



Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee

Newsletter No. 1
Wednesday 1st February 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2023 school year to all existing families and a special welcome to our Prep students and their families, and to all those who are new to the Bethany school community from Years 1 to 6. It was so lovely to see and hear the excitement on the children's faces and in their voices as they entered the school this morning. We look forward to welcoming our Prep students and their families tomorrow.

As the Principal of Bethany, I feel very excited and honoured to both lead and serve this faith community. I look forward to meeting new families and greeting each of you, continuing to establish partnerships in your child or children's learning, and forging strong relationships built on mutual trust and respect.

I hope that you all have enjoyed the holiday break, having the opportunity to rest and relax, enjoying the extra family time.



Our strong belief as a school is to have open communication lines between families and staff to continue to forge strong relationships and in an endeavour to partner with our families in the child's learning. If you have a concern regarding your child, your first point of call is your child's hub teacher. You may call the office and leave a message for the teacher to contact you, send an email or the teachers are always out on yard at the end of the day. Please do not hesitate to reach out. In the Level newsletters next week, all staff email addresses will be made available to families. All emails have a 48-hour turnaround time, so if the matter is urgent, please call or make contact in person.

We have also had some holiday work completed. We have had the area between the School Hall and Offices recarpeted, steam cleaning of all carpets and high cleaning of all windows and glass in addition to the normal cleaning. The framework for the shade cloth over the basketball court is up and we now await the shade cloth itself to be constructed and fitted.



Again, it was a great pleasure to see so many familiar faces today and we look forward to welcoming our Prep cohort tomorrow.

Thank you for your continued support. Take care. God bless

Joanne Webster
Principal

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Prayer:

Loving God,

Our creator, our saviour, our companion, bless this journey of a new school year that we undertake today.

Refresh our souls and renew our spirits as we embrace the beautiful ministry you have called us to.

We welcome those who are new to this community and ask that you strengthen them to share the wonderful gifts you have given them.

Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the return of students to this school, and may you guide them to return with open hearts and minds eager to learn.

We ask this in Your name, Amen

Staff News

Staff 2023

School Leaders

Principal – Joanne Webster

Deputy Principal Learning, Teaching and Innovation – Rita Krnac

Deputy Principal Wellbeing, Diversity and Engagement – Carin van Mourik

Catholic Identity and Faith Leader and Leadership Centre Leader – Mong Hang Cao

P-6 Literacy Leader and Bridging Centre Leader – Kirrily Wallis

P-2 Mathematics and Exploration Centre Leader – Kim Kennedy

3-6 Mathematics and Leadership Centre Leader – Sheree Hegarty

eLearning Leader and Discovery Centre Leader – Katrina Flanders

Student Diversity Leader and Bridging Centre Leader – Elaine Dunne

Arts Leader – Genevieve Murray

Family Engagement in Learning Leader – Amanda Defina

Exploration Centre

Prep Wombat- Earth Hub – Tegan Beech

Prep Emu-Ocean Hub – Kristen Baldassarro

Prep Koala- Sky Hub – Lisa Dolin and Mariela Aparo

Prep Kangaroo – Star Hub Anna Duong

Learning Enhancement Teachers – Andrea

Alfredini, Mariela Aparo, Amanda Defina, Maree

Day

Discovery Centre

Indigo Hub – Emily Navarro

Green Hub – Kristy Valencia and Maree Day

Red Hub – Venessa Herbert

Orange Hub – Catherine Wills

Blue Hub – Cassandra Hockley

Yellow Hub – Tanya Flores/Sarah Walsh

Learning Enhancement Teachers- Amanda Defina, Maree Day, Andrea Alfredini, Mariela Aparo



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Bridging Centre

Yarra Hub – Leanne Rotin and Hayley Fenech

Werribee Hub – Jessica Kerlin

Todd Hub – Maddison Domenev

Jordan Hub – Julius Prack

Sepik Hub – Simon Beraldo

Murray Hub – Kym Young and Genevieve Murray

Learning Enhancement Teachers – Genevieve Murray, Trish Hollenbach, Kate Hockley

Leadership Centre

Kolbe Hub – Steven Giammaro

Mandela Hub – Natalie-Jayne Little

MacKillop Hub – Marilyn Gerace

Little Hub – Brenton Payne

Chisholm Hub – Helena O'Connor

Teresa Hub – Emma Bonnano

Learning Enhancement Teachers – Ashlea Hudson, Kate Hockley



Specialist Teachers

Visual Arts- Josephine Allison and Genevieve Murray

Physical Education – Connor Brien and Veronica Spencer

STEM/Digital Literacies – Ashlea Hudson

Music – Trish Hollenbach

Social and Emotional Learning – Natasha D'Cunha

3-6 Kitchen Garden – Kate Hockley

Italian Language Assistant

Claudia Pesolilla

Learning Assistants

Johanna Hennessy

Jennae Sheedy

Wendy Grima

Paula Marino

Joanne Hornstra

Elisabeth Pistone

Veronica Wren

Kim Williams

Kim Steve

Jessy Allison

Naomi Wattlet

Gillian Aldcoft

Nella Navarro

Ashlea Hornstra

Administration

Kylie Scott - Finance

Mary Semaan - Principal Personal Assistant

Joanne McNabb – Payroll, HR and Finance

Jelena Ford – Administration Front Office

Lea Arida/Michelle Dimasi – First Aid Administration and Resource Centre Manager

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Maintenance and Facilities

Brendan Byrne- Facility Manager/Gardner

Emmanuel Vasquez – Cleaner and Grounds Assistant

We farewell Loretta Freeman who has been appointed Deputy Principal of Corpus Christi and as such leaves Bethany after 27 years of service. We thank her for her significant contributions as a leader and wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.

Mong Hang Cao has been appointed our Catholic Identity and Mission Leader. We look forward to having Hang lead us in this area.

School News

School Start Time



- 8:30am gates open
- 8:40am Welcome bell
- 8:50am School begins
- 3:00pm School Day ends.

The welcome bell will ring at 8.40am. The school gates open at 8:30am. A reminder to families that no student is to arrive prior to 8:30am. The school day ends at 3:00pm, and it is most important that students are collected at this time each day. The learning day begins at 8:50am, therefore students entering the school after 8:50am will be required to get a late pass from the office.

Should you require care prior to 8.30am, please access Quantin Binnah Before School Program (phone number 9742 5040) or make private arrangements.

It is not acceptable for students to be left in the school grounds even five or ten minutes earlier than 8:30am. There is no teacher supervision available and it is unfair to the many families, who often in difficult circumstances, support this request.

Thursday 2nd February 2022 - Foundation (Prep) Students

Foundation students will begin on Thursday 2nd February at 8:40am

Safer Internet Day 2023

The internet has created a world that is now at our fingertips. It is important that we continue to educate ourselves on the benefits as well as the risks associated with the internet. As a school we will be providing opportunities again for all our students, and families to build awareness of being Cyber Safe. Attached to the newsletter today is a flyer sharing information to assist all- families, students and community to be aware of the risks associated with the internet. Please make time to read this.

District Swimming Carnival Year 3 - 6

The District Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday 22nd February. Try outs for these will be held on Friday 17th February from 7:15 – 8:15am. Further information regarding this will be sent in Operoo shortly.

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Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL

It is exciting to enter our second year of teaching positive behaviours and routines to our students. Staff will begin the new year teaching all students the Bethany routines to set students up for success as they begin the new year.

Students will know how to move about the school in a safe way. They will be responsible in the way they set their books up and take pride in the presentation of their work. All students will continue to learn what it looks like to Be Safe Be Respectful & Be Responsible in the learning spaces and outside areas.

The following matrix outlines our school wide expectations on how to behave. Research has shown if students are taught and know how to behave, teachers will have more time for teaching which will in turn improve student learning and outcomes. Families are welcome to a copy of the matrix, please email Carin and she will send one home to you, or students can come and ask for a copy. carin.vanmourik@bsweribeenth.catholic.edu.au

Positive Behaviour for Learning School Wide Expectations



Let Learners Learn and Teachers Teach

| | Be Safe | Be Respectful | Be Responsible |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Learning Spaces | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourselfLine up and walk calmly and quietly | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Use kind words and actionsUse whole body listeningFollow directions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Look after self, others and equipmentBe a responsible learner |
| Outside Area | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourselfUse spaces and equipment correctly | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Use kind words and actionsBe a good sport | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Look after self, others and equipmentWear correct uniformWalk promptly to line up |

UPDATED OCT 2022

Book Borrowing- Resource Centre

Library borrowing will begin in Week 5, Monday 20th February. All students require a library bag to transport books to and from school. Hub teachers will let you know borrowing days in the level newsletter out soon.

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders will begin on Monday 6th February. Lunch orders are on Mondays and Fridays. You will find an updated price list at the end of this newsletter.

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Assemblies:

Assemblies are held on Mondays, generally fortnightly at 2:25pm. Please find the Assembly Schedule.

All families are invited to attend. These are generally held on the basketball court or in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

| ASSEMBLIES - 2023 | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|--|
| | TERM 1 | | TERM 2 | | TERM 3 | | TERM 4 | |
| WEEK | DATE | HUBS | DATE | HUBS | DATE | HUBS | DATE | HUBS |
| 1 | | | 24 APRIL | | 10 JULY | | 2 OCTOBER | |
| 2 | 30 JANUARY | | 1 MAY | LITTLE/CHIS | 17 JULY | KOLBE/MAN | 9 OCTOBER | RED/GREEN |
| 3 | 6 FEBRUARY | | 8 MAY | | 24 JULY | | 16 OCTOBER | |
| 4 | 13 FEBRUARY | Principal- JOANNE | 15 MAY | MURR/JORD | 31 JULY | SEPIK/TODD | 23 OCTOBER | PE/ART |
| 5 | 20 FEBRUARY | Leadership Assembly | 22 MAY | | 7 AUGUST | | 30 OCTOBER | |
| 6 | 27 FEBRUARY | | 29 MAY | YELL/ORAN | 14 AUGUST | SKY / STAR | 6 NOVEMBER | PP DAY |
| 7 | 6 MARCH | SOCIAL JUSTICE/LENTE N APPEAL | 5 JUNE | | 21 AUGUST | | 13 NOVEMBER | REMEMBRANCE DAY- Leadership Centre |
| 8 | 13 MARCH | HOLIDAY | 12 JUNE | HOLIDAY | 28 AUGUST | BLUE/INDIGO | 20 NOVEMBER | |
| 9 | 20 MARCH | WERR/YARRA | 19 JUNE | PBL | 4 SEPTEMBER | | 27 NOVEMBER | PP DAY |
| 10 | 27 MARCH | | | | 11 SEPTEMBER | ITALIAN/MUSIC | 4 DECEMBER | EARTH/OCEA |
| 11 | 3 APRIL | TERESA/MAC | | | | | Tues 12 DECEMBER | End of Year Assembly JOANNE |

Uniform:

Students are always encouraged to wear their uniform with pride. Summer uniform will be expected for all of term one.

- Full uniform is to be worn at all times. This includes correct footwear. Runners are **not acceptable** other than with sports uniform.
- The Bethany hat is a legionnaire style. It is an expectation that students have their hat at school **every** day. **Please ensure your child's hat is clearly named.**
- The Bethany school bag can also be purchased from Rushfords.
- All students are required to have a rain jacket in their bag every day
- Hair is to be neatly groomed, appropriate to the wearing of a uniform, fastened back, and off the face at all times. This expectation is for both boys and girls.
- Hair accessories are to be kept to the school colours – royal blue / gold.
- Unusual fashion modes that are not in keeping with the wearing of a school uniform are unacceptable. – i.e. unnatural hair colour.
- Fashion jewellery or accessories of any kind are not to be worn. One wrist watch, and a pair of **plain** studs or small plain sleepers (gold or silver), one in each **lower** lobe of the ear is permissible.
- No make up or nail polish is to be worn.

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PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD’S HAT, WINDCHEATERS, JACKETS, ETC ARE CLEARLY NAMED

| | Summer Uniform | Winter Uniform | Sports Uniform |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Short Sleeve Gold Polo Shirt Navy Shorts with Navy socks | Long / Short Sleeve Gold Polo Shirt with Navy Trousers | Long / Short Sleeve Gold Polo Shirt Navy Tracksuit Pants / Royal Blue Sports Shorts |
| | Dress with White socks | Tunic with Navy Tights | Royal Blue Netball Skirt |
| All students require: | Navy Legionnaire Hat Royal Blue Windcheater / Zip Jacket Black School Shoes / Black School Boots | Royal Blue Windcheater / Zip Jacket Black School Shoes / Black School Boots | Navy Windcheater White Socks Runners |

Please check that your child’s uniform still fits. Where needed, new items can be purchased from Rushfords, Shop 1/13 Barnes Place, Werribee (ph. 9741 3211).

Sports Uniform Days

An Operoo will be sent to all families on Friday 3rd February, informing you of the days your children wear their sport's uniform.

Matters Financial

Student Levies

All student levies (\$380 per student) are expected to be finalised by **Wednesday, 8th February**. Payment can be made over the phone by credit card or in person from Wednesday 1st February all other days between 8.30am – 4:00pm.

Health Care Card Holders (CSEF)

Parents who hold a Health Care Card that is current on 30th January, 2023 may be eligible for the CSEF. This grant offers \$125 per student. The payment is made directly to the school and as such would offset \$125 of the student fee.

Families with a Health Care Card are asked to make an application for the Sport / Excursion grant on either at the beginning of the school year. It is important that you have your Health Care Card with you when making an application. Successful applicants will then only need to pay \$255 per student fee.

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If you received this payment in 2022 you **do not** need to reapply. You will automatically receive this payment if your Health Care Card is still valid.

Concessional Fee Policy

The concessional fee policy was introduced to support families struggling to pay school fees. Concessional school fees are available to any family that meets the below eligibility criteria:

- Holding a valid HCC and eligible for CSEF
- Experiencing severe financial hardship
- Holding a DVA Gold Card
- Identified as refugees and holding an ImmiCard
- Of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage

You will also be required to complete a form as a part of the process to determine eligibility. Should you wish further information re this funding or if you have questions as to whether you are eligible, please do not hesitate to contact the school and ask to speak to Joanne Webster.



First Instalment School Fee

If you opted to pay your school fees by three instalments, the first instalment **\$570.00** is due by **Thursday 9th February**.

Child Safety

One of the significant areas of child safety improvement has been the ways in which all schools have been directed to accept volunteers in their communities. To this end we encourage all parents and friends wishing to support the school to obtain a Working with Children Check.

The Working with Children Check is free for volunteers and can be obtained by:

1. Filling in the form and verify your identity online at www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au
2. Please ensure you list Bethany Primary School as the school you volunteer at. It is essential that we receive a letter from the Department of Justice validating this.
3. Checking the email that will be sent to you with instructions on how to finalise your application at Australia Post
4. At Australia Post your photo will be taken at no charge to you
5. Please ensure you list Bethany Primary School as the school you volunteer at. It is essential that we receive a letter from the Department of Justice validating this.
6. Once the letter arrives at the school, you may volunteer to assist.
7. Volunteer cards are free

Medication

Where possible it is our preference that medication is administered at home.

Should this not be possible, it is most important that the school receive clear instructions regarding the administering of medication and that all authorities have a parent signature. To this end we

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ask that parents only use the School medication request form. Please speak to the Admin Centre Office.

Collecting Children Outside of Normal School Hours

If you need to collect your child before the official dismissal time at 3:00pm, we ask that you contact the Admin Centre office on 9742 9800 to advise the time your child needs to be collected.

At the advised time your child will be waiting in the Admin Centre office. Please make your way to the office to sign out your child.

Unless it is an emergency, no student can be collected at play times between 11:00am – 11:30am and 1:30pm – 2:00pm or between 2:45pm – 3:00pm

Parent in Partnership and School Advisory Council

Parent in Partnership Meetings for the 2023 will be held on the following dates and times:

Wednesday 15th February at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 15th March at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 26th April at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 31st May at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 26th July at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 16th August at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 18th October at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 22nd November at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

School Advisory Council Meetings will be held on:

Wednesday 8th March – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Wednesday 7th June – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Wednesday 23rd August – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Wednesday 15th November – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Important Dates-

February

Monday 13th February – Assembly 2:25pm

Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February – Swimming (Leadership Centre)

Wednesday 15th February – Parent in Partnership Meeting 1:30pm

Monday 20th February – Assembly 2:25pm (Leadership)

Friday 17th February – 7:15 - 8:15am Swimming try outs

Wednesday 22nd February – Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 22nd February- District Swimming Carnival Years 3-6

Tuesday 28th February – Prep 2024 Information/Open Night 6:00pm

March

Friday 3rd March – School Photos- Full summer uniform

Monday 6th March – Assembly 2:25pm (Social Justice/Lenten Appeal)

Monday 6th March – Friday 10th March – Swimming (Bridging Centre)

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Tuesday 7th March – School Open Night 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Wednesday 8th March – SAC Meeting 6:45pm
Wednesday 15th March – Monday 27th March NAPLAN
Wednesday 15th March – Parent In Partnership Meeting 6:45pm
Monday 20th March – Assembly 2:25pm (Werribee & Yarra Hubs)
Monday 27th March – Friday 31st March – Swimming (Exploration & Discovery Centres)

April

Monday 3rd April – Assembly 2:25pm (Teresa & MacKillop Hubs)
Thursday 6th April – Last Day Term 1 – students finish at 12:30pm

School Closures for 2023

The following dates are school closure days for 2023. **PLEASE MARK THESE IN YOUR DIARIES:**

Monday 10th July – Professional Learning Conference
Tuesday 11th July – Professional Learning Conference
Wednesday 12th July – Learning Conversations
Monday 6th November – Assessment & Report Writing
Monday 4th December – 2024 Planning Day

Last day of Term 1: Thursday 6th April at 12:30pm

Public Holidays for 2023

Monday 13th March – Labor Day Public Holiday
Friday 7th April – Good Friday
Tuesday 25th April – ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Monday 12th June – King's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 7th November – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Sacrament Dates 2023

First Communion – Year 4 Friday 17th June 5:30pm and 7:30pm at St Andrew's Church

Confirmation – Year 6 Wednesday 6th September 5:30pm and 7:30pm in the Bethany school Hall

First Reconciliation – Year 3 Thursday 26th October 6pm and 7:30pm in St Andrew's Church

Family Nights for Sacraments 2023

Eucharist Family Night- Year 4 students and parents/carers- Thursday 25th May 6:45pm School Hall
Confirmation Family Night – Year 6 students and parents/carers – Thursday 20th July 6:45pm School Hall

Reconciliation Family Night – Year 3 students and parents/carers – Thursday 12th October 6:45pm School Hall

All students and families celebrating these sacraments are required to attend.

LUNCH ORDER PRICELIST

| HOT FOOD | |
|--|--------|
| Party Pies | \$1.80 |
| Sausage Rolls | \$5.00 |
| Hot Dog with Sauce | \$5.00 |
| Hot Dog with Sauce & Cheese | \$5.50 |
| Schnitzel Sandwich | \$6.50 |
| Schnitzel Sandwich with Lettuce & Mayo | \$7.00 |
| Extras: Sauce | \$0.20 |
| Mustard | \$0.20 |
| Paper Bag | \$0.20 |

| CAKES | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Iced Donuts | \$1.20 |
| Cinnamon Donuts | \$1.00 |
| Jam Donuts | \$3.00 |
| Chocolate Jam Donuts | \$3.50 |
| Croissant | \$3.00 |
| Lamington | \$4.00 |
| Apple Cake | \$4.20 |
| Mini Mud Cake | \$4.20 |
| Hedgehog | \$4.20 |
| Muffin (Chocolate Chip & Blueberry) | \$4.20 |
| Happy Face/Neenish Tart | \$3.20 |

| DRINKS | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Prima (Orange or Apple) | \$2.20 |
| Prima (Apple & Raspberry) | \$2.20 |
| Big M (Chocolate or Strawberry) | \$2.80 |

| SANDWICHES | |
|---|--------|
| Ham or Chicken | \$4.00 |
| Ham or Chicken & Cheese | \$5.50 |
| Ham or Chicken, Cheese & Salad | \$7.50 |
| Cheese & Salad (Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber & Carrot) | \$7.50 |
| Cheese & Bacon Roll | \$1.80 |
| Cheese Roll | \$1.50 |
| Cheese & Vegemite Scroll | \$3.50 |

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