



Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee

Dear Families,

Newsletter No. 3 2021

Thank you for working with the school last week, during the Snap Lockdown, in what was for many a challenging situation. Your partnership with the school and the sense of community was certainly evident in the many interactions I had with you.

In the next couple of weeks, we have many opportunities for you to engage with the school, informally meeting staff and visiting learning spaces at our school Open Night, or sharing in a cuppa or coffee, after the morning drop off. I look forward to meeting more of you at these times.

Last Friday, a small group of students represented the school at the District Swimming Carnival. I would like to announce that Bethany came 1st. Congratulations to all the students on their mighty effort and to Kirrily Wallis for organising this event for our students. Great effort by all.



I have also attached the Parent Code of Conduct to this newsletter. Please read it carefully. It is always wise to distribute this early in the year. The Parent Code of Conduct outlines the way in which our community requires all parents and family members to conduct themselves when visiting our school, participating in school activities and communicating with members of our school community, this includes students, school staff, other parents and visitors to our school.

Our School Vision:

*“Creating
authentic
relationships
for successful
living within a
Catholic
tradition.”*

*Bethany
Catholic
Primary
School is
committed to
the safety,
wellbeing and
protection of
all children in
our care.*

Our School Motto:

PRAYER

This Sunday marks the first Sunday of Lent. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, a day in which Catholics traditionally resist eating between meals (fasting) and avoid eating meat (abstaining). This year, Ash Wednesday, was celebrated virtually by many or on Thursday or Friday. Lent is a forty day period of preparation for Easter. It reminds us of the forty-days that Jesus spent in the wilderness before he took up his ministry. During this time he fasted and prayed. Lent is a time of self-denial and prayer for us as well. During this period, we are called to focus on becoming closer to Jesus by praying a little more, doing good deeds for others, going without something we like and giving generously to others in need.

And so we pray

*Almighty and ever living God,
you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.
May this time be one of outward focus;
seeking you in those we often ignore.
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter.
Give us hearts hungry to serve you
and those who need what we have to give.*

Amen

Take care.
God bless.

Joanne Webster.

SCHOOL NEWS

ECSI: Enhancing Catholic School Identity Surveys

This week a letter will go home to a selected group of families to complete the ECSI survey. This survey helps us to understand how our Catholic identity is expressed in practice here at Bethany. Over the next few weeks all staff and students in Years 5 & 6 will participate in this survey too. If you are selected, we ask that you complete the survey. If you require help to complete it, please contact the school office.

Second Hand Summer and Winter Uniform Sale

A sale of second hand summer and winter uniform items is scheduled for

- Wednesday **March 3rd** 9.00 am and 2.30 p.m.
- Thursday **March 4th** 9.00 am and 5.30 - 7.30 p.m. whilst the school is open for Open Night.

We welcome items that you wish to sell. All items are to be **clean** and **clearly priced** and **labelled with family name** and eldest **child's hub**.

Only Bethany school items can be offered for sale.

To support the Admin team, please DO NOT send items to school until Tuesday, 2nd March.

Opportunity to Gather

The Hospitality members of our Parent Sub Committee Group invite parents/carers to two morning teas.

When: Wednesday March 3rd and Friday March 5th

Where: Basketball Court (asphalt area outside Hall)

Time: 8.50 - 9.30am

These gatherings are a chance to re-connect, make new connections and to meet our Principal Joanne

Look forward to seeing you all then.

Sacrament Dates

Sacrament of Confirmation: Year 6 students

- Wednesday 21st July 6.20pm

- Thursday 22nd July 6.20pm

Sacrament of Eucharist: Yet to be determined

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Yet to be determined

Once dates have been confirmed with Fr. Albert we will of course let you know.

Prep Enrolment 2022 - Existing Bethany Families Only

Families wishing to enrol a child at Bethany in 2022 are asked to return the slip at the end of this newsletter requesting an enrolment form. This invitation to enrol is only for parents with children already attending Bethany. Do not miss out on a 2022 Prep placement. Please enrol now.

Prep Enrolment 2022 - Families NOT already at Bethany

Families wishing to enrol a child at Bethany for the first time are welcome to complete an application form as from **Monday, 1st March.**

STUDENT NEWS

School Nurse

Every year the Government provides a School Entrance Health Questionnaire to Prep parents. This will be sent to Prep Parents today. It is a basic screening across a range of areas and you will be given confidential support or feedback from the government provided School Nurse if you choose to participate. If you do not wish your child to take part, please tick the box on page 5 of the questionnaire and send it back to school. We require every questionnaire to be returned by this **Thursday 25th February.**

STAFF NEWS

We would like to congratulate Andrea Alfredini on the birth of her baby boy- Lenny Arlo. May God bless them both.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

February

Leadership Assembly- Thursday 25th - - due to density limits in the School Hall, we are not able to invite parents to join us for this assembly. We will film the assembly and send a link to ALL families to view.

March

Wednesday 3rd and 5th March-8:50-9:30 Cuppa on the Basketball Court

Wednesday 3rd - Second Hand Uniform Sale 9am and 2.30pm

Thursday 4th - Second Hand Uniform Sale 9am and 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Thursday March 4th - Open Night- 5:30-7:30pm

Monday 8th - Labour Day **Public Holiday No School**

Wednesday 10th - Sub Committee Meeting at 1.40pm

Monday 15th - Catholic Education Week

Tuesday 16th - Athletics Carnival

Friday 26th - Bethany Festival - *postponed due to Covid 19*

April

Thursday 1st - Holy Thursday, End of Term 1, 12.30pm finish for all students

School Closures for 2021

The following dates are school closure days for 2021. PLEASE MARK THESE IN YOUR DIARIES

- **Monday July 12th & Tuesday 13th:** Professional Development Conference
- **Monday November 1st** (Monday before Cup Day) Assessment and Report writing
- **Thursday 16th and Friday 17th December-** End of Year Professional Development days

Prep Enrolment 2022

I would like to enrol my child into Bethany for Prep 2022. Please send home an enrolment application pack.

Prep 2022 Child's Name: _____

Parent Name: _____ **Eldest Child's Hub**_____