ARE SCHOOLS TEACHING FOR YESTERDAY OR TOMORROW?

If you met a person in 1960 or 1970 or 1980 and told them that in 2013 you would have a little device in your pocket that could take photos and send them instantly anywhere in the world ….. they would doubt your sanity.

Also tell them this device allows you talk to anyone anywhere, show you any map of any place on Earth or enable you to access the vast knowledge of the world through a thing called “Google” ….. CRAZY comes to mind. We didn’t even mention GPS, video streaming, a stack of 1000’s of songs, getting instant mail, unlimited games, ability to read the world's newspapers, access to social networks or instant news on sports anywhere on the globe. We can do university research on this little phone and utilise iCloud to gain further access to resources……. and much, much more!

So what makes us think the next 20-30 years of rapidly accelerating technology won’t lead to such amazing, mind blowing developments for our children. The above mobile phone was once inconceivable just years ago and now almost every person has one.

So education needs to adapt and adopt as quickly as society and employment is doing at the moment. Sometimes we think education should be like “the good old days” and continue with the same structures, same teaching methods, the same old same old….

Bethany students have a future which is very different to our past. They will need different skills and know how to access the world which is at their finger tips. Google glasses are not in the future…..they are available now! While respecting the past, we need to educate for a future which is unknown and with new and complex challenges we have not even realised as yet.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY- FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

On this day, Bethany staff are learning about the new mandatory English curriculum that has to be implemented next year. The day will be facilitated by Nicole Sprainger from the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta. Programming with the new document begins in 2014. Please keep in mind, it is a PUPIL FREE DAY and care is available at our COSHC in the hall on this day.

Please contact Maria in Bethany COSHC on 0409-133-213 if you require this service asap as there are limited spaces available.
Thanks to our students and their families for the generous donations towards our Bushfire Appeal. All money will be forwarded to CatholicCare for distribution to needy communities in the mountains.

Staff from the seven Catholic Primary schools in Penrith gathered together last Monday night to raise funds to support the above appeal. Bethany had a large group attend and with the generous donations and support for the raffles, we raised over $4,700 on the night. A huge effort for those less fortunate than ourselves.

2014 CLASSES

In the weeks ahead we begin to collate the class groups for 2014. These are organised to ensure we have the best balance between the educational, social and emotional needs of students.

Teachers then get allocated to a group. PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST SPECIFIC TEACHERS as disappointment may upset some people. We try extremely hard to meet the needs of all concerned.

If your child has specific learning needs or has issues with other students that we should know about, please write to Ted Langford or Jenny Bellenger asap.

Because children’s friendships and other issues are always changing, please write a new letter rather than presume we keep detailed records of past issues where certain students have a negative effect on others.

PLEASE NOTE:
It is sometimes impossible to address every request regarding groupings of children. Given the complexities of social/educational interactions, there are no guarantees yet we will do our best.

SUSTAINED READING COMING UP!!

Start thinking about ideas to assist your child to continue reading/writing/doing maths etc during the upcoming Christmas holidays. The very noticeable slump in performance after the long holidays can be seen clearly in the early new year. YOUR child will benefit greatly by sustained holiday reading activities rather than spend the first month of February catching up to the same levels again.

ENROLMENT FOR FIRST EUCHARIST

Time: 2:45pm to 4:30pm Venue: Parish Meeting Room
What you need to bring with you: Reconciliation Certificate, Enrolment Form, Completed Envelope

Surnames commencing with: F G H - Friday 08/11, C D E - Tuesday, 12/11 A B - Wednesday, 13/11.
WEEK 6

Monday 11/11  • Remembrance Day
Thursday 14/11  • Kindy 2014 Transition Program 3
Friday 15/11  • Year 3/4 Mass 1:30pm

EMERGENCY BUSHFIRE APPEAL
In addition to our Crazy Hair Day students from Year 2 organised additional fundraising games and activities. The extra funds they raised will assist those most affected by the recent bushfires.

We pray for the communities affected by the fires. May they be helped, strengthened and restored by the concern and practical care they are receiving.

We pray for the members of the RFS and emergency services. May they be protected while in the path of danger and strengthened for the ongoing demands that they carry on their shoulders.

Lord, hear our prayers

CANTEEN ROSTER - WEEK 6 - Contact Jenny Cunningham - 0417 337 94
LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAYS ONLY

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kelli Horne</td>
<td>Karen Denic</td>
<td>Jenny Cunningham</td>
<td>Michelle Walker</td>
<td>Jenny Cunningham</td>
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<td>Janelle King</td>
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<td>Julie Pratsch (8:30-12:15)</td>
<td>Amanda Malinowski</td>
<td>Melinda Almer</td>
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<td>Michelle Gauchi</td>
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<td>Kelly Kean</td>
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  Contact JENNY 0417 337 694

BETHANY BEAR RETURNS FROM WORLD YOUTH DAY!
Danika and Allanah, Year 11 students from Caroline Chisholm College recently returned from World Youth Day in Madrid to share their experiences and photos with the Year 3-6 students. We enjoyed hearing about the adventures of Bethany Bear overseas and viewing their photo’s. We were excited to hear that Bethany Bear was pictured with the statue ‘Christ the Redeemer’ in Brazil and scored the best picture of the day!

Congratulations Danika and Allanah on your wonderful work helping the needy in Lima!
LEARN TO SWIM ALL YEAR AROUND

Bring your child down to Dive in Swimming Academy and our qualified and experienced instructors will determine your child’s swimming needs.

HEATED INDOOR 25m POOL

What makes us different to other centres?
• Engaged Instructors will tailor the best possible lesson
• Swim Australia Registered Centre
• Fees paid monthly through convenient Direct Debit System

FREE ASSESSMENT

HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Jan 13th - 24th 2014
5 day or 10 day Options

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Swimming Academy

SQUAD TRAINING 25m & 50m Pools

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Dive in Swim Academy, 122 Blakie Road, Penrith

Are you frustrated with your current weight, body shape & muscle tone?

Our mixed boot camp & pilates classes can help you achieve the summer body you have always wanted!

First 5 people to enquire about our classes this month, get their first class free!

“...I started at LGFG in April 2012 and it has been one of the best things I could have done for myself. I weighed just over 80kg, extremely self conscious and incredibly nervous and anxious but with the wonderful support and guidance from both trainers, Denver and Vee, I have now dropped to 69kg.”

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• Tone your thighs
• Laugh and have fun!

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