What is NAPLAN?
National Assessment Program - Literacy And Numeracy

All Year 3,5,7 & 9 students are assessed nationally. As a 40 minute “snapshot”, it can be a very valuable source of data to inform teaching and learning. However, Greg Whitby, Executive Director of schools in Parramatta Diocese stated, “there is a growing misperception that NAPLAN is an Indictor of school or teacher performance and is increasingly used as a way to select students or attract enrolments”.

Naplan is a valuable tool. Yet like technology in a classroom, it will not make a difference unless it is used to enhance the work of teachers and improve students’ learning.

Staff Professional Learning
Friday 24th May/ Saturday 25th May

On the Friday/Saturday, staff will be working with Wendy Bean on the writing process. Our school goal this year is centred on improving our knowledge and performance with writing from K-6. With our Years 3 & 5 students having just completed NAPLAN, we will have much to learn as we continue to push our students to higher levels of writing achievement.

The NAPLAN marking criteria for persuasive writing includes:
1. AUDIENCE - The writer’s capacity to orient engage and persuade the reader.
2. TEXT STRUCTURE -The organisation of text into appropriate introduction, body and conclusion
3. IDEAS-The selection, relevance and elaboration of ideas.
4. PERSUASIVE DEVICES - using a range of devices to enhance the writer’s position and persuade the reader
5. VOCABULARY - The range and precision of appropriate words in the text.
6. COHESION - Controlling the many threads across the text.
7. PARAGRAPHS -The segmenting of text into paragraphs that assist the reader to follow the line of argument.
8. SENTENCE STRUCTURE - Producing grammatically correct and meaningful sentences.
9. PUNCTUATION - Correct and appropriate punctuation to aid reading of the text.
10. SPELLING - Accuracy

When your child gets a NAPLAN band for writing, these 10 criteria are all taken into account

This Year’s NAPLAN Writing Task (written below) for Years 3,5,7,9 was called “HERO AWARD”.
“A hero is someone you admire.. Choose a hero who you think deserves an award. The person you choose could be someone from your family or community or could be someone well known to everyone. The person may be young or old, male or female. Write to convince a reader why the person you have chosen is special and should be given an award”.

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www.bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au
Woolworths Earn and Learn

Just giving our wonderful parents an update about our Earn and Learn stickers. To date we have collected approximately 8,430 stickers, which is fantastic. Our aim is to collect over 66,000 stickers by the end of the program, which is the target from our last year's collection.

If you have any stickers at home, simply drop them in to our library and we'll stick them on to the sheets for you. Alternatively you can drop the filled sheets to our library and put them in the Woolworth’s collection box.

Happy collecting
Patreece Griffiths-Smith - Teacher Librarian

Photo Permission

We regularly place in the newsletter a request to families to let the school office know if you do not want your child’s photo placed in the newsletter. Because it is on the website, it is accessible to the world. We often have photos of students at carnivals, performing at ceremonies or dressing up at celebrations, for example. Simply place your request in writing to the office if it is an issue for your family.

School Gates

Generally we close the gates at 8:40am and open them at 2:30pm. This is to ensure security while also protecting valuable learning time by lessening noise and distractions. At Bethany, we try to maximise every minute for learning. Hopefully it also helps ease the car park congestion since there is no need for cars to be lining up before 2:30pm which soon back logs traffic up the driveway. Our automatic gate near the Church which was also damaged recently is now operational again.

Pets on School Premises

We ask that you leave your pets at home while picking up your child/children from Bethany as we do have a high number of children with allergies and Medical conditions. We also have one or two children who have had past traumatic experiences with animals. This is in the best interest of our Bethany students.

Permission to Arrive late/ Leave Early

When filing out the Permission slips please make sure you put the student’s Full Name, Class, Date and Time, as all data is recorded.
Cross Country Diocesan News

Last Tuesday some children represented Bethany at the Diocesan Cross County. We would like to congratulate all our runners that competed on such a difficult course at Eastern Creek. It was very exciting to watch!

A special congratulations to our 8/9 Girls and 8/9 boys (Monique Quirk, Emma Ward, Alicia Penny, Luke Hanson, Declan Quirk & Ryan Gibson) who won the Team event on the day! These six students have qualified for the Parramatta Diocesan team to run later this term at the NSWCPS.

We wish them all Good Luck! Happy Running!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

Bethany is certainly BLESSED to have such fabulous parents who so generously give their time and talents to benefit our community. Last week we had the P & F mtg, the cookie dough fundraiser, the Mothers Day stall and the breakfast celebration. It was a huge effort that took enormous amounts of time and planning by many people.

From the children, the staff and other parents, THANK YOU so much for all your generosity, your time and your efforts to promote the community spirit which is so evident at Bethany. It was a BIG WEEK which required abnormal amounts of time/effort yet the benefits for the children will be really substantial in many ways we might not even see.

This spirit certainly makes Bethany an exceptional school in so many ways. Thank you again for your individual part in the activities of this week. It will be OUR/ YOUR children who benefit from your generosity. Thank you especially to Sam Young and the band of volunteers for everything. It was an exceptional week!

To ensure the success of this fundraiser, we are seeking your cooperation in a number of ways:

♦ Do you have a family business that would like to donate a prize?
♦ Would your family like to donate a prize?
♦ Do you know of a business that would like to support our fundraising efforts?

If you can contribute to any of the above, please don’t hesitate in coming to the library to see me.

Sincere thanks

Mrs Griffiths-Smith - Teacher/Librarian

THE ANGELUS PRAYER

This term we implemented the Angelus prayer in Catholic Schools in our diocese. Students and teachers are to be congratulated on their successful implementation of this daily practice in our school routine. Last term teachers prepared students for understanding the meaning of this traditional 12th century prayer. If you would like to know more about the ‘Angelus’ prayer please refer to the You Tube clip “The Angelus – An Incarnational Prayer”.

Uniform
Over the next 2 weeks we will transition to our School Winter Uniform. Parents can choose the Summer/Winter Uniform during this time to suit the weather. By Monday, 3rd June (start of winter) we will all be in Winter Uniforms.
All Winter stock is now available at LOWES. All preloved uniforms are available at the School every Tuesday from 2:30pm – 2:45pm starting from as low as $5.00 an item.

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<tr>
<th>GIRLS WINTER UNIFORM</th>
<th>BOYS WINTER UNIFORM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tunic - Navy with Red &amp; White Tartan</td>
<td>Shirt - White Long Sleeve Shirt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blouse - White Long Sleeve Blouse</td>
<td>Trousers -Navy</td>
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<td>Tie – Tartan Tab (optional)</td>
<td>Jacket –Navy with Piping/Crest</td>
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<td>Jacket –Navy with Piping/Crest</td>
<td>Socks –Navy Ankle Socks</td>
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<td>Slacks –Navy</td>
<td>Shoes –Black</td>
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<td>Tights -Navy</td>
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<td>Shoes -Black</td>
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YEAR 5 & 6 CONFIRMATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
At the end of this week, please forward your child's confirmation name and sponsor's full name to Sister Helen. Please note that a Baptism Certificate is not required of the sponsor, however the sponsor is to be Catholic. If the form has been mislaid, ask the child's facilitator for another at the family session next week. These are also available at the table at the back of the church.
Completed forms are to be handed to Sr Helen before and after 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass and before and after Sunday Mass on the weekend of May 18th and 19th. Please print names so that errors on my part can be avoided.
Many thanks
Sr Helen   Tel: 47379735

Our Year 5 and 6 students and their families are presently preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation soon. We pray that they may keep the word of God alive in their actions so that Christ may dwell in their heart. This weekend we will celebrate PENTECOST, the gift of the Spirit:

“After Jesus had greeted them again, he said,
“I am sending you, just as the Father has sent me.”
Then he breathed on them and said,
“Receive the Holy Spirit.”

Canteen Contact MICHELLE
CANTEEN ROSTER - WEEK 4
LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAYS ONLY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sam Young</td>
<td>Blazenka Buterin</td>
<td>Jenny Cunningham</td>
<td>Michelle McClean</td>
<td>Michelle McClen</td>
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<td>Tina Karlson</td>
<td>Michelle McClen</td>
<td>Julie Pratsch</td>
<td>Jenny Cunningham</td>
<td>Melinda Almer(8:30-9:30)</td>
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