



# Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee

Newsletter No. 4  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Families,

It is with great pleasure that we announce the School Social Justice Team for 2023:

Chenyerkoc Bak  
Isabella Dereczenik  
Arseama Habte  
Katia Kurenysheva  
Victor Marshall  
Freya Quinn  
Dhriti Sharma  
Sui Zatial

Jackson Bramfit  
Hayden Geary  
Lucas Ilustrisimo  
Victoria Majak  
Holly Palma  
Alice Quinsee  
Cooper Weston

Sophie Broadbent  
Eva Griffiths  
Lola Jones  
Yagya Mandalia  
Katie Pilsbury  
Jaxson Ragusa  
Zane Zarafa

We congratulate these elected students and know they will lead our school living our core values of welcome, service, faith, learning, justice, and celebration. I would also like to acknowledge the many students in the Leadership Centre who also nominated themselves as Social Justice Leaders, this year. Well done to you also.

Family Open Night for all of the school community took place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March between 5-7pm. It was a successful evening with so many families, attending and students were excited about being able to show and share their learning with their families.



Our shade cloth over the basketball court was installed on Friday. A big thank you to all for your co-operation during the installation. A great space for our community!!



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.

Last week, both Kirrily Wallis (Literacy Leader P-6) and myself were invited to the SOLLA (Science in Learning Leadership Accelerator) Conference in Perth, by Melbourne Archdiocese for Catholic Schools (MACS). It was inspiring to listen to and collaborate with experts around the globe and nationally in the work around the Science of Learning. Much of what we heard and saw aligns with our school strategic direction in learning, specifically in Reading, behaviour management and professional learning for all staff. We look forward to sharing this knowledge with the staff and families through Parent in Partnership and the School Advisory Council.



We also continue to work with Greg Clements in our planning for learning and teaching, to continue to improve and enhance student outcomes in reading.

We will also hold our first fundraiser for the year, the Easter Raffle. **A note with tickets will be sent home and be in student bags on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March.** Please look out for these. We will meet with the Parent in Partnership to discuss how these funds will be used this year.



**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April, the day before Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April (ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY) will be a school closure day, to accommodate Professional Practice for all teachers.**

Take care. God bless.

Joanne Webster  
Principal

### **Prayer:**

This Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March is St Patrick's Day. Our prayer today reflects this.

May the Strength of God pilot us.  
May the Power of God preserve us.  
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.  
May the Hand of God protect us.  
May the Way of God direct us.  
May the Shield of God defend us.  
May the Host of God guard us  
Against the snares of the evil ones,  
Against temptations of the world.  
May Christ be with us!  
May Christ be before us!  
May Christ be in us,  
Christ be over all!  
May Thy Salvation, Lord,  
Always be ours,  
This day, O Lord, and evermore.

Amen.

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## Student News

### Exploration Centre Community Learning

Throughout the term the students in the Exploration Centre have been learning all about their community. They began by exploring who was in their family and what community groups they belonged to such as, School, Church, clubs, etc. The students then began investigating the many people in the wider community who support them to make good choices that keep them safe (ie, Firefighters, police, school principals, doctors, etc). For our first community helper visit, Joanne, as the school principal of Bethany, came to visit the Exploration Centre to talk to the students about her role and the importance of rules in keeping everyone safe within the school community.

On Thursday the 2nd of March, Joanne, our Principal came to tell us what she does in her office. She told us how she looks after the school. Our Principal takes care of students and teachers. When things need fixing she calls for Brendan to help.



STAR HUB

On Thursday Joanne came to visit the Exploration Centre. She was really nice. Joanne is the Principal of Bethany and she works in her office. Joanne keeps all the students happy and safe. She is responsible and works together with lots of families.

SKY HUB

On the 2nd of March, 2023, Joanne, our Principal came to visit the Exploration Centre. She told us about her job and what she does in her office. She visits classrooms, does work, has meetings with parents, teachers and children. Joanne wanted to be principal because she loved teaching and children. She has been a Principal for 8 years! We felt happy and it was fun learning about being a Principal from Joanne.

EARTH HUB

Today Joanne visited us. Joanne answered our questions so we found out about how she keeps us safe at school.

OCEAN HUB

### Visual Art Learning- Discovery Centre

The Year 1/2 students from Blue Hub have been very busy learning about Organic Shapes and Patterns found in nature. You can see them here rearranging and composing shells, leaves, sticks and flowers to create their masterpieces.



In this image we can see students from Blue Hub creating a collage using Geometric Shapes. Students learnt about composition and layering to create interesting and beautiful artwork.

Here the students from Blue Hub are working collaboratively to give "Otto the Otterman" a new look. Stay tuned to see how they will use their new printing skill to give him a transformation.



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Working on these Self Portraits students from Red Hub are using their drawing skills to create an image of themselves that reflects their personality and characteristics.



## Caritas - Project Compassion- Lenten Appeal

Within our Religious Education program, the students have been learning how Lent is a gift of my time to strengthen and deepen our relationship with God and others. The students have been presented with opportunities to learn about Caritas' Project Compassion, and about life in different countries through the personal stories of people who have participated in Caritas Australia-supported programs.

We invite students, teachers and families to partner with Caritas Australia through almsgiving, to build a more just and fairer world: a world in balance, at peace and free of poverty.

Can you believe Bethany has already raised \$339.75 in the past two weeks!

Project Compassion boxes can be found in all learning spaces and in the office foyer.

Thank you for your support and generosity.

## School News

### NAPLAN 2023

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading Conventions of Language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. Naplan is completed online and this means from **Wednesday 15 March - Monday 27 March** students in Year 3 and 5 will undertake all NAPLAN tests.

### Bethany Easter Hamper Raffle-Donation and Casual Dress Day

Parent in Partnership are running an Easter Raffle which is to be drawn **on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023**.



The raffle prizes will be Easter Hampers. As a community this will be our first fundraiser for 2023. To include the students in this fundraiser they will be permitted to wear casual clothes on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** and bring an Easter themed donation to support this fundraiser.

### **Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 is our Casual Dress & Donation Day**

Students come to school in casual clothes and bring along an Easter themed donation for our Easter Raffle. This can be in the form of a chocolate bunny/egg, box of chocolates or any other Easter item you wish to donate. (Please ensure that any food items are not beyond their Use By date).

We will be making up a number of hampers to be won. Each family is invited to support our raffle by selling the attached tickets. The tickets will come home next week. There are 5 tickets at \$2 a ticket (\$10.00 for all 5 tickets). Thank you so much for your support.

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## Wellbeing

### Happy Families

Insights are released once a week during the term and will be included in the school newsletter. The membership also allows parents and staff to access all of the previous 300+ Insights articles. To do so at any time, use the below URL (unique to our school) and password.

<https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login/bethanycps>  
*(Please note this URL was incorrect last newsletter)*

**Password: happybcps**

We recommend bookmarking this link. You should only need to put the password in once and the site will remember you.

We hope you enjoy the Insights!



Please find attached an article on NAPLAN: What is NAPLAN? What it does? And Tips for Parents and Students.

As NAPLAN begins this week you may find this article helpful.

## e Safety News

### Free eSafety Parent and Carer Webinars

During the month of March, the eSafety commissioner is running professional development webinars for parents.

To access the webinars please register at the following address: [esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars](https://esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars)

Below is a list of the webinars for Term 1.

eSafety 101- how eSafety can help your child	March 21	7:30 – 8:30pm
Navigating online friendships	March 29	7:30 – 8:00pm

## Positive Behaviour for Learning - PBL

In the Leadership Centre MacKillop Hub looked at the PBL Matrix and set themselves a Hub Goal around PBL. The students brainstormed what is important and they came up with the following:



We all know that every classroom is not perfect and needs a goal to make the place a calmer and more peaceful area to learn and interact with each other.

Our main goal in MacKillop hub this term is to calmly and quietly transition between lessons and organisation.

If this is done successfully this would mean that everyone would keep their hands and feet to themselves, equipment would be controlled correctly and it would be calm and quiet during learning times.

Transitioning is respectful when students use whole body listening and kind words and when being responsible you would be able to help others, take care of your things and follow instructions as needed.

**Ifechukwu Okoye and Hayden Clayton MacKillop Hub**

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## Help Needed

We have purchased new prayer cloths for each of the hubs and was hoping we had a seamstress in the community who could edge our cloths. If you are able to assist, could you please contact Admin on 97429800. Thank you in advance for your generosity of time.

## Assemblies:

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	EARTH/OCEA
10	27 MARCH				11 SEPTEMBER	ITALIAN/MUSIC	4 DECEMBER	PP DAY
11	3 APRIL	TERESA/MAC					Tues 12 DECEMBER	End of Year Assembly JOANNE

## Matters Financial

### Student Levies

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

### Health Care Card Holders (CSEF)

Parents who hold a Health Care Card that is current on 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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.**

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## 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 by your school fees by three instalments, the first instalment **\$570.00** was due by **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February**.

### Parent in Partnership and School Advisory Council

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

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 1:30pm in the Bethany Resource Centre

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 6:45pm in the Staffroom

**School Advisory Council Meetings** will be held on:

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – 6:45pm – 8:15pm **Please note date change**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – 6:45pm – 8:15pm

### Important Dates –

#### March

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March NAPLAN

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Parent In Partnership Meeting 6:45pm

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Assembly 2:25pm (Werribee & Yarra Hubs)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – SAC Meeting 6:45pm

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Swimming (Exploration & Discovery Centres)

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March- Casual Dress Day and Easter Donation **NEW**

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## April

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Assembly 2:25pm (Teresa & MacKillop Hubs)

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Raffle Draw **NEW**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Last Day Term 1 – students finish at 12:30pm – Casual Dress Day **NEW**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – School Closure – Professional Practice **NEW**

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Anzac Day Holiday

## May

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Assembly 2:25pm (Little & Chisholm Hubs)

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Eucharist Family Night 6:45pm School Hall **NEW**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May – District Cross Country

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day Breakfast

Friday 1<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day Stall

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Assembly 2:25pm (Murray & Jordan Hubs)

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Assembly 2:25pm (Yellow & Orange Hubs)

## June

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – King's Birthday Public Holiday

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Winter Gala Day

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 First Communion 5:30pm and 7:30pm at St Andrew's Church

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Athletic Sports Day

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Assembly 2:25pm (PBL Focus)

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Year 5/6 Camp to Anglesea (two groups x three days)

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Last Day Term 1 – students finish at 12:30pm

## School Closures for 2023 **UPDATED**

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

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April- Professional Practice Day **UPDATED**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Professional Learning Conference

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Professional Learning Conference

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Learning Conversations

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Assessment & Report Writing

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December – 2024 Planning Day

**Last day of Term 1: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 12:30pm**

**First Day of Term 2: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 8:40am **NEW****

## Public Holidays for 2023

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Good Friday

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – King's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

## Sacrament Dates 2023

**First Communion** – Year 4 Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 5:30pm and 7:30pm at St Andrew's Church

**Confirmation** – Year 6 Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 5:30pm and 7:30pm in the Bethany school Hall

**First Reconciliation** – Year 3 Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 6:00pm and 7:30pm in St Andrew's Church

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### **Family Nights for Sacraments 2023 UPDATED**

Eucharist Family Night – Year 4 students and parents/carers – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 6:45pm School Hall  
Confirmation Family Night – Year 6 students and parents/carers – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 6:45pm School Hall  
Reconciliation Family Night – Year 3 students and parents/carers – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 6:45pm School Hall

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