



Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee

Newsletter No. 15
Wednesday 7th September,
2022

Dear Families,

We have much to celebrate this term as we enter the last few weeks of Term 3. This is the first time in two years that all students in the Melbourne Metro have been at school for term 3 and it certainly has been a great term for learning and living. We ended last week with our inaugural Father's Day Breakfast where we had well over 500 in attendance. The joy on the student's faces as they entered the hall with their fathers, grandfathers and/or significant male figures was palpable. Everyone seemed happy to sit, chat, connect, reconnect and enjoy the special time with each other. Thank you to the Sub Committee helpers for assisting with the set up and an enormous thank you to the many staff who made this all possible, Amanda Defina for her leadership and organisation and all the staff who purchased, helped with the set-up, arrived at 7:00am to serve, heat, wait on tables, clean up, welcome in the hall and in the hubs later. A great community event, establishing or re-establishing 'community' here at Bethany. A video of the morning is [attached below](#) within this newsletter.



The school will be hosting a Cybersafety evening for all families on **Tuesday 8th November** at 6.45pm. After two years of lockdowns and the increased use of digital technology and the speed and acumen students have with this, this evening is essential information for all parents. Often the children know how to access, use and manipulate apps, passwords and the like with greater proficiency than we do. This evening will inform you as parents, of information you need to know to ensure your child/children are safe online. It may even ensure you too are safe online, with the increased spam texts and emails which can obliterate data or hack into bank accounts. Please place this date in your diaries. A flyer has been attached to the newsletter for this. Our students in Year 3 to 6 will also have a 60 to 90 minute session on this throughout the day. We are currently seeking an incursion for our Prep to Year 2 students that is suitable in this space.

As I wrote last week, due to Covid 19 and other nasty bugs, providing teaching staff with the necessary Professional Practice time has been impossible this term. As such and to meet our obligation to provide this as well as minimising inconvenience to families, a **school closure day has been organised for Monday 3rd October 2022** at the end of these upcoming school holidays. Again, thank you in advance for your understanding and co-operation.

NAPLAN results have also arrived. These will be distributed to Year 3 and Year 5 students on Friday 9th September. You will find them in the student's bags.

I hope all fathers, grandfathers or significant male figures in the children's lives enjoyed Father's Day. A blessing to all Fathers or Father like figures, is the prayer for this week.

All students attending Bethany Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school.

On the school holidays we will have the poles for the shade cloth over the basketball installed in preparation for the shade cloth installation six weeks later. We will also refill all sandpits and add scoria to the Community Garden, to support the walk through traffic with our chickens now installed.

This will be the last newsletter for Term 3. May the upcoming school holidays give you time as a family to rest, to be present to each other, to relax, and to re-energise for Term 4. God bless and stay safe.

To celebrate the diligence of students throughout the term in all their learning, faith, academic, social, emotional and physical achievements, **the last day of school, Friday 16th September will be a Footy Fever/Sports Dress up Day for all.** This means students may dress up in their favourite footy or sports team or colours.

School finishes at 12:30pm on this day. Lunch orders will be available on this day.

Prayer

Bless Our Fathers

Heavenly Father

Today we ask You to bless our earthly fathers

for the many times they reflected the love, strength, generosity, wisdom and mercy that You exemplify in Your relationship with us, Your children.

We honour our fathers for putting our needs above their own convenience and comfort; for teaching us to show courage and determination in the face of adversity; for challenging us to move beyond self-limiting boundaries; for modelling the qualities that would turn us into responsible, principled, caring adults.

Not all our fathers lived up to these ideals. Give them the grace to acknowledge and learn from their mistakes. Give us the grace to extend to them the same forgiveness that you offer us all. Help us to resist the urge to stay stuck in past bitterness,

Instead, moving forward with humility and peace of heart. We ask your blessing on those men who served as father figures in our lives when our biological fathers weren't able to do so. May the love and selflessness they showed us be returned to them in all their relationships, and help them to know that their influence has changed us for the better.

Give new and future fathers the guidance they need to raise happy and holy children, grounded in a love for God and other people - and remind these fathers that treating their wives with dignity, compassion and respect is one of the greatest gifts they can give their children.

We pray that our fathers who have passed into the next life have been welcomed into Your loving embrace, and that our family will one day be reunited in your heavenly kingdom.

In union with St. Joseph, whom you entrusted with Your Son, we ask Your generous blessings today and every day. Amen.

Joanne Webster
Principal



Student News

Father's Day Breakfast

On Thursday 1st September we held our first Father's Day Breakfast.

What a wonderful celebration of fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers and all of the special men in the lives of our Bethany families! It was a golden opportunity to stop and gather as a community and share a very special meal. It was lovely to celebrate this special occasion and witness each member of the community bringing joy to each other!

There were many smiling, happy faces as children sat with their loved ones and ate delicious pancakes with yummy toppings, followed by hot coffee for the adults and fruit pop tops for the children. The conversations and smiles that were exchanged between all were witness to the authentic relationships and sense of belonging that we hold so closely within our Bethany community. Enjoy the Youtube of the event.

<https://youtu.be/t1YUsaECvBM>

Father's Day Stall

On Friday 2nd of September, we had our Father's Day stall where many of the students had the opportunity to purchase special gifts for the special men in their lives. They decorated bags and placed their gift of choice inside for their special person. The school captains assisted beautifully on this day, displaying the items for sale and assisting the younger students to make their purchases. Great maths skills in adding and subtracting monetary amounts were put to use! Many parents came to work alongside our school captains, guiding and assisting them as they used their skills in leadership in mentoring the younger students to make their decisions for purchasing and working out their money.

We thank one and all who contributed to these two special community events- Father's Day Breakfast and Father's Day Stall, as it is with the hands, minds and hearts of many that make the occasions special and unique to our Bethany community.

Hub Masses Indigo, Orange, Werribee and Jordan.

On Friday the 2nd of September the Mass was amazing. I loved the 'We welcome you to this place' and 'A gift to you' I hope that the families loved it because I did. Father Jossy came and that made the Mass nice. The Mass was about celebrating families. **Eden Mladichek**

On the 2nd of September we had a Mass in the hall with Father Jossy. He was wearing Green for Ordinary time. It was a reverent time to listen. In this Mass the hubs we were with were Jordan hub, Orange hub and Indigo hub. We sang the welcoming song 'We welcome you to this place' at the start and the end of the Mass when taking Holy Communion we listened to 'A Gift to You'. A minister (named Maree) gave the Body of Christ to me. We watched Father Jossy turn the bread and the wine into the body and the blood of Jesus. Me and some other kids went to the back of the hall to get ready for the liturgical dance. The song we danced to is called 'We are One Family.' I participated in this dance. I acted out Mother Mary. This made me feel peaceful and calm. I liked to listen to all the songs and prayers that Father Jossy said. We had to do all different body percussion like kneeling, standing and sitting. **Mikayla Silva**



<https://youtu.be/Ry3FZvS8ibI>

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Indigo Hub Mass reflections

"My favourite part of the Mass was reading the prayers of the faithful, it sounded very reverent" **Margaret Punzalan**

"My favourite part was when there was the liturgical reflection"- **Eveleen Pannu & Luka Cebedzja**

"I liked when we were singing and welcoming Father Jossy to our Mass"- **Luka Cebedzja**

"My favourite part of the Mass was singing the hymns" - **Sienna Anderson & Joshua Rout**



Positive Behaviour for Learning

Students have continued to learn what a good learner looks like and what it means to be ready to learn in the classroom hubs. It is great to see so many hubs lining up beautifully at the end of the breaks, ready to go inside and be ready to learn. A big shout out to the following hubs for doing an awesome job lining up: **Jordan, MacKillop, Chisholm, Yellow and Blue.**



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Staff Professional Learning

Next term, staff will focus on acknowledging and catching students when behaviours match the Bethany matrix. Keep an eye out for Bethany **Be Safe, Be Respectful** and **Be Responsible** stickers that will be arriving next term. Staff will also begin collecting data on behaviour focusing on teaching students behaviours that are expected and what these look like.

Staff News

Kate Flanders and Mariela Aparo are currently on Long Service Leave, until the end of this term. We wish them both rest and rejuvenation during this time. Loretta Freeman will assist as Centre Leader during this time and Monica Spiteri will lead Ocean Hub with Karen Aston. Hang Cao will take Long Service Leave for the first four weeks of Term 4. We also wish her all the best during this time.

Parent News

Freddo Friday

Freddo Friday has now ended, as we sold all the last 11 boxes of Freddos last week. A big thank you to all the families for your support of this fundraiser. We raised \$6,521.55!

Second Hand Uniform Sale

We will hold another second Hand Uniform Sale early next term. Stay tuned for dates.

Mass Times **UPDATE**

To continue to give the students the opportunity to experience their faith the following dates and times are for Mass at school. All families are most welcome. **PLEASE NOTE TODD HUB TO 21ST OCTOBER FROM TUESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER**

Mass Schedule 2022					
Class Masses - Friday 10.00am					
	<u>DISCOVERY</u>	<u>BRIDGING</u>		<u>EXPLORATION/ BRIDGING</u>	<u>LEADERSHIP</u>
GROUP 1A	Red (Natalie) Blue (Emily)	Yarra (Cassie) Sepik (Vicki)		GROUP 1B	Ocean (Mariela) Todd Hub (Kym) MacKillop (Marilyn) Kolbe (Steven)
GROUP 2A	Indigo (Tegan) Orange (Kristy/Maree)	Werribee (Jess) Jordan (Julius)		GROUP 2B	Star (Tanya) Sky (Lisa/Andrea) Little (Catherine) Mandela (Helena)
GROUP 3A	Green (Sarah) Yellow (Justin)	Murray (Leanne/Maddy) Tiber (Trish)		GROUP 3B	Earth (Simon) Chisholm (Kate H) Teresa (Emma)
Class Masses - Group A				Class Masses - Group B	
<u>Term 3</u>				<u>Term 4</u>	
Wk 6 - Fri 19th August 10.00am (Group 1A) Holy Spirit				Wk 3 - Friday 21st Oct 10.00am (Group 1B)	
Wk 8 - Fri 2nd Sep 2.00pm (Group 2A) Father's Day				Wk 6 - Friday 11th Nov 10.00am (Group 2B)	
Wk 10 - Tues 13th Sep 10.00am (Group 3A) End of Term				Wk 9 - Friday 2nd Dec 10.00am (Group 3B)	
				Wk 10 - Friday 9th Dec 10.00am End of Term- Whole School	

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Enrolment Dates Year 7 2025 in Catholic Secondary Schools

Families, please find key enrolment dates for students in **Year 5 2023** for enrolment in a Catholic Secondary School.

- 27 January 2023 – Applications will open for Year 5 students commencing Year 7 in 2024.
- 18 August 2023 – Applications will close.
- 20 October 2023 – Offers to be posted to prospective Year 7 applicants.
- 10 November 2023 – Final date for parents/carers to accept an offer made by a school.

School Fees

All Student levies 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.

Camp Dates for 2022

Year 1 – Afternoon Tea- after school Monday 17th October

Year 2 – Dinner at School- Monday 17th October

Year 3 – Sleep over at School- Thursday 15th September

Year 4 – Camp Sunnystones, Bacchus Marsh- Wednesday 2nd November- Thursday 3rd November

Sub Committee

The next Sub Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th October - 1:30pm

Dates for the remainder of the year are:

Wednesday 9th November - 6.45pm

We continue to thank our families who contribute to this committee.

Important Dates

Sacrament Dates for 2022

Year 3 First Reconciliation - Thursday 27th October - 6:00pm and 7:30pm

Dates for family sacrament evenings facilitated by Viv Adamko. These nights are compulsory as part of your child's sacrament preparation.

Thursday 13th October 6:30pm for a 6:45pm start – Reconciliation focus

September

Monday 12th September: Assembly: Connor and House Leaders – 2:25pm

Tuesday 13th September: Class Mass: Green, Yellow, Todd, Murray & Tiber

Thursday 15th September: Year 3 Sleep over at School

Friday 16th September: Last day Term 3 – Students finish at 12:30pm

October

Monday 3rd October: School Closure Day

Tuesday 4th October: Students Return

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Wednesday 5th October: Wyndham Council Incursion - Discovery Centre
Wednesday 5th October: Summer Gala Day Finals for Basketball
Thursday 6th October: School Advisory Council - 6.45pm
Monday 10th October: Assembly: Teresa & Little
Wednesday 12th October: Sub Committee Meeting - 1.30pm
Thursday 13th October: Family Reconciliation Evening
Thursday 13th October: Exploration Centre Animal Land Excursion
Monday 17th October: Year 1/2 Camp
Friday 21st October: Class Mass: Ocean, MacKillop & Kolbe
Friday 21st October: Bridging Centre Excursion to Scienceworks "Blast Off"
Monday 24th October: Assembly: Jordan & Tiber
Thursday 27th October: Year 3 First Reconciliation - 6.00pm and 7.30pm
Monday 31st October: School Closure

November

Tuesday 1st November: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Wednesday 2nd November – Thursday 3rd November – Year 4 Camp to Sunnystones Bacchus Marsh
Monday 7th November: Assembly: Green and Yellow
Tuesday 8th November: Pre Prep Visit – Session 1
Tuesday 8th November: Discovery Centre Excursion to CERES
Tuesday 8th November: Years 3-6 Cyber Safety Sessions
Tuesday 8th November: Cyber Safety Family Evening - 6.45pm
Wednesday 9th November: Sub Committee Meeting – 1.30pm
Thursday 10th November: Pre Prep Visit – Session 1
Friday 11th November: Class Mass: Star, Sky, Little and Teresa -10.00am – 11.00am
Monday 14th November: Bridging Centre Excursion to Scienceworks "Roller Coaster Engineer" – Jordan, Todd, Murray and half of Yarra
Tuesday 15th November: Pre Prep Visit – Session 2
Thursday 17th November: Pre Prep Visit – Session 2
Friday 18th November: Bridging Centre Excursion to Scienceworks "Roller Engineer" – Sepik, Tiber, Werribee and half of Yarra
Monday 21st November: Assembly: Earth and Ocean
Monday 28th November to Wednesday 30th November: School Dental Van

December

Thursday 1st December to 2nd Friday: School Dental Van
Monday 5th December: School Closure Day
Tuesday 6th December: Whole School Orientation Day
Friday 9th December: Class Mass - Earth, Kolbe & Chisholm
Monday 12th December: Year 6 Graduation – 6.15pm
Thursday 15th December: Last day for Year 6 Students
Friday 16th December: Last day of School Year for Years P-5 Students

School Closures for 2022 Updated

The following dates are school closure days for 2022. **PLEASE MARK THESE IN YOUR DIARIES:**

Monday 3rd October: Professional Practice

Monday 31st October: Assessment & Report Writing
Monday 5th December: 2023 Planning Day

Public Holidays for 2022

Tuesday 1st November: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Last Day of School Year 2022 NEW

The last day of 2022 school year for students will be:

Thursday 15th December: Year 6 students finish at 3.00pm

Friday 16th December: Prep - Year 5 students finish at 12.30pm