

# Bethany Catholic Primary School

# NEWSLETTER



Term 1 Week 11 – Thursday 11th April 2024

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Tomorrow brings to a close Term 1. It has been a positive and productive start to the school year made possible by the hard work of all who contribute each day with goodwill and generosity to our school community. During the past 11 weeks we have accomplished much amidst the daily work we do in helping to **form** and **teach** the students in our care.

These include:

- Community Welcome BBQ
- Refurbishment of Italian, Wellbeing & Music rooms completed
- Relocation of Year 6 classes to demountable classrooms
- Classroom refurbishment project commenced with Year 6 block
- Accessibility ramps to field, demountable building & administration completed
- Beginning of Year Mass; Ash Wednesday Mass; Grade-based weekday & Sunday Parish Mass attendance led by Year 3 & 4; First Reconciliation preparation workshops & Reception of First Reconciliation; Altar servers induction
- Whole School Passion Week & Easter Liturgies
- Year 6 Mission Encounter Day
- St Patrick's Day Mufti Day & St Joseph's Feast Day Liturgies
- Choir & Guitar Club
- NAPLAN preparation, PL & administration of tests for Years 3 & 5
- Year 6 Leaders, Library Monitors, RE Angels & SRC Induction Ceremony
- Effort in Learning Award Assemblies
- Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBS4L) Whole School Lessons
- Swimming Carnivals – School, Zone, Diocesan & NSWCPSS
- AFL Gala Day & AUSKick
- Cross Country & Fun Run
- Catholic Schools Week Tours for prospective families
- Easter Hat Parade
- Year 1 Excursion to Australia Zoo
- Police Cyber Safety Talk for Year 5 & 6
- Carnevale Celebration – Activities & Gelato Day

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED



May we take inspiration from last Sunday's Gospel of the story of **Doubting Thomas**. In this narrative that concludes the Easter Octave the Apostle Thomas expresses his scepticism of the Resurrection of Jesus until he is able to see and touch the wounds of Christ for himself. Jesus's response to Thomas is directed squarely at us who were not eyewitnesses: **Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.**

Thomas's complete change of faith from sceptic to believer was so profound that he went on to evangelise in foreign lands and was martyred in India because of his faith. The story of Thomas is an allegory that can serve to remind us that the doubts and ups and downs of our life can sometimes be stepping stones to renewed faith in our God and in ourselves.

May the upcoming holiday break provide all families with some well-earned rest, reflection and replenishment.

**THANK YOU for your ongoing support and commitment during this term to our mission here at Bethany.**

God bless,

Sergio Rosato  
Principal



# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we bid farewell to another enriching term, filled with growth, learning, and shared experiences, we pause to reflect on the journey we have undertaken together. It's been a term marked by resilience, unity, and the unwavering spirit of our school community.

## **Academic Achievements:**

Term 1 has seen our students flourish academically, with each child demonstrating their unique talents and capabilities. From mastering new mathematical concepts to delving into the world of literature, our students have showcased their dedication and enthusiasm for learning. We celebrate their achievements and the hard work of our dedicated teaching staff who continue to inspire and nurture our students every day. During Term 1 many students were recognised for their outstanding effort in learning at our Awards Assemblies. Our Year 3 and Year 5 students demonstrated great resilience and academic stamina during the NAPLAN testing period. Year 1 gained lots of new and exciting knowledge whilst on their excursion to the zoo.

## **Faith Formation:**

At the heart of our Catholic identity lies our commitment to faith formation. Throughout this term, our students have deepened their understanding of Catholic teachings, values, and traditions. Through prayer, reflection, and participation in liturgical celebrations, they have strengthened their relationship with God and embraced the call to live out their faith in their daily lives. We celebrated our Opening School Mass, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter this term. Many students at Bethany engaged in weekly formation experiences with their parents before making their Sacrament of First Reconciliation. Year 6 students participated in an Encounter day with many other Year 6 students from our Diocese. Catholic Schools Week was another highlight this term.

## **Community Engagement:**

Our school community thrives on the principles of compassion, kindness, and solidarity. This term, we have witnessed countless acts of generosity and support as families, staff, and students come together to lend a helping hand to those in need. Whether it's through fundraising efforts, community outreach programs, or simply offering a listening ear, our community continues to embody the spirit of service and empathy. Our school leaders were inducted for 2024 during a very special induction ceremony. We hosted a Welcome BBQ which allowed many families to come together to get to know one another. Our Year 6 leaders led our Open Day Tours with pride and confidence.

# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



## **Highlights and Memories:**

Term 1 has been filled with memorable events and experiences. We've cheered on our athletes at the Cross Country, the Fun Run and Swimming Carnivals. We've come together as a school community for an Easter Hat Parade. We've created many lasting memories this Term. These moments of joy and camaraderie serve as a reminder of the strength and unity that define our school community.

## **Looking Ahead:**

As we look ahead to Term 2, we do so with optimism and excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to grow, learn, and support one another as we strive for excellence in all that we do.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every member of our school community for your unwavering dedication and commitment. Your ongoing support is instrumental in creating a nurturing and enriching environment where our students can thrive and flourish.

Wishing you all a restful and rejuvenating break.

Rebecca Lloyd  
Assistant Principal



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Last Sunday we celebrated our second Children's Parish Mass at St Padre Pio for this year. This Mass coincided with Divine Mercy Sunday which is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday after Easter and concludes the Easter celebrations.

The photographs below, taken at the children's Mass on Sunday, show the Divine mercy image. Jesus is clothed in white showing him after his resurrection. From Jesus' heart stream rays of red and pale (blue). Red symbolises Jesus' blood whilst pale (blue) symbolises water. We note that these are also Bethany colours.

It was great to see so many Bethany students and their families at Mass. We thank the Year 3 teachers and students for their preparation and for all who took part in various ministries during the Mass.

**Note: the Children's Mass in May will be on Saturday evening 4 May at 5:30pm**





## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



Image by pngtree.com

This week students in Years 5 received information on the Parish sacramental program for Confirmation. If there are any students in Year 6 who missed out on this sacrament in 2023 and would like to participate this year, please contact the parish office for an enrolment form.

All enrolment forms are due by Wednesday 24th April to the parish office. For further information please contact: [sacraments@padrepio.org.au](mailto:sacraments@padrepio.org.au)

## UPCOMING DATES TERM 2

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Tuesday 30 April:</b> | ANZAC Day liturgy at 12pm in the school hall                                   |
| <b>Saturday 4 May:</b>   | 5:30pm St Padre Pio Parish Mass led by Year 1 students                         |
| <b>Tuesday 7 May:</b>    | Mother's Day Liturgy at 12pm in the school hall followed by a BYO picnic lunch |
| <b>Friday 17 May:</b>    | Whole School Pentecost Liturgy in the school hall (Time TBC)                   |



# LIBRARY

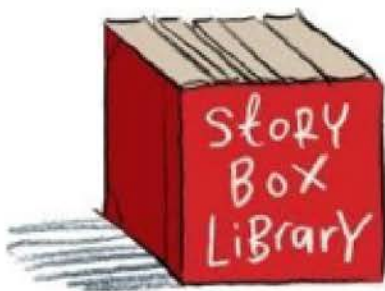


Thank you to the parents, grandparents and community members who cut contact and covered books for us during Term 1. This was a huge task and we thank you for the hundreds of new K-2 home readers and library books that you covered.

Thank you too to the families that donated books they were no longer using at home to our school library and classroom libraries. Due to limited space, we unfortunately cannot accept any more donations at this time.



## A HOLIDAY REMINDER!



Story Box Library: [www.storyboxlibrary.com.au](http://www.storyboxlibrary.com.au)

USERNAME: bethanycps

PASSWORD: stories

Bethany has an annual subscription to Story Box Library which allows all families to freely access this amazing resource at home. New books are regularly added making this an ever-growing library aimed at Kindergarten to Year 6 students. It is a safe online space, free from advertising, where Australian literature is read by Australian authors, illustrators and storytellers.

# OTHER MATTERS

## School Fees

A reminder to families that the first instalment for the 2024 school fees was due Wednesday 13 March 2024.

Unless alternative arrangements have been made with the school, the collection process has started for overdue accounts.

If you require assistance with your school fees, or wish to set up a payment arrangement for the year, please contact Pascale Vion at [BTHY-GLMPFees@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:BTHY-GLMPFees@parra.catholic.edu.au) or 4723 3700.

## Bethany Winter Uniform

Term 2 marks the transition into our Winter school uniform.

Students and families have the first two weeks of term to transition into full winter uniform. Full winter uniform is to be worn by Week 3.

## 2024 School Photos

School Photo Day will be on **Wednesday 15th May** (Term 2, Week 3).

Students are to wear **full winter uniform** even if their sports uniform day is on Wednesday.

Information on how to order photos has now been distributed via your child and is detailed below. All students have individual order numbers. Please contact the office if you do not have one.

All students will have a portrait and class photo taken.

Sibling photos are also an option.

**Please contact the school office if you do not want your child to have their photo taken.**

**The deadline for ordering photos is Thursday 16th May.**

**msp**  
photography  
msp PHOTOGRAPHY  
SYDNEY  
E: [sydney@msp.com.au](mailto:sydney@msp.com.au)  
T: 9499 6555  
PO Box 850  
Rozelle NSW 209  
[www.msp.com.au](http://www.msp.com.au)

**Bethany Catholic Primary School**

**HOW TO ORDER**

Please follow the steps below

Step 1.  
Click here or go to our ordering portal  
[www.msp.com.au](http://www.msp.com.au)

Step 2.  
Click 'Order Packs'

Step 3.  
Enter your shoot key

Online ordering closes  
Thursday 16 May 2024  
An archive fee applies after this date.

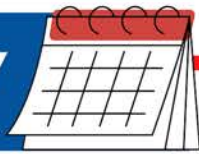
Sibling photos are also available to order at the same time by using the family shoot key provided to you.

Please note Sibling Photo orders must be placed BEFORE your last photo day.

Separated parents must contact us directly to have their orders left at the office for collection.



# DATES FOR THE DIARY



Date	Activity / Event
Fri 12 Apr	Last Day of Term 1
Mon 29 Apr	Staff Development Day
Tue 30 Apr	First Day of Term 2 ANZAC Day Liturgy - 12pm School Hall (Parents & Carers Welcome)
Mon 6 May	Mothers Day Stall
Tues 7 May	Diocesan Cross Country @ Eastern Creek Mothers Day Liturgy 12pm School Hall - followed by picnic lunch (Parents & Carers Welcome)
Wed 8 May - Fri 10 May	Year 6 Canberra Excursion
Fri 10 May	National Walk Safely To School Day
Wed 15 May	School Photos
Fri 17 May	Pentecost Liturgy in School Hall
Wed 22 May	Bethany Athletics Carnival @ Blair Oval, St Marys



## Recent Compass Notifications

<b>Date Sent Out</b>	<b>Communication Details</b>
08/04/24	Diocesan Cross Country Volunteers required
05/04/24	Blue Lockdown Drill
28/03/24	School photos - Wed 15 May



# CARNEVALE



Bethany  
Celebrates the  
Italian Festival  
of Carnevale!





# COMMUNITY



## Walk to School Day Friday 10th May

National Walk Safely to School Day, supporting National Road Safety Week is on Friday 10 May 2024.

Walk Safely to School Day also encourages positive environmental action, better use of public transport with reduced car-dependency and encourages parents and carers to walk more, reducing dangerous traffic congestion around schools. Being active every day, including walking to school, can help make a difference for many Australians. Whether you're a parent, teacher, or carer - everyone has a role to play in helping children and young people to lead active healthy lives.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 10 May 2024



# COMMUNITY



April **PENRITH** 2024



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

AT LOLLIPOPS PENRITH PANTHERS

MONDAY  
APRIL 15th

FREE KIDS TATTOOS

11am  
&  
2pm



TUESDAY  
APRIL 16th

MEAL DEAL DAY

**\$20 per child**  
Includes entry & meal  
(3 pieces & chips included)

Must mention facebook special on entry to redeem

WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 17th

Lollipop's the cat  
Visit



12pm

THURSDAY  
APRIL 18th

FREE KIDS CRAFT  
TOTE BAG DECORATING



12pm

18 kids per session call us to secure your spot

FRIDAY  
APRIL 19th

FREE adult Entry  
Use code :

**FREEADULT**

At online checkout only  
Book online via our website only

MONDAY  
APRIL 22ND

FREE Tay Tay Disco



12pm

Call us to secure your spot.  
General entry fees apply

TUESDAY  
APRIL 23RD

PAINT & SIP

**\$25 Per child**  
Includes entry & paint by  
numbers + Drink  
12pm

Must prebook 12 kids per session  
Book online or over the phone to  
secure your spot.

WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 24th

PLASTER PAINTING

**\$20 Per child**  
Includes entry & cupcakes  
plaster workshop  
11am

Must prebook 12 kids per session  
Book online or over the phone to  
secure your spot.

THURSDAY  
APRIL 25th

\$10 Child Entry

**ANZAC DAY OPEN**  
10:30am - 3:30pm

Must mention facebook special on entry to redeem

FRIDAY  
APRIL 26TH

BOGO FREE DAY

Buy 1 child get 1 child  
FREE day!

Must mention facebook special on entry to redeem. Only valid on full priced entry no passes accepted.



Now located inside Penrith Panthers on Level 3 Open 7 days PH 02 4721-8555

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS & TO BOOK

