

Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee

Newsletter No. 5 Wednesday 27th March 2024

Dear Families,

This week marks the last week of Term 1. So much has occurred in the life of the school over the last nine weeks.... new beginnings for our preps, the students, and for the newly elected students in their student leadership roles.

Students have also had opportunities and experiences within and beyond the school community to enhance their learning and development with the: Bethany Day, Swimming program, Swimming Carnivals, incursions and excursions, Whole school Masses, Leadership Centre Camp,

Catholic Education Mass at St Patrick's, the Resilience Project experiences and the list goes on!

All of which have contributed to the learning and the teaching; the building of friendships, relationships and resilience; continuing the building of community and most importantly faith formation. I thank each of you for your contribution and participation in these many events that continue to foster partnerships in and around the school this term.

Our Facebook page is now up and running. This will replace the Student News in the newsletter beginning in Term 2. If your child is a NO to recording, photos or social media they will not have photos published on this social media platform. Instagram will follow soon.

Bethany Catholic Primary School Facebook Page

At the Leadership Centre Camp, the camp staff had this to say about our students and staff:

The best group we have had in a long time in the way the students listen to instructions, follow safety procedures and apply their skills to the activity.

We can tell by the way your students interact with all our staff; the cooks, the activity leaders, the admin that you must have a great culture at your school. Your students are polite, friendly, can have a joke and respect all our camp protocols and that was particularly evident in the dining room.

Thanks for being so organised. Some groups don't run as smoothly as this at camp. The way the Bethany staff were always a step ahead and ready for dinner bells and activity sirens was amazing. And the students immediately responded to our and your instructions. It meant we didn't waste a second.



An excellent commendation of our students, our staff and you the families for the work we do in partnership to make our students the best people they can be. Congratulations to all.

A couple of reminders:

We have our Athletics Carnival in Term 2 week 1, Thursday 18th April. Please mark this date in your diaries. A note went home last Friday advising of this.

School Photo Day is also on Wednesday 24th April. Students will be required to dress in full school uniform. Information regarding this was sent home last Friday. Summer uniform will be worn on this day. Please ensure this follows the school uniform expectations and guidelines.

On Thursday 16th May at 7:30pm the school has engaged "Inform and Empower" to facilitate an online Family Information Night regarding "Raising Kids in a Digital World". The organisation is the only parent cyber safety seminar co-presented by an educator and psychologist. You will be given access to evidenced based, practical tips and strategies that as parents you can implement immediately to ensure your children are safe online. The school will also engage with this organisation to continue to educate the students around their safety online.

Our Mother's Day Breakfast will be held on Thursday 9th May 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. An Operoo requesting numbers for this will go home in the first week of term 2. Please lock this date in.

Thursday 28th March last day of Term 1. School finishes at 12:30pm. This is a casual dress day for all students.

Term 2 Commences on Monday 15th April at 8:45am.

As Easter draws near and we rejoice in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are grateful for each other, for all we have; our families, our friends and our school community... God's love and joy at work here amongst us. I wish you all a peaceful, safe and Holy Easter with your family and friends and look forward to seeing you refreshed and renewed for Term 2.

The Easter Liturgy this year will be the Stations of the Cross and will be held in the School Hall on Thursday 28th March. For the Exploration/Discovery Centres this will be held at 9:15am and for Bridging/Leadership Centres it will be held at 9:55am. **All families are invited to attend.** Our Easter Raffle will occur at the conclusion of these.

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

Joanne Webster Principal







Prayer:

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son has given us new life and renewed hope. Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal. Grant us wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do it, and the strength to complete it.

School News

Lost Property

We have accumulated a number of unclaimed and unnamed school zipper jackets, if your child has misplaced their jacket and it was without a name please enquire at the office. We ask you to ensure that you have named ALL items of school uniform so that we can return them to their owners as soon as they are handed into the office.

Western Metro Regional Finals – Swimming

Congratulations to Katia Kurenysheva who competed at the Western Metro Regional Finals in swimming at Kardinia Aquatic Centre on the 26th of March. Katia progressed in both butterfly and breaststroke and competed strongly in both, registering a 4th in butterfly and collecting a bronze medal for 3rd in breaststroke, missing out by a whisker to progress to the state finals in both. We are extremely proud of Katia and the way she represented Bethany along the way.

Community Mass- Sunday 27th April 6:00pm St Andrew's Church

On Saturday, 27th April, we invite everyone to celebrate a special Bethany Community Mass at 6:00pm at St Andrew's Church. We will gather together as a community and celebrate Mass for the 4th week of Easter.

Student leaders and the Bethany School Choir will lead us in the celebration of this Mass at St Andrew's Church. St Andrew's is located at 105 Greaves St North, Werribee.

All Bethany families are encouraged to attend, particularly families whose children are preparing for the Sacrament of Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation this year.

Catholic Education Week: St Patrick's Mass for Schools

On Friday, 15th March, Catholic Mission and Identity Leader Trish Hollenbach and Learning Assistant Suzie Lockwood and Social Justice student leaders William, Ajok, Zoe, Lucy, Aahuti and Leya travelled to St Patrick's Cathedral.

The students represented Bethany at the St Patrick's Mass for Schools in celebration of Catholic Education week. They proudly carried and displayed Bethany banner during the entrance procession and participated in the mass, which was officiated by Archbishop Peter Comensoli.



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.

After the Mass, students enjoyed the concert featuring musical performances from various Catholic secondary school students at Treasury Gardens. The students enjoyed this spiritually enriching day and we especially thank them and their families for their participation and support of this special occasion.







Bethany Catholic School- Inform and Empower - Digital Safety and Wellbeing online webinar Thursday May 16- 7:30 pm

This week is e-Smart Week. Bethany is committed to empowering our students to be safe and responsible online.

We are delighted to continue our partnership with Inform and Empower-Promoting Health School Communities.

Throughout the course of the year students from P-6 will participate in a digital safety wellbeing program focussing on health and safe digital habits.





Marin McGauran is a Digital Safety educator with over 14 years of experience.

His passion for online safety and digital citizenship comes from his extensive leadership roles within primary schools. He is equally passionate about engaging with students, teachers, parents/carers. Carley McGauran has over 20 years'

experience as a psychologist. She works with children, adolescents and parents. She believes in supporting parents/carers/schools in the early intervention for children.

Martin and Carley will present to the Bethany community on **Thursday May 16-** via an online portal. The presentation will run for 90 minutes beginning at 7:30 pm.

The webinar was a great success last year and the feedback from parents was amazing.

The presentation titled Raising Kids in the Digital World will cover topics such as:

Cyberbullying
Online Gaming
Social Media
Managing devices at home
Child and Tween online trends
Strengthening Family communication
Impacts of Screen Time
Explicit and Adult content



Below is the link to the webinar. **You will need to register with your name and email address.** Once registered, you will receive a link to the webinar.

If you are unable to attend the live webinar on May 16, please register to ensure that you can access the replay. This replay will be available for 30 days.

The link to register for the online webinar: bit.ly/may16parents

Community speakers in the Discovery Centre

In our Inquiry Learning we are focussing on Community.

What is a community? Who makes up our community? What makes a successful community?

Joanne Webster - Principal

On Monday March 4, Joanne visited the Discovery Centre and spoke to the students about her role as the School Principal of Bethany and our school community. Joanne explained to the children that her role was to keep us all safe. Being a Principal brings her great joy on a daily basis, especially working with all the teachers, learning assistants, students and everyone in the school community.

Joanne told us when she started teaching and how long it took to get to being a Principal -Scarlett

Joanne likes being the Principal at Bethany - Mila S & Jannat

Joanne presses a button on her phone so she can give her messages to the whole school - Angel She looks after the whole school community - Cody & Henry



Agron - Fireman

On Tuesday March 5, Aaron Borg, a parent in our Bethany community spoke to children about his role as a fireman and keeping us all safe.

He spoke about how all the people at the station work together as a team to keep the community safe. They all understand their roles, and trusting in each other to do these jobs is really important. He said it is a really rewarding career helping people when they are at their saddest and needing help and giving back to others is a really nice feeling.

I found out that if a fire surrounds the fire truck, there are heat safe blinds that go down around the truck and a water sprinkling system that wets the truck and its surrounds - Michael

I found out that Aaron used to be an accountant and then he changed to being a firefighter because he wanted to help people - Michelle



When the fire fighters are at the station waiting for a call, they talk to each other and play games to look after each other and build good relationships - Scarlett

Elise - Policewoman

On Friday March 8, Elise visited the Discovery Centre to talk to us about her role in the community as a Police Officer. Elise told us that she is not only a police officer but a mum and a daughter too. She told us that she really enjoys her job and she has been doing it for 14 years.

Elise said that she likes to help in the community to keep everything and everyone safe. Sometimes she helps when people are hurt, unwell or maybe they have been in an accident. Elise responds to '000' calls when people call on the phone. She has a belt that carries her equipment like her radio so that she can quickly call.

Elise also works to inform community groups like churches, mosques, schools, of what the police can do to help. Elise reminded us that when we call '000' we will be asked if we need the Fire Brigade, Ambulance or the Police. Our job is to know our address. The police force has lots of different transport types to assist them to help the community, like vans, trucks, helicopters, motorbikes, planes and specialist units.



You can call triple '0' and the Police, Fire Brigade or Ambulance will come - Erin

Some police officers eat donuts but not all Police Officers eat donuts - Maya

The Police Officers all work together as a team. They talk to each other and listen so that they can do their job well together – Eliyah

Exploration Centre Community Helper Visits

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.

Throughout the term the students in the Exploration Centre have been learning all about their community. They began by exploring who was in their family and what community groups they belonged to, such as school, church, clubs, etc. The students then began investigating the many people in their wider community who support them to make good choices and keep them safe (ie, Firefighters, police, school principals, doctors, etc). The students have had visits from Joanne, as the school principal of Bethany; the Police in Schools as well as the Fire Education program where they asked lots of good questions about the importance of rules in keeping everyone safe within the school community.









Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL

The Prep students have been working hard to learn what it means to be 'Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible at Bethany. The students have been able to identify ways in which they can 'Be Safe' on the playgrounds during their break times, ensuring they have a safe and happy time when playing outside. Here are some reminders from some of the Prep students of how to demonstrate this:



"Two people go down the slide at once" - Amen & Ari

"We take turns on the monkey bars; one person goes across at a time" - Madeline

"Sharing the equipment with others is respectful and safe" - Tamika, Brooklyn & Lual



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.

The Resilience Project

Working on mindfulness gives us opportunities to develop our ability to pay attention to the present moment and our thoughts. Practising mindfulness daily can help us stay focused on set tasks and reduce stress and anxiety.

Whole Family Activity: Mindful Walk

As a family, go on a walk outside in nature. This might be around your local walking track, at your local park, or just around your streets. While walking, tune into your senses and observe what you can see, hear, and feel. Or you might choose to focus on one of the senses. E.g.: Hear: what are all the noises you can hear on your walk?

On your way home or when you return home, share what each person saw, heard, or felt.

Family Habit Builder:

Each night at dinner, ask everyone to take one mouthful of food more mindfully than the rest and think about the flavours they can taste and how it makes them feel. (They can also thank the chef!).

Student reflections:

We can use mindfulness practices when we are feeling stressed. We can do mindful breathing and mindful drawing. Chloe F and Cooper W (Jordan)

Mindful colouring helps us to calm our minds and relax when we are feeling worried and stressed.

Austin and Liana W (Todd)

Mindfulness practices make us feel calm and helps us to go to our happy places. Sabrina A and Flynn Whitehouse (Murray)

Some of the mindfulness practices that you can do are yoga, mindful breathing, go for a walk and do some mindful drawing. Seth N and Isabella G (Werribee)

Family News

Caritas Donations



Thank you for your ongoing support with Project Compassion. We will count the money raised and publish in the next newsletter.

Happy Families

This week we provide some strategies to support parents when their children doesn't listen to you. Often children get absorbed with other distractions and 'turn off' from parents or don't comply with what they have been asked to do. Enjoy the easy read on 'When My Child Won't Listen'.

Assemblies:

Assemblies are held on Mondays, generally fortnightly at 2:25pm. 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								
	TER	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 30th 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.

Second Instalment School Fee

If you opted to pay your school fees by three instalments, the second instalment of \$590.00 is due by Friday 19th April.

MACKILLOP COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Wednesday 1 May 2024 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

Enrolments for Year 7 2026

Applications close on Friday 16 August 2024

Parent in Partnership and School Advisory Council

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

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

Wednesday 22nd 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 6th November – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Important Dates-

2024 Dates

March

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

Thursday 28th March – Holy Week Prayer time - 9:15am Discover & Exploration 9:55am Leadership &

Bridging - all families' welcome

Thursday 28th March – Casual clothes day

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 22nd 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

Saturday 27th April – Community Mass 6:00pm St Andrew's NEW

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

luna

Monday 3rd 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 27th June-Learning Conversations

Monday 15th July – Professional Learning Conference

Tuesday 16th July – Professional Learning Conference

Monday 4th November - Assessment & Report Writing

Monday 2nd December – 2025 Planning Day

Public Holidays for 2024

Friday 29th March – Good Friday

Thursday 25th 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 13th June 5:00pm and 7:00pm at St Andrew's Church **Confirmation –** Year 6 Thursday 8th August 5:00pm and 7;00pm in the Bethany School Hall **First Reconciliation –** Year 3 Wednesday 30th 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 24th July 6:45pm School Hall

Reconciliation Family Night – Year 3 students and parents/carers –Wednesday 16th 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	