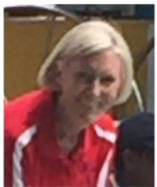




# BETHANY'S NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 31ST JANUARY TERM 1 WEEK 1



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome to Week 1, Term 1 at Bethany. I hope you were able to have a lovely break during the holidays.

Students at our school receive a quality education within a Catholic environment supported by our team of talented and dedicated teachers and support staff. Our teachers provide a variety of rich learning experiences for the students in their care, differentiating curriculum according to the specific needs of learners. The pastoral care of our students is paramount, with the belief that every person is valuable and unique. I would like to share with all families our prayer that provides each of us with prayerful reflection on what we are working together to achieve. We give thanks for the partnership between parents and teachers in guiding the children of Bethany Catholic Primary School.

"Whose child is this?" I asked one day seeing a little one out at play.

"Mine", said the parent with a tender smile.

"Mine to keep a little while.

To bathe their hands and comb their hair,  
To tell them what they are to wear,  
To prepare them that they may always be good,  
And each day do the things they should".

"Whose child is this?" I asked again,  
As the door opened and someone came in.

"Mine", said the teacher with the same tender smile.

"Mine, to keep just for a while.

To teach them how to be gentle and kind,  
To train and direct their dear little minds,  
To help them live by every rule,  
And get the best they can from school".

"Whose child is this?" I asked once more,  
Just as the little one entered the door.

"Ours", said the parent and the teacher as they smiled.

And each took the hand of the little child.

"Ours to love and train together".

In Christ we Love and Serve.

God Bless and keep safe,

Cheryl Brown  
Principal



# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

## **Parent Information Night**

On Wednesday 13th February we will be holding our annual Parent Information Night for 2019. Parents and Carers are invited and encouraged to come along in order to start building parent-teacher partnerships and to set the tone for a positive and productive school year.

This night will allow you the opportunity to meet your child's classroom and stage teachers, hear about the routines and expectations of the school and to learn about how parents can assist their child to experience success this year.

Similarly to last year, the Parent Information Evening will commence at 6:30pm in the school hall. All parents from Years K-6 are invited to join us there for an introduction and matters covering the whole school. This will be followed by two Grade Sessions (same content repeated). This arrangement is to allow parents who have more than one child to at least see two of their teachers on the night. Once in grade sessions, parents and carers will be given the opportunity to nominate if they wish to have a one-on-one meeting with the classroom teacher in the weeks to come. Teachers will note the family names and be in touch with parents to organise a suitable time for all parties.

We know that children do better when information about their learning is shared between everyone involved in their education. We look forward to seeing you on this evening.

### **Details:**

Commences: 6:30pm (in the school hall)

Grade Session 1: 7:00pm (in the classroom)

Grade Session 2: 7:30pm (repeat of Session 1, in the classroom)

Concludes: 8:00pm

## **Staff Professional Learning**

We wish to bring to your attention to the demands of the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) which all teachers across both Primary and Secondary schools need to adhere to. In order to maintain their teaching standards, teachers are required to complete approximately 20 hours of professional learning per year.

Where possible we endeavour at Bethany to ensure that these professional learning opportunities are carried out after school hours or through Staff Development Days. With the vast array of expertise within the school we are often able to register our weekly professional learning meetings with NESA. However, as you can imagine sometimes, the expectations come from Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP).

As such, teachers are out of class in order to take part in Professional Learning and to maintain their teacher accreditation. This year, we will be informing parents of upcoming professional learning opportunities in our fortnightly newsletter so that parents are informed (where possible) ahead of time that their child's classroom teacher will be absent.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## **MATHEMATICAL ASSESSMENT INTERVIEW**

Over the last two days many of our students came to school with their parents to participate in their Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) appointment.

Thank you to all the parents who organised an online booking and attended accordingly. Our school's aim was to complete as many interviews as possible on the two staff development days allocated to the MAI's. When we don't have as many students as possible attending the MAI appointments, it impacts on all the students' learning time when the teachers have to take time off class to complete the MAI.

This year we made a conscientious decision to add another teacher, "Class D", to ensure the maximum number of appointments were available before school started back on the 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2019. We also had our school office secretary ring a number of parents on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January who hadn't booked an appointment. Unfortunately, there are a number of students who have not been assessed as of yesterday. Over the next few days, these students will be assessed with the least amount of interruption to the classroom learning as possible.

## **ACCESS TO CAROLINE CHISHOLM COLLEGE – PERMIT ACCESS**

You may have a Caroline Chisholm student, or your child needs to have access to the gate separating Caroline Chisholm and our Bethany school. A form will be available next week for parents to collect from the school office to complete requesting access through the gate for arrivals and/or dismissals. Please organise your child to collect the form and return it by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

Upon receipt of your signed form, a permit will be provided to your child. Please be advised that there will be a Bethany teacher on duty at the Caroline Chisholm gate and they will regularly monitor the students using the facility by requesting to sight the permit. These arrangements are noted in Bethany's Arrival and Dismissal Policy.

For the parents/students who requested, and received, a permit last year, we are requesting you to re-apply for a 2019 Access Permit. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause you, but our school records need to be for the current year.

Thanking you for your patience and support.

## **2019 NEWLETTERS**

We decided to send out a brief newsletter today as there is always lots of information to be shared at the beginning of a school year. We will continue to send out a fortnightly newsletter via SkoolBag beginning from next Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.

## **ALPHA – Explore, life, faith, meaning**

Alpha is a series of sessions that explore the Christian Faith. Alpha at St Padre Pio Parish starts on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 10 am in the Bethany School hall (entry via carpark)

For information or inquiries contact [stpppalpha@gmail.com](mailto:stpppalpha@gmail.com)

All are welcome!



# IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 4th February	Kindergarten - first day Champagne and Tissues - School Hall
Wednesday 6th February	P & F Annual General Meeting - 7:00pm
Thursday 7th February	Beginning School Mass - 9:00am
Wednesday 13th February	Parent Information Night - 6:30pm
Monday 18th February	Census Day
Tuesday 19th February	Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival - Glenbrook Swim Centre
Friday 22nd February	Welcome BBQ - new families
Monday 4th - Friday 8th March	Catholic Schools Week
Thursday 7th March	School Liturgy - School Hall - 12:00pm Open Classrooms - 12:30pm BBQ Lunch Fundraiser - 1:00pm
Thursday 14th - Friday 15th March	Year 5 Wedderburn Camp
Wednesday 20th March	NSWCPS Swimming - Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre
Friday 22nd March	Bullying No Way National Day of Action
Thursday 28th March	Year 5 Warner Youth Education - Graffiti Awareness, School Hall - 1:50-2:35pm
Friday 12th April	Last day of Term 1 50's Rock 'n Roll Night

# SPORTS DAYS

Sports days for each year group are as follows:

Kinder	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 1	Tuesday, Thursday
Year 2	Tuesday, Friday
Year 3	Tuesday, Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday, Friday
Year 5	Tuesday, Friday
Year 6	Monday, Wednesday

Please ensure your child/ren are wearing the complete Sports uniform on their correct days.