



Bethany Catholic Primary School *Werribee North*

Principal Message- Joanne Webster

Newsletter No. 18
Wednesday 10th November 2021

Dear Families,

Over the next few weeks and including this week, we celebrate and offer a number of significant events in the school calendar-

- We begin this week, with the Remembrance Day Ceremony on Thursday which will be led by the Leadership Centre over the speaker system. We remember and give thanks to all those who have fought for our country, to enable us to live a life of freedom.
- Pre-Prep Visits and the Prep Family Information Night are scheduled for next week. The pre-schoolers will attend on either Tuesday 16th November or Wednesday 17th November, across the day in small groups at 9:00am, 10:00am and 12noon.
- The Prep Family Information Session will be online on the Wednesday 17th November at 6:30pm.
- Optional Learning Conversations begin on Monday 15th November to Friday 19th November. This is an opportunity for both the parents/carers and teachers to request a conversation to discuss progress in learning and wellbeing in the second semester of this year.
- Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates will take place on Thursday 18th November at 9:30am in the Leadership Centre.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation- Year 3 will be held on Friday 19th November at 9:30am and 11:30am in the Bridging 100s Learning Space. We keep these students in our prayers and thoughts at this time.
- Sacrament of Confirmation for our Year 6s will take place on Wednesday 24th November and Thursday 25th November at 6:20pm in the School Hall.
- To celebrate St Andrew's Feast Day, the team from Kaboom Sports will join us to lead the students in a session of fun tabloid sports. On Tuesday November 23rd, we ask the students to come to school in their sport uniform and wear the house colour t-shirt as they did for the athletics carnival.



Prayer

The Bridging Centre have been writing prayers to give thanks to those who they care most for and to thank God for the environment and nature. Their prayers will be shared with the school community, in the next few newsletters.

Dear Loving God,
I want to thank you for your kindness and for everything you have given us each and every day of our life. Thank you for our family who truly help me in my life and may you bless them all their life. Thank you to my amazing teachers for teaching us amazing things. That they work hard to learn every day to help us get an awesome job when we grow up. Thank you to my friends who are nice to me and help me when I'm down.



May you also bless them all their life.

Amen

Cleo Smith (Jordan Hub)

School News

School Fees, Levies and Camp Fee 2022

The School Fees for 2022 will be \$1650 per family. The levies will remain at \$365.00 per family. A note will be sent home to families tomorrow, outlining options for payment and intention to pay. Please complete and return to school by **Thursday 2nd December, 2021**. A concessional fee policy is now in place for families experiencing hardship. Please call the Admin office for details about this. There will be no refunds on levies for the 2021 school year.

Camp Program 2022

Bethany Catholic Primary School students have the opportunity to experience camps and life away from home to assist with the development of independence and interpersonal skills. The Camp Program is a whole school yearly camping schedule beginning with our Foundation students and concludes with our Year 6 students enjoying a three-day camp away alternating with either a beach or a bush setting.

At the end of the students first schooling year, Foundation students will experience the beginnings of the camping program. Their school day begins early where they arrive in their pyjamas and bags packed with school clothes and toothbrush. After being served a hearty breakfast prepared by our staff, the students will then get themselves ready for school. This includes getting themselves dressed, brushing their teeth and combing their hair all in time to commence their usual school day at 9.00am.

In Year 1, our students camping experience involves a day at school where they participate in a variety of camping style activities. This may include making afternoon tea, and participating in various craft tasks, concluding with an afterschool, afternoon tea at school and activity.

Our Year 2 students join our Year 1's however their camping experience concludes with dinner at school. This program prepares our students for future camps and allows each child to engage in lots of fun activities outside of normal school hours.

Our Year 3 students spend the day preparing for their overnight stay at school, by engaging in the making of supper for that evening, as well as orienteering activities, considering what they need to bring to school. Students go home after school and return, at 7:00pm after dinner at home, and participate in collaborative games, and a movie before sleeping the night at school. They then have breakfast at school, dress themselves and make their morning tea and lunch for the next day at school.

Year 4 students attend a 2 day/ 1 night camp. In 2022 this will be held at Camp Sunnystones, Merrimu on Wednesday 2nd November to Thursday 3rd November.

Year 5 and 6 students attend a 3 day / 2night camp. Depending on the year, the camp will either be beach focused or bush focused. In 2022, this will be held at Camp Adanac, Yarra Junction, from Wednesday 23rd March to Friday 25th March.

Each camp experience focuses on adventure and initiative activities with the aim to improve the students' interpersonal skills and ability to build positive relationships with each other.

Camp Fees

Prep/Foundation	\$10.00 per student
Year 1	\$10.00 per student
Year 2	\$15.00 per student
Year 3	\$20.00 per student
Year 4	\$220.00 per student
Year 5	\$320.00 per student
Year 6	\$320.00 per student

School Devices

All school devices will be sent home daily over the coming weeks, in case we have a school closure. Please understand, schools are having unplanned closures, when a student tests positive for Covid 19. Primary close contacts would have 14 days isolation, if unvaccinated. For students in primary school, this would mean they will be home for 14 days. If this were to occur the students and staff involved would revert to Remote Learning again needing devices for this. The immediate nature of school closures, if this were to occur, means there is no time to plan to send devices home.

Mandatory Vaccination

The Health Order, around mandatory vaccination for all employees, other workers, and visitors is now in all education settings. For families, this means you are required to QR code when entering school buildings. If you are to pick up or drop off a child to school, and you are outdoors on the grounds of the school, mandatory vaccination is not required. If you enter the school building to pick up a child, you will be asked to QR code in, but your vaccination status will not be required. As of the most recent State Government School Guidelines, issued 9th November, any parent/carer or any person 12+ (excluding our students) will not be permitted to attend any school event indoors or outdoors.

Sacrament of Confirmation: School Hall

As mentioned previously the Sacrament of Confirmation for our Year 6 students will take place on Wednesday 24th November or Thursday 25th November at 6.20pm in the School Hall. This event is bound by the density limit of 1 person per 4 square metres. As this ceremony will be held onsite, all adult participants 12 years and over (not including our students) must have had at least one vaccination to attend. Every person attending will be required to provide proof of vaccination upon entry to Covid Marshalls who will be at the entrances of the hall and the Bridging Centre 100's room. Please understand, if you are not vaccinated you will not be permitted into the hall for this event, as outlined above. We are intending to film our Confirmation ceremonies and send a link home for family members who are unable to attend, due to density limits.

Prep Transition

Prep Transition for our 2022 Preps, will be adjusted to enable the students to attend. Dates for this are:-

Tuesday 16th November- Prep 2022 Transition

OR

Wednesday 17th – Prep 2022 Transition

The Family Information Evening for Prep 2022 families will be held on Wednesday 17th November at 6:30pm online.



Year 6 Graduation Celebration Liturgy – please note a change of time.

The Yr. 6 Graduation Liturgy will now take place on **Wednesday December**

8th at 9.30 a.m. As there are 93 Yr. 6 Graduates, the current density limit of 1 person per 4 square metres, prevents us from having any parent/carers at this event. The Liturgy will be filmed and a link sent home for families to watch whilst enjoying a special meal with extended family and friends.

Dental Van

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.

Parent News

Transition to Secondary School Seminar

A flyer has been attached to support families and students to transition to Secondary School. This is a free online seminar.

Important Dates

November

Tuesday 16th - Prep 2022 Transition

Wednesday 17th – Prep 2022 Transition

Wednesday 17th – Prep 2022 Family Information Session 6.30pm online

Thursday 18th – Year 6 Reconciliation 9.30am at school

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

Tuesday 23rd – Kaboom Sports. Students to wear sport uniform with house colour t-shirt.

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, 9.30 students only

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**

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.**

