



# BETHANY'S NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 15th JUNE

TERM 2 - WEEK 7

## ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Bethany Parents and Carers,

Over the past few weeks the Bethany community, alongside other Diocesan schools, has participated in the Tell Them From Me survey. The survey is designed to gauge student engagement and wellbeing, teacher input and parent feedback. It is a tool used to collect important data about our learning community. The survey is designed to capture the opinions of our key collaborators - parents and carers, staff and students.

At Bethany, we pride our school in being a warm and innovative learning community which provides rich learning programs to students whilst nurturing their Catholic faith. Quality of education at Bethany is our core business in the Catholic context. With this in mind and in the interest of school improvement we have captured so far some key findings about the teaching and learning at Bethany.

Results of the parent survey in relation to teaching and learning identified the following areas for celebration:

- students with disability are supported
- active encouragement of family engagement
- sense of community
- caring environment
- great education

Results of the student survey in relation to teaching and learning identified the following areas for celebration:

- students are interested and motivated to learn
- students value schooling outcomes
- clear expectations for success
- positive teacher and student relationships

# ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We thank you for the time you took to respond to this survey. The survey findings will be shared with the community periodically over the next few months as we continue to analyse the data presented. Our intention is to use this data for school improvement, anywhere from simple classroom practice to policy level implementations.

The Tell Them From Me survey instrument is administered by The Learning Bar. We look forward to continuing our ongoing work with you and The Learning Bar in ensuring improved student outcomes and reducing childhood vulnerability.

Warm regards,

Miss Pascale Joseph  
Acting Principal



# Important Dates

<b>Tuesday 19th June</b>	<b>Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day</b>
<b>Friday 22nd June</b>	<b>Year 1 Blue Science Excursion - Warragamba Dam</b>
<b>Friday 22nd June</b>	<b>Sacred Heart Mass - 9:00 am</b>
<b>Tuesday 26th June</b>	<b>Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day</b>
<b>Sunday 1st July</b>	<b>Padro Pio Children's Mass - 9:30 am</b>
<b>Friday 29th June</b>	<b>Sacrament of Confirmation - 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Mon 2nd - Friday 6th July</b>	<b>Parent Teacher Interviews</b>
<b>Friday 3rd August</b>	<b>Grandparents' Day</b>



## Bethany's Annual Mini Vinnies Winter Annual Sleepout



This Friday evening Friday 15th June is the annual Mini Vinnies Winter Sleepout for students at Bethany Catholic Primary School. This is an opportunity for students to engage in social justice as well as an opportunity to apply our school motto 'In Christ we Love and Serve'. The evening is a time where students have fun whilst also experiencing how life can be without some of the comforts enjoyed at home.

Throughout the evening the students will experience basic meals and rougher sleeping arrangements compared to normal home life. The students will be addressed by a guest speaker, Mrs Topp, who will enlighten students about the purpose of the St Vincent De Paul society in our community. Did you know that 116 000 men, women and children experience homelessness in Australia and sleep

rough each night?

### How did St Vincent De Paul Society begin?

Throughout Paris in the early 19th Century Frederic Ozanam a 20 year old student, would walk through poor towns on his way to university. This was during a period of history that was filled with unrest, cholera plagues killing up to 1200 people per day, alcoholism, homelessness, disease and starvation. Frederic was challenged by a fellow debating partner who said:

***"You are right Ozanam when you speak of the past! In former times Christianity worked wonders, but what is it doing for mankind now? And you, who pride yourself on your Catholicity, what are you doing now for the poor? Show us your works."***

This provocation spurred Frederic Ozanam to gather some friends on 23 April 1833 to meet to ponder what they could do for the poor. After the initial meeting, Frederic along with his flatmate, took their remaining winter wood supply to a widow. Ozanam was met with constant heckling such as "What can seven young men hope to achieve in alleviating the suffering in Paris?" Undeterred, they continued their good works.

## RE - Mrs Baldacchino



The group decided to adopt the name *The Society of St Vincent de Paul*, after the Patron Saint of Christian charity. Sister Rosalie Rendu, a Daughter of Charity who was visiting poor families in one of the poorer districts, worked with the men to assist the vulnerable in their society.

Today, the *St Vincent de Paul Society* offers assistance to those suffering addiction, emergency housing and homelessness, disaster recovery, domestic and family violence, problems with finances, and also provides disability services, food, general support, health and well being and resettling refugees in Australia.

How do we as members of the Padre' Pio Catholic community respond to the same provocation Frederic Ozanam encountered in today's world? ...**And you, who pride yourself on your Catholicity, what are**

***you doing now for the poor? Show us your works***". In short the answer is simple... we teach our young to respond to the call to complete "Good Works" through living out our school motto *In Christ we Love and Serve*.

St Vincent De Paul contact details <https://www.vinnies.org.au/donate#!state=nsw&appeal=149>

# LITERACY - Mrs Baldacchino

## Knowledge about Language

How is your knowledge about language conventions?

Would you be able to correctly answer either of these questions from this years' NAPLAN papers?

### Year 3

49 Which sentence is correct?

- The box of matches is beside the barbecue and the plate of chops is on the table.
- The box of matches is beside the barbecue and the plate of chops are on the table.
- The box of matches are beside the barbecue and the plate of chops are on the table.
- The box of matches are beside the barbecue and the plate of chops is on the table.

### Year 5

47 Which is a correct sentence?

- Its definitely you're turn to check the hens today.
- It's important you phone if you're going to be late.
- Who's lawn did the dog dig up when it buried it's bone?
- It's Joe whose going to run in the cross-country race.

# Numeracy - Mrs Biordi

Recently some of our Bethany staff had the opportunity to be involved in Professional Development at several system level Numeracy Days. The focus was on addition and subtraction strategies integrating the Working Mathematically strand. There were two days focusing upon K-2 and alternatively two days focusing on 3-6 Mathematics.

This course was beneficial in addressing Bethany's school Numeracy goal, **"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"**.

The course explored four key strategies of: *visualising, partitioning, reasoning* and using the *mental number line* to develop the **Working Mathematically** skills of *communicating, problem solving* and *reasoning*.

According to the syllabus Working Mathematically relates to the syllabus objective:

*"Students develop understanding and fluency in mathematics through inquiry, exploring and connecting mathematical concepts, choosing and applying problem-solving skills and mathematical techniques, communication and reasoning"*.

Working Mathematically provides students with the opportunity to engage in genuine mathematical activity and develop the skills to become flexible and creative users of mathematics.

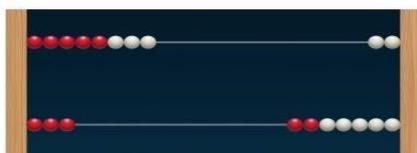
At the K-2 Early Years sessions, A FREE app was shared with participants called 'Number Rack'. We invite you to download it to your child's device to build confidence in improving addition and subtraction strategies. One of the slides from the System Numeracy Team presentation outlined a game which has been included below. Once students have found a solution, encourage them to *communicate* and *reason* how they *problem solved*. Ask the child if they can prove their answer using an inverse or alternative strategy. Below is an example of a game you can play using this app. We will share some strategies for students in 3-6 in the next newsletter.

## What's the Difference?

8

- Each player turns over two cards, and shows their quantities on the arithmetic rack.
- Work out and prove the difference between the two quantities.
- The person with the most, scores the difference.
- First to 20 is the winner.

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# SPORT - Mrs Dowlan

## NSWCPSCCC

Today eight students are representing MacKillop at the NSW Combined Primary Schools Cross Country Championships at Blacktown Motor Park, Easter Creek. This is a wonderful achievement to reach this level and next newsletter will include results and hopefully a few photos. Well done to the following students:

Zavier Scott  
Eva Sudulic  
Georgina Martin  
Tristan Scott

Amelia Wood  
Regan Allardice  
Campbell Kean  
Lachlan Anteck

## SOCCER

### Stage 3 Boys Gala Day

Bethany's Stage 3 Boys soccer team will be competing next Tuesday at the diocesan gala day at Jamison Oval. The team is required to meet Mrs Gibson at 8:20am. We wish them good luck and look forward to hearing results from the day.

The teams includes the following students:

Karlo Sudulic  
Christian Fabiano  
Andrea Siracusa  
Keeghan Tran  
Sonny Maviglia

Lachlan Robinson  
Marley Hayward  
Lucas Grbin  
Brodie Dempsey

Mitchell Hayes  
Lachlan Anteck  
Campbell Kean  
Tristan Scott

### Stage 2 Boys and Girls Gala Day

On Tuesday and Wednesday of week 8, students who are interested in trialing for the stage 2 boys and girls soccer teams are invited to join Mrs Cignarella and myself at eating time on the oval. This event is to be held on Tuesday 26th June at Jamison Oval.

Students today were asked to express their interest and nominate two positions they are trialling for. Please ensure on both of these days your child has runners should they not be wearing their sport uniform.

# YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION

Our Year 6 students from Bethany have recently undertaken an education tour of our National Capital. They were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The students visited Parliament House, The National Museum of Democracy, War Memorial, Questacon, Australian Institute of Sport and the Australian Mint. They were able to participate in hands-on experiences that helped deepen their knowledge of Australia's History. This was in line with our Project Based Learning unit, Australia as a Nation: #makeachange.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.



# PBS4L

Bethany has begun the journey of gathering data and agreed practices for implementation of PBS4L at our school.

## **What is PBS4L?**

It stands for Positive Behaviour Support For Learning. It is an evidenced based framework. This means by implementing it we can make it more relevant to our school community.

The purpose of PBS4L is to develop effective school wide systems and practices that are informed by data to get more positive outcomes for students, both socially and academically. The basic principle behind PBS4L is that behaviour is learnt and therefore can be taught.

It is important to understand that PBS4L is for EVERYONE! It is not just for kids with challenging behaviours. Implementing PBS4L at the school means that the expectations of behaviour are made very clear to all in the community, these expectations are actively taught, positively reinforced by staff when these behaviours are observed, and corrected and re-taught by staff when problem behaviour arises.

PBS4L is a transparent framework that encourages parent, student and teacher voice. It is a collaborative community effort aimed at encouraging more positive behaviours within our school community to maximise student wellbeing and learning outcomes.

Stay tuned with where we are up to on our PBS4L journey through this newsletter!



# PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Yesterday your child would have received a letter in regards to the half-yearly Parent Teacher interviews. These interviews provide you with the opportunity to discuss your child's progress so far this year. This is also an opportunity to clarify questions about your child's learning and to set goals for the future. Interviews will be scheduled in 15 minute sessions.

When booking please go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and enter the code **zfzrj** and follow the three simple steps outlined in the previous letter.

The interviews are scheduled to take place in **Week 10** of this term from **Monday 2nd July - Friday 6th July 2018**.

**Bookings OPEN on Monday 18th June 2018 at 9:00am and close Friday 29th June 2018 at 3:00pm**

# SCHOOL FEES

A reminder that Instalment 2 of School Fees are now due. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact Mrs Vincent on 4723 3700 or email [bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au) to discuss.

# GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS

Yesterday Miss Joseph and Mrs Andreatta attended the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta head office for a special graduation ceremony. Miss Joseph and Mrs Andreatta both graduated and received their certificates for qualifying as Specialist EMU (Extending Mathematical Understanding) teachers.

Mrs Sue Walsh (Executive Director of System Learning) and Dr Kerry Giumelli (EMU Professional Learning Leader) were present at the graduation ceremony and spoke about the importance of early intervention programs in Mathematics.

Congratulations Miss Joseph and Mrs Andreatta on your achievements and in receiving recognition for this specialised training. The Bethany community is blessed and we thank you for your commitment in serving our learning community with your specialisation in Mathematics.

