Dear Parents and Carers of Bethany,

‘Leaving Footprint on the Hearts of Children’

“Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.” Eleanor Roosevelt.

Hopefully, some of the most cherished footprints left in the hearts of children will be those of their parents. There is a natural intimacy between parents and children when unconditional love is interchanged. It is a birth right of children to have parents who are stable and who don’t abandon them when the going gets tough.

Parental love is essential for the development, even survival, of children during their formative years; if it’s not available, the negative effects can last long into adulthood. The bonds that are formed between parents and children are the essence of what is most human within children and give them the basic building blocks that structure their personalities.

It is important that parents be actively involved with children at close range. It is vital not to be long distance parents either emotionally or physically and to show love not just through words but also through the positive actions of daily life.

Parenting has been likened to an artist’s palette. Each parent makes a contribution to the palette from all the elements of their being: emotions, intellect, manner of expression, personal integrity, Christian values and all that goes to make up the rich tapestry that is each of their lives. Their children come to that palette and, according to their level of maturity, dip their brush of life onto the palette and begin to fill in their own image. The greater the riches and abundance that are on the palette, the more positive and balanced will be the images of the children and the richer their life will be as they mature towards their own adulthood.

Of course, parenting occurs within the context of family and Mother Theresa offers this observation about the life of the family:

“The most natural thing is family life. What keeps the family together, what nourishes the life of the family, is that surrender to each other; is that accepting of each other.”
She offers a further observation concerning parental responsibility for the welfare of the life of the family:

“If we have difficulties in our family life, if we have so much struggle in our family life, it is because life in the family is broken, and it is broken by our own hands. The destruction is coming from within. If it came from outside, it would be easy to push it out; but when it’s coming from inside, then it is very difficult to deal with. That’s when I think we need to pray.”

“Heavenly Father,
You have given us a model of life in the Holy Family of Nazareth.
Help us to make our family another Nazareth where love, peace, and happiness reign.
Help us to stay together in joy and sorrow through family prayer.
Teach us to see Jesus in the members of our family, especially in His distressing disguises.
May we love one another as You love each one of us and forgive each other’s faults as You forgive our sins. Amen.”

Peace and Best Wishes
Cheryl Brown

In line with our ongoing commitment to provide quality Catholic teaching and learning everyday, the staff at Bethany frequently take part in ongoing professional learning.

For your information, next week Bethany will be hosting the School Goals Action Plan meeting, which involves four local Catholic schools collaborating together, sharing goals and planning for future direction. The visitors will also engage in a walk around the school talking to students in their learning environment and asking questions about their learning, for example

- What are you learning?
- How are you doing?
- How do you know?
- How can you improve?
- Where do you go for help?

In preparation for the meeting, please be advised that a few members of the Bethany Leadership team may be off class.
Last Friday 16th June more than one hundred students from our Bethany community took part in the St Vincent de Paul Winter Sleepout. The turnout of staff, as well as students was overwhelming. The purpose of this event was to raise our children’s awareness, and the wider community about the current and concerning issue of homelessness. On the night, Mrs Melissa Topp spoke to the students on behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Mrs Topp works for the foundation and is actively involved in visiting families in our local area. She spoke of her experience with these families and provided the students with some insight into the overall work of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Our sincere thanks to Mrs Topp for giving up her time so graciously on this evening. I am sure that our students learnt a valuable message from her presentation. It is our hope to hold this event once again next year and look forward to many more children participating. Thank you to all the families and friends who have sponsored our students’ participation in the Winter Sleepout. Your monetary donations will go to helping many families I’m sure. Thank you for digging deep!!
Well term 2 has been very busy with all things sport. A few items I wanted to mention before the holidays:

Zone notes will be going home in week 10. Zone is on 10th August (Thursday T3 W4). Mrs Gibson and myself will be attending.

Congratulations to Amelia Wood, Georgia Dudley, Georgina Martin, Keeghan Tran, Tristan Scott, Lachlan Antecki, Mia Austin, Liam Coburn and Alastair Wood who competed last Friday at the NSWCPs Cross Country Championships at Eastern Creek Motorpark. This is a great achievement for each one of these students in reaching such an elite level.

Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day teams have been selected and we wish them well as they compete at the gala day next Thursday. The teams consist of the following players: Cooper Ranieri, Regan Allardice, Alessandr Siracusa, Oliver Dempsey, Andrea Siracusa, Cooper Horne, Campbell Kean, Ivan Sudulic, Sonny Maviglia, Riley Coburn, Cody Elmer, Joshua Cunningham, Madison Jenkins, Indiana Primmer, Olivia Jurcic, Georgia Dudley, Naomi Combe, Charli Kassouf, Gracy Thompson, Paige Lockard, Katrina Tornatore, Amelia Wood, Zoe Parkinson, Sarah Malinowsky

Please bring in your note and monies ASAP if you haven’t already done so. We wish them good luck and fine weather for the day.

Netball team selections are underway. The 12 year old girls were selected today and the schedule for the remaining teams is as follows:

⇒ Monday – 9 years with Miss Burg
⇒ Tuesday – 8 years with Miss Keeley
⇒ Wednesday – 11 years
⇒ Thursday – 10 years

Please ensure if it is not your sport day you bring runners with you to change. It is hoped that the above days go ahead, however, rain or other disruptions may mean some trials may carry over to week 1 of term 3.

Permission notes for this gala day will be sent home early in term 3. The day is set down for Tuesday 22nd August at Jamison Netball Complex. We will require parental assistance on the day so please indicate on the note if you can help on the day in a coaching or manager position.

Thank you to Mrs Brown, Miss Joseph and all the staff and parent community who are so supportive of sport in our school.

Jodie Donlan
Sports Coordinator
ATTENDANCE

Well done to the following classes who received 100% attendance this week


School attendance 89%

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the students of Bethany who received the sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday night. They were each sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and were strengthened in their Christian life.

A special thank you to Sr Luka, who coordinated the sacramental program and all the parents who lead groups, guiding the children to a greater understanding of this sacrament.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 26th June</td>
<td>Munch n Crunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 27th June</td>
<td>Dance Fever Demo - Year 4 - 8:30am,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 5 – 9:10am, Year 2 – 9:50am, Year 6 – 11am,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kindy - 11:40am, Year 1 - 12:10pm &amp; Year 3 - 1:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29th June</td>
<td>Dance Fever Interschool Challenge - 5pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 30th June</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2</td>
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Kids flicks on the terrace

**FREE MOVIE** on the outdoor terrace
+ $13 Kids pizza meal deals + face painter

**THURSDAY 6TH JULY**
MOANA

**THURSDAY 13TH JULY**
SING

JOIN IN THE FUN FROM 5PM.
MOVIE COMMENCES AT 6PM.

The kiddies can bring a blanket and cuddle up on the sofas under our warm roof heaters.

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**KIDS BINGO**

**TICKETS $8** INCLUDES CHIPS, LOLLIES AND DRINK, BINGO TEXTA AND BINGO BOOK.
DOORS OPEN 1.30PM FOR 2PM START

**WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY**

Have fun & party
Terms and conditions apply.

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ST MARYS RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB
CNR FORRESTER AND BORONIA ROADS
ST MARYS NSW 2760
PH 02 9677 7777 | www.stmarysleagues.com.au
KIDS WINTER Wonderland

Wednesday 12th July
Doors open 10.30am for an 11am start
Bring the kids along for some awesome entertainment, crafts and activities.

HALF HOUR PANTO SHOW
GIANT INFLATABLE SNOW GLOBE
JUMPING CASTLE
INFLATABLE SLIDE
SNOW MACHINE
MAKE YOUR OWN SNOW ACTIVITY
CHILDREN’S CRAFTS
AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

ONLY $10

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