

# Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee

Newsletter No. 4 Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Families,

As we enter the last few weeks of term, we have much to be grateful for and much to look forward to. With our swimming program completed, we thank you the families for your preparation and organisation of your children. When going down to the pool to watch the students, the experience of swimming lessons (albeit short) provides the students with water familiarisation skills and some lessons. A big thank you to Carin, Deputy Principal for her significant organisation of this. An enormous feat organising and co-ordinating 574 students, buses and the swimming school. Well done!

We have our Athletics Carnival in Term 2 week 1, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April. Please mark this date in your diaries. A note will come home on Friday advising of this.

School Photo Day is also on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Students will be required to dress in full school uniform. More information to come.

Correct school uniform is an expectation at Bethany. A reminder to all families the sports uniform is the ONLY uniform whereby students can wear runners. Full school uniform states students must wear black school shoes or black boots. In the newsletter dated 13th December 2023 we reminded all families about the expectations for school shoes in 2024...

A reminder to all families, as you prepare to buy shoes for your child for the new school year, of the School Uniform requirements with shoes. Black school shoes not runners are to be worn with the full school uniform. Runners are only to be worn with sports uniform. Please understand this will be compulsory in the new school year. I thank you as always for your co-operation with this.

All families have until term 2, day 1 to have the required shoes with uniform. We have attached the Bethany School Uniform Policy and booklet illustrating the correct uniform for your information.

Over the next three weeks we have much to look forward to with the following events, so please add to your diaries.

- NAPLAN for Year 3s from the 13<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March and for Year 5s from 13<sup>th</sup> March-15<sup>th</sup> March
- Mass at St Patrick's to celebrate Catholic Education Week- some members of Social Justice Team to attend
- Camp Adanac for the Leadership Centre from Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd March
- Casual Dress Day and Easter egg donation on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

- Bethany Day on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March- a celebration of our patron saints of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, as well as a day to launch our school houses- Conifer, Wattle, Waratah and Jacaranda, across the school- families welcome to attend. Students wear sports uniform and house colour t-shirt
- Stations of the Cross 9:00am Thursday 28th March in the School Hall-families welcome
- Easter Raffle drawn on Thursday 28th March
- Last day of Term 1, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, students finish at 12:30pm. This is also a casual dress day

Thank you again for your continued support. Take care. God bless

Joanne Webster Principal

# Prayer:

# **Lent Week 4**

God who created me, You offer me new life through your Son and through the gift of your sacraments. While I see new life all around me, I don't always recognize the new life you offer me. Help me to grow this Lent in an awareness of the gifts you place in my life and in a greater appreciation for your care. Give me the courage to ask for help.

# **Staff News**

Due to family circumstances, Hayley Fenech has had to resign from her position at Bethany. We thank her for her service to our school community. We keep her in our thoughts and prayers as she journeys on.

She will be replaced immediately by Kym Young in both Indigo and Gold Hub on Mondays and Fridays respectively.

# **School News**

# Easter Liturgy- Thursday 28th March

In Religious Education this term students have been learning about the events of Holy Week, ending in Jesus' joyful resurrection on Easter Sunday. During the liturgy, students will lead us in prayer and reflection and enact the different stations, offering a prayerful depiction of Christ's passion to deepen our understanding of the Easter season.

A group of Year 5 & 6 student leaders as well as Year 4 students have been working with Trish in preparation for Bethany's Easter Liturgy which will be based on the Stations Of The Cross. This liturgy will be held in the Hall on the morning of Thursday, 28th March (the last day of Term 1). Exploration and Discovery students will attend from 9:15am - 9:45am and Bridging and Leadership students will attend from 9:55am - 10:25am. The morning will conclude with the announcement of the winners of the Easter Raffle prizes.

We believe that your presence will not only support our students but enrich your own spiritual journey as we prepare for the celebration of Easter. It will also allow us to celebrate the end of Term 1 together as a community.

We hope you can join us for this special event. Please indicate your attendance via the Operoo notice to be sent on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. We look forward to seeing you then!

# **Leadership Assembly**

At the 2024 Leadership Assembly the year 6's prepared for their call of leadership by receiving the candles. We received six candles to bring us to acknowledge our leadership. Joanne announced the 2024 school captains, school vice captains, house captains, house vice captains, social justice leaders and SRC. After that the choir blessed us with the "Blessed Be" song. We all very appreciative of being the new school leaders

Xavier









Discovery Centre SRC representatives

At assembly Joanne spoke about who was doing SRC. She called out people's names and they went up to get a badge. She called out my name to get a badge and I went up. I felt happy and it was a funny moment. Now I need to remember to bring my badge every single day!

Ollie (Blue Hub)

Getting my name called out in front of the assembly was really cool. When I applied for SRC, I had a feeling in my head that I might get it. Getting my badge gave me real pride and responsibility especially that I got picked out of other students. I feel really happy that I got SRC. **Eden (Chisholm Hub)** 

# **Swimming**

Swimming is a very busy time; however, it was great to see so many students embrace the opportunity to engage in the five-day intensive swimming program at Aqua Pulse.

We learnt about swimming. We learnt how to be confident in the water. - Leo Green Hub

My friends and I learnt how to be safe around water. - Mithil Green Hub









In Week 5 the Year 3 and 4's went to swim at Aqua Pulse to learn how to be safe in the water and we were split into groups based on our swimming level. We played games and they helped us with surviving if we ever find ourselves drowning. I also learnt how to save people if they are in danger using reach rescue (with pool noodles or rope) and throw rescue (using kickboard or anything that floats). - Elannah C Jordan Hub

In Week 5, all the Year 3's & 4's went to Aqua Pulse to learn how to swim. Some of us were still learning, but others had already started swimming so we knew what to do. On the last day, which was Water Safety Day, we learnt a lot of life saving techniques and the teacher also taught us how to get out of the water without rubbing your eyes. - John Paul M. Jordan Hub







## **Summer Gala Day**

On Tuesday the 27th of February, Bethany sent various teams to both Alcock reserve and Eagle stadium to compete in the Truganina district summer gala day. All teams competed strongly with many wins on the board.

Tee ball had a draw and two losses in a tricky schedule, although improved with each game.

Cricket lost their two games, however learnt a lot and improved their cricket skills in the process

Volleystars finished 3rd overall, winning a few games and being very competitive Basketball had a really successful gala day, with 'girls A' winning the grand final and progressing to the next level, 'boys A' going down as runners up in the grand final by 1 point and 'boys and girls B' finishing strongly with a 3rd place and 5th place respectively

Tennis had some very strong results, with the boys' team finishing 2nd overall and the girls team finishing 3rd overall.

Congratulations to all who represented Bethany and competed on the day, a fantastic effort from all!



#### **Wyndham Division Swimming Finals**

On Wednesday the 6th of March, ten Bethany students ventured to Werribee outdoor pool to compete against the best swimmers in the area in the Wyndham Division swimming finals. Bethany had individual representatives in various strokes as well as teams in the medley and freestyle relays.

Bethany had many placings during the day in individual events and relays. Special mention to Katia Kurenysheva who won both her events and will now progress to the Western Metro swimming finals in Geelong. Congratulations to the following swimmers for making it this far:

Joshua Wilke
Katia Kurenysheva
April Hollingsworth
Alyssa Walker
Aleira Delibasic
Bellafaye Breardon
Elannah Caguioa
Chloe Dirige
Kavya Patel
Noah Bramfit



# Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL

'Tis the sea-sun for swimming and Bridging Centre was next on the blocks. It wasn't just their swimming skills being put to the test. Students were given the chance to give their PBL skills of being safe, respectful and responsible a real workout. The rotation of hubs heading to the pools had to go swimmingly and it did!

Students went to great depths to be respectful to their instructors, be responsible and organised with their property and time, as well as floating about safely. After a couple of days, they really got into the swim of things. When asked how they think PBL helped them succeed during swimming, this is what they had to say:

- "PBL helped me stay safe in the water". Aiden M
- "It meant I could hear the instructor and improve my swimming." Aviana R
- "Without these skills, we wouldn't be able to learn how to swim well and this is super important." Sargun K
- "Being respectful helped the instructors to have a nice time." Harper W
- "We listened really well, so when there was a drill at the pool, we were calm and safe." Alex K

It wasn't just the students that were happy as clams, even some of the parents noticed the brilliant effort shown by our students;

"I noticed students saying please and respectfully asking for help." - Jo M, parent - Murray Hub It was splash-tastic to see the students using our PBL behaviours for success outside of the Bethany school gates.

# The Resilience Project

It is with great excitement that students and teachers enter on a Monday morning ready to begin our TRP 'Monday Mojo' sessions.

During weeks 6 & 7, we will be exploring the second TRP concept of 'empathy' with our students. We begin by building a shared understanding that empathy is 'the ability to put ourselves in another person's shoes', therefore understanding the joys and challenges experienced by those around us.

Working on empathy helps us to identify, understand and feel what another person is feeling. When we show empathy or we do something kind for someone else our brain releases oxytocin. This leads to increasing our self-esteem/confidence, energy levels, positivity and overall happiness.

## Family Habit Builder:

Every night at dinner, have each person thank another family member for something they've done or said today, or give another family member a compliment.

#### Whole Family Activity: Neighbourhood Kindness Challenge

As a family, choose an act of kindness from the list below that you would like to do for a neighbour or family friend. Each family member can select one to commit to, or you can choose to do one together.

- Cook them something delicious like a cake, hot bread, or cookies.
- Write a note to put in their letterbox thanking them for being a great neighbour or friend.
- Design them a Thank You card.
- Pick or buy some flowers to deliver to them.
- Choose a little plant from your garden to give them.

- Make them a gift from things around your house.
- Offer to do a job for them, like wash their car or water their garden.
- Offer to take their pets for a walk.
- Invite them over for afternoon tea.
- Invite them on a walk.
- Recommend one of your favourite books to borrow and read.
- Ask them if they need anything from the shops next time you buy groceries.
- Say hello next time you see them, and ask them how their day is going.

Feel free to do more than one and spread the kindness even further!

# **Family News**

**Caritas Donations** 



As part of our Almsgiving focus in Religious Education during this season of Lent, staff, students and families are invited to take action to help those in need.

Bethany has again partnered with Caritas, an Australian charity whose mission is to make a difference by empowering people living in poverty. Caritas uses donations to fund projects and initiatives that improve the wellbeing and livelihoods of various disadvantaged communities around the world.

Students are encouraged to bring a donation to school and place it in their hub's special Project Compassion donation money box. Parents can also donate online by accessing our fundraising page at <a href="https://schools.projectcompassion.org.au/o/bethany-catholic-primary-school">https://schools.projectcompassion.org.au/o/bethany-catholic-primary-school</a>

or using the QR code:



The school's Social Justice leaders from the Leadership Centre will be helping lead these fundraising efforts and will announce extra fundraising initiatives to help raise money for Caritas towards the end of this term.

\$35

CAN PROVIDE HAND SANITISER TO INCREASE HYGIENE AND SANITATION FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN SAMOA

\$65

CAN HELP PROVIDE A GOAT FOR A FAMILY IN RURAL MALAW!

\$250
CAN PROVIDE A TOILET TO ONE FAMILY IN SAMOA

\$500

CAN PROVIDE SKILLS TRAINING TO 15 PEOPLE FOR INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS START-UP BUSINESS SUPPORT IN THE PHILIPPINES

## **Happy Families**

Helping our children deal with their emotions is an ongoing challenge for us all. Through TRP our students are also taught about naming emotions. This week's Insight is about 'Don't Worry'. How often do we say that to our children? This article gives different strategies to build on and provide rather than saying: 'Don't Worry'. An interesting reading for us all.

You can access the website at <a href="https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login">https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login</a> and the password is happybcps

#### **Assemblies:**

Assemblies are held on Mondays, generally fortnightly at 2:25pm. Our final assembly for Term 1 will be on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March, with Red and Orange hubs hosting this. Please see the Assembly Schedule.

All families are invited to attend. These are generally held on the basketball court or in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

ASSEMBLIES - 2024									
	TERM 1 TERM 2 TERM 3		M 3	TERM 4					
WEEK	DATE	HUBS	DATE	HUBS	DATE	HUBS	DATE	HUBS	
1			15 APRIL		15 JULY		7 OCTOBER		
2	5 FEBRUARY	Principal - JOANNE	22 APRIL	Year 5/6 Kolbe/Mandela	22 JULY	Year 6 Teresa/Little	14 OCTOBER	Year 5 Chisholm/MacKillop	
3	12 FEBRUARY		29 APRIL		29 JULY		21 OCTOBER		
4	19 FEBRUARY	PBL	6 MAY	Year 2 Gold / Violet	6 AUGUST	Year 2 Indigo/Blue	28 OCTOBER	Prep Sky/Ocean	
5	26 FEBRUARY		14 MAY		13 AUGUST		4 NOVEMBER		
6	4 MARCH	Leadership Assembly	20 MAY	Year 3 Werribee/Yarra	19 AUGUST	Year 4 Jordan/Sepik	11 NOVEMBER	REMEMBRANCE DAY- Leadership Centre	
7	11 MARCH	HOLIDAY	27 MAY		26 AUGUST		18 NOVEMBER		
8	18 MARCH	Year 1 Red/Orange	3 JUNE	Year 1 Yellow/Green	2 SEPTEMBER	Prep Earth/Star	25 NOVEMBER	Year 3/4 Todd/Murray	
9	25 MARCH		10 JUNE	HOLIDAY	10 SEPTEMBER		2 DECEMBER	PP DAY	
10			17 JUNE	PE / Art	16 SEPTEMBER	BOITE/Italian	Thurs 12 DECEMBER	End of Year Assembly JOANNE	
11			24 JUNE				16 Dec		

#### **Matters Financial**

# Health Care Card Holders (CSEF)

Parents who hold a Health Care Card that is current on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 may be eligible for the CSEF. This grant offers \$125 per student. The payment is made directly to the school and as such would offset \$150.00 of the student fee.

Families with a Health Care Card are asked to make an application for the Sport / Excursion grant on either 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 \$245.00 per student fee.

If you received this payment in 2023 you <u>do not</u> 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.

#### First Instalment School Fee

If you opted to by your school fees by three instalments, the first instalment \$590.00 was due by Friday 9th February.

# Parent in Partnership and School Advisory Council

# Parent in Partnership Meetings for the 2024 will be held on the following dates and times:

Wednesday 13th March at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 17th April at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 31st July at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 21st August at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 16th October at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 20th November at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

## School Advisory Council Meetings will be held on:

Wednesday 15th May - 6:45pm - 8:15pm

Wednesday 14th August – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

# **Important Dates-**

#### 2024 Dates

## March

Monday 11th – Friday 15th March – Catholic Education Week

Wednesday 13th March - Monday 25th March - NAPLAN Years 3 & 5

March 13th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 19th, 26th & 27th - PSG Meetings

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Exploration Centre – Police on Schools

Friday 15th March – Mass St Patricks

Monday 18th March – Assembly 2:25pm (Red & Orange Hubs)

Monday 18th March - Exploration Centre – Fire education Visit 1

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Leadership Centre Camp Adanac

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March- Casual Dress Day and Easter Egg Donation NEW

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Bethany Day- Sports Uniform NEW

Wednesday 27th March - Exploration Centre – Fire education Visit 2

Thursday 28th March – Last Day Term 1 – students finish at **12:30pm** 

Friday 29th March – Good Friday

# Last day of Term 1: Thursday 28th March at 12:30pm

#### April

Monday 15th April – Term 2 begins – 8:45am start

Thursday 18th April – Athletics Carnival

Friday 19th April – Legacy ANZAC Service (School Leaders)

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - Assembly 2:25pm (Kolbe & Mandela Hubs)

Wednesday 24 April – School Photo Day- Summer Uniform

Thursday 25 April – ANZAC - Day holiday

Friday 26th April - Leadership Excursion - Shrine

All students attending Bethany Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school.

#### May

Wednesday 1st May – Family Eucharist Night 6:45pm School Hall

Monday 6th May - Assembly 2:25pm (Gold & Violet Hubs)

Wednesday 8th May - Cross Country

Thursday 9th May - Year 1 & Year 6 level Mass 10:00am School Hall

Thursday 9th May – Exploration Excursion – Animal Land Farm

Thursday 9th May – Mother's Day breakfast

Friday 10th May – Mother's Day stall

Thursday 16th May – Parent Webinar Inform and Empower

Monday 20th May - Assembly 2:25pm (Werribee & Yarra Hubs)

Monday 27th May – Exploration – Henny Penny Egg Hatching

Friday 24th May – Whole School Mass – Our Lady Help of Christians 10:00am School Hall

#### June

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Assembly 2:25pm (Yellow & Green Hubs)

Thursday 6th June – Reconciliation for First Eucharist students

Monday 10th June – King's Birthday Holiday

Thursday 13th June – First Eucharist 5pm & 7pm at St. Andrew's Church

Friday 14th June – Winter Gala Day

Monday 17th June - Assembly 2:25pm (PE & Art)

Thursday 27th June – Learning Conversations -School closure

Friday 28th June - Last Day Term 2 – students finish at 12:30pm

#### **School Closures for 2024**

The following dates are school closure days for 2024. PLEASE MARK THESE IN YOUR DIARIES:

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June-Learning Conversations

Monday 15th July – Professional Learning Conference

Tuesday 16th July - Professional Learning Conference

Monday 4th November - Assessment & Report Writing

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – 2025 Planning Day

#### **Public Holidays for 2024**

Friday 29th March – Good Friday

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

Monday 10th June – King's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 5th November – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

#### Sacrament Dates 2024 PLEASE MARK IN YOUR DIARIES

**First Communion –** Year 4 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 5:00pm and 7:00pm at St Andrew's Church **Confirmation –** Year 6 Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 5:00pm and 7;00pm in the Bethany School Hall **First Reconciliation –** Year 3 Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 5:00pm and 7:00pm in St Andrew's Church

# Family Nights for Sacraments 2024

**Eucharist Family Night**- Year 4 students and parents/carers- Wednesday 1st May 6:45pm School Hall PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

**Confirmation Family Night** – Year 6 students and parents/carers –Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 6:45pm School Hall

**Reconciliation Family Night** – Year 3 students and parents/carers –Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 6:45pm School Hall

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

# **LUNCH ORDER PRICELIST 2024**

HOT FOOD				
Party Pie	\$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	