

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Bethany Families,

Teaching Children to be Safe & Respectful Online



The digital world provides us with many wonderful avenues for communication as well as unlimited information at our fingertips. While the online world offers enormous benefits for learning, creativity and connectivity, it also poses risks, particularly for young children. Parents along with educators need to provide clear boundaries and actively supervise children in navigating the online environment. Ensuring that children remain safe and respectful whilst online requires proactive monitoring and ongoing dialogue with children.

In 2024 CSPD continues to partner with the eSafety Commissioner to offer new webinars for parents and carers of all our students. These live webinars give parents and carers the knowledge, skills and tools to support their children to have safe online experiences.

The following **FREE** webinars for Term 2 are now available for registrations on the eSafety Commissioner's website. For more information visit this link or the registration links below.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>



eSafety 101: how eSafety can help you: 14 May, 6 June [Register Here](#)

Wellbeing and digital technologies: 16 May, 4 June [Register Here](#)

Consent & online boundaries: 28 May, 18 June [Register Here](#)

Setting your child up for success online: 30 May, 20 June [Register Here](#)



National Walk to School Day **FRIDAY 10th MAY 2024**

On **Friday** our school will participate in the **National Walk to School Day**. This year NSW Police have offered to meet and greet Bethany families participating in this event at the car park adjacent to the new amenities block at **Ched Towns Reserve from 7.45am to 8.30am**



Police will be there to reinforce road safety messages and then will accompany children and parents across the Park to the pedestrian crossing on William Howell Drive. We encourage as many families as possible to participate in this opportunity.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED



Mother's Day Liturgy & Family Picnic



On Tuesday we hosted a beautiful liturgy followed by a picnic in honour of Mother's Day which takes place this coming Sunday. Mother's Day is a day where families give thanks for mothers, expectant mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers and mother figures in their lives.

In the Gospels and throughout history women are figures whose maternal wisdom, goodness, strength, faith, courage, hospitality and grace are exemplars in living out Christ's model of love. In addition to its secular observance, Mother's Day also has ties to the Church.

The month of May is traditionally associated with devotion to the Rosary and several significant feasts dedicated to **Mary**, such as the **Our Lady of the Rosary** on May 7th, **Our Lady of Fatima** on May 13th, **Mary the Mother of the Church** on May 20th, **Our Lady Help of Christians Patron of Australia** on May 24th and the **Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** on May 31st.

These feasts provide opportunities for us to celebrate Mary's role in salvation history. Our Lady is the embodiment of the steadfast, loving, faithful, courageous, and devoted mother.

We pray that this Sunday affords all families a special time to show love and appreciation towards **mothers, expectant mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers & mother figures** - wherever they may be.

Year 6 Excursion to Canberra

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday I will be accompanying our Year 6 students, together with their teachers and support staff, to our nation's capital.



The Canberra Excursion is important in helping children develop an understanding of Australian democracy, civics, history and cultural identity as well as being a rite of passage for students in their last year of primary school.

During their three days and two nights in Canberra the students will experience many of the key places of importance including Parliament House, The Australian War Memorial, The Royal Australian Mint, Old Parliament House/Museum of Australian Democracy, CSIRO, Institute of Sport, Questacon & The National Capital Exhibition Centre.

The responsibility and demands for staff in looking after students whilst on an overnight excursion is significant and we appreciate their dedication and care immensely.

Wishing all families a blessed week.

Sergio Rosato
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach Mother's Day, it is with profound gratitude and admiration that we reflect on the invaluable role that mothers play in the lives of our students here at Bethany Catholic Primary School. As Assistant Principal, I am continuously inspired by the unwavering love, dedication, and support that mothers provide in nurturing the hearts and minds of their children.

Mothers are the first teachers, guiding their little ones through the wonders of the world and instilling in them the values of compassion, kindness, and resilience. From the moment a child takes their first steps into our school, it is evident that the influence of a mother's love is ever-present, shaping their educational journey in profound ways.

In our classrooms, we witness the impact of a mother's encouragement as students eagerly share their achievements, knowing that their biggest cheerleader awaits at home. Whether it's helping with homework, attending parent-teacher meetings, or simply offering a listening ear after a challenging day, mothers are the steadfast pillars of support that uplift our school community.

As we celebrate Mother's Day, let us take a moment to express our deepest appreciation for the sacrifices mothers make each day to ensure the success and happiness of their children. Let us honour their selflessness, their strength, and their boundless love that knows no bounds.

A Prayer for Mothers

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for the gift of mothers, whose love knows no bounds and whose presence brings warmth and comfort to our lives. Bless all mothers, dear Lord, with strength and wisdom as they navigate the joys and challenges of parenthood. May they find joy in the journey of raising their children and may they always feel the embrace of your love surrounding them.

Grant them patience in moments of chaos, courage in times of uncertainty, and peace in the midst of life's storms. May they be reminded of their importance and value in the eyes of their children and may they continue to inspire and nurture them with grace and compassion.

On this Mother's Day, we lift up all mothers in prayer, asking for your blessings to shower upon them abundantly. May they feel cherished, appreciated, and loved not only today but every day of the year.

Amen.

Wishing all our beloved mothers a blessed and joy-filled Mother's Day!

With warm regards,
Rebecca Lloyd
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



TERM 2 FOCUS



BETHANY FUNDRAISING DURING TERM 1

In Term 1, Bethany students participated in fundraising for Caritas Australia through Project Compassion and the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal through Carnevale.

A total of **\$744** has been donated to Caritas Australia with a further **\$904** donated to St Vincent de Paul.

We thank you for your generosity in supporting these charitable organisations.



On April 30th, the Bethany community came together at noon to pay tribute to the soldiers who have served, and continue to serve in the Australian Armed Forces. We gathered to honour the memory of those who perished in wars and to express gratitude to God for the peace and freedom we enjoy in our country.

Last week, during our ANZAC Day Service, we commemorated the sacrifice of the soldiers who landed at Gallipoli 109 years ago. This day serves as a reminder of the bravery and valour exhibited by those who fought for our nation's liberty.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Flight Sergeant Stuart Lloyd for joining us for the service and reciting the ode.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTINUED



ROSARY CLUB - THE MONTH OF MAY

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Lady. This month Rosary Club will recommence where students are invited to pray a decade of The Rosary at lunch time. The days that this takes place will vary from week to week and will be dependent upon the weather.

Notification of when Rosary Club will take place will be given to students after The Angelus is prayed throughout the week.



[THE ROSARY prayers](#)

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



Please keep the students who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation in your prayers. Formation for this sacrament commenced last week. The workshops continue this week and conclude next week. This sacrament will be celebrated at St Padre Pio Parish on Sunday 19th May and Sunday 26th May. Both ceremonies are at 2pm.

UPCOMING DATES

Friday 17th May:	Whole School Pentecost Liturgy in the school hall - 12pm
Sunday 19th May:	Sacrament of Confirmation - 2pm at St Padre Pio Parish
TBC:	Year 6 students attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Friday 24th May:	Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians
TBC:	Kindergarten and Year 6 students attending Parish Mass - 9am
Sunday 26th May:	Sacrament of Confirmation - 2pm at St Padre Pio Parish
TBC:	Year 3 students attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 1st June:	Year 6 students coordinating - 5:30pm Mass at St Padre Pio Parish

LIBRARY



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB



Book Club Issue 3 catalogue was sent home this week.

The last day to place LOOP orders will be **Thursday 16th May**.

Please note that even if you place your LOOP order as soon as your child brings the catalogue home, all orders for our school are processed on the evening of the closing date. This is to do with delivery costs and means that families and our school do not have to pay for delivery. Please be assured that as soon as the books are delivered to Bethany, we distribute them to students so they can take their new books home.

A big thank you to Mrs Frugtniet and Queenie who both retired at the end of 2023 but still come into Bethany to help with the distribution of our Book Club orders.

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY



For 24 years, the Australian Library and Information Association has promoted the value of reading and literacy through its annual National Simultaneous Storytime. Each year a picture book, by an Australian author and illustrator, is read on the same day at thousands of venues across the country.

This year's book is **Bowerbird Blues** by Aura Parker.

Wednesday 22nd May is also our school's annual Athletics Carnival so students from Years 2-6 will have the opportunity to read the book when their classes visit the library on another day during that week.

To celebrate National Simultaneous Storytime on Wednesday 22nd May, Kindergarten and Year 1 will be having a special **Blue Day** at school and participating in activities linked to the book "**Bowerbird Blues**". Some senior students from Caroline Chisholm will be visiting Kindergarten that morning to read with them and join in the fun of our Blue Day activities.

OTHER MATTERS

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 so please ensure full winter uniform is worn from next week - **Monday 13th May**.

2024 School Photos

A reminder that School Photo Day will be

Wednesday 15th May (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 been distributed via your child. All students have individual order numbers. Please contact the office if you do not have one.

Students are asked to arrive at school on time, as the photographers will start class photos at 8:30am.



ATTENDANCE

MISSING SCHOOL = MISSING OUT

Early primary children learn new sounds and words every day. These are important building blocks upon which all future learning is built.

Help your children achieve their best by getting them to school on time every day.

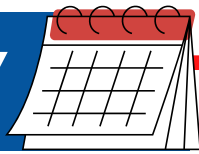


every learner
every day ✓



Catholic Schools
Parramatta Diocese

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Date	Activity / Event
Fri 10 May	Mothers Day Stall (for students who didn't purchase on Monday)
Fri 10 May	National Walk Safely To School Day
Wed 15 May	School Photos
Fri 17 May	Pentecost Whole School Liturgy in School Hall - 12pm
Wed 22 May	Bethany Athletics Carnival @ Blair Oval, St Marys



Recent Compass Notifications

Date Sent Out	Communication Details
08/05/24	Kindergarten & Year 1 Blue Day
07/05/24	Mother's Day Liturgy & Picnic Lunch
06/05/24	Mother's Day Stall
03/05/24	Diocesan Cross Country
03/05/24	National Walk Safely to School Day - Fri 10th May
30/04/24	Year 6 National Assessment Program - Civics and Citizenship
29/04/24	Sport Uniform Days - Term 2
29/04/24	Mother's Day Liturgy
28/03/24	School Photos - Wed 15 May

COMMUNITY



Walk to School Day - Friday 10th May

 IN CHRIST WE LOVE AND SERVE




National Walk Safely to School Day

proudly supported by NSW Police




WHEN: Friday 10 May 2024
WHEN: Between 7:45am-8:30am
WHERE: Meet at Ched Towns Reserve car park - adjacent to the new amenities building
<https://www.walk.com.au/wstsd/road-safety-recommendations.asp>



 IN CHRIST WE LOVE AND SERVE

National Walk Safely to School Day

proudly supported by NSW Police



National Walk Safely to School Day

Next Friday 10 May 2024 is National Walk Safely to School Day (NWSTSD). This annual event seeks to encourage primary school children to safely walk partly or the entire distance to school.

We are pleased to inform parents & carers that NSW Police have generously offered to support the Bethany community to make Walk to School Day a special event this year.

Next Friday morning from 7:45am - 8:30am members of NSW Police will be on hand in the car park adjacent to the new amenities building at Ched Towns Reserve to greet families and to help reinforce key road safety messages with children.

Police will then be walking across the park accompanying families to Bethany using the pedestrian crossing in front of the school.

We encourage as many families as possible to participate in NWSTSD as well utilising the wonderful opportunity to meet a serving Police officer for a great cause.