FRIDAY 1/12/2017 TERM 4 - WEEK 8

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

BETHANY'S

Dear Bethany Parents and Carers,

Last week the Bethany student community showcased their talents at the Mission's

Busking and Stall Day. There were over 80 busking items to entertain the parent and

grandparent visitors. The students were amazing in organizing outstanding stalls with so many items for sale. The students' creativity with providing a variety of merchandise to sell was fantastic. The whole day was a celebration of learning, innovation, creativity and resourcefulness.

Whilst the day was entertaining it also gave students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning and skills, for example:

writing skills

graphic designing of posters

mathematical concepts

craft skills

purposeful talk experiences

design and make items

money literacy

A very special thank you to Mrs Cignarella, Mrs Lazare and their team for organizing the day and supporting the students with an opportunity for them all to shine!!! I wish to thank all the parents and grandparents who attended and the parents who

provided support in setting up the student stalls.

The day's fundraising was outstanding, \$2,750.00 was collected for the Missions.

The Bethany Swimming Carnival was held last night at Penrith. The evening was well supported by students, teachers and parents. Congratulations to all the students for their achievements and swimming records.

Congratulations to the Bethany P & F team for the very successful Disco Night last Friday. The infants and primary students had so much fun dancing the night away. It was great to see the teachers enjoying the music and demonstrating their dancing skills as well.

In the next two weeks we have so many special events to celebrate together in finalising the 2017 school year. Over the past weeks the staff have been working on the following:-

2018 Bethany School Goals

Religious Education and Formation

For all students to increase their existing knowledge of the spiritual sense using sacred scriptures with a focus on Sacraments and Jesus.

Literacy

For all students to demonstrate improved comprehension with a focus on knowledge about language.

Numeracy

For all students to improve their ability to solve multi-step problems using a variety of strategies that focus on communicating, problem solving and reasoning.

2018 Student Leadership

I wish to advise that the Year 5 teachers and leadership team have been working with your children in preparation for their significant role of being the School Leaders in 2018.

In the past weeks, at a school level, we have been considering their role as leaders for 2018. We believe their role as leaders include:-

- being a role model exemplifying the Bethany School Rules Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.
- being part of a committee team leading specific areas, for example Pastoral Care, Environmental, Information Technology, Hospitality, Media, Student Representative Council

In supporting the development of the Year 5 students' skills for leadership we decided to begin a conversation with each class on what constitutes a Safe and Supportive School

Environment.

Following on from these conversations we have investigated further and are implementing a 'Bullying. No Way! Take a Stand Together' series of lessons to develop the Year 5

students' skills and understanding of the nature of bullying.

The above process follows on from the Term 3 'Resilience Program' where the Year 5

students participated in discussions and activities based around the key concept of 'Encountering Disappointment: Thinking and Acting Positively'.

In 2018, Bethany will continue the 'Safe and Supportive School Environment' focus across all grades. Our Year 6 students will be able to be ambassadors in supporting our school program and initiative. The aim is to promote a caring and supportive school culture that fosters positive

relationships and reflects Gospel teachings as a core aspect in the prevention of and response to incidents of bullying, including cyberbullying. Bullying and cyberbullying disregard core values of the Catholic faith including dignity, respect, justice, equity, compassion, trust and courage. Bullying can adversely affect the wellbeing of students and is unacceptable. For those who were able to attend our Cyber Lady evening you will note the correlation between parent education and student education working hand in hand at Bethany.

2018 Staffing

The school leadership team continue to work on staffing for 2018. As soon as the staffing is finalised information will be published to all parents. I am able to advise of a few changes for 2018 to date:

Mrs Alison Tredinnick and Miss Rachel Cefai have both been appointed positions at

St Aiden's Primary School, Rooty Hill for 2018. On behalf of the Bethany community

I wish Alison and Rachel the very best in their new school.

Miss Christel Vion has been appointed a permanent position to Bethany for 2018. Christel is an experienced teacher currently teaching at Sacred Heart Catholic

Primary School, Mount Druitt. Bethany looks forward to welcoming Christel to our school community.

It is with great pleasure that I advise that the following staff have been appointed a position in 2018. Congratulations to Miss Lauren Keeley, Mrs Isabelle Nakier,

Mrs Rosa McLean, Miss Sarah Brady, Miss Sandra Dunphy, Miss Karlie Vella,

Miss Nikita Dingemans

Mrs Julie Brien will be taking 12 months leave from Bethany to work at St Dominics College, Kingswood. Bethany wishes Julie the best and looks forward to her return in 2019.

As mentioned above the staffing continues to be a work in progress. I am looking

forward to finalising the staffing for 2018.

Bethany P & F Meeting – Monday 11th December, at 7.00 pm

On behalf of the Bethany P & F I invite you to come to the meeting to share your ideas and thoughts for Bethany in 2018. Light hospitality will be provided so we can gather together

collaboratively to plan, share ideas and celebrate the wonderful work that has been achieved this year. 7 pm in the Bethany School Library.

Nut / Peanut Allergy Notice

The Bethany Catholic Primary School Community has a number of students with peanut / nut allergies. For some of these students, their allergic reaction to peanuts and nuts is produced by mere smell and/or peanut/nut residue on the desk, door knob or water fountain by a student who has eaten food with nuts and/or peanuts.

An allergic reaction for a student with anaphylaxis can be life threatening and in many cases the reaction is very swift in onset.

Our school community needs to ensure the safety of all of its students and provide those children with this severe allergy a safe learning environment. As such, parents are to ensure that their children **do not bring any food item containing peanuts / nuts to school for lunches or snacks (or special treats for class parties etc..).** This includes products such as almond butter and "Wow Butter", as it can be difficult to decipher such products from real peanut butter. Students are asked to wash their faces and hands and brush their teeth prior to coming to school if they have been exposed to peanuts / nuts or their by products as part of their breakfast meal.

We are endeavouring to make the school a safe environment for all our students and we greatly appreciate your co-operation and support.

No Dogs Allowed on School Property

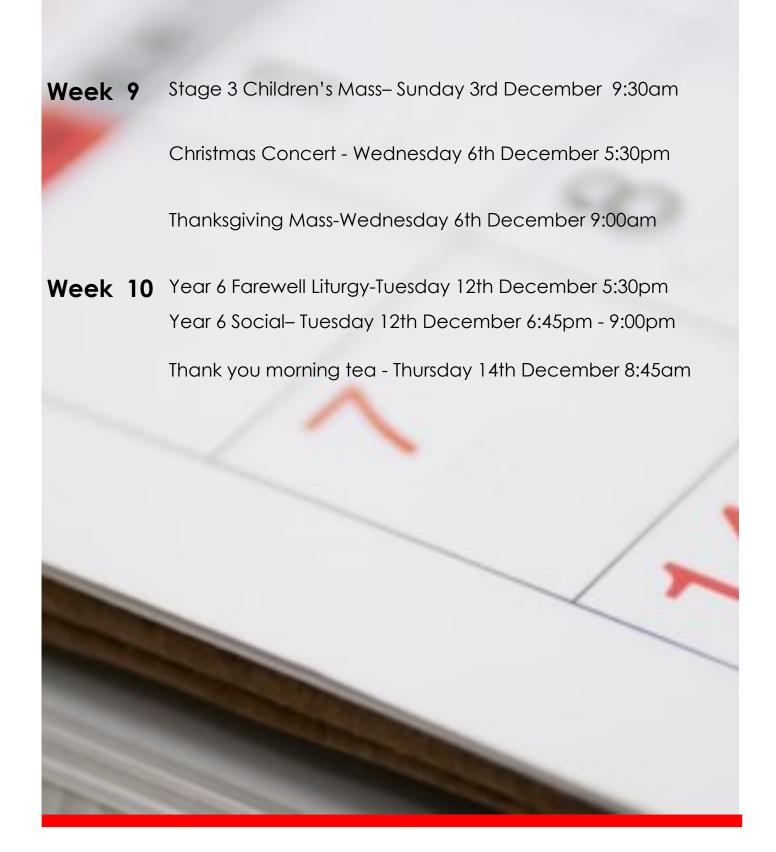
Our school community needs to ensure the safety of all of its students and is requesting all parents, carers and visitors to respect the following:-

No dogs are allowed on our school grounds. If you see someone with their dog on the grounds could you remind them of this rule, which has been made to ensure the safety of your child.

The Council rangers may be called if a dog is seen on the school grounds.

This is a useful link with helpful information for children and dogs, promoting safety http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/dogs_and_children.html

Upcoming events-Week 95 10





RE - Mrs Cígnarella

Reflecting on the Annunciation

Lk 1: 26-38

Through Mary's example, we can respond to all that God asks from us!



As we prepare for the birth of Jesus, we can reflect on the scripture of the Annunciation. In this scripture, the angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary, during which he told her that she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The Annunciation is the beginning of Jesus in His human nature.

Mary makes a free choice to accept God's task for her - a task she could have refused, and for that reason, Mary has become a model for all of us to say yes to Jesus in our daily lives.

Mary, in her selflessness, was open to the angel's visit. She recognized who was speaking. She listened, received and responded. In doing so, she shows us the way to respond to the Lord's call in our own lives.

Mary, the mother of Jesus is the most perfect model for us to follow in our own lives. Mary was selfless, pure and ready to do God's will, no questions asked. Mary said YES!

What did Mary's YES mean for us today?

We must say "Yes" as well and believe that "nothing is impossible with God."

When we reflect on the scripture of the Annunciation to Mary, and her acceptance of the angel Gabriel's message, we also reflect on our own vocation -- our own calling from God.

RE Continued-Mrs Cignarella

Lk 1: 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be holy; he will be called the Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



In this edition of the Bethany Newsletter, we celebrate the writing achievements of our infants students.

Kindergarten students have been completing a variety of writing tasks, from recounts about activities they have been participating in during class time to responses about what mystery item might be hidden inside a closed box. The following are some examples of the quality writing that has been taking place in Kindergarten this term.

Today I played with the Jake and the Never Land pirate. I was the servant and I walked the plank and I got the treasure before Captain Hook. I played with Marcos. By Aiden Ermita KB

Today I saw parsley and mint leaves growing in our vegetable garden! They grow really big out of the ground. I learnt that they grow very tall. We also saw some beans and we got to eat them but I did not like them at all! My friend Mitchell pulled a beetroot out from underground. In the fairy garden I saw a magical bean! By Sarah Baker KW

I think the Whoopee cushion belongs to DJ Mikey. He wanted to be the best rock star ever! But, one day DJ was walking then he tripped over a teddy bear. He fell over and landed on a whoopee cushion and it made a sound...poohwee! By Koby Ellingsworth KR

Year One students have written texts with a purpose to entertain, inform or persuade in response to a stimulus. These writing samples respond to either a stimulus being a large box or an image of animals running. The students decided what they wanted to write after talking about and viewing the stimulus. These are samples of the quality writing that has been taking place in Year 1. (Please note that these are only short extracts from the Year 1 writing.)

Friendship written by Alyssa Durroch 1B

Purpose: to entertain

Once upon a time, in a faraway land, there lived a little girl named Olivia and her friend Oliver. She lived in a cottage with her Grandad and Granny.

One day a package arrived while Olivia was playing with Oliver. It said 'To Olivia.' Grandad said, with a grumpy voice, "Olivia, have you ordered something?" Olivia replied "No". "Ok" he said with a happy voice, "we'll keep it in the cupboard". But soon it was bedtime and that night the Ice Queen came to steal the box and took it back to her palace.

Later, when morning arrived, Olivia went to look for her clothes but then..."Aaaaaah!!!! Granny! Grandad! The box, it's gone!" and she burst into tears. Granny cried, "It really is gone, so mysterious." And Grandad agreed.



Animal Race written by Anabelle Contractor 1W

In the jingle jangle jungle, in the jungle of Australia, on a sunny and warm day, a little tiger entered a race. Her name was Lovestar, Lovestar was a marvellous runner. When everything was ready, Lovestar started to prepare in her position. She was competing against a leopard, an owl, a lion and a jaguar.

The Big Race written by Colby Tran 1R

Chapter 1

One sunny day four friends were going to join the race of the Australian jungle. Where there's lots of spikey dangerous things. But the four friends didn't know anything about the dangerous things in the jungle.

Now, the race was the next day and crocodile was nervous because he thought there were dangerous things. He told his mum but she said that there was nothing dangerous in the jungle of Australia. "Mum, tomorrow's the race, we'll have to have a big sleep."

Then crocodile woke up and went to the race. He was scared. Then he met Ape, Turtle and Pig. They did the race and crocodile won. He wasn't so scared and he told his mum.

Year 2 students have been writing texts that have a purpose to inform, entertain or persuade. The students used a toy that they designed and created in their Science lessons, as a stimulus for their writing. The following are some examples of the quality writing that has been taking place in Year 2 this term.

Kai has wri<mark>tten a persuasive text to EBay about</mark> an invented toy called 'Roblox'. Hello EBay,

I demand that you put my toy on EBay, now! Everyone will buy my must have toy for Christmas because it's just around the corner. It's also super duper cheap. It's only \$3.75. Just letting you know that it has amazing movement. It's based off my skin in roblox and roblox is the most popular game this year. Can you believe that OMG!

Firstly, my toy is only \$3.75 cheap, right! It's really good for people who don't have much money because it's really cheap! My toy is only valued at this for a limited time (only a month).

Secondly, my roblox toy has extremely good movement. The movement is everywhere in my toy. Did you know that you can put it into all different positions at any time anywhere. If you have two different roblox toys you can put them into any battle in your house but only if you have a boxing simulator pack from Kmart.

My toy is based off a very popular game called Roblox. Roblox is a game when you can have fun and chat with the people in the game server. My toy is like my skin in roblox. My skin is cool in roblox.

To sum up, you really need to buy my toy when it's on EBay. Yours sincerely, Kai McAlister (2W)



The Broken Horse Carriage

By Mackenzie Good 2R

One day there was a little girl. She got out of bed to get ready for breakfast. It was a Monday morning. She got out of bed and went downstairs. Her name was Caroline. She got dressed ready for school. It was a little bit weird, because she would ride a horse carriage to school instead of the bus! She went to the bathroom to brush her teeth she heard a "HONK!" "Oh that's my ride", said Caroline! Caroline hugged her mother GOODBYE. Caroline put her backpack on and she went out of the big, brown, beautiful, door.

Caroline quickly hopped onto the long, lined, back seat. The black, beautiful, blue-eyed horse's name was Oreo. The man's name that owned the horse, was Ethan. He was 27 years old. Ethan got ready to go, and when Ethan was ready, off they went. A few seconds later, they heard a "SMASH!" The horse carriage lost control and literally smashed into a tree! "OH NO!" said Caroline. "How am I going to get to school?" thought Caroline. It took all of her school hours (7 hours) "OH NO!" said Caroline. "What's wrong Caroline?" said Ethan... "I've never had a day off school" said Caroline. "Oh dear... if only I could fix the horse carriage" said Ethan...

"Wait!" said Caroline "What? said Ethan" "I know someone who can fix it, his name is Zachary!" said Caroline. "Ok" said Ethan. Caroline rang up Zachary. Zachary came over and fixed the horse carriage. They paid \$83 dollars after the horse carriage was fixed. Caroline rang her big brother called Matthew to pick her up. They went home overjoyed. The end.

The Titanic

By Mason McIlwhan 2B

(This is a short extract from Mason's writing. He wrote a series of diary entries from the perspective of a passenger on the Titanic)

15 April 1912

It was 11:45 pm and we struck an iceberg. The "unsinkable" ship was sinking! The midnight chill made me chatter as the bridge on the port side entered the freezing arctic water. All I could hear were screams like this "Help! Take my baby! Jump!" Men were struggling to lower the lifeboats. Soon someone yelled, "I need a knife" and kept repeating. Then the first funnel fell on top of a big group of people. They screamed til they got squashed from the mighty cylinder. The ship suddenly lurched forward and a bunch of furniture came crashing down into the black water. People came running to the direction starboard [right]. The ship then tilted and the ship went higher into the air at 2:10 am. The Titanic started to break into two pieces. At 2:17 am, the Titanic's last wireless distress call is heard and the water rapidly rises.



NUMERACY-Mrs Donlan

PAT-M Testing

Next week, students at Bethany will be completing the Progressive Achievement Test in Mathematics (PAT-M). This online test will

provide information about the level of achievement of students in Year 1 to Year 6. The test assesses students' skill and

understanding in multiple-choice format in the six strands of:

- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Statistics
- Probability

The assessment also addresses the mathematical processes of

understanding, fluency, problem solving and reasoning. The skills assessed by each question are mapped against the Australian

National Curriculum for Mathematics.

This test is being administered so valuable data can be gathered on student achievement in problem-solving that will be focused on here at Bethany in 2018.

Tests require 40 minutes of testing time and approximately 15 minutes for administration. We are excited to analyse this data to inform our 'where to next' in the teaching and learning of

problem-solving in numeracy.



SPORT - Mrs Donlan

Twilight Swimming Carnival

Many thanks to the parents who assisted at the Twilight Swimming yesterday evening. It was a great opportunity to see so many of our Bethany students demonstrating their great swimming abilities. From this event a team will be selected to represent Bethany at zone in Term 1 2018.

A reminder that yesterday's carnival was a time trial, therefore some children who placed first or second in their heat may not in fact be going to zone. Times will be compared across the heats to determine who will progress to the next level.

Notes for those students selected will be going out on Friday of week 9 due to the zone date being so early in Term 1.

Another huge shout of thanks goes to Miss Dunphy and Mrs Gibson who worked behind the scenes prior to the event.

Congratulations to all competitors for a great display of skill and sportsmanship!!!!

Mrs Donlan Sports Coordinator







LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you

A huge thank you to our library monitors Alana King, Isabelle McMaster, Tahlia Tanti, Emma Pratsch and Mischa Partridge have who graciously served in the library during their lunch breaks this year.

Also a very special thank you to all the Year 4 students who are always willing to assist in our Create-A-Daze sessions.

Furthermore, a special thank you to Cheryl Kristen and Annemarie Kemp for covering new books for our library. Your time and effort is so greatly appreciated.

A very special thank you to Donna Cudmore and Karen Fruitiet for all that you do for our Scholastic Book club. Also, to all who supported our Book Fair this year.

Lastly, thank you to all the students and parents who have returned library books thus far. Please note all books need to be returned to the library by Week 9.

Wishing you all a wonderful and blessed Christmas. Mrs Roseanne Liepa



Other news

SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to those families who have finalised their school fee accounts for 2017.

If you have a scheduled direct debit or a BPay arrangement set up with the school, please take the time to check your balance so that we can cancel any further payments if you are up to date.

Failing this, any credit amounts will go to fees in advance for 2018.

Flexible Payment Plans set up with the Catholic Education Office at the beginning of the year will automatically cease.

Another reminder, that if your son is attending St Dominic's College in 2018 and have siblings within the Catholic Diocese, please complete the 'SIBLING INFORMATION FOR DIOCE-SAN TUITION FEES' on our website (under the 'Enrol Now', 'School Fees' tab.

http://www.bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au/Enrol-Now/School-fees

This will ensure you receive the sibling discount.

Please complete and submit to the school office before Friday, 15th December, 2017.

2018 FEES

Billing for 2018 will be distributed in February. Invoiced over three terms only.

Any fee enquiries to be directed to bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au or call 02 4723 3700.

School banking has now closed for 2017. Students waiting on prize orders will receive them before the end of the year. Thank you to the two parent volunteers who have made it possible to provide this service to our students, Amanda McAlister and Amie Bakhteari.



I would like to thank our new Clothing Pool volunteers for

2018, Kylie Obuch and Maria Hay. Clothing Pool opens Tuesday's from 2:30 to 2:45pm

THANKSGIVING MASS INVITATION

Dear Bethany Parents and Families,

We invite you to join us to celebrate the end of a wonderful school year.

We will take time at this Mass to thank God for all the blessings that this school year has given us.

When: Wednesday, 6th December

Where: Padre Pio Church

Time : 8:45 am



Bethany's Christmas Carol Celebration

Wednesday 6th December 2017

5:30pm-School Band

6:00pm-K-6 Christmas Concert

All Parents, Visitors, Students and staff are required to wear a white top

(More information to follow)

Please advise your child's teacher in writing if your child/ren will not be attending Bethany's Christmas Concert.



Parent Helpers

Our Bethany Parent Helpers are invited to a special Morning Tea

The Staff of Bethany would like to thank the parents, carers & 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 morníng tea will be provided Week 10 Thursday 14th December at approximately 8:45 after our school assembly.

Hope you can make ít!

BUS APPLICATIONS

Applications for 2018 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) and Term Bus Pass (TBP) travel entitlements are now open.

In coming days students who hold an SSTS entitlement and are changing grade bands i.e. going from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7 <u>and changing school</u>, and students whose entitlement was approved under a medical condition, will receive notification by email or post informing them of the pending expiry of their entitlement. TBP holders will also receive notification.

Students enquiring about pending cancellation should be advised to go online to <u>https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails</u> to update details/make application for next year's entitlement.

Application needs to be made before 31 December 2017 to ensure their entitlement is updated and their current card is not cancelled. If application is made after the expiry of their entitlement (31 December) the system will automatically cancel their card and a new one will need to be issued.

Please note: Students who are changing grade band and are <u>remaining at the same school</u> will not receive notification and <u>do not need to reapply</u> (the system now automatically validates a student's on-going eligibility if at the same school and going from infants to primary or primary to secondary). Where a student meets the new eligibility the system will automatically update their entitlement and card.

Students in the Opal area applying for a SSTS or TBP entitlement for the first time will receive their card (posted to the nominated address) a week or two before the commencement of 2018 classes. Please let students know new cards for 2018 are not posted in 2017 or during the Christmas / New Year period.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas are expected to receive their new travel pass at the commencement of the New School Year. **Note**; not all R&R operators issue passes (often in smaller communities where the student is known a pass is not issued).

Concessions Email: <u>Student@transport.nsw.gov.au</u>

Transport



NEW PARISH INITIATIVE FOR 2018

Padre Pio Parish will be hosting Alpha,

beginning on Tuesday 6th February 2018,

7:00pm at Bethany Catholic Primary School

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring life, meaning and faith.

It is open to Parishioners and non-church goers alike.

All are welcome, Come and See

Alpho

For enquiries and to RSVP, contact Brad & Natalie Wilkinson

pppalpha@mail.com Who will you invite?

Parish

PADRE PIO

GINGERBREAD HOUSE NIGHT

Please join us for a fun night of friendship and laughter as you make a gingerbread house to share with your family & friends over Christmas.



COST: \$25.00 (\$30.00 Gluten Free – 12 ordered) (Includes gingerbread kit, tea/coffee & refreshments)

Please bring all lollies for decorating your house together with dessert or tablespoon, knives, scissors, pins (to hold house together while icing sets) and any other utensils you wish to bring including bowls (or zip lock bags) & food colouring if you wish to tint your icing

This night is for anyone from Year 5 at primary school onwards

Kits can also be ordered separately for collection Gingerbread Houses - \$23.00/Gluten Free \$27.00 Star Tree - \$10.00/Gluten Free \$11.00 (2 ordered) Triangle Tree - \$14.00/Gluten Free \$16.00 (2 ordered) Nativity Kit - \$26.00/Gluten Free \$30.00 (1 ordered)

> Date: 13 December 2017 Time: 7.00 p.m. Venue: Bethany/Parish Hall RSVP & Payment by: 1 December 2017 or 24 November 2017 for Gluten Free



GLENMORE PARK FOOTBALL CLUB

FEMALE TRIALS FOR 2018

Are you interest in playing football at Glenmore Park next year?

Trials are being held in December for the following age groups.

Under 12 (Turning 11 or 12 in 2018) Under 14 (Turning 13 or 14 in 2018) Under 16 (Turning 15 or 16 in 2018) Under 18 (Turning 16, 17 or 18 in 2018)

DATES: 11-14 DECEMBER

For more information please go to our website

WWW.GLENMOREPARKFOOTBALL.COM.AU

And complete the Expression of Interest form

If you have any enquiries please contact the club on 0412 168 067 or email

trials@glenmoreparkfootball.com.au



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