



# BETHANY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 16th NOVEMBER TERM 4 WEEK 5



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Bethany Parents and Carers,

Each of us is absolutely unique and irreplaceable in the eyes of God. As parents and teachers each and every day we remind our children that they are much loved and unique children of God—one of a kind. God gave each of us special gifts and talents that we are born with to share with the world. Part of celebrating our uniqueness is learning to look for the good in ourselves. This is as important as looking for the good in others. Instead of looking critically at their faults, examining all their blemishes and focusing on all their failings, it is important for us to help our children to see themselves as a beautiful work of God's love. As adults we can model this for our children by the ways in which we talk about ourselves. We can never underestimate the influence and power of what our children see and hear. When our children play and learn together with their friends and peers they are encouraged to share their ideas and insights which in turn can be enhanced and refined by the contribution of the ideas of others. These circumstances regularly provide opportunities and challenges for children to share their gifts. It takes courage to share our talents and gifts and courage and curiosity to be willing to be open to new ideas and possibilities shared by others. An open mind is liberating. Though our children's natural inclination may be to crave the comforts of what they already know, it is the nature of life to grow, evolve and change. It is our responsibility as parents and teachers to cultivate this habit of curiosity so that our children will be open to new ideas and confident to critically reflect on these ideas so that they will be able to apply their learning in creative ways in new contexts.

Dear God,

We thank you for making us the way we are and giving every one of us a unique quality. We thank you for eyes to see the sky, for ears to hear the birds, for feet to walk amidst the trees and for hands to pick the flowers from the earth. We ask you to help us in our weaknesses and to stand by our side to face our fears. We make this prayer in your holy name

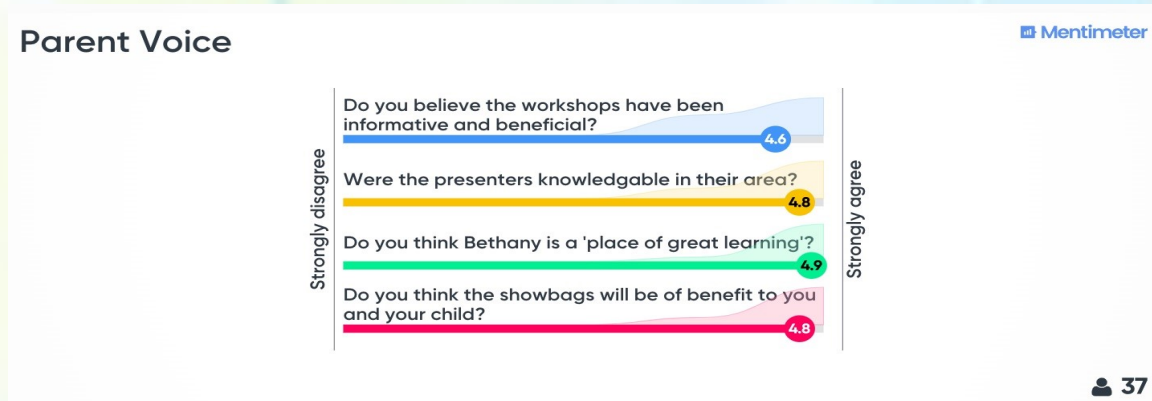
AMEN.

Kind regards,  
Cheryl Brown  
Principal

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

## 2019 KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION PROGRAM

Yesterday, we held the 4th transition workshop with our 2019 Kindergarten parents and carers. The leadership team have enjoyed meeting with our parents and carers each week to assist in supporting them with transitioning their child to the Bethany School community. At the end of workshop we ask the parents to evaluate the transition program by accessing Mentimeter, I have included the results below.



## BETHANY PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMUNITY

On behalf of the Bethany School community I wish to express our appreciation of the Parents and Friends community members and helpers. They have worked tirelessly this year to support our school community by being creative and innovative in planning new experiences for us all that raise funds and build a welcoming and fun community e.g.

- Winter Carnival
- Discos
- Fun Run
- Hospitality for Mother's Day, Father's Day and Grandparent's Day.
- Mother's Day and Father's Day Stalls
- World Teacher's Day
- Regular P & F meetings each term

Thank you very much for all you do for our teachers, parents and students

## CLASS GROUPS FOR 2019

Over the coming weeks classes for 2019 will be finalised. I ask parents to trust the decisions made in grouping students, as I trust, if there has been a problem and/or concern regarding a child's needs this would have already been conveyed to teachers during the year.

If you have a significant circumstance, not including friendship requests, please write a **letter to your child's classroom teacher** so they can consider the needs of your child, no emails please. It will be reviewed in light of the grade grouping processes and there is no guarantee requests will be granted.

## REQUEST FOR SHOES

Miss Yvonne Terweene has requested assistance with supplies of secondhand school shoes and sport shoes for the students of St Therese School Community at Wilcannia Forbes. For more information about St Therese you can access the school's website <https://www.wf.catholic.edu.au/find-a-school/st-thereses-community-school-wilcannia/>

If you have school shoes and/or sport shoes that your child has grown out of, please donate to the St Therese School Community. I invite you to donate second hand shoes in **Week 6** and we will organise the shoes to be transported to St Therese, Wilcannia Forbes. Shoes can be left at the office. Thanking you in anticipation of your support.

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

## **BETHANY RULES AND EXPECTATIONS**

This time of the year is a good time to revisit the Bethany rules and expectations. I have included some of the rules and expectations for all Bethany school members. Throughout my day, I encounter and observe members of our school community following the school rules and expectations. It is wonderful seeing our students wearing their hats, hearing them welcoming each other in a respectful way and taking care of our school environment. Bethany parents and staff are role models for our students. We have a significant role in modelling the correct ways to navigate a way of life that exemplifies our school rules:

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be a Learner

When striving to model the school rules I am always reflecting on the following quotes:

- 'Never see a need without doing something about it' by Mary MacKillop, and
- 'The standard you walk past, is the standard you accept'

I am asking all parents and carers to support the Bethany rules and expectation at all times, modelling to their children that they value being part of the school community and support school decisions accordingly. Our students are very intuitive in identifying when their parents, teachers and peers do not follow our school rules respectfully. They will become confused and challenge the school rules themselves. Is this what we want for our community?

Please read the following rules and protocols, and discuss with your child/children where necessary:

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

All uniform items are available from Lowes, Westfield Penrith. Black school shoes must be worn as part of the Bethany school uniform including crew style socks, no-show socks are not acceptable.

## **SPORTS UNIFORM**

Sports uniform will be worn twice weekly, days differ for each grade. Children may be required to bring sports shoes at other times, as indicated in the newsletter. Sports shoes should be predominately white in colour.

## **PERSONAL GROOMING AND HAIR**

- Hair is not to be coloured or tinted - unusual styles or cuts are not allowed. Styles that are not permitted are: ridges, lines, undercuts, steps etc
- Hair should be clean and tidy, and long hair (shoulder length or longer) must be tied back (helps prevent the spread of head lice)
- Hair ribbons in school colours are allowed
- Nail polish or any make-up is not allowed
- For safety reasons, we ask that children wear minimal or no jewellery at all to school; this also prevents the problem of expensive or sentimental items being lost.
- Children may wear a thin silver or gold chain necklace, with a cross or other religious symbol attached under the line of their shirt, only studs or sleepers to be worn in ears, and only one earring in each ear

## **COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES**

If, at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or principal to find a resolution for your concern.

It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and professionally fulfilling experience of our staff. If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office.



# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

## **MEDICAL ALERTS**

If your child is an asthma sufferer, anaphylactic or has any other allergies or conditions, we advise all parents to ensure that their Medical Plan is up to date. A copy of the latest medical plan is to be provided to your classroom teacher, who in turn will make copies for the office. If no medical plan has been provided by your general practitioner, we encourage parents to write a note explaining the condition, symptoms and remedy required for the specific condition. We want to ensure that classroom teachers, as well as office staff are kept informed and ready to take action if necessary.

## **STUDENT MEDICATION**

Parents of students who are required to take medication during school hours are to complete a medical form (available from the office).

## **SICK/UNWELL STUDENTS**

If your child is unwell, we ask that you refrain from sending them to school.

## **ABSENCES AND PARTIAL ABSENCES**

Parents and carers are responsible for explaining the absences of their children from school promptly in written form to the school within seven days from the first day of any period of absence. This can be done through Eforms on the Skoolbag app.

## **NO HAT NO PLAY**

School hats are part of the compulsory school uniform and are to be worn daily on the way to school, recess, lunch and during dismissal time. If a student forgets to bring their school hat, they are not allowed to play during recess and lunch. They are to remain sitting on the silver seats under shelter.

## **SCHOOL FEE POLICY**

School fees are payable in three instalments.

## **APPLICATION FOR EXTENDED LEAVE (FIVE OR MORE SCHOOL DAYS)**

All applications are to be approved by the School Principal. Forms are available from the office.

## **PARENT HELPERS/VOLUNTEERS**

Working with Children Checks are required for anyone helping within the school or school events (eg Sports carnivals).

## **STUDENT EARLY PICK-UP**

Only people who are listed as Emergency Contacts are permitted to pick up students during school hours. A written note by the parent is required if someone other than an Emergency Contact is picking up a student during school hours.

## **KISS AND DROP**

Arrival time for students is from 8am onwards, supervision will begin at 8am sharp when the gates are opened by a teacher. Please note students are not to be dropped off at Kiss and Drop and left there before 8am. If you are a few minutes early, students can enter via the entry gate near the bus bay.

When using the Kiss and Drop facility in the morning, parents should remain in their car and for safety children should exit on the kerb side of the car.

This is the same for afternoon Walkers and Parent Pick up on William Howell Drive. Students enter the vehicle from the kerb side and parents should remain in the car.

Once again this is for the safety of your child/children.

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

During Term 3, Year 6 participated in the Voice of Youth speaking competition. Students from Year 6 performed amazingly in their classrooms and during the cluster finals. They are congratulated on their efforts.

On the 27th August 2018, Bethany students competed against Our Lady of the Rosary Emu Plains, Mary Mackillop Penrith and Holy Family Luddenham at the Cluster Finals. Our representatives from Bethany were Charlotte Wood, Tristan Scott who received the Social Justice Award, and Tara Stoll the Winner of the Cluster finals. From here, Tara went to represent Bethany at Voice of Youth Semi Finals.

On the 26th of September 2018, Tara Stoll (6B) competed in the Voice of Youth Grand Finals, and placed as runner up in our Diocese. On behalf of the Bethany Community we would like to congratulate Tara on her amazing efforts during the Voice of Youth competition.



# Important Dates

## 2018

Friday 23rd November	Celebration of Learning, Year 6 - 2:15pm
Monday 26th November	Music Concert, Years 2 to 5 - 1:45pm
Friday 30th November	P + F Disco Infants—6-7pm Primary—7:15pm-8:30pm
Sunday 2nd December	Padre Pio Children's Mass 9:30am
Thursday 6th December	Twilight Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 11th December	Year 6 Graduation Mass
Thursday 13th December	Thanksgiving Mass—Time TBC
Friday 14th December	Bethany School and Parish Christmas Carols
Monday 17th December	Year 6 Fun Day
Tuesday 18th December	Year 6 Social
Wednesday 19th December	Students last day of school

## 2019

Tuesday 29th January	Staff development day MAI Testing Year 1—6
Wednesday 30th January	Staff development day MAI Testing Year 1—6
Thursday 31st January	Year 1—6 student's return Kinder MAI Testing
Friday 1st February	Kinder MAI Testing
Monday 4th February	Kindergarten First Day of School





## RE - Mrs Baldacchino

Last week, our Kindergarten 2019 parents attended a workshop that focused on Religious Education at Bethany. During the session, the parents were able to hear about the units of work taught, be informed of the Bethany Agreed Practice for Religious Education and experience some warm up tasks typical of a Kindergarten religion lesson. At the end of the session, parents were asked to record what they learned about Religious Education as it is taught at Bethany. Some of the parent responses include:

- Religion is an important part of learning at Bethany. Children are taught the correct terminology from day 1.
- Jesus represents how God wants us to live.
- Prayer is a big part of learning at Bethany.
- I learned how often the kids pray each day at school which is great.
- It is very important to include RE as it gives the kids a really good start.
- The depth of information that is taught in Kindergarten. It's wonderful that they are able to learn about scripture in such a deep way.
- The fun way religion is taught to encompass decision making and open discussion. Really enjoyed it!
- The warm up part of the lesson is very engaging and fun.
- How in depth Religious Education is at Bethany - my children thoroughly enjoy it and we share this as a family.
- How RE is incorporated into the day to day activities at school.
- Bethany will be the best place for our child to pray and play.
- Everyone stops at noon for prayer.
- Religion is more in depth than when I was at school.
- We have made a good choice with Bethany for our child.

This week, each grade began a new unit of learning about Advent. Although Advent does not begin until 2nd December, the students are learning about this important season, which begins a new church year (Year C), and how we can reflect on Jesus' presence in our lives.

The next Padre Pio Parish children's mass will be on December 2 at 9:30am, which happens to be the first Sunday of Advent. At this mass, three children from Bethany will experience the Sacrament of Baptism and another will be welcomed into the Catholic church. All Bethany students and families are invited to attend this mass to celebrate this special occasion as a welcoming community of faith.

This week, notes were sent home to inform of the Thanksgiving Mass and grocery donations to aid the St Vincent de Paul Society in reaching out to members of our community in need. If you did not receive a note, please ask your child's teacher for a copy. Our Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 13th December. All are welcome to attend.

Preparations are underway for the Combined Bethany and Padre Pio Christmas Carols.  
Save the date: Friday 14th December at 6pm.

In Christ We Love and Serve



# LITERACY - Miss Vella & Mrs Inskip



**NAPLAN**  
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
Literacy and Numeracy

On Wednesday staff completed a Professional Learning Meeting which analysed the NAPLAN, PAT R and PAT M data. Teachers split up into nine collaborative teams to review the results from these tests. Along with classroom observations, the data gathered by these tests help inform our teaching.

Throughout this Professional Learning Meeting, patterns were identified, and questions about where to go next were raised. Furthermore, we reviewed our current school goal and engaged in professional dialogue around the development of the 2019 Literacy goal.







# NUMERACY—Mrs Dowlon

In previous newsletters I have outlined our school goal for 2018. The goal is,

***For all students to improve their ability to solve multi-step problems using a variety of strategies that focus on communicating, problem solving and reasoning***

This goal came about based on results from the standardised test known as PAT-M, that students in years 2-6 completed back in December 2017. As you would also be aware, myself and the teaching staff have been working tirelessly to implement pedagogical practices and best strategies to assist the children in achieving this goal.

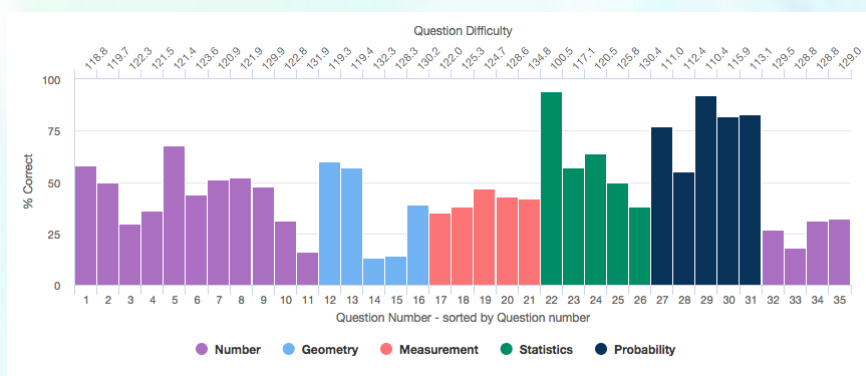


In the past two weeks students have again in years 2-6 completed this test based on their current school year, and in so doing, give us, “BIG’ data that reflects how students have improved based on these practices and strategies.

Wednesday saw the staff at Bethany during the Professional Learning Meeting (PLM) analyse these results and use the tools that the PAT-M testing platform offers to see growth of individual students (particularly those we are tracking), cohorts of students and even looking at those questions that students found the most difficult and those questions where students had a high percentage of correctness.

Scale score difficulty level					118.8	119.7	122.3	121.5	121.4	123.6	120.9	121.9	129.9	122.8	131.9	119.3	119.4
Question Classification					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	G	G
Percentage correct within this group					58%	50%	30%	36%	68%	44%	51%	52%	48%	31%	16%	60%	57%
Question Number					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Date	Raw score	Scale score	Percentile ①	Stanine ①													
30-10-2018	16	120.9	--	--	C	E	D	E	✓	E	C	E	✓	B	D	✓	✓
31-10-2018	9	111.0	--	--	B	A	A	B	A	B	✓	E	B	A	A	✓	C
31-10-2018	13	117.0	--	--	C	✓	D	✓	E	E	C	✓	B	C	A	A	B
31-10-2018	19	124.8	--	--	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	D	✓	✓	✓	C	A	✓	✓
30-10-2018	17	122.2	--	--	✓	✓	✓	D	✓	B	E	✓	✓	E	D	✓	A
30-10-2018	14	118.3	--	--	✓	B	A	✓	✓	D	✓	✓	B	B	D	D	✓

***As you can see in this screenshot, (names have been omitted) we can see every students achievement as well as the cohort to look for patterns and trends.***



Opportunities like this are invaluable to us as a staff to affirm and revise all that we are doing here at Bethany in relation to the teaching and learning of numeracy. Conversations will now take place within the leadership team and with our numeracy supports from CEDP to establish our goal for 2019.



## SPORT - Mrs Dowlan

### PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN BASKETBALL GALA DAY

On Tuesday the 23rd October four teams from Bethany competed at the Parramatta Diocesan Basketball Gala Day at Cambridge Park. Each team played six games against other schools from the diocese.

The Stage 2 Girls and the Stage 3 Boys had some close games. The Stage 2 Boys came 2nd in their pool and the Stage 3 Girls were undefeated and won their pool.

Thank you to the parents who helped coach and train the students on the day.

Congratulations to the Bethany teams on your excellent behaviour and sportsmanship on the day.

Mrs Inskip

*A shout of thanks to Mrs Inskip and Mrs Gibson who supervised the students on the day. Another thank you goes out to Miss Green who assisted Mrs Inskip in selecting students for these teams.*







## SPORT - Mrs Dowlan

### Mark Taylor Shield Cricket Competition

On Tuesday 6th November our Bethany cricket team competed against St Joseph's Schofields in Round 3 of the Mark Taylor Shield at Rouse Hill.



We won the toss and chose to bat. The team batted well in the 30 overs with a few stand out performances. Our first four batters were all made to retire once they scored 30 or more runs. James Lennox and Matthew Hamilton both finished up on 32 runs, whilst Campbell Kean and Ryan Culbert both retired on 30. We finished the innings 3/193.

After the lunch break we went out on the field and took a few quick wickets, which made it difficult for our opposition to recover from. They ended up 8/134. Our best bowling figures were Brodie Demspey 1-2, Sonny Maviglia 1-5 and Ryan Culbert 2-15.

This win sees us progress to the final round, round 4 against St Augustine's Brookvale. The match has been scheduled for Thursday 22nd November (Week 6) at Passmore Oval, Manly Vale. Communication and permission notes went out earlier this week.

The final is to be held at St Joseph's, Hunters Hill on December 4 should we make it.

On behalf of the whole Bethany community I wish the team good luck against St Augustine's and congratulate them on their efforts thus far.

### Twilight Swimming Carnival

Notes have gone out with expressions of interest to enter events for our carnival on Thursday 6th December. Please complete this note and return to school as soon as possible. We again are asking for assistance on the night in the form of timekeepers. Please complete this section of the form if you think you can help in this area.

Note that the carnival is a time trial event for the zone carnival that is held in February 2019, and as such children are competing in the age they are turning in 2019 not the age they are this year. Students 8 years and over in 2019 are eligible to compete.



# SCHOOL BANKING REWARDS

All banking rewards are to be redeemed by next week (Week 6). Please refer to the flyer below for details on redeeming a reward item.

## Rewards Card.

### Start saving for the Super Savers rewards.

**How to redeem a reward item**

1. Make 10 School Banking deposits (you'll receive one silver Dollarsmites token each time you make a deposit) – maximum one per week).
2. Choose one of the below reward items and fill in your details on the corresponding reward coupon.
3. Take the reward coupon, along with your 10 silver Dollarsmites tokens, to school in your Dollarsmites deposit wallet on School Banking day.

**Rules of the program:**

- No reward individual saving, no pooling of Dollarsmites tokens with other students or siblings is allowed.
- All rewards are available to redeem from the term listed, only while stocks last.



<b>Twister Power Handball</b> Released Term 1 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____	<b>Sparkle Glitter Pens</b> Released Term 2 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____	<b>Mighty Boom Handball</b> Released Term 3 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____	<b>Slushie Maker Cup</b> Released Term 4 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____
<b>Secret Scratch Notepad</b> Released Term 1 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____	<b>Glow Light</b> Released Term 2 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____	<b>Heat Reactor Pencils</b> Released Term 3 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____	<b>Zoom Flying Disc</b> Released Term 4 2018  Name: _____ Class: _____ Student ID: _____

# Catholic News



## NEXT GENERATION SCHOOLS



### What is the new normal for education?

Greg is at the coalface of designing and establishing the new normal for preschool to post school learning. He believes we need to adopt a continuum model of education, challenging educators to use time in creative and innovative ways. He'll explain how parents, teachers and enterprise partners can transform learning so that each student understands their strengths and capabilities. Greg is an educational leader with heart. He is passionate about enabling students to discover their strengths and find their purpose in this changing world.

Our guest speaker for the evening is:

**Mr Greg Miller**

Principal and Educational Leader

Register FREE now: [www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)

**Monday, 19 November 2018**

**Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm start (approx. 2 hours)**

(Term 4 – PRC General Meeting will be held prior to our speaker session)

at St Luke's Catholic College, Lot 1104, Frontier Ave, & Northbourne Dr, Marsden Park

Tea, Coffee and light snacks will be provided and a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!

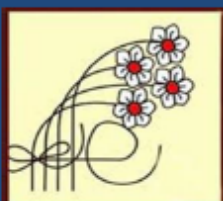
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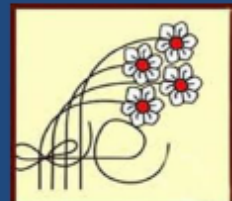
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@prcparra



THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SPONSOR  
**Floral Expressions**  
For details on the School fundraising program  
Call Charles Lukasik on 02 9683 1116





# St Padre Pio Parish

## ST PADRE PIO PARISH GINGERBREAD HOUSE NIGHT

Please join us for a fun night of friendship and laughter as you make a gingerbread house to share with your family & friends over Christmas.



**COST: \$26.00 (\$30.00 Gluten Free – 12 ordered)**  
(Includes gingerbread kit, tea/coffee & refreshments)

Please bring all lollies for decorating your house together with dessert or tablespoon, knives, scissors, pins (to hold house together while icing sets) and any other utensils you wish to bring including bowls (or zip lock bags) & food colouring if you wish to tint your icing.

*This night is for anyone from Year 5 at primary school onwards*

Kits can also be ordered separately for collection  
Gingerbread Houses - \$24.00/Gluten Free \$28.00  
Star Tree - \$10.00/Gluten Free \$11.00 (2 ordered)  
Triangle Tree - \$14.00/Gluten Free \$16.00 (2 ordered)  
Nativity Kit - \$26.00/Gluten Free \$30.00 (1 ordered)

Date: 12 December 2018  
Time: 7.00 p.m.  
Venue: Bethany/Parish Hall  
RSVP & Payment by:  
5 December 2018

(Payment can be made via Parish website)

Enquiries: Please call Therese Baker on [0419448941](tel:0419448941)/[terrybaker@iprimus.com.au](mailto:terrybaker@iprimus.com.au)



# Community



 Join York Public School  
for  
**Carols by  
Glow Stick**

**When:** Friday 7th December, gates open 5:30pm, carols 7pm.  
**Available:** Food trucks will be selling delicious food! Drinks, lollies and glow products available for purchase. P & C will be holding a raffle.  
**Bring:** A rug and enjoy a picnic dinner.  
**Entry:** By donation.

York Public School, South Penrith,  
enter via Jason Avenue.  
Disabled parking through  
Evan Street entrance.

York Public School are Proudly  
supporting Bear Cottage - a very  
special place dedicated to caring for  
children with life-limiting conditions.

