



Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee North

Principal Message- Joanne Webster

Newsletter No. 17
Friday 29th October 2021

Dear Families,

It has been an absolute delight to have all the students return to school in the last week. Again, I thank you for your support of the staggered start of each level and realise the enormous impact this has on family life, with some children at school and others at home.

Next week, **all students** return to school on **WEDNESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER**. This means that remote learning or home learning will cease from this day, in accordance with the State Government directive.

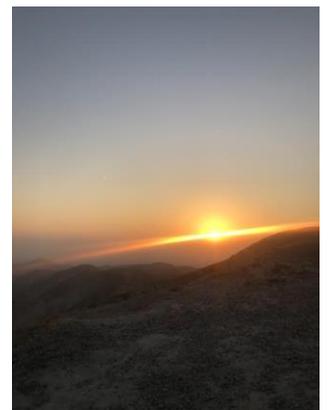
The school will be closed on Monday 1st November, as this is a Report Writing day for teachers, planned from the beginning of this school year.



Prayer

As we return to school next week as a whole school community we pray:

May the Holy Spirit work through you and your family at this time.
Softly whispering Spirit, blow gently into our lives.
Blow softly into our minds and bring peace.
Blow softly into our thoughts and bring understanding.
Blow softly into our concerns and bring calm.
Blow softly into our fears and bring courage.
Blow softly into our hearts and bring love.
Life-giving Spirit breathe your life into our lives each day.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen



School News

Updated Information Regarding Return to School On Wednesday 3rd November, 2021 Information

As you will have heard, the COVID Safe guidelines have now been updated to include the following information for all schools in Metro Melbourne.

Masks: All students from Years 3 to 6 are **required** to wear **a mask indoors**. Please ensure you provide this for your child.

It is **recommended** that students in Prep to Year 2 also wear a mask when indoors.

The school will have a supply of masks for students who forget to bring their mask or if their mask breaks.

All adults, including staff and parents/carers are **required** to wear their masks indoors. Staff are required to wear their mask in the act of teaching, wherever practicable, and except where the removal of a face mask is necessary for effective communication.

Masks are not required outdoors, whilst continuing to social distance.

Entry to the School

As from Wednesday November 3rd, all entry gates will be open from 8.30 a.m. as we welcome all students from Prep – Year 6 back to school. Families/Carers can now drop students off at the gate or walk students to hubs. We ask that you to maintain social distance. **At this point in time entry to hubs will not be permitted as density limits exist.** Students on bikes or scooters can enter by the bike gate as usual. There will be a number of staff on duty to assist the students if they are feeling overwhelmed as they transition back to school.

Pick up at the end of the day

Pick up at the end of the day, will be from all gates. The gates will open at 2.30pm. Please continue to social distance when entering the school grounds. Again, thank you for your continued support with this.

Unwell students

It is important that any **unwell students stay home**, and **get tested** if they have any of the following symptoms-fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhoea, headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, and nausea. **The school will not hesitate to send your child home if unwell in an effort to attend to the health, and wellbeing of all. We appreciate your co-operation with this, to enable the school to remain open in Term 4.** I understand, some students suffer from hay fever. If your child does, please ensure you have an allergy or hay fever plan in place to support the school to attend to this.

Return of Devices

As all students return to school, they will also be required to return their device and charger, be it an iPad for Prep to Year 2 and a Chromebook for Year 3-6. All school devices will be sent home daily over the coming weeks, in the event of a school closure.

Optional Learning Conversations Optional learning conversations are being offered in the week beginning **Monday November 15th through to Friday November 19th**. These conversations, provide both the parent and/or the teacher the opportunity to request a conversation to discuss the child's/student's learning over the course of Term 3 and Term 4. It is always our hope at Bethany to continue to build strong relationships and partnerships in your child's learning. The school very much values the parent knowledge you have of your child and their learning and wellbeing, and see this as an opportunity for you to share with us, especially as many of you have supported your child's learning at home. For which, we are extremely grateful. More information regarding the booking of these optional learning conversations will be sent home via Operoo next week, on Wednesday 3rd November.

Sport Uniform days

On the days listed below we ask that the students come to school in their sport uniforms.

Monday – Exploration Centre students

Wednesday – Discovery Centre (please note change of day)

Wednesday - Bridging Centre students

Friday – Leadership Centre students

Prep Transition

Prep Transition for our 2022 Preps, will be adjusted to enable the students to attend. A note detailing how this will look will go home to all Prep 2022 families next week.

Tuesday 9th – Prep 2022 Transition **cancelled**

Wednesday 10th – Prep 2022 Transition **cancelled**

Tuesday 16th November- Prep 2022 Transition Group 1

Wednesday 17th – Prep 2022 Transition Group 2

Updated Sacrament Dates

At this point in time the following dates have been confirmed for the Sacraments. I thank you for your patience and understanding with this.

The **Sacrament of Eucharist** for Year 4 will now take place in 2022. Date to be confirmed shortly.

The **Sacrament of Confirmation** - This will take place on the **Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th of November at 6:20pm in the school hall**. As the time draws nearer, we will be able to determine attendance numbers in the hope that density limits are eased or lifted. Students in Year 6 will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 18th November at 9:30am prior to Confirmation.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will take place for all Year 3 students on **Friday 19th November** at 9:30am at school.

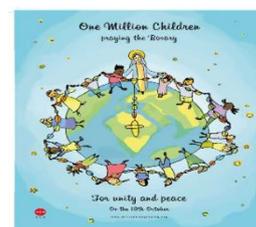
Year 6 Graduation – please note a change of date.

Year 6 Graduation will now be celebrated on **Wednesday 8th December at 6:20pm in the school hall**. As the time draws nearer, we will be able to determine attendance numbers in the hope that density limits are eased or lifted.

Student News

One Million Children Praying the Rosary!

On Monday the 18th of October, approximately 40 students from Year 5 and 6 participated in praying the Rosary online in union with up to one million children from 44 countries around the world. The initiative was part of a global Rosary campaign uniting children in prayer for Peace in the World. As the students prayed five decades of the Rosary, they reflected on the Joyful Mysteries of Jesus' childhood. It was a wonderful opportunity to join in solidarity with other young Catholics to pray for our world.



"Today we prayed the Rosary, along with many other children across the world for World Peace to happen. We all felt calm, praying the Rosary, everyone in a peaceful aura. I felt honoured to be chosen as one of the students to read the Hail Marys for the first decade. I said yes to this opportunity because, I like to honour my faith in praying the Rosary for families, to stop the Coronavirus, everyone to get along and most importantly for World peace."

~Sophia

"We prayed the whole Rosary and learned about the 7 joyful mysteries. I felt very spiritual and at peace with both God and the Holy Spirit."

~Timothy

"I prayed the Rosary and it felt really relaxing to be honest."

~Matteo

"I joined in the Rosary and I felt wonderful."

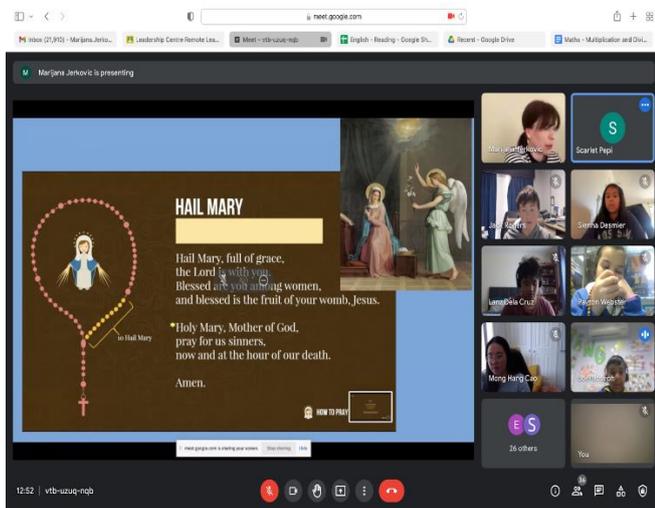
~Toni

"I joined the Rosary and I felt very calm from praying to the Lord. I sure hope my prayers get answered and peace shines on the world."

~Amelia

"I joined the Rosary zoom and I felt really calm and relaxed when I was praying. Thank you Marijana and teachers."

~Scarlet



Dental Van

Due to COVID restrictions the School Dental Initiative needed to be postponed. The team from Australian Dental Health are now visiting us here at Bethany on **Monday November 29th**. Many families completed a dental form last term for this optional service. If you have completed and submitted the forms previously the Dental van will use these. The team from Dental Victoria will provide a full examination and contact parents/carers if any further work is required.

Yr 5/6 Hockey Clinics

All students in the Leadership Centre will have an opportunity to be coached by William Smith from Hockey Victoria over a 4-week period. We hope this is both an enjoyable experience and one that will support the students with their hand eye coordination and ability to play the game of hockey.

Staff News

The following staff are on Long Service Leave: Melanie Foulkes, Helen Murray and Marijana Jerkovic. We hope this time provides them with an opportunity to rest and re-energise and look forward to their return.

Parent News

Second Hand Uniform Sale

The Second-Hand Uniform sale will occur in coming weeks, when we move to Phase D (after November 24th) of the Roadmap for the easing of Covid 19 restrictions.

Important Dates

November

Monday 1st – **School Closure Day**. No onsite or remote learning for any student. (Monday before Cup Day) Teacher Assessment and Report writing

Tuesday 2nd – **Melbourne Cup Public Holiday**. No onsite or remote learning for any student.

Wednesday 3rd - All students Prep – Year 6 return to school every day from today. Remote learning now ends.

Tuesday 9th – Prep 2022 Transition **cancelled**

Wednesday 10th – Prep 2022 Transition **cancelled**

Tuesday 16th - Prep 2022 Transition Group 1

Wednesday 17th – Prep 2022 Transition Group 2

Thursday 18th – Year 6 Reconciliation 9.30am at school

Friday 19th – Year 3 Sacrament of Reconciliation, 9.30am at school

Wednesday 24th – Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation, 6.20pm in the school hall

Thursday 25th – Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation, 6.20pm in the school hall

Monday 29th – Australian Dental Health Van Visit

December

Tuesday 7th December- Orientation Day- Prep 2022 and Year 1-6 2022

Wednesday December 8th – Year 6 Graduation, 6.20pm in the school hall (please note change of date.)

Monday 13th – Year 6 last day. All Year 6 students finish at 3pm

Wednesday 15th – Prep to Year 5 last day. 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**

2022 Dates

Year 1 to Year 6 will begin school **on Tuesday 1st February 2022**.

Friday 28th January and Monday 31st of January are Professional Learning Days for teachers.

Prep 2022 students will begin school on **Wednesday 2nd February, 2022**.