses launching our leadership team. We look forward to seeing you all there!

**ANZAC Day** public holiday this **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April**.

ANZAC Day holds a deeply significant place in the hearts of all Australians. It is a time when we pause to remember and honour the courage, sacrifice, and enduring spirit of the men and women who have served—and continue to serve—our country in times of war, conflict, and peacekeeping. Commemorating the landing of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915, ANZAC Day has grown to embody broader values of courage, mateship, and resilience that define our national character. It is a solemn reminder of the cost of freedom and the importance of striving for peace.

As a community, we give thanks for those who gave their lives in service and those who returned, forever changed. Lest we forget.

Our annual **Mother's Day Breakfast** will be held on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May** beginning at 7:45am in the school hall. All mothers or significant women in the children's lives are invited to attend along with their children. If there are any dads or father like figures who would like to assist on the day, please contact Admin on 9742 9800.

**PLAYGROUNDS OUT OF BOUND**- Over the holidays the oval was resurfaced, and it looks great! This will be an incredible play space for the students once the grass is fully established. In the meantime, to ensure the grass establishes itself students will be off the oval for the next four week. **The playgrounds will also be out of bounds for all students and families after school** for the four first weeks to ensure all stay off the newly planted grass.

Lunch Orders begin **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April**.

Enjoy the remainder of the week and the week ahead.

Take care. God bless.

Joanne Webster  
Principal

### **Easter Prayer for Our School Community**

Risen Lord Jesus,  
As we rejoice in the glory of Your Resurrection,  
fill our school with hope, peace, and joy.

Help us to live as Easter people—  
sharing Your love, showing kindness,  
and walking in the light of Your truth each day.

Bless our students, staff, and families  
as we continue our journey together in faith.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
He is truly Risen!

Amen.

## School News

### Transition to Winter Uniform

The students will have the beginning of term 2, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May to transition to Winter uniform. This means for the first two weeks of term the students may wear winter or summer uniform. All students begin wearing Winter uniform on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May**. We will have a Second-Hand Uniform sale on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 8:45am and 2:45pm**. This will allow families to purchase winter uniform for their children.

## Masses, Sacraments and Family Nights for 2025

### 2025 Bethany Masses & Sacrament Dates Updated

Sacraments: Eucharist, Confirmation, Reconciliation / Year Level Mass / Whole School Mass / Bethany Community Mass at St. Andrew's Church

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
<b>Ash Wednesday Whole School Mass</b> Wednesday March 5th 10am (Week 6)  <b>Bethany Community Mass at St. Andrew's Church</b> Saturday March 29th 6pm (Week 9) TBC  <b>Holy Week Liturgy</b> Friday April 4th 9:30am (Week 10)	<b>Eucharist Family Meeting</b> Wednesday April 30th at 6:45pm (Week 2)  <b>Year 1 &amp; 6 Level Mass</b> Thursday May 8th at 10am (Week 3)  <b>Our Lady Help Of Christians Mass</b> Friday May 23rd at 10am (Week 5)  <b>Reconciliation prior to Eucharist</b> Thursday June 5th at 12pm (Week 7)  <b>Sacrament of Eucharist</b> Thursday June 12th at 5pm St. Andrew's (Week 8)	<b>Confirmation Family Meeting</b> Wednesday July 23rd at 6:45pm (Week 1)  <b>Reconciliation prior to Confirmation</b> Thursday July 31st at 12pm (Week 2)  <b>Bethany Saints Feast Day Whole School Mass</b> Friday August 1st at 10am (Week 2)  <b>Sacrament of Confirmation</b> Thursday August 7th at 5pm (Week 3)  <b>Prep. Year 3 &amp; 5 Level Mass</b> Thursday August 21st at 10am (Week 5)  <b>Year 2 &amp; 4 Level Mass</b> Thursday September 4th at 10am (Week 7)  <b>Bethany Community Mass at St. Andrew's Church</b> Saturday September 13th at 6pm (Week 8) TBC	<b>Reconciliation Family Meeting</b> Wednesday Oct 22nd at 6:45pm (Week 3)  <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> Wednesday 29th Oct at 5 pm (Week 4)  <b>Thanksgiving/ Grandparents Day Whole School Mass</b> Thursday November 13th at 10am (Week 6)

## Assembly

Assemblies are held on Mondays, generally fortnightly at 2:25pm. Please find the Assembly Schedule. All families are invited to attend. These are generally held on the basketball court or in the school hall. Assemblies begin again in Term 2 on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 2:25pm

ASSEMBLIES - 2025								
	TERM 1		TERM 2		TERM 3		TERM 4	
WEEK	DATE	HUBS	DATE	HUBS	DATE	HUBS	DATE	HUBS
1			22 APRIL		21 JULY		6 OCTOBER	
2	3 FEBRUARY	Principal - JOANNE	28 APRIL	Year 6 Teresa/Little	28 JULY	Year 5/6 Kolbe/Mandela	13 OCTOBER	Year 5 Chisholm/MacKillop
3	10 FEBRUARY		5 MAY		4 AUGUST		20 OCTOBER	
4	17 FEBRUARY	PBL	12 MAY	Year 2 Indigo/Blue	11 AUGUST	Year 2 Gold / Violet	27 OCTOBER	Prep Earth/Star
5	24 FEBRUARY		19 MAY		18 AUGUST		3 NOVEMBER	
6	3 MARCH	Leadership Assembly	26 MAY	Year 4 Jordan/Sepik	25 AUGUST	PE / Italian	10 NOVEMBER	REMEMBRANCE DAY- Leadership Centre
7	10 MARCH	HOLIDAY	2 JUNE		1 SEPTEMBER		17 NOVEMBER	
8	17 MARCH	Year 1 Yellow/Green	9 JUNE	Year 1 Red/Orange	8 SEPTEMBER	Prep Sky/Ocean	24 NOVEMBER	Year 3/4 Todd/Murray
9	24 MARCH		16 JUNE	HOLIDAY	15 SEPTEMBER		1 DECEMBER	PP DAY
10	31 MARCH		23 JUNE	Year 3 Werribee/Yarra			Thurs 11 DECEMBER	End of Year Assembly JOANNE
11			30 JUNE				15 Dec	

## Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

As part of our PBL program, the Years 3-6 classes have introduced 'Secret Student' into our daily class routine. Each day, the classroom teacher randomly selects one or two students that they then observe to see if they are achieving the stated PBL expectation from our matrix for that day, such as: 'we are trying to follow directions promptly.'

Throughout the day, the class is reminded of their focus goal. At the end of the day the teacher reveals the name/s of the secret students only if they have achieved the goal. The secret student receives a gold star on a digital tracker and once they reach three stars, they can 'cash' in their stars for a small reward.

In MacKillop Hub in the Leadership Centre, their reward options include:

Here are some responses from MacKillop Hub students who have been named 'Secret Student' three times and earned a reward.

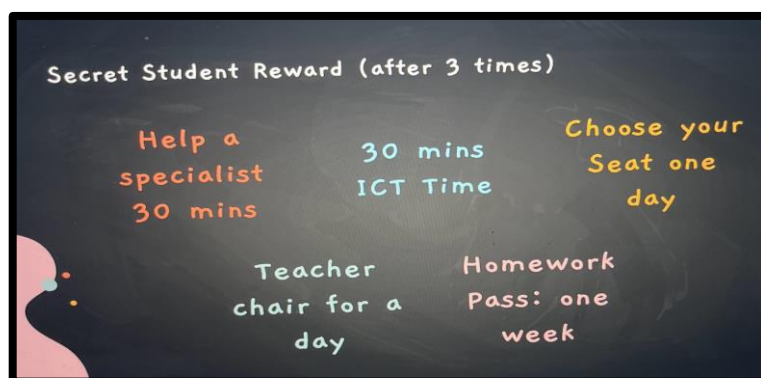
### Bellafaye B:

*When we had our swimming program.*

*I received the award for being safe and responsible around the pool. I felt like I really deserved to be recognised and cashed in my reward and helped Veronica with the Preps at sport.*

### Charlotte E:

*I received the Secret Student award for using kind words and actions. I felt very excited when I got my 3rd star because, everyone would normally try really hard to try and get it and when you think and believe it is going to be you, it normally is you. I plan to cash in my reward to help Nat, the art teacher, with a junior art lesson because I like seeing how little kids do art.*



# Positive Behaviour for Learning School Wide Expectations

*Let Learners Learn and Teachers Teach*

	Be Safe	Be Respectful	Be Responsible
Learning Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself</li> <li>Line up and walk calmly and quietly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use kind words and actions</li> <li>Use whole body listening</li> <li>Follow directions promptly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look after self, others and equipment</li> <li>Be a responsible learner</li> </ul>
Outside Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep hands and feet to yourself</li> <li>Use spaces and equipment correctly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use kind words and actions</li> <li>Be a good sport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look after self, others and equipment</li> <li>Wear correct uniform</li> <li>Be on time &amp; walk promptly to line up</li> </ul>

UPDATED JAN 2024



## The Resilience Project - Encouraging Independence – One Small Step at a Time!

As parents, it's tempting to step in and do things for our children - after all, it's often quicker and easier! But giving them the chance to take responsibility helps build their confidence, resilience, and problem-solving skills. At school, we encourage students to think for themselves, make decisions, and tackle challenges independently. At home, you can do the same in small but meaningful ways.

Try letting your child take charge of simple tasks like packing their school bag, setting the table, or helping with chores. When they come to you with a problem, resist the urge to jump in with the solution. Instead, ask, "What do you think you could do?" Offering choices, like picking between two outfits or snacks, also helps them feel in control. Using checklists or timers can be a fun way to build time management skills too!

With a little encouragement, children gain the confidence to take on more responsibility, preparing them for success at school and beyond!



## The Resilience Project - 'Connected Parenting Webinar' – Interested?

The Resilience Project has offered our parent and carer community the opportunity to join a free webinar called 'Connected Parenting' with Lael Stone on Monday 12th May, 6.30 - 7.45pm AEST.

Grounded in the latest research, this 75-minute workshop provides parents and carers with practical strategies to raise resilient children. Lael Stone, will discuss how to:

- Build stronger connections with your children.
- Support them through challenging and frustrating situations.
- Create a culture of cooperation in simple ways.
- Manage your own triggers as a parent.
- Understand and support big emotions in a way that helps children become emotionally resilient.



To prepare yourself for this optional webinar:

1. Access and read the information [flyer](#)
2. Individually register for the webinar using [this link](#). The Resilience Project will then send you the Zoom link and a calendar invite.

### **Happy Families - Seven Habits of Happy Families**

Families come in all shapes and sizes. Some families enjoy spending time together in nature, some bond by playing board games and video games, whereas others love to explore new places in their local community.

In his most recent Happy Families article 'Seven Habits of Happy Families', Dr. Justin Coulson, a leading parenting expert, shares seven powerful habits that help create happier, more connected families. After interviewing thousands of families over the years, families who implement these small habits have experienced considerable positivity within their family unit.

Happy families thrive on simple but powerful habits. By assuming the best in our children, responding with patience, and sharing laughter, we create stronger bonds. Resolving conflicts quickly, staying present in their daily lives, and truly listening help build trust and security. Meaningful traditions provide a sense of belonging, while open conversations ensure children feel safe discussing life's big questions. Small, consistent efforts can make a world of difference in raising happy, connected kids.

For more information, visit <https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login/bethanycps> and use the password **happybcps**.

## **Family News**

### **Second Hand Uniform- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 8:45am and 2:45pm**

We will be holding a second-hand uniform sale Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April from 8:45am and 2:45pm near the Basketball Court.

Second hand uniforms can be dropped off to the Admin Office from Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Please ensure any items for sale are in good condition, clean and clearly labelled with the following information:

- Family name
- Eldest child's hub
- Size
- Price

The second-hand uniform sale will run during school drop off on the basketball court and items can be purchased with CASH ONLY. Cash is required as we endeavour to return all funds directly to families who have sold uniform. We thank you for your understanding.

### **MacKillop College Open Day**

Thursday 1 May 2025

4.00pm – 6.30pm - Final Tour at 5.45pm

All welcome to attend and tour the College.

For further information regarding the College please visit the College website:

[www.mackillop.vic.edu.au](http://www.mackillop.vic.edu.au)

## Enrolments for Year 7 2027

Applications close on Friday 17 August 2025

### Key Enrolment Dates for Year 5 2025 beginning Secondary School in 2027

**If you wish to enrol your child in a Catholic Secondary School beginning in 2027, please observe the following dates.**

- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Applications will open for students commencing Year 7 in 2027.
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025 – Applications will close.
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Offers will be posted to prospective 2027 Year 7 applicants.
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Final date for parents/carers to accept an offer made by a school.

If you require any further information, please see Sheree or Elaine.

## Matters Financial

### Student Levies are now OVERDUE

All student levies (\$420.00 per student) were expected to be finalised by **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**. We would appreciate you attending to this matter if you have not already done so. Payment can be made over the phone by credit card or in person between 8:30am – 4:00pm.

### Health Care Card Holders (CSEF)

Parents who hold a Health Care Card that is current on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 may be eligible for the CSEF. This grant offers \$154.00 per student. The payment is made directly to the school and as such would offset \$154.00 of the student fee.

Families with a Health Care Card are asked to make an application for the Sport / Excursion grant at the beginning of the school year. It is important that you have your Health Care Card with you when making an application. Successful applicants will then only need to pay \$266.00 per student fee.

**If you received this payment in 2024 you do not need to reapply. You will automatically receive this payment if your Health Care Card is still valid.**

### Concessional Fee Policy

The concessional fee policy was introduced to support families struggling to pay school fees. Concessional school fees are available to any family that meets the below eligibility criteria:

- Holding a valid HCC and eligible for CSEF
- Experiencing severe financial hardship
- Holding a DVA Gold Card
- Identified as refugees and holding an ImmiCard
- Of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage

You will also be required to complete a form as a part of the process to determine eligibility. Should you wish further information re this funding or if you have questions as to whether you are eligible, please do not hesitate to contact the school and ask to speak to Joanne Webster.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Instalment – School Fee

If you opted to pay your 2025 school fees by three instalments, the second instalment **\$615.00** is due by **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**.

## Payment in Full – School Fee

If you opted to pay your 2025 school fees in full, this payment **\$1,840.00** is due by **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May**.

## Important Dates –

### School Dates for 2025 **NEW**

#### April 2025

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Bethany Day

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Anzac Day – Public Holiday

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Teresa and Little assembly 2:25pm **NEW**

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April – First Eucharist Family Night 6:45pm – School Hall

#### May 2025

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May – District Cross Country

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day Breakfast 7:45am – School Hall

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day Stall

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May- Year 2 Indigo and Blue assembly 2:25pm **NEW**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Year 1 Werribee Zoo excursion **NEW**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Year 3 Melbourne Zoo excursion

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 Mad About Science incursion

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 Victorian Space Science Education Centre excursion

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 Victorian Space Science Education Centre excursion

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Wyndham Cross Country

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Exploration Centre Animal Land Children's Farm excursion

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Our Lady Help of Christians whole school mass 10:00am

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Year 4 Sepik and Jordan assembly 2:25pm **NEW**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May & Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Lady Northcote Camp Year 4

#### June 2025

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June & Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – School Closure days – Professional Learning – School Vision

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Reconciliation for Eucharist 12 noon

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Sacrament of Eucharist at St Andrew's Church – 5:00pm

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5 Anglesea Camp

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Year 1 Red and Orange assembly 2:25pm **NEW**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Anglesea Camp

#### July 2025

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – School Closure Day – Learning Conversations

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of Term 2 – Casual Dress – 12:30pm finish – NO LUNCH ORDERS**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July – First Day of Term 2 – 8:45am start**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Confirmation Family Night 6:45pm – School Hall

## Parent in Partnership Dates for 2025

### Term 2

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – 1:30pm

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May – 1:30pm

### Term 3

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July – 1:30pm

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August – 6:45pm



#### Term 4

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 1:30pm

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November – 6:45pm

#### **School Advisory Council Dates 2025**

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – 6:45pm

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – 6:45pm

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November – 6:45pm

#### **School Closures for 2025**

The following dates are school closure days for 2025. **PLEASE MARK THESE IN YOUR DIARIES:**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Professional Learning – School Vision

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Learning Conversations

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Report Writing Day

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December – 2026 Planning Day

#### **Public Holidays for 2025**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June – King's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

#### **Sacrament Dates 2025 PLEASE MARK IN YOUR DIARIES**

**First Eucharist** – Year 4 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 5:00pm at St Andrew's Church

**Confirmation** – Year 6 Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August at 5:00pm in the Bethany School Hall

**First Reconciliation** – Year 3 Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 5:00pm in St Andrew's Church

#### **Family Nights for Sacraments 2025**

**Eucharist Family Night** – Year 4 students and parents/carers – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 6:45pm  
School Hall

**Confirmation Family Night** – Year 6 students and parents/carers – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 6:45pm  
School Hall

**Reconciliation Family Night** – Year 3 students and parents/carers – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October  
6:45pm School Hall

**All students and families celebrating these sacraments are required to attend.**

# LUNCH ORDER PRICELIST 2025

HOT FOOD		
Party Pies		\$2.00
Sausage Rolls		\$5.20
Hot Dog with Sauce		\$5.20
Hot Dog with Sauce & Cheese		\$6.00
Schnitzel Sandwich		\$6.50
Schnitzel Sandwich with Lettuce & Mayo		\$7.00
Extras:	Sauce	\$0.20
	Mustard	\$0.20
	Paper Bag	\$0.20

CAKES		
Iced Donuts		\$1.20
Cinnamon Donuts		\$1.00
Jam Donuts		\$3.00
Chocolate Jam Donuts		\$3.50
Croissant		\$3.00
Lamington		\$4.00
Apple Cake		\$4.50
Mini Mud Cake		\$4.50
Hedgehog		\$4.50
Muffin (Chocolate Chip & Blueberry)		\$4.50
Happy Face/Neenish Tart		\$3.50

DRINKS		
Prima (Orange or Apple)		\$2.50
Prima (Apple & Raspberry)		\$2.50
Kids Milk (Chocolate or Strawberry)		\$3.00

SANDWICHES		
Ham or Chicken		\$4.00
Ham or Chicken & Cheese		\$5.50
Ham or Chicken, Cheese & Salad		\$7.50
Cheese & Salad (Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber & Carrot)		\$7.50
Cheese & Bacon Roll		\$2.00
Cheese Roll		\$1.80
Cheese & Vegemite Scroll		\$4.00