



# Bethany Catholic Primary School Werribee

Newsletter No. 9  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Families,

I am currently in the process of reading the student reports, which affirm the achievements they have made in Semester One. It is always a great pleasure to acknowledge student progress across the semester. This year the reports have been altered to give further detail to the learning students have made and their progress so far this year. This semester we will also introduce a 'Parent Portal' for families to access their child's reports. More information regarding this will be communicated soon.

As we begin Winter, many nasty bugs appear to be prevalent within the community. In an attempt to keep all as healthy as possible, if your child is unwell, we ask you to keep them home.

Driving and parking in Retford Close continues to be an issue, with some parents/carers exceeding the speed limit and parking across resident drive ways. To ensure the safety of all I continue to ask you to drive cautiously and at a safe speed to keep our students, and any child or adult in the community at large safe. The council has been notified and parking inspectors will be out and about. We have a large car park to house parking for many. I encourage you to use it safely.

Again, a call out to support Fr. Albert to recommence Community Masses at Bethany on Sundays. To make this happen he is asking if there are any families in the community interested in leading these. If you are, please call the Parish Office on 97414144 and ask to speak to Fr. Albert regarding this. We also have a Mass at St Andrew's Parish led by our school and students on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm. All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there. Please mark this in your diary.

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, the Year 4 celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for their First Eucharist. Through this prayerful and reverent experience, it was evident that the students reflected inwardly and met God at this special meeting point where He forgives all our sins and reconciles us with the community. We particularly congratulate Lucy and Alicia who received this sacrament for the first time.

This weekend is the King's Birthday weekend. **The school will be closed on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June for this public holiday.**



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**Our school Athletics Day is on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June, there will be no Lunch orders on this day. No lunch orders on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, the last day of term 2.**

**The last day of Term 2 is on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, school finishes at 12:30pm. This will be a casual dress day to reward all students for their tremendous efforts with their learning and living this term.**

Take care. God bless.

Joanne Webster  
Principal

### **Prayer:**

Trinity Sunday on the 4<sup>th</sup> June, celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*O most Holy Trinity,*

*bless me with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*

*Please give me wisdom so that I may recognize the importance of others and keep God central in my life.*

*Please, also, pray for me and my intentions (State your intentions here).*

*With my voice and my heart,*

*I glorify You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

*Amen*

## **Student News**

### **School Student Leaders Report- Marcus P, Mila M, Gabriella T, Connor L**

We have been meeting with Joanne, each Monday and discussing and sharing our thoughts and ideas as a student body to improve our school. Some of the things we have spoken about and put into action are:

1. Nets around all basketball rings – this has been completed
2. Refresh of the sports equipment crates for P – 2 – Veronica and Connor are in the process of organising this for the beginning of Term 3
3. Repair or replacement of asphalt on the back basketball courts. The school has requested quotes from contractors and is currently awaiting these.
4. Ga Ga Pit to replace the old fort. The school is awaiting a quote for a concrete slab for this. We are also currently designing how this may look.

The next thing we are looking at is how Year 3 – 6, may be able to have access to the new basketball court. This will mean relooking at Yard access. This is a work in progress.

We are also looking at what whole school events we may have to continue to build positive wellbeing and connectedness.

Stay tuned for more....

## Whole School Mass

It was incredibly special for us to gather as a praying community for our Whole School Mass on Thursday 25th May to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Help of Christians, the patroness of Australia. We thank the many families who were able to join us, as your presence strengthens the faith connection between the families, our Bethany school community, and St Andrew's parish community. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming masses.



## Reconciliation

On the 30\5\2023 we had our reconciliation for the second time before our Eucharist. First, they took everyone into the Reflection Space (resource room) and showed us around. There were about 6 different activities around the room. A prayer space, some tables set up for mandalas, a reflection space where we could write answers to some prompts. There was also a space where we could listen to some videos on an iPad about Jesus and a space where we could list down what we were sorry for. After a while a teacher would come and touch us on the shoulder to tell us that it is time for us to go and see the priest. Just before it was time to go in to see the priest we would wait in a line for a couple of minutes and they would hand us a piece of paper and then the priest would call us in then we would say everything we are sorry for.

**By Jacob Sepik Hub**

On the 30/5/23 some students got to redo their reconciliation or do it for the first time. We had three Fathers from church come to help us. When we were done, we got to sit and do the activity set out for us in the Reflection Space. While we were waiting, we got to write down what we were going to say sorry for. The activities that we could do were: do a mandala, pray the rosary, answer the prompts on the wall, listen to videos on the iPads and sit in front of the tv visuals and pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

**Sarah Sepik Hub**



On the 30th of May, 2023 the year fours redid their Reconciliation.

For the last few weeks the year four boys and girls have been learning about Eucharist, and back when they were our age they had to redo their reconciliation, before they did their first communion. At the reconciliation we had to say what we were sorry for, and pray after Jesus had welcomed us back to the catholic community. Our priests were Father Albert, Father Anton, and Father Hue. Everyone had a great time, if you finished your reconciliation, you had a choice of doing the rosary colouring pictures of Jesus. We thank all our priests for a great reconciliation

**By Sam Murray Hub**

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On the 30/5/23 all of the Catholic grade 4 went to Reconciliation. When we were waiting you could do mandalas of Mary then the second option was to answer the questions. Then another option was to listen to a video and another option was to pray with rosary beads or there will be prayers like Hail Mary or Our Father or Glory Be. When a teacher tapped you on your shoulder, we got a sticky note and we wrote I am sorry for what we did then we lined up. Simon gave us a sheet of what we needed to say. There were three priests called Father Anton and Father Albert and Father Hue. When we spoke to one of the priests, we got a candle and prayed how many Hail Marys or Our Fathers or Glory Bes Father said with the candle. When we were done, we turned off the candle and put it back.

**By Bentli Murray Hub**



## Cross Country

Cross Country was on the 31st of May. It was a fun day because some Bethany kids got to compete with all schools around the Wyndham division. We ended up doing well because almost half of the amount that came from Bethany ended up making it to the next round at Keilor Park, Regionals. We all showed amazing sportsmanship no matter the outcome. Everyone still tried their hardest and had fun running and competing which made it a great day.

**Harvey Mandela Hub**

Hi my name is April and I ran at cross country. On the 31<sup>st</sup> May some kids represented Bethany at cross country at Presidents Park. All of the kids from Bethany did really well and tried their best and were amazing. In my race I came 10<sup>th</sup> and I am now going on to regionals with a couple more people. All of the kids from Bethany that were there should be really proud of themselves for running the cross country and trying their best.

**April Mandela Hub**



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## Message from our Social Justice Leaders

To celebrate the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday 16/6/2023, we are organising a food-drive to support our brothers and sisters in the community, particularly during the cold, winter months. We will be collecting non-perishable foods (such as canned foods, dried pasta, rice etc.) for Vinnies Winter Appeal. Please bring in your donations from Wednesday 7th June to Wednesday 14th June. Thank you for your support.

## School News

### e Safety News

## Inform and Empower- Digital Safety and Wellbeing Raising Kids in a Digital World Webinar



### Link for those who were unable to attend our recent webinar.

As a follow up to our informative webinar Raising Kids in a Digital World, we would like to provide you with a link if you were unable to attend.

We had over 120 parents attend the webinar, which was amazing. A big thank you.

Martin and Carley presented to the Bethany community issues which are current and relevant to primary school and secondary school students.

The webinar covered topics such as: Cyberbullying, Online Gaming, social media, managing devices at home, Child and Tween online trends, Strengthening Family Communication, Impacts of Screen Time and Explicit and Adult content.

Issues also discussed were:

Social media apps...Instagram, Snap Chat, Tim Tok, Discord, Only Fans, You tube and Roblox and the balance between screen time and green time.

Martin and Carley asked parents/carers to reflect on the following questions.

- Do you have parental control set up on all devices?
- Do you talk to your kids about the online world and experiences?
- If your child asks: Can I get this game/app? How do you respond?
- Do you supervise your child when they use devices?
- Have you got primary school children already on social media- Snap Chat, Instagram, TikTok etc
- Do you have daily limits on your child's screen time?

You can access the webinar in the link below. **The link will expire on Sunday June 11.**

**The webinar link: Replay Video:**

<https://event.webinarjam.com/t/click/9kwgohkouy7s2rbyn74blz0cpga4>

**Parent & Carers Toolkit** (all the info, links and resources from the webinar):

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE TOOLKIT](#)

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## Whole School and Level Masses

2023 Mass and Liturgies

Celebrating Holy Mass provides the students the opportunity to experience their faith as they encounter Christ at this momentous meeting point. Mass will be celebrated in the school hall and all families are most welcome.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
<p><b>Thursday 6th April at 9:15 am</b>  <b>Whole School Liturgy:</b> <i>Praying the Rosary</i></p>	<p><b>Thursday 11th May at 10am</b>  <b>Level Mass:</b> <i>Blue, Indigo, Kolbe and Mandela Hubs</i></p> <p><b>Thursday 25th May at 10 am</b>  <b>Whole School Mass:</b> <i>Our Lady Help of Christians</i></p>	<p><b>Friday 28th July at 10 am</b>  <b>Whole School Mass:</b> <i>Sts Mary, Martha and Lazarus</i></p> <p><b>Friday 11th August at 10am**</b>  <b>Level Mass:</b> <i>Yarra, Werribee, Chisholm and Little Hubs</i></p> <p><b>Thursday 24th August at 10am</b>  <b>Level Mass:</b> <i>Green, Murray and Jordan Hubs</i></p> <p><b>Thursday 14th September at 10am</b>  <b>Level Mass:</b> <i>The Exploration Centre (Preps)</i></p>	<p><b>Thursday 19th October at 10am</b>  <b>Level Mass:</b> <i>Orange, Teresa and MacKillop Hubs</i></p> <p><b>Thursday 2nd November at 10am</b>  <b>Whole School Mass:</b> <i>All Souls Day</i></p> <p><b>Thursday 16th November at 10am</b>  <b>Level Mass:</b> <i>Red, Sepik and Todd Hubs</i></p>

## Shop for Schools

This year the school has taken part in the 'Shop for your School' campaign with Pacific Werribee Plaza. Families may shop at any fresh food stores, and lodge their ticket via the QR code. The prize is a share in \$30,000.00 for the top three schools. If Bethany were to be successful funds would go towards renewing the furniture in Centres. We are currently 11<sup>th</sup> on the Leader board. We have reattached the instructions for families. We thank you in advance for your support.

## Wellbeing Happy Families

This week we share an interesting article from Psychiatrist, Diana Korevaar who specialises in Mindfulness training. Her article on Mindfulness gives parents an insight into teaching children and themselves methods to build on their emotional resilience. Enjoy the read.

## Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL

Kolbe Hub students have been working with some students from Year Prep, One and Two and videoing them demonstrating the correct expectations from the PBL matrix. We hope to have links on the matrix giving all students visuals on what the expectations look like.

Some of the expectations covered included:

**Be Respectful** – Use kind words and action

**Be Safe** – Line up and walk quietly to the playground or classroom

**Be Responsible** – Use Equipment correctly



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## 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	SEPIK/TODD	9 OCTOBER	RED/GREEN
3	6 FEBRUARY		8 MAY		24 JULY		16 OCTOBER	
4	13 FEBRUARY	Principal- JOANNE	15 MAY	MURR/JORD	31 JULY	KOLBE/MAN	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/LENTEN 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					<b>Tues 12 DECEMBER</b>	End of Year Assembly JOANNE

## Matters Financial

### 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

### Second Instalment School Fee

If you opted to pay your school fees by three instalments, the third instalment **\$560.00** is now due on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June**. Please see Joanne Webster if you are having difficulty paying.

### School Fee Payment – One Full Amount

If you opted to pay your school fees in one full amount, **\$1,700.00** was due on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May**. This is now overdue. Please see Joanne Webster if you are having difficulty paying.

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## Parent in Partnership and School Advisory Council

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

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

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

## Important Dates –

### June

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Eucharist Practice at St Andrew's Church 6:30pm & 7:05pm

**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 at St Andrew's Church 5:30pm and 7:30pm

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 2 – students finish at 12:30pm**

### July

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July – School Closure- Professional Learning Day – All Staff

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July – School Closure- Professional Learning Day – All Staff

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Learning Conversations – Student/Parent/Teacher – School Closure

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July – First day of Term 3 – 8:45am

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Assembly 2:25pm (Sepik & Todd Hubs)

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> & Friday 21<sup>st</sup> – Minibeast Incursion Exploration & Discovery **NEW**

Wednesday 26 July – Parents in Partnership 1:30pm

Friday 28 July – Whole School Mass, Saints Mary, Martha & Lazarus 10:00am

Sunday 30 July – Boite Rehearsal for select music students

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July – Assembly 2:25pm (Kolbe & Mandela Hubs)

### August

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August – Year 4 Camp to Lady Northcote

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August – Boite Choir Performance **UPDATED**

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August – District Athletics Sports

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August – Prep Camp

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August – Level Mass 10:00am, Yarra, Werribee, Chisholm & Little

Monday 14 August – Assembly 2:25pm (Sky & Star Hubs)

Wednesday 16 August – Parents in Partnership 6:30pm

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August – Bethany hosting Mass at St Andrew's Parish 6pm

Monday 21 August – Year 6 excursion: Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre

Wednesday 23 August – School Advisory Council 6:45pm

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August – Level Mass 10:00am, Green, Murray & Jordan

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August – Assembly 2:25pm (Blue & Indigo Hubs)

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Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August – Bishop visit for Year 6  
Wednesday 30 August – Year 6 Reconciliation prior to Confirmation  
Thursday 31 August – Father's Day breakfast 7:45am

### **September**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Father's Day stall  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Maths Olympiad  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Sacrament of Confirmation at Bethany 5:30pm & 7:30pm  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September – Whole school Incursion for Book Week  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Assembly 2:25pm (Italian & Music)  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Level Mass 10:00am, Exploration Centre  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Year 3 Camp  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September – Last Day Term 3 – 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 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 Day  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December – 2024 Planning Day

### **Public Holidays for 2023**

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

**First Eucharist Practice- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June time** 6:30pm & 7:05pm

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

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.**