



Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee North

Principal Message- Joanne Webster

Newsletter No. 19
Wednesday 24th November 2021

Dear Families,

The last two weeks in the school calendar have certainly been eventful. We have welcomed our Pre-Prep students and families, both existing and new.



Our Year 3 students have celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time and our Year 6 students, as part of their Confirmation preparation have also celebrated Reconciliation.



Yesterday, to celebrate the Feast of St Andrew (30th November) the students and teachers participated in a Tabloid Sports Day, facilitated by Kaboom Sports. The excitement, energy and shrieks of laughter were delightful for all to see and hear. Much needed after so much time spent away from school. The school has certainly returned to life, after such a long time without all our students- the heart and soul of school life and community.



Prayer

The prayer this week is from Thomas Morgan in Sepik

Oh God may you bless our hearts so we can love and care.
May you bless our hands so we can help the poor.
May you bless our ears so we can hear the cries of those in need of help
May you bless our mouth so we can help those to make prayers.
May you bless our nose so we can smell food for the poor.
May you bless our eyes so we can see the ones who need help.

Amen

Student News

Year 3 Sacrament of Reconciliation- Student Reflections

On the 19th of November 2021 I had my first Reconciliation. At first I felt a bit nervous but excited too. When I went into the 100 Room, I sat down and looked at the prayer space with symbols and stories from the Bible and a cross. I said a silent prayer in my head there. Then I talked to Father Jossy. Next, I went to the prayer space and prayed the Hail Mary and Our Father prayer. My favorite part was going to pray in the prayer space. After I finished my first Reconciliation, I felt less guilty for the things I did.

By Clara Wang Todd Hub



At my Reconciliation I was really nervous the first few minutes before I was called. I spoke to Father Albert, like my sister, Chayane. At the end, I felt pretty good. For my penance I prayed "The Our Father". At the end of my penance, I thought the space looked beautiful. My favourite part was when I was praying my penance.

By Chalee Coker Werribee hub

Before you do your Reconciliation, you will feel nervous but there is no need to be nervous. The priest that I had was the St Andrews Parish priest, Father Albert. Then you will go into a quiet spot and say the Our Father and the Hail Mary. You only need to pick one but you can pray both of them if you want. When I was praying alone, I felt calm and I wasn't nervous anymore. Now that I have done it, I am not nervous to interact with the priest anymore because I have been through this and it was great.

By Noah Kereti Yarra Hub



Kaboom Sports Day

Today Kaboom Sports came to our school. They put us into six groups and we moved around to different activity rotations. Some of them were soccer, circus activities, bullseye, hoop targets and balancing tracks. When we were moving around, they played loud music and we needed to stomp and clap our feet. When we moved from one activity to the next they asked us to do things like hop on one leg, jump like a kangaroo, move like an airplane etc. Our favourite part was when all the teachers had a dance off. We also liked the activity where you had to aim the ball through the hoop. It kept landing in the bucket! We hope we get to do it again next year!

By Jesse Mladichek and Jaxson Ragusa



Maths Olympiad

Throughout the year, 60 students competed in the APSMO Maths Problem Solving competition. This competition is for primary and secondary school students throughout Australia and involves using multiple mathematical strategies to solve complex problems.

In first place for Maths Olympiad was Niya Vinayachandran, who finished in the top 2% of the competition and won the Bethany top student. Finishing in the top 10% was Kai Black, Jonathan Lu and Ksenia Kurenysheva. The Maths Olympiad team was Niya Vinayachandran, Kai Black, Jonathan Lu, Ksenia Kurenysheva, Nate Brunato, Anais Callegari, Arkin Dacanay, Manuel Gultom, Louis Pane, Jessica Lorrain, Natalie Bilston, Georgia Napiza, Lilah Webster, Sienna Zoueitini, Charlotte Clark, Eyosias Hagos, Aimee Humphreys, Isabella Tassone, Timothy Wijaya, Nicholas Chong, Joel Joseph, Amelia Anslum, Aeron Dominic, Mikaela Reyes, Lana Arabit, Isabella Proudfoot, Isla Sullaga, Jacob Antonio-Bie and Zac Drake-Brockman.

In the Olympiad Thinking program the top student was Freya Dawn with the top 5 students being Freya, Cooper Baker, Toni Brnada, Taya Delaney and Isabella Jonoski. This program looks at using set strategies to solve complex worded problems. The Olympiad Thinking team was Freya Dawn, Cooper Baker, Toni Brnada, Taya Delaney, Isabella Jonoski, Lucas Pettinella, Keisha Ragoi, Luke Van Ross, Chayanne Coker, Aidan Janakievski, Emerys Jones, Jasper Nozzolillo, Ava Black, Lanz Dela Cruz, Mitchell Hopper, Riana Kumar, Jakub Kwiatkowski, Brianna McCluckey, Thomas Buhagiar, Ethan Dalton, Margaux Abania, Willow Freeman, Sienna Hanley, Olivia Humphreys, Reischel Amber Sestoso, Liam Walker, Ruby Castello, Mia Frisina and Lucas Projkoski.

I have always loved maths and I am glad that I have had the opportunity to challenge myself. My dedication has paid off as I finished the Australia wide competition in the top 2%. I am proud of myself and grateful that I could participate in this wonderful program. Niya Vinayachandran

I won the Special Achievement Award for Maths Olympiad due to my passion for learning Mathematics both at home and at school. It involved a lot of trial and error to work problems out correctly but in the end the hard work did pay off. Ksenia Kurenysheva



Year 6 Reconciliation

On Thursday we received Reconciliation as part of our Confirmation Journey. I liked the way it was set up to be very calm and prayerful. Sophia Arcinue

I like how it was very peaceful and afterwards we got to pray to Jesus. Thomas Buhagiar.



Hockey

As part of our Physical Education program the Leadership Centre students are participating in a 4 week Hockey skills program with a coach from Hockey Victoria. Each week they students focus on a new skill, with the final week being mini-games using the skills previously taught.



Year 6 Confirmation Preparation

As part of Confirmation Jo worked with us to create a retablo of the saint that we have chosen for our Confirmation name. We used water colour paints on a block and incorporated symbols of the saint's life. Arkin Dacanay and Isla Sullaga.



School News

Covid 19 Update for Schools

The Victorian Government has announced important changes to the management of COVID-19 cases and close contacts in schools and other settings as we reach the 90% double dose milestone in the coming days.

For schools, this means that students who are exposed persons (previously identified as close contacts in education settings) from an exposure at school, no longer have to quarantine for between 7 and 14 days. **They can instead return immediately to school after providing evidence of a negative result from a standard PCR test (Covid 19 Testing Site), to our school.**

In exceptional circumstances the Department of Health may determine that close contacts in significant school outbreaks are still required to quarantine for seven days. In this scenario, students will be notified directly of any additional quarantine arrangements.

The process from this point on is: -

If your child is deemed a close contact, you will now be able to send your child back to school if you follow these steps:

- your child must get a standard test at your local [COVID-19 testing site](#).
- if the PCR test is negative, please provide the results to **principal@bswerribeenth.catholic.edu.au**
- your child can then return to school
- your child will be strongly recommended to take a rapid antigen test at home on each school weekday morning until you run out of tests.
- These testing kits will be available from testing centres from Monday 22 November.

If your child is positive, please inform the school immediately.

Rapid antigen tests are strongly recommended for those students who have returned a negative PCR result and return to school.

They are a great tool for families to use to keep our school safe and ensure that positive cases are identified at the earliest possible time. You will get a pack of five tests and you should use them each day before your child attends school until you run out.

Families should also use a rapid antigen test whenever their child is visiting a high-risk location or setting during this period. This includes visiting elderly or immunocompromised relatives or friends.

We continue to thank you for supporting this important approach, which will help keep our school safe and reduce the disruption to the entire school community.

All adults entering school buildings and students in Years 3 – 6 are still required to wear a mask at school. This is also recommended for students in Prep – 2.

Orientation Day

Tuesday 7th December is Orientation Day for all students from Year 1 to Year 6 as well as for our newest school members, our Preps for 2022. Your child will be very excited to share the news of their teacher and hub for 2022. The school newsletter on December 8th will announce the staff for 2022, and their roles.

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

Quantin Binnah Vacation Care Program

Please find attached to this newsletter the program for the forthcoming Vacation Care Program. These holidays, QB will be running Vacation Care from 4th January 2022 to 28th January 2022.

New families who are commencing in 2022 and 2021 Year 6 students can attend this program.

Parents who are currently enrolled will be sent the Vacation Care Program Link and can select the days they require via Smart Central.

Important Dates

November

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

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

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

January

Friday 28th – No school. Professional Learning Day for staff.

Monday 31st – No school. Professional Learning Day for staff.

February

Tuesday 1st - Year 1 to Year 6 will begin school at 8.50am. 3pm finish all students.

Tuesday 1st – Student Fee of \$365 per student due by today.

Wednesday 2nd - Prep 2022 students will begin school at 8.50am. 3pm finish for all students.

Wednesday 9th - NO SCHOOL FOR PREPS

Wednesday 16th - NO SCHOOL FOR PREPS

Wednesday 23rd - NO SCHOOL FOR PREPS