

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 4!! I hope you have enjoyed your break with family and friends, renewed for the term ahead.

Last term, we also celebrated some excellent results in NAPLAN, particularly in Mathematics, with our achievements highlighted in *The Age*. These results reflect the dedication of our students, the skill and care of our teachers, and the strong home-school partnership that underpins all learning. Congratulations to all!!

We have also as a school been working on our renewed School Vision and Mission. All key stakeholders- students, families (Parent in Partnership Team and School Advisory Council), Fr Albert and staff have had input and impact on the final draft of this document that honours our tradition, understands our current and looks to our future. It is with great delight that I share this with you today in our school newsletter. The launch of our new vision and mission will also occur on our 30th Anniversary on Thursday 13th November, 2025.

Please find our [Bethany Vision and Mission](#)

As mentioned, our 30th Anniversary will take place across two days- Thursday 13th November and Friday 14th November. On **Thursday 13 Nov, 10am** – 30th Anniversary **Mass**, followed by a **school tour**, light refreshments and photo display. On **Friday 14 Nov** – Student **Celebration Day** with arts activities, disco, 90's dress or casual clothes, and a colourful **colour run** (bring old clothes/white t-shirt!). Students may also enter our **Cookbook Cover Competition** – design the front cover or chapter covers (Cultural Food, Mains, Desserts, Soups, Biscuits, Cakes, Snacks, Allergy-Friendly Foods). If you know of anyone who was a founding member of Bethany or who may like to come along please share the attached invitation/flyer.

Our annual fundraiser for 2025 is the Colour Run. 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.

We also host Optional Learning Conversations on **Tuesday 21st October**. These are an opportunity for both families and teachers to request a conversation regarding student learning. This is by no means compulsory, offering the opportunity to all families who seek a conversation.

This term we have much to learn and celebrate with the following events:

- Science Dome incursion- Discovery Centre
- Wyndham District Softball Finals
- Wyndham District Basketball Finals
- Wyndham District Tennis Finals
- Year 5 Excursion to Science Works
- Prep Incursion- Fairytales Fiasco

- Onsite TTRS Competition
- Optional Learning Conversations
- Mission Month- Social Justice Action
- Phill Cristofaro is in working with our P-2 students and teachers in the Digital Literacies space
- Family Sacrament Night for Reconciliation
- Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for our Year 3 students
- Pre- Prep visits
- 30th Anniversary Celebration
- Year 1 and 2 Camp
- Semper Dental Van visit
- St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal
- Family Christmas Carol Celebration
- Orientation Day
- Year 6 Graduation
- Semester 2 reports

And so much more....

Level Centre Newsletters, showcasing the learning in each centre will be distributed to families by Friday 24th October, 2025. This showcases the learning and teaching in all areas for term 4.

Sunhats to be worn from the beginning of this week, Monday 6th October, in line with our SunSmart Policy.

Change of Communication from Operoo to Nforma will take place on Monday 27th October 2025

We have been advised that Operoo will be ceasing operations outside of the United States as from 31 December 2025 and as such we are required to find an alternative platform for communication with our families.

We currently use the nForma Parent Portal for families to access student reports each semester. As this portal also includes all the features of Operoo we will be transitioning to using the nForma Parent Portal for all communication regarding events and information that you currently receive through Operoo. We feel this will be a seamless process as you are all familiar with the nForma Parent Portal. **The change will occur from Monday 27th October. A note will be sent to all families on Friday 10th October with details for families to follow to enable them to use this new platform.**

This means Operoo will be used up until Friday 24th October and Nforma from Monday 27th October.

Hub Groupings 2026

At the beginning of term 4, the school will begin to consider hub groups for 2026. In placing a student in a hub group, we will be considering; teacher recommendations, friendships and the need to mix learning abilities and having gender balance. Should any parent feel that they wish to share insights or information with us that may assist in this decision-making process, please phone the school (9742 9800) and I (Joanne) will be happy to chat with you. A conversation about this is the preferred option. Please do not email. The opportunity to share information will only be provided until **Friday 17th October, 2025.**

May the next few weeks, be filled with moments of faith, discovery, and connection for every member of our community.

Enjoy the remainder of the week

Take care. God bless.

Joanne Webster
Principal

Prayer to Begin Term 4

Loving God,

As we begin this final term of the year, we give You thanks for all the learning, growth, and blessings we have received so far.

Guide our students, families, and staff to finish the year with joy, energy, and a spirit of kindness. Help us to see Christ in one another, to encourage those who need support, and to celebrate the gifts You have given each of us.

Bless our school community in this term ahead—may it be a time of faith, friendship, and achievement.

We ask this 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!

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:

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 14th October – Chisholm and MacKillop Hubs.**

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- Leadership Centre
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 Werribee/Yarra			Thurs 11 DECEMBER	End of Year Assembly JOANNE
11			30 JUNE				15 Dec	

Inform and Empower: Keeping Children Safe Online: eSafety and Roblox

The eSafety Commissioner is taking strong action to protect children who use Roblox, a popular online gaming platform. After raising concerns about child grooming and online safety risks, eSafety has worked directly with Roblox to ensure it meets Australia's Online Safety Act and strengthens protections for young users.

By the end of 2025, Roblox will bring in a range of new safety measures, including:

- Making accounts for under 16s private by default.
- Blocking adults from contacting children without parental consent.
- Turning off chat and voice chat features for young users until their age is verified.
- Ensuring under 16s cannot chat with adults, even after verification.
- Providing extra parental controls for 13–15-year-olds.

The eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant said these changes are an important step forward in keeping children safe online. She explained that platforms popular with children often attract adults with harmful intentions, and that Roblox is no exception.

"We've made it clear that under Australian law, platforms must take meaningful action to protect children from grooming, exploitation and other serious harms," Ms Inman Grant said.

"It's encouraging to see Roblox commit to these new safety measures, which show how strong codes and standards can make a real difference."

The Commissioner also reminded parents and carers to remain vigilant and actively support children as they navigate online spaces. eSafety will closely monitor Roblox's progress and can take enforcement action, including large penalties, if commitments are not met. As the digital landscape continues to evolve, eSafety will use all available powers to ensure that Roblox, and all regulated services, meet their obligations and prioritise the safety of Australian users.

Together, eSafety, industry platforms, and families play a vital role in ensuring that Australian children can enjoy the digital world safely.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

At our school, Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) helps us create a safe, respectful and engaging learning environment where every student can thrive. PBL is about more than just following rules—it's about showing our school values in all settings, whether in the classroom, on the playground, or during special learning opportunities like incursions and excursions.

Recently, our Year 3 and Year 4 students have been excellent role models of our expected behaviours.

Year 3 – Sun, Moon & Earth Incursion

During their science incursion exploring the relationships between the Sun, Moon and Earth, Year 3 students demonstrated outstanding curiosity and respect. They listened attentively to their presenter, asked thoughtful questions, and worked collaboratively with their peers to explore new concepts. Their positive engagement helped create a rich and enjoyable learning experience for everyone.



Year 4 – Local Democracy & Visit from Mayor Mia Shaw

As part of their learning about government and democracy, Year 4 students took part in a special incursion and welcomed Mayor Mia Shaw to our school. Our students showed respect by listening carefully, using manners, and participating confidently in discussions. They demonstrated responsibility by asking insightful questions about leadership and community decision-making, making the most of this unique opportunity.



These examples show that PBL isn't just about what happens in the classroom—it's a way of learning and behaving that students can take with them wherever they go. We are proud of the way our students continue to demonstrate respect, responsibility and engagement in every setting.

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 A Child in Balance – Supporting Big Feelings

Lael Stone, parenting educator and speaker with *The Resilience Project*, explains that children can often be “in balance” or “out of balance.”

When **in balance**, children are generally happy, chatty, kind, resilient, and a joy to be around. When **out of balance**, they may act out through tantrums, yelling, defiance, or unkind behaviour.

Stress is often behind these behaviours. For children and teens, stress can come from everyday frustrations, changes at home or school, friendship challenges, or even exciting events that feel overwhelming. These feelings build up during the day and are often released in the safety of home.

Lael reminds us that tantrums and tears aren't just “bad behaviour” – they are the body's way of releasing stress. Tears even carry the stress hormone cortisol, helping children reset. Once the storm passes, children usually return to a calmer, more balanced state.

The key for parents is **connection**. By staying calm, listening, and welcoming all emotions (rather than shutting them down), we show children that it's safe to express feelings. This builds emotional intelligence, empathy, and stronger bonds.

Play and laughter are also simple but powerful ways to help children process stress and strengthen family connections.

Tip: Next time your child is having a big feeling, try to see it as their nervous system resetting – and an opportunity to connect with them with patience and empathy.

If you would like to read about this further, feel free to access Lael Stone's article '[A Child in Balance](#)' by clicking the link or visiting the TRP@Home website.

Happy Families:

Bullying, A Calm Practical Guide for Parents

Many behaviours are unkind, but not all are bullying. Teasing, conflict, being left out, or one-off nasty or unthoughtful incidents—while hurtful—don't meet the definition of bullying.)

Bullying is:

- Repeated
- Intentional
- Aimed at causing distress or harm
- Involves a power imbalance

There are four types:

1. Physical – pushing, hitting, intimidating
2. Verbal – name-calling, mocking, insults
3. Social – exclusion, rumours, reputation damage
4. Cyber – online harassment via messages, posts, or apps

Is Your Child Being Bullied?

Often children won't speak up about being bullied. They can fear being embarrassed or making the situation worse.



A non-confrontational approach helps your child feel safe to talk. If they do open up, *stay calm* and *listen*. Bring it closer to home as the conversation progresses. "Have you or your friends been bullied?"

The Best Response

1. Stay Calm: As hard as it is, take a breath. Your child needs your emotional steadiness.
2. Explore Gently: If your child discloses bullying, recognise their courage. Ask gentle questions to obtain more information. Don't offer solutions. Just listen, understand, and explore.
3. Obtain Evidence: If bullying is leading to damage to your child or their property, document it with photos, explanations, and time/date information. If bullying is occurring online, take screenshots as evidence.
4. Speak with the Responsible Adults: Bullying will usually be happening at school (or a sport club, church, or other structured context). Approach the teacher, year advisor, wellbeing staff, or responsible adult. Share what your child has told you. Aim to work with the school or organisation, not against it.
5. Support and Coach Your Child: Help them problem-solve. Role-play responses or safe ways to seek help. Older kids might value more autonomy; younger ones may need more scaffolding. Use questions like:
 - "What do you think would help?"
 - "Is there someone at school you trust?"
 - "What would you like me to do?"
6. Don't Rush to Confront the Other Parent: Even if you know them, approaching another parent rarely goes well. It can become defensive or combative, and it rarely solves the problem.

If Your Child Is the One Bullying

It can be confronting, but it's also a valuable learning moment. Stay calm. Focus on teaching, not punishing. Guide them towards empathy and responsibility. Ask:

- "What happened?"
- "How do you think the other person felt?"
- "What can we do to make this right?"

Handled well, bullying doesn't have to define a child's school experience. With calm, supportive adults guiding the way, kids can learn resilience, boundaries, and compassion. Step in when needed. Step back when it's safe. Most importantly, stay connected.

For more resources, go to [Bullying No Way](#) - a national week of action uniting schools across Australia.

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@bsweribeenth.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**

October 2025

Friday 10th October – Yr 4 Forces Incursion **NEW**

Monday 13th October – Chisholm/MacKillop assembly 2:25pm

Monday 20th October – Discovery Centre Camp **NEW**
Wednesday 22nd October – Reconciliation Family Night – Online 6:45pm **Updated**
Thursday 23rd October – Pre Prep Visits
Friday 24th October – Year 5 Science works excursion
Monday 27th October – Sky/Star assembly 2:25pm
Tuesday 28th October – Prep Fairy tales Fiasco incursion **NEW**
Wednesday 29th October – Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Andrew's Church 5pm
Thursday 30th October – Pre Prep Visits
Thursday 30th October – Yr 6 Market Manoeuvres incursion **NEW**

November 2025

Thursday 6th November – Mission Fair **NEW**
Friday 7th November – Yr 3 Melbourne Museum excursion **NEW**
Monday 10th November – Leadership Centre Remembrance Day assembly **NEW**
Thursday 13th November – 30th Anniversary Whole School Mass **NEW**
Friday 14th November – 30th Anniversary Celebration **NEW**
Friday November 14th – Colour Run **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 **NEW**
Thursday 11th December – End of Year assembly 2:25pm
Friday 12th December – Yr 6 End of Year excursion **NEW**

Last day of school for 2025 is Monday 15th December at 3:00pm. **NEW**

Parent in Partnership Dates for 2025

Term 4

Wednesday 29th October – 1:30pm
Wednesday 26th November – 6:00pm

School Advisory Council Dates 2025

Wednesday 26th November – 6:00pm

School Closures for 2025

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

Monday 3rd November – Report Writing Day
Monday 1st December – 2026 Planning Day

Public Holidays for 2025

Tuesday 4th November – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Sacrament Dates 2025 PLEASE MARK IN YOUR DIARIES

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

Family Nights for Sacraments 2025

Reconciliation Family Night – Year 3 students and parents/carers – Wednesday 22nd October 6:45pm **UPDATED ONLINE**

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