



Bethany Catholic Primary School *Werribee North*

Principal Message- Joanne Webster

Newsletter No. 12
Wednesday 4th August 2021

Dear Families,

It was wonderful to welcome the students back to school last Wednesday, after the lockdown. Again, we thank you for following the guidelines implemented by the school to ensure the students, families and staff are kept safe.

COVID-19 Update

The guidelines regarding schools and COVID-19 remain the same, with some restrictions being eased, around excursions and interschool sports. The current directions set, now state school excursions can go ahead when the excursion venue has only one school group visiting per day. The regulations also allow school excursions if the excursion venue can place COVID capacity limits on the total number of public visitors allowed. Excursion venues will also require names and phone numbers of all students attending the excursion for contact tracing purposes in line with current health directives. The phone number on the school file will be provided as the nominated contact number.

This means, the Prep students' excursion to the Werribee Zoo will go ahead. However, the Bridging Centre excursion to the MCG has been postponed and a new date set in October. The Boite Choir is postponed. First Communion for Year 4 on Sunday 29th August is still on the calendar. Current restrictions would not permit this at school. We wait in anticipation for a change in restrictions or other possible options to become available. Unfortunately, this is out of our control. Families of Year 4 First Communicants will receive a note detailing time and date for this sacrament once confirmation that the event will go ahead is received. Please call Admin on 97429800 if you have any further questions regarding any upcoming events. We will endeavour to let you know as soon as new advice and guidelines are distributed.

Operoo

As a school the use of Operoo and email for all communication is becoming more frequent, especially with offsite learning. **Could all families please ensure all current contact details, mobile numbers, work phone numbers and emergency phone numbers are listed on Operoo.** We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Book Week – Dress Up Day

During the week of Monday the 23rd of August to Friday the 27th of August we will be celebrating Book Week. Students will be participating in activities across the school to develop focused appreciation of the shortlisted books selected by the Children's Book Council of Australia. On **Thursday the 26th** of August we will be having a Book Week parade at 9:00am. Students will be invited to dress up in a costume to represent their favourite book. The theme of the 2021 Book Week is "Old Worlds, New Worlds and Other Worlds". Students will be supported with ideas for

costumes during class workshops in the days prior. If you would like to organise costumes from home some ideas may include; wearing grandpa's old clothes, dressing up as a mythical creature, wearing a space costume or simply celebrating a favourite book character. The theme is very broad and open to your imagination.

Prayer

Loving Creator,

We asked for strength, and you gave us difficulties to make us strong.

We asked for wisdom, and you gave us problems to solve.

We asked for prosperity, and you gave us purpose and brains to use.

We asked for courage, and you gave us fears to overcome.

We asked for patience, and you gave us situations where we were forced to wait.

We asked for love, and you gave us troubled people to help.

We asked for justice, and you called us to be just and lead with integrity.

Lord, we have received nothing that we asked for or wanted.

And yet, we receive everything that we needed.

For this we give thanks.

Amen

By Colleen Hanycz, PHD

Student News

The following students have entered their art pieces in the Zart Art National Student Art Prize, 2021. The theme of the Prize is "**My Australia.**" Winners will be announced on the 18th August at 1pm.

Voting is open for the People's Choice Award, visit:

<https://www.zartart.com.au/zartstatic/page/student-art-prize>

You may like to vote for your favourite piece of Art!!



Olivia M (Yr 5 Teresa hub): When I think of Australia I think of animals, so I chose a kangaroo because to me a kangaroo is an iconic Australian animal. I chose these colours because they remind me of nature in Australia.



Scarlet P (Yr 5 Teresa Hub): When I think of 'My Australia', I think of the Opera House on New Year's Eve because I wanted to add colours and celebration in my drawing.

Alexandra R (Yr 6 Chisholm Hub): I enjoy working with charcoal and love drawing animals with this medium. I chose this creature because it represents part of the Australian bush and something you don't see that often.





Amelia A (Yr 6 Little Hub): The snake represents Australia for the deserts in this wonderful country and the dry lands of where the snakes live. This drawing represents the Mulga Snake.



Brianna M (Yr 6 Little H): This artwork represents one of Australia's native animals known as a Kookaburra. Some of the features of this artwork are the bright and colourful plumage of the bird and the branch of nature connected between the Kookaburras feet.



Isabella J (Yr 6 Chisholm Hub): I chose a pink cockatoo because they represent Australia well, and I think they are cute!



Jonathan L: (Yr 6 Little Hub) When I think of Australia I think of animals, my favourite animal is a snake. When I was on holiday I happened to see one of these at a wildlife park, so I wanted to draw one.



Ksenia K (Yr 6 Teresa Hub): This artwork is inspired by the usual Australian hobby, surfing. A girl is casually sitting on her surfboard in the sea and gazing at the extraordinary sunset. The meaning behind this artwork is obviously Australia, but is also a reminder of how beautiful our oceans and nature can be. We should strive to protect it so that we can have many more stunning artworks featuring nature in the future.

Kyla D (Yr 6 Little Hub): This artwork represents the wives who lived during the time of WW1. During 1914, many of the wives had to let go of their spouse, which was devastating for them, and their families. In the process of making this drawing, I've decided to add the bright colour of the poppies that represents the hope in their lives. As well as the worn-out letter in the background, which expresses the grief of the soldiers missing their families.





Madison C (Yr 6 Chisholm Hub): I decided to draw a picture of a turtle to spread special awareness about pollution and climate change in the ocean causing depopulation of turtles.



Molly V (Yr 6 Chisholm Hub): This image represents My Australia because it has stories of many people and the beautiful colours of our land.



Nate B (Yr 6 McKillop Hub): I was inspired by the colours and patterns that I think about when I think Australia.

Timothy W: (Yr 6 Mandela Hub) I painted this piece to represent how special and unique Australia is. Not only for the British people who claimed this land, but for the first people here, the Aboriginals and their sites and history. I mixed the different shades of green to make the grass as realistic as possible, I did multiple coats of paint to make sure other colours don't disrupt the main drawing. For the sky I used red converting to yellow to make a sort of sunset background. I tried to put brown in to try a more shadowy effect on the mountains but it didn't go as planned, but still looked OK. And I used white for the clouds. (Different shades of white)



School News

School Dental Visit

All students at Bethany will have the opportunity to have a dental check-up via the School Dental Initiative during the week beginning 13th September.

This is an optional service that is available to every student.

If you wish to have your child participate in this dental health visit we invite parents/carers to complete the School Dental Initiative form that was sent home yesterday and return it to your child's hub teacher by **this Friday, 6th August**.

A separate form must be completed for each child.

Without the form being returned to school your child/ren will not be able to access this service. If you have any queries regarding this service please call the team at Australian Dental Health on 93239607.

Illness/Injury Parent Notification

New templates for illness/injury parent notification will now be used by the school to notify families of any illness or injury at school. These will be given to students after attending Sick Bay. Please check school bags and student pockets for these.

Staff News

We would like to take this opportunity to farewell Erica Aclan. Erica leaves us soon to have her second child. We thank her in advance for her ongoing contribution to the Bethany community and bless her and her family on the impending arrival of baby. God bless.

Parent News

Parking Restrictions

Please note surrounding street parking restrictions are in place. Parking inspectors have and will be patrolling the area to ensure the safety of all. Fines are significant for double parking or parking on the crossing in No Standing zones.

School Fees

All Student Fees and all School Fees should now be in the process of being finalised unless you have a direct deposit plan in place or you have a plan in place with the Principal.

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.

If you are yet to finalise your school fee payments, we trust that you will do so by the end of next week. Due to current restrictions please phone the Admin Centre Office on 9742 9800 to make payment over the phone.

CSEF Applications

Families holding a valid Health Care Card are eligible to apply for the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund. This is a \$125 payment to the school and comes off student levies. You may have already applied for this. If recent circumstances have changed and you now have become eligible for this payment, applications are open until next **Friday 13th August**. Please call Admin on 9742 9800 if you have any further questions.

Working with Children Check – Department of Justice Letter

All adults who support the school, with volunteer work are required to have a Working with Children Check (WWCC). All parents or adults supporting the school, **must have Bethany listed** as an organisation they volunteer at, as a part of the application process. If you have a WWCC, please logon to the website <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/> and ensure you have listed Bethany as a school you volunteer at. **This generates a letter from the Department of Justice** that is sent directly to the school permitting you to volunteer on the premises or to attend excursions etc. Unfortunately, without this letter, you will not be able to volunteer at the school. If you are unsure as to whether the school has a copy of the letter from the Department of Justice, please feel free to call the Admin Centre to check.

Term 2 Fundraiser - Chocolate Drive – All money now due

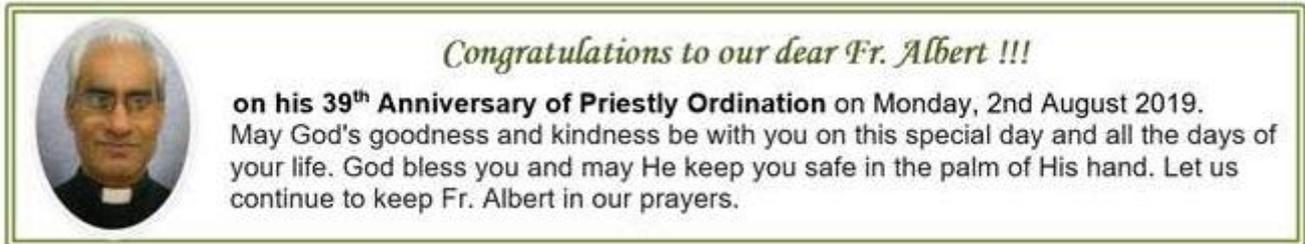
Thank you to all the families who have returned their fundraising money or chocolates. Our term 2 fundraising will go towards the upgrade of the Basketball Asphalt area, replacing it with artificial turf.

Chocolates were sent home at the end of term 2. **All monies and unsold chocolates are now due. If you haven't finalised this yet, please send them with your child to their hub by tomorrow.**

We do still have some boxes of chocolates remaining. If you are in a position to sell any remaining chocolates please call the Admin Centre office.

All monies and unsold chocolates are due.

Parish News



Important Dates

August

Thursday August 5th Year 4 Boite Choir - **postponed**
Friday August 6th Exploration Centre excursion to Werribee Zoo
Wednesday August 18th Sub- Committee Meeting- 1:45pm - **to be confirmed**
Thursday August 19th Indigo and MacKillop Assembly
23rd – 27th August Book Week
Thursday 26th August – Book Week Parade 9.00am
Sunday August 29th Eucharist for Year 4 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. – **to be confirmed**

September

Thursday September 2nd Kolbe and Blue Assembly
Thursday September 9th Jordan and Teresa Assembly
13th – 17th September – Dental Visits Week
Thursday September 16th Mandela and Green Assembly
Friday, September 17th – Last day of Term 3. **All students finish at 12.30pm.**

School Closures for 2021

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

- **Monday November 1st** (Monday before Cup Day) Assessment and Report writing
- **Thursday 16th and Friday 17th December**- End of Year Professional Development days

End of the 2021 School Year

Last day for Year 6 students will be Monday December 13th at **3.00pm**.
Last day for Year Prep – Year 5 students will be Wednesday 15th December at **12:30pm**.

Sacrament Dates

Sacrament of Confirmation: Year 6 students

Wednesday 21st July 6.20pm to be rescheduled
Thursday 22nd July 6.20pm to be rescheduled

Sacrament of Eucharist Year 4 Sunday 29th August 1:00 and 3:00pm in the Bethany School Hall - **to be confirmed**

Sacrament of Reconciliation Year 3 Thursday 28th October 6:00pm and 7:30pm in the Bethany School Hall