



Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee North

Newsletter No. 6
Wednesday 21st April
2021

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 2! I hope you and your family are well rested, refreshed and renewed after the Easter break and school holidays.

Easter is the most significant event in our Christian calendar, where we celebrate the life, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, reflecting the great love and forgiveness of Jesus and God for us, in and through the events of Holy Week.

As a part of the Christian tradition, Easter is also a time of new life. A time to intentionally start over. The late John O' Donohue, a theologian and poet, and whose writing and reflections I often seek, wrote about letting go and starting over in connection to the Easter Season in many of his blessings.

Easter Blessing

"On this Easter morning, let us look again at the lives we have been so generously given and let us let fall away the useless baggage that we carry- old pains, old habits, old ways of seeing and feeling- and let us have the courage to begin again. Life is very short, and we are no sooner here than it is time to depart again, and we should use to the full the time that we still have.

We don't realise all the good we can do. A kind, encouraging word or helping hand can bring many a person through dark valleys in their lives. We weren't put here to make money or to acquire status or reputation. We were sent here to search for the light of Easter in our hearts, and when we find it we are meant to give it away generously.

***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.***

The dawn that is rising this Easter morning is a gift to our hearts and we are meant to celebrate it and to carry away from this holy, ancient place the gifts of healing and light and the courage of a new beginning." John O' Donohue.

As we begin the term, let us hold this message close to us in what we say, do and be, for each other as a community of believers and learners, loved by God.

Student News

Easter Liturgy

On the last day of term 1, the students contributed to and participated in an Easter Liturgy. The students reverently depicted the story of Holy Week and Jesus through words, actions and hymns. The liturgy was both moving and sacred. We have attached a link for you to share with the children. We hope that next year, God willing, restrictions will be lifted and you will be present for these special occasions.

The link to view this is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfXMvs0xyY4>



Easter Raffle

Last term we also held our first Easter Raffle. Thank you to each of you for your donations and purchase of raffle tickets. We had 78 prizes to give away to the students and raised \$3587.25. A big thank you to the Sub-Committee for organising this and for constructing the Easter giveaways. We all had so much fun drawing the prizes.

First Eucharist

The students in Year 5 will celebrate their First Eucharist on **Sunday 16th May at 1:00pm and 3:00pm in the School Hall**. The students continue their faith journey, with Eucharist being another sacrament of initiation, preceded by Baptism and followed by Confirmation. At this sacrament the students receive the holy bread, symbolising the body and blood of Christ. Catholics believe the Eucharist, or Communion, is both a sacrifice and a meal. We believe in the real presence of Jesus, who died for our sins. As we receive Christ's Body and Blood, we also are nourished spiritually and brought closer to God. At this time, we keep the Year 5 students and their families in our thoughts and prayers as they prepare to celebrate this sacrament.

A conversation centring on this sacrament, led by Fr Richard Leonard SJ, will be held on **Thursday 29th April at 6:45pm for both Year 4 and Year 5 parents/carers.** We look forward to spending time together sharing our understanding of the Sacrament of Eucharist.

Winter Uniform

The students have two more weeks to wear either full summer uniform or full winter uniform. As from **Monday, 3rd May** all students are to wear their full winter uniform until further notice.

Students are now invited to wear navy shorts as part of the winter uniform if they wish.

We recommend that you check your child has all the items for the full winter uniform, that they fit and are clearly named. New items of uniform can be purchased from Rushfords Schoolwear in Werribee.

| Boy's Winter Uniform | Girl's Winter Uniform |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long / Short Sleeve Gold Polo Shirt ● Navy Trousers ● Navy Shorts ● Navy Socks ● Royal Blue Windcheater / Zip Jacket ● Black School Shoes /Boots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long / Short Sleeve Gold Polo Shirt ● Tunic with navy tights / socks <li style="text-align: center;">or ● Navy trousers with white socks ● Navy shorts with white socks ● Royal Blue Windcheater / Zip Jacket ● Black School Shoes |

School News

Holiday Work

Over the holidays, the carpets were updated in the Discovery and Exploration Centre, air conditioning installed in the School Hall, and the footpath gate has been made more secure with the installation of an electronic gate. The new carpets have certainly changed the look and feel of these spaces, and the air conditioning will serve the school community well on hot days or nights. The school gate will be secured electronically during school hours making the school safer for the students. If entering the school after 9:00am or before 2:30pm, you will be required to press the button at the front gate, the office will respond to you by allowing you entry.



Using the school playgrounds after 3pm

If you would like to use the playgrounds, they will be available from **3pm until 3.30 pm each day**. This only applies to the playgrounds next to the carpark (not the Prep playground on the opposite side of the oval).

Please only use the playground appropriate for your child's age - Prep age children may use the 1/2 playground as the equipment is age appropriate for them also. Supervision of your child is your responsibility. It is great to have a chat with other families but please keep an eye on the children - accidents happen!

The toilets on the basketball court will be available but for safety, students must use these with a parent accompanying them.

ANZAC Day Badges

ANZAC Badges will go on sale tomorrow. A 20 cent donation to the R.S.L. is all that is required for an ANZAC Badge.

NAPLAN 2021 - For Yr. 3 and Yr. 5 students at Bethany

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2021 for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on **Tuesday 11 May, Wednesday 12 May and Thursday 13 May 2021**. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. A note regarding this will be sent home to families with Year 3 and Year 5 students, shortly.

Learning Conversations: Student Reporting

Each year in June Learning Conversations are held between the student, teacher and families to celebrate the progress and achievement made, as well as to consider future learning for the student in Semester 1. This year Learning Conversations will be held on **Tuesday 22nd June, 2021. This day will be a School Closure Day**. This year we are looking to use "School Interviews" for families to book learning conversations. A note outlining the process for booking learning conversations will be sent home in the coming weeks.

School Fee Instalment 2 (\$535) Now Due

Prior Notice

If you chose to pay your School Fee in full (\$1600) please note that payment is due by **Friday, May 21st**.

Payments are invited at the school office in person or by phone.

The office is open Monday – Friday 8:00am – 4pm

We accept payment by EFTPOS, cash, cheque at the office.

You may also pay by direct transfer into the school bank account.

As every family signed their intention to pay school fees, it is expected that such payments be honoured. Should any family experience financial difficulty, please rest assured that your trusting communication will always be met with confidentiality and compassion. We are always grateful when families trust us with their difficulties and also greatly appreciate the majority of families who pay fees on time.

Parent Help Needed

If you have time on a Wednesday and Friday morning from 8.50 until 9.20am, we would like to invite you to join our Reading Tutors program. The program involves assisting Year One students with their reading. You don't need to have a Year One child. You will not need any qualifications other than a willingness to form a close bond with a child and work together over a number of weeks to practise beginning reading skills.

We will provide you with all you need! If you are able to help Wednesday and Friday mornings that would be most appreciated, however if only one of those days works for you, we would still love to have you on board. Given that you are working in the learning spaces with students, you will need to supply the school with a valid Working with Children Check. Please reply via the slip at the end of this newsletter or call the Office on 9742 9800.

Sub Committee Group

Our Sub Committee group will meet next **Wednesday, 28th April** at **1.40** to finalise arrangements for our Mother's Day Stall and to begin preparing for our Term 3 fundraising initiative.

School Photos

Photo day is **Thursday, May 27th**.

More specific information regarding this service will be circulated shortly. Please note that all students will need to be in their full winter uniform on this day.

Mother's Day Stall - Friday, May 7th

The Service Sub-Committee invites students to purchase a gift from the Mother's Day Stall. Fantastic gifts are available for mums or the special women in their lives. Each hub will be invited to the hall on **Friday, May 7th** and can purchase gifts ranging from \$1 to \$4. On this day just send some money in a named envelope and let the children do the rest. **Please do not send any money prior to the purchasing day.** We know this is a valuable service offered by our Sub-Committee and on your behalf we thank them most sincerely.

Thank you

Our thanks to the members of the Service Sub-Committee who have arranged this activity.

The stall will operate between 8.55a.m. and 11.00a.m. on **Friday, May 7th**.

If you would like to assist selling items we would be grateful for your support. Please complete the slip below and return it to the school office.

Parish News

Altar Servers: St Andrew's Church.

Please find attached a flyer for students wishing to enrol as Altar Servers. Please complete and submit to the St Andrew's Parish

Mother's Day Stall Volunteers

Family Name: _____ Eldest Child's Hub _____

I am able to assist with selling gifts for Mother's Day on **Friday, May 7th**

I have a current Working With Children Check

WWCC Card number _____ Expiry _____

Dates for your Diary

April

Friday 23rd – Second Instalment of School Fees due - \$535.00

Sunday 25th – ANZAC Day

Wednesday 28th – Sub Committee Meeting 1.40 p.m

Thursday 29th – Murray & Chisholm hub's assembly

May

Monday 3rd – All students in full winter uniform from today

Friday 7th – Mother's Day stall

Tuesday 11th, Wednesday 12th & Thursday 13th – NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5

Sunday 16th May – Sacrament of First Eucharist for Year 5, 1:00pm and 3:00pm in the Bethany School Hall

Thursday 20th – Teresa & Orange hubs assembly

Friday 21st – Full Payment of School Fee due \$1600

Wednesday 26th – Sub Committee Meeting 6.45pm

Thursday 27th – School Photo Day

June

Monday 14th – Queen's Birthday Public Holiday – **NO SCHOOL**

Friday 11th June – Final instalment of School Fee Due \$530.00

Tuesday 22nd – Learning Conversations – **NO SCHOOL**

Friday 25th – Last Day of Term. All students finish at 12.30

ALTAR SERVER'S ENROLMENT FORM



St. Andrew's Parish
105 Greaves Street Nth
WERRIBEE VIC 3030
Tell: 9741 4144

Email: werribee@cam.org.au

Children who have completed their First Holy Communion are welcomed and encouraged to become an Altar Server. All that is required is a desire to serve at the Altar of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. An Altar Server can be either a male or female member of our parish community who assists the priest at the Eucharist and other liturgical ceremonies so that the liturgy can be conducted with grace and reverence.

I/ We _____, give permission for my/our Child to be an altar server at St. Andrew's parish. I/We understand the responsibilities, commitments and expectations of this ministry in the life of the parish.

Each candidate must complete this form and attend the training. **(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)**

Altar Server Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Home Address: _____ Contact no. : _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Alternate Email Address: _____

Grade Level: _____ Name(s) of siblings who are active altar servers: _____

Please indicate your top two preferences intend to serve: (1=1st preference; 2=2nd preference)

Saturday 6:00 pm _____ Sunday 8:00am _____ Sunday 9:30am _____ Sunday 11:00am _____ Sunday 5:00pm _____

Altar Servers Consent:

As an Altar Server I agree to attend trainings presented periodically throughout the year, always strive to improve my serving ability, and perform my duties with reverence and dignity. I will do my best as an altar server at St. Andrew Catholic Church. I understand the ministry responsibilities for which I am registering.

Altar Servers Name & Signature

Date

Parents' Consent:

I hereby give permission to St. Andrew's Catholic Church Altar Server Ministry to notify my child regarding the Altar Servers Ministry (trainings, Mass roster or any parish events etc) via email address.
I also give permission for my child's information (name, phone number and email address) to be shared on the Altar Server roster. I promise to help our Altar Server follow the guidelines and expectations as presented in the trainings and to meet his/her obligations responsibly. My child has my support in fulfilling his/her ministry responsibilities, including my presence at Mass.

Parent/Guardian Name & Signature

Date

Parents' Permission:

(Please cross out this paragraph if you do not give permission for your child to be photographed or videoed.)
I/We hereby authorize the making of photographs, video tapes, recordings, or other memorializing of an event and my child's participation therein, without acknowledgement, remuneration or compensation, in publications (print, websites, social media, DVDs, CDs etc) and/or presentations of St. Andrews Parish and the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne or its Parishes.

Parent/Guardian Name & Signature

Date