SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

BETHANY HAS A 8:30am START…. A DAMN NUISANCE ? OR JUST GOOD TRAINING FOR LIFE??

Some parents are getting upset about the gates being closed at 8:30am and having to go to the office to fill in a partial absence note, even if only a few minutes late.

School starts at 8:30am. We have a legal obligation that has been made quite clear to us- children are to be at school from 8:30am- 2:45pm. Not 8:31 or 8:40am……

The office ladies or persons closing the gates are just the ‘messengers’….. simply doing what they have been asked to do. One or two parents were even rude or abusive… yet the ‘messengers’ are only doing what is required by State Government legislation (you might like to ring them instead).

We understand there may be traffic hassles, sleepless nights, sick kids, wet weather, a couple of children to prepare for school, the baby is upset and lots of other reasons for being later than 8:30am. That’s a part of life that happens occasionally. That can be written on the late slips to explain the partial absence. Even partial absences of a few minutes of a morning or afternoon needs to be recorded.

Anyone not giving a reason is documented as an UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE. A letter is generated to the family to give them a chance to explain but ignoring it only confirms the UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE. Any absences over a set number of days HAS to be referred to higher authorities (Catholic Education and later to Dept of Education) who investigate any truancy or family issues as to why students might be not attending school.

Our student attendance is A LEGAL DOCUMENT. We have to have ACCURATE RECORDS of EVERY child’s attendance between 8:30 and 2:45pm on a school day.

These documents are audited annually and can be called by the courts at any time.

You might also think about the loss of learning time for your own child and the disruption to other students when a child walks in late…

Address: 34-38 William Howell Drive
GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745
Postal Address: PO Box 8134
GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745
Phone: 4733 5299
Fax: 4733 5079
COSHC Phone: 0409 133 213
Email:bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au
THANKING THE STUDENTS OF OUR BETHANY COMMUNITY

As the 2014 school year rapidly moves towards Christmas, we must take the opportunity to thank many groups in our community for their contribution to Bethany’s ever growing successes. This week we thank the BETHANY STUDENTS.

Our students have been very successful on all fronts- academically we have had an outstanding year with massive growth in our performances. On the sporting field, again our students have excelled and shown themselves to be wonderful ambassadors for their school.

Whether it is with their overall behaviour, their energy with music, classroom efforts with numeracy or literacy, dancing during term 3 or reverence during liturgical celebrations..... the students of Bethany have really shown that they are delightful, well mannered and responsible children.

Casual teachers and other visitors often comment positively on our students which is a good sign of the students’ respect for others, their enthusiasm to learn and their reliability. Bethany is a lovely school because of the delightful children!!

SO THANK YOU TO OUR BETHANY STUDENTS..... Your effort, energy, friendliness, commitment to learning and positive influence on our Bethany community has been outstanding. Parents and teachers are very proud of you and we look forward to another amazing year in 2015. Good luck to the families moving elsewhere or interstate. We hope your new school communities are welcoming and student centred.

Best wishes to our 2014 Year 6 students in particular, who are soon heading off to our local Catholic Secondary Schools. Your parents must be very proud of you and best wishes to each of you in your new journey next year.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Next Friday, Dec 5th, we gather to celebrate the quickly approaching season of Christmas. It is a great time of year and Bethany wants to party!! Our community will come together to say THANKS and to acknowledge another wonderful year together. Mrs Griffiths has already sent out the details and timelines for the evening. It promises to be something BIG as we explore the REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS...

PARENT HELPER THANK YOU MORNING TEA

Our Bethany Parent Helpers are invited to a special Morning Tea

The Staff of Bethany would like to thank the parents & grandparents who have helped at Bethany this year; in the classroom, sporting events, the library, at the Fun Fair and in any other way.

A morning tea will be provided by the staff following our Thanksgiving Mass (Wednesday, 10th December at 9am). Morning Tea will begin at 10am in the school hall.
FIRST EUCHARIST 2015 - LATE ENROLMENTS

Please email Sr Helen and request a time for Saturday, 13th December, 2014 for and enrolment and interview Thank you. Srhelen@padrepioglenmorepark.org.au

STUDENTS WELCOME FATHER ELIO

This afternoon Bethany held an assembly to welcome Father Elio, a visiting speaker. Thank you to the parents that joined us for this experience. Father Elio will continue his presentation tonight Friday, 28th November at 7:30pm and tomorrow Saturday, 29th November, 2014 at 11:00am in the school hall.

ARE YOU UP FOR A CHALLENGE PRIMARY STUDENTS?

Are you up for a challenge primary students?
Join in the ChrisMaths quiz.

A surprise awaits for all those who correctly complete and submit their answers to Mrs Mulkern by the end of week 10.

If you would like a hard copy, stop by 2 Blue for one,
The infants quiz will be in next week’s newsletter so keep your eyes out!

MERRY ChrisMATHS

Santa has 24 presents to carry in 4 bags. How many presents might there be in each bag?

There are eight Christmas trees in Penrith Plaza. Each tree has seven dozen lights. How many lights are there in total?

Carl has five ten dollar notes to spend on his holiday shopping. He’s going to buy CDs for everyone on his gift list. Each CD costs $9.98. How many CDs can he buy?

‘Silent Night’ was written in December 1818. How many years ago was that?

David put 14 ornaments on the tree. Stephen and Dennis put 10 ornaments on altogether. Philip put 8 fewer ornaments on the tree than David, exactly twice as many as Dennis. How many ornaments did Stephen put on the tree?

Tim and Sharon put 18 ornaments on the tree altogether. Tim put twice as many ornaments on the tree as Sharon. How many ornaments did Sharon put on the tree?

Bethany is making gingerbread men. She uses 2 raisins for eyes and 3 smarties for buttons for each gingerbread man. If Bethany needs to make 25 Gingerbread men. How many raisins and smarties will she need?

Each large roll of ribbon is 30 meters long. Each parcel takes 90 cm of ribbon. How many parcels can be wrapped?
There are only 7 sleeps until our Christmas concert and the excitement is building.

A big thank you again to our wonderful helpers. We now have most of our spectacular bauble backdrop made and many of the costumes are in final production and are looking great. Listed below is some general housekeeping to start thinking about for the evening for each grade.

Kindy

We have asked each Kindergarten child to come dressed in pale blue on the evening of the Christmas concert. The girls will have their angels wings attached on the evening. Annmarie Kemp has done a wonderful job with making all of the angel wings. We ask that the boys be dressed as shepherds. This will entail a pale blue t-shirt and shorts or pants with a white headpiece. The boys may come fully dressed as shepherds on the evening of the concert.

Year One

Children will come dressed in all red with their Santa hats on. On arrival, their classroom teacher will fit the children with their white beards.

Year Two

Children will come dressed in all white with their reindeer antlers on. On arrival, their classroom teacher will fit the children with Rudolph noses.

Year 3 Navy T-shirts

Don’t forget to send your child’s navy t-shirt to school by next week as they need to be decorated. Please write your child’s name and class on their t-shirt. Decorated t-shirts will be sent home with each child on the afternoon of the concert ready for the children to come dressed as drummer boys/girls.

Year Four

Children will come dressed in all yellow. Props will be provided on the evening.

Year 5 Green T-shirts

Year 5 Girls Only

Please send your child’s green t-shirt to school next week, as they need to be decorated. Your child’s name and class should be written on their t-shirt. Decorated t-shirts will be sent home with each girl on the afternoon of the concert ready for them to come fully dressed.

Boys

Boys will come dressed in all green. Headpieces will be fitted before the concert.
Year six will come to the concert fully dressed. Tinsel will be provided the day before.

**Surprise no. 4**

**Who likes pizza?**

Dine In - BYO (Bookings Welcome)    Take-Away    Home Delivery

**OPEN 7 DAYS**

**LUNCH**

Thursday to Sunday
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(02) 47 331 800

**DINNER**

Thursday to Saturday
5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday to Wednesday
5 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Enjoy pizza on the evening of the Christmas concert. Dino’s pizza will be serving family size pizzas on the night (pre ordered pizzas only available). Order forms will be sent home next week.

**DON’T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR PIZZA!**

**PARISH CAROLS**

**When:** Saturday, 7th December, 2014

**Where:** Bethany School Grounds

Some of our Bethany students will be performing on the evening; Kindergarten and Year 5 Liturgical Movement. There will be sausage sizzles and glow sticks to purchase. Please bring a rug and come along! It promises to be very special. Please join us. Please note the Bethany band will no longer be performing
You are invited to a school assembly

‘Being Catholic Can Be Fun and Rewarding!’

Where: Bethany School Hall

When: Friday November 28, 7:00pm & Saturday November 29, 11am – 1pm (BBQ Lunch)

Guest Presenter: Father Elio Capra is sure to make us laugh and think. ‘The Joy of the Gospel’

Bring a neighbour, friend or family member!

Bethany’s Thanksgiving Mass Invitation

You are invited to attend a celebration of our 2014 school year.

Wednesday, 10th December 9:00am at Padre Pio Church.

Hope you can make it!
The Diocesan Works Fund (DWF) supports the ministries and agency services of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta.

However large or small, any donation you can make to the DWF is gratefully received and helps our ministries to continue their important work.

The generosity of schools is called upon so that the good work of caring for others can continue. ‘Without the money, there can be no mission’. By making a donation to the DWF, you will be supporting the ministries and agency services of the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta as they carry out their mission and works that benefit thousands of members of our local community.

Children learn from action. Supporting the ‘Diocesan Works Fund Appeal’ with a small money contribution can help your child learn and understand more about giving and mission.

Collection envelopes will be sent home on MONDAY. Please send back your donations by the end of NOVEMBER. All donations can be enclosed in a plain labeled envelope should you not receive one. Thanks again for your support.
**WEEK 9/10**

- **Friday 05/12**: Christmas Celebrations 6pm
- **Saturday 06/12**: Parish Carols 7pm
- **Tuesday 09/12**: Twilight Swimming Carnival 6pm
- **Wednesday 10/12**: Thanksgiving Mass 9am
- **Thursday 11/12**: Year 6 liturgy and Social
- **Friday 12/12**: Band Performance 6:30 Library

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**DIVE IN Swimming Academy**

- **Highly Qualified and Recognised Aquatic Educators**
- We are accredited with Swim Australia so you can be assured of our standards. We work carefully with Aquatic Educators to ensure the highest standard of teaching.
- Your child is safe as we background check all our Staff – Current WWF licence and CPR.
- We recognise and understand the family dynamic and support parents through children development.

**Location**

Close to Glenmore Park, M4, Mulgoa so you don’t need to travel through busy Penrith traffic

**Services**

- Learn to Swim
- Squad Training
- School Carnival Preparation
- Baby lessons from 4mths
- Pool Party Hire/ Pool Inflatable Hire

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**CANTEEN ROSTER - WEEK 9** Contact Julie Pratsch - 0412 114 524

**LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAYS ONLY**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!**

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