

Dear Families,

I hope you enjoyed the mini break that the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday provides. It gives us time to renew and re-energise as we move towards the end of the year and the beginning of Advent and Christmas.

We have a lot happening in the month of November,

Next Monday 10th November, we will have a Remembrance Day Assembly at 2:25pm and on the Tuesday 11th November a Remembrance Day Ceremony at 10:50am for all students, commemorating all those who lost their lives to ensure we live a life of freedom in our great country, Australia.

As mentioned, our 30th Anniversary Celebration will take place across two days - Thursday 13th November and Friday 14th November.

On **Thursday 13 November at 10am** –we begin with our 30th Anniversary **Mass**, followed by a **school tour**, light refreshments and photo display. All families are invited to this Mass and we thank those who have responded with their attendance. All students are to wear full summer uniform on this day. If they have sport on the day, please bring school runners in their bags.

On **Friday 14 Nov** – we have our student **Celebration Day** with arts activities, disco, 90's dress or casual clothes, and a colourful **colour run** (bring old clothes/white t-shirt!). Our cookbook is near completion and our winner for the best design of our front cover is Reivhen Sestoso. Well done to Reivhan and to all the students who entered the competition!

Our annual fundraiser for 2025 is the Colour Run. This will also occur on the **Friday 14th November** at 2:00pm where we ask all families to come along and join in the fun. All funds raised will help finalise the update of all school furniture across the school with our Discovery Centre the final centre to be refurnished before the end of this year. All students who raise more than \$100.00 will go in the draw to win a Lenovo. The class that raises the most money will enjoy a free Pizza lunch. Currently Ocean Hub is in the lead!

The Leadership Centre have organised a "**Christmas Colours Dress Up Day**" to raise money for the St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal. On **Friday, November 21st**, students are encouraged to bring a **gold coin donation** and dress up in Christmas colours (e.g. red or green, as well as Christmas themed clothes). This money will be given to the parish who are collecting money for the Western Chapter of St. Vincent De Paul to give to families who are struggling financially this Christmas.

Summer uniform is now to be worn daily. Please remember this **means black school shoes not runners with the school dress, and navy shorts**. Please remember when purchasing black school shoes to begin the year, these **MUST** be school shoes **NOT BLACK RUNNERS**. Runners are only to go with the school sports uniform.

We will also have a **School Closure Day** for teachers to prepare and plan for 2026 on Monday 1st December.

To celebrate such a successful year and to worship the coming of Jesus Christ- Emmanuel and Christmas, the school will hold our annual Christmas Carol event on **Wednesday 3rd December from 5-8pm**, for the students and families on the school grounds. During this time the students will showcase Christmas carols across the school and a Nativity Play. We hope to also provide a sausage sizzle on this evening. Further details will be available soon. Please mark this in your diaries.

We also sent some information out about the School Advisory Council inviting any parents to be new members for the 2026. If you are interested in this please reach out to me at principal@bswerribeenth.catholic.edu.au

Enjoy the remainder of the week.

Take care. God bless.

Joanne Webster
Principal

Prayer for Remembrance Day

Loving God,
On this Remembrance Day,
we pause to remember those who have given their lives
for peace and freedom.
We thank You for their courage,
their sacrifice,
and their love for others.

May we always honour their memory
by working for peace in our world,
showing kindness to one another,
and living with hope and compassion.

Bless those who continue to serve today,
and bring comfort to all who have lost loved ones through war and conflict.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Student News

Colour Run

Thank you so much for supporting our school to be the best it can be! Next term we are hosting a **Monty's Colour Fun Run** for our students and raising funds for new furniture for our Discovery Centre.

How Do We Fundraise?

Fundraising for our school is easy! Simply go to www.myprofilepage.com.au and click the register button to create a cybersafe, online profile page. Once you've created a parent account and profile page, you can share that around to family and friends to receive online donations. Please note that this is an online fundraiser only and all cash donations must be converted to an online donation before 13th November 2025.

Receive a prize for your fundraising efforts by simply raising \$10 online! At the end of the fundraiser, student incentive prizes are ordered automatically based on their fundraising total and bonus donations. Students can earn up to 15 unique prizes!

You can also receive some bonus Monty the Monstar incentive prizes! Check out your sponsorship form booklet for more information!

Event Information:

Date: Friday 14th November 2025

Time: 2pm

Wear a white shirt to make the colour pop!

Each student will also receive a pair of sunglasses and a headband!

Students are required to wear closed-in shoes!

Students will be covered in non-toxic, biodegradable colour powder!

We look forward to seeing the students all bright and colourful on the day of our Monty's Colour Fun Run!

Semper Dental:



The Semper Dental mobile dentistry van is coming to Bethany on November 10th, 11th, and 12th. If you would like to register for a free dental check up for your child/children register online using the link or QR code in the attached file. Alternatively you can collect a form from the administration office.

Mission Fair 2025

Social Justice Fundraising For Mission Month: \$1 Sticker Stall Thursday November 6th



Social Justice student leaders will be fundraising for The Smith Family this term for Mission Month. They have been learning that one in six Australian children and young people are growing up in poverty which can limit their choices, opportunities and outcomes in life.

They have decided to take action to contribute to a world where every child has the opportunity to change their future. Education is one of the most powerful change agents, and our Social Justice leaders want to help other Australian students overcome educational inequality caused by poverty.

They will be selling stickers to raise money to help disadvantaged students with the cost of schooling including essential school supplies, access to learning programs and ongoing mentorship.

On Thursday 6th November, they will be running their sticker stall outside the Library at first break (11:00am) for P-2 students and at second break (1:30pm) for 3-6 students. Students are encouraged to bring \$1 to purchase stickers in support of The Smith Family this mission month and help support other students to successfully continue their education.



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
Ash Wednesday Whole School Mass Wednesday March 5th 10am (Week 6) Bethany Community Mass at St. Andrew's Church Saturday March 29th 6pm (Week 9) Holy Week Liturgy Friday April 4th 9:30am (Week 10)	Eucharist Family Meeting Wednesday April 30th at 6:45pm (Week 2) Year 1 & 6 Level Mass Thursday May 8th at 10am (Week 3) Our Lady Help Of Christians Mass Whole School Mass Friday May 23rd at 10am (Week 5) Reconciliation prior to Eucharist Thursday June 5th at 12pm (Week 7) Sacrament of Eucharist Thursday June 12th at 5pm St. Andrew's (Week 8)	Confirmation Spirituality Day Wednesday July 23rd and Thursday July 24th (Week 1) Confirmation Family Meeting Wednesday July 23rd at 6:45pm (Week 1) Reconciliation prior to Confirmation Thursday July 31st at 12pm (Week 2) Grandparents Day Whole School Mass Friday August 1st at 10am (Week 2) Sacrament of Confirmation Thursday August 7th at 5pm (Week 3) Prep, Year 3 & 5 Level Prayer Time Thursday August 21st at 10am (Week 5) Year 2 & 4 Level Mass (Passion Of St. John The Baptism) Friday August 29th at 10am (Week 6)	Reconciliation Family Meeting Wednesday Oct 22nd at 6:45pm (Week 3) Sacrament of Reconciliation Wednesday 29th Oct at 5 pm (Week 4) Bethany Community Mass at St Andrew's Church Saturday November 8th at 6pm (Week 5) TBC Bethany 30th Year Anniversary Whole School Mass Thursday November 13th at 10am (Week 6)

Assemblies: UPDATED

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. **Our next assembly will be on the 10th November- led by the Bridging Centre. This will take place on the Basketball Court.**

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 Sky/Star
5	24 FEBRUARY		19 MAY		18 AUGUST		3 NOVEMBER	
6	3 MARCH	Leadership Assembly	26 MAY	Year 4 Jordan/Todd	25 AUGUST	Book Week Incursion	10 NOVEMBER	REMEMBRANCE DAY- Bridging Centre Outside NEW
7	10 MARCH	HOLIDAY	2 JUNE		1 SEPTEMBER		17 NOVEMBER	
8	17 MARCH	Year 1 Yellow/Green	9 JUNE	HOLIDAY	8 SEPTEMBER	Prep Earth/Ocean	24 NOVEMBER	Year 3/4 Sepik/Murray
9	24 MARCH		16 JUNE	Year 1 Red/Orange	15 SEPTEMBER		1 DECEMBER	PP DAY
10	31 MARCH		23 JUNE	Year 3 Weribee/Yarra			Thurs 11 DECEMBER	End of Year Assembly JOANNE
11			30 JUNE				15 Dec	

Inform and Empower: Term 4 incursions

Each term the students across the school take part in the Inform and Empower Cyber Safety and Digital Wellbeing program by participating in engaging and interactive live streamed incursions. This term the students from Years Prep-6 will participate in the following live incursions:

Foundation: Students will focus on **Screen Time and Agency**. They will explore comfortable v's uncomfortable feelings and strategies that can help them navigate uncomfortable situations online.

Conversation starters for home:

If you feel uncomfortable online, remember it's not your fault, put the device down and talk to a trusted adult?

It is important to listen to your body. If you feel sick in the tummy, have sweaty hands, feel like crying or your heart beats fast- you need to talk to a trusted adult.



Years 1/2: Students explore being a **Digital Detective**.

Students will focus on critical thinking and digital literacy skills. Digital detectives are very good at spotting ads on tv and recognise what they are trying to do. They will also explore what it means to be kind online.

Conversation starters for home:

What are some ads you have seen while being online lately?

How did these ads make you feel?

Who do you think made the ad and why?

What are some ways we could be kind to others online?



Years 3/4: Students explore what it means to be **Safe and Secure online**.

Students will focus on the importance of not sharing personal information and the difference between scammers and hackers. They will also explore how to identify red flags and navigate unsafe online interactions.

Not everyone online is who they say they are, and not all interactions are safe.

Some red flags to look out for include:

- Sending links or asking to change apps

- Asking lots of questions

- Giving you lots of compliments

- Asking you to keep a secret.



Conversation starters for home:

What information should you keep private online?

Discuss and share examples of "scams" you have come across online.

Check your child's profile together on their favourite app/game - are there any changes you could implement to make their experience safer?

Years 5/6: Students will focus on **Critical Thinking**.

Students will focus on being a critical consumer of media and strategies to evaluate the credibility of online sources. They will also explore ways to protect against scams and hackers.

Students need to think critically when they are online. They need to think about:

Could this be AI generated? Is this misinformation or disinformation? Is it trying to sell me something?



Online scams are tricks that people use on the internet to take something from you, including your personal information or money. Some sus signs to look out for include:

- This feels too good to be true
- Request personal information
- Uninvited messages
- Urgency
- Wanting you to click a link

Conversation starters for home:

Imagine a world where everyone believed everything they read/watched online. What do you think this would be like?

Have you seen any deepfake images or videos online pretending to be someone? Why could this be dangerous?

What sorts of scams have you seen online? What are some of the 'sus signs'?

Who are some online celebrities? Are they good role models? Why or why not?

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

At our school, we are committed to creating a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment for all students. As part of our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) approach, staff regularly reflect on school-wide behaviour data gathered through our Behaviour Data Forms (BDFs). This data is reviewed during Team Planning meetings and Staff Professional Learning (PL) sessions to help identify patterns and guide next steps for teaching and reinforcing expected behaviours.

Our PBL team also analyses this data and shares key insights with Year Level teams, helping us decide which behaviours need to be re-taught across the school. Recently, this process has helped us focus on expectations from our PBL Matrix, such as entering and exiting Assemblies respectfully, staying on designated paths and avoiding garden areas, and lining up calmly outside hubs before school.

By regularly reflecting on our data and working together as a staff, we continue to strengthen a consistent and supportive approach to behaviour across our school, helping all students understand and demonstrate our shared expectations.

Positive Behaviour for Learning School Wide Expectations



Let Learners Learn and Teachers Teach

	Be Safe	Be Respectful	Be Responsible
Learning Spaces	• Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Line up and walk calmly and quietly	• Use kind words and actions • Use whole body listening • Follow directions promptly	• Look after self, others and equipment • Be a responsible learner
Outside Area	• Keep hands and feet to yourself • Use spaces and equipment correctly	• Use kind words and actions • Be a good sport	• Look after self, others and equipment • Wear correct uniform • Be on time & walk promptly to line up

UPDATED JAN 2024



The Resilience Project The Power of Gratitude and Journaling

Taking time to notice and appreciate the good things in our lives can have a powerful impact on our wellbeing. Research shows that regularly practising gratitude—especially through journaling—can help us feel happier, more optimistic, and less stressed. People who focus on what they are thankful for often experience higher energy levels, better sleep, and even stronger relationships.



Gratitude journaling is a simple daily habit that encourages us to reflect on the positives, no matter how small—from a kind gesture to a moment of laughter. Over time, this practice can help rewire our brains to notice more of the good around us and build greater emotional resilience.

Families might like to try journaling together, sharing one or two things they are grateful for each day. It's a small practice that can make a big difference in creating calm, connection, and positivity at home.

We encourage families to read the full article, [Gratitude and the Benefits of Journaling](#).

Happy Families:

Three Conversations Every Family Should Master

The Conversations Kids Remember Most

What conversations do you remember with your parents?

The ones you remember most weren't when they gave advice or solved problems. Instead, it was when they listened. When you felt seen, heard, and valued. When you did more of the talking and felt their steady, loving presence.

Our kids don't need us to lecture. They need us to connect.

The 3 Types of Conversations

Charles Duhigg outlines three kinds of conversations that occur in every relationship. When we don't realise which kind we're in, we can easily talk past each other, instead of with each other.

1. *Practical Conversations* - these are about solving problems. "How do I fix this?" or "What should I do next?"

2. *Emotional Conversations* - these are about feelings. "I'm frustrated." "This is hard." "I don't feel understood."

3. *Social Conversations* - these define relationships and identity. "Where do I belong?" "How do we relate to each other?"

Important: If you're having a practical conversation and your child wants an emotional one, the connection breaks down. You can't connect when you're not having the same conversation.

So how do parents get the right conversation started?

1. Ask before you answer before jumping in with advice
2. Use the W.A.I.T principle : Why Am I Talking?

When emotions are running high or your child is beginning to open up, listen, give them space and ask gentle questions to encourage them to speak.

3. Focus on connection, not control.

Great communication in families isn't about talking more—it's about talking better.

Your child will remember conversations where they felt respected and empowered. Not the conversations where you had all the answers.

Try:

- "Tell me more about that."
- "How did that make you feel?"
- "What do you think you'll do next?"

Treating our kids as thinking, feeling individuals helps them become just that —confident, thoughtful, emotionally intelligent humans.

Family News

Enrolments for Year 7 2028 **NEW**

Key Enrolment Dates for Year 5 2026 beginning Secondary School in 2028

If you wish to enrol your child in a Catholic Secondary School beginning in 2028, please observe the following dates.

- Tuesday 27th January 2026 – Applications will open for students commencing Year 7 in 2027.
- Friday 14th August 2026 – Applications will close.
- Friday 16th October 2026 – Offers will be posted to prospective 2028 Year 7 applicants.
- Friday 6th November 2026 – Final date for parents/carers to accept an offer made by a school.

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

Second Hand Uniform – New Process

We would like to notify you that our current second-hand uniform process is being revised, as it has presented a number of challenges.

Over time, we've encountered several difficulties with our existing process - such as inconsistent inventory, volunteer workload, and limited sales opportunities, which have made it less effective than intended.

We will no longer sell uniforms on behalf of families. You are welcome to list and sell your items privately on platforms like Facebook, Marketplace or local school uniform groups.

If in the future you would like to donate any official Rushford's Uniform items that are clean and in good condition, you're most welcome to do so. We will assess them and, on an as-needed basis, offer them for sale at a nominal fee. Any proceeds help us manage ongoing costs and support broader school programs.

Families in need of second-hand school uniform items should now reach out directly via email to Kylie: kylie.scott@bswerribeenth.catholic.edu.au. Simply list your specific uniform requirements—such as size, garment type (jumper, shorts, dress, etc.) and we will review existing stock and let you know if we can help. If items are available, we will explain how you can collect or receive them. If nothing matches, we will keep your request on file in case items come in later.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this matter. We look forward to implementing a more efficient second-hand uniform process in the near future.

Matters Financial

Student Levies AND School Fees are now **OVERDUE**

All student levies (\$420.00 per student) and School Fees (1,840.00 per Family) are now overdue. 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. Should

you be experiencing any difficulties finalising these payments please do not hesitate to speak to Joanne Webster.

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.

Important Dates – School Dates for 2025 NEW

November 2025

Thursday 6th November – Mission Fair

Friday 7th November – Yr 3 Melbourne Museum excursion

Monday 10th November – Bridging Centre Remembrance Day assembly

Thursday 13th November – 30th Anniversary Whole School Mass

Friday 14th November – 30th Anniversary Celebration

Friday November 14th – Colour Run

Monday November 17- Year 1 Royal Botanical Gardens excursion NEW

Thursday November 20 – Year 2 Royal Botanical Gardens excursion NEW

Monday 24th November – Sepik/Murray assembly 2:25pm

December 2025

Monday 1st December – 2026 Planning Day SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

Wednesday 3rd December – Bethany Christmas Family Event UPDATED AND NEW

Friday 5th December – Orientation Day

Wednesday 10th December – Yr 6 Graduation 6pm

Thursday 11th December – End of Year assembly 2:25pm

Friday 12th December – Yr 6 End of Year excursion

Monday 15th December – Special Year 6 farewell at the end of the day

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2025 is Monday 15th December at 3:00pm.

Parent in Partnership Dates for 2025

Term 4

Wednesday 26th November – 6:00pm UPDATED

School Advisory Council Dates 2025

Wednesday 26th November – 6:00pm UPDATED TIME

School Closures for 2025

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

Monday 1st December – 2026 Planning Day

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