

BETHANY'S NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 19th October 2018

TERM 4



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Bethany Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Week 1, Term 4. I hope that everyone in our Bethany community had a restful break over the holidays. It was wonderful to see our students coming back on Monday morning very keen to catch up with their teachers and friends.

I have lots of information to pass on to you so we can be ahead this term with communication. The details are listed below:

- At the end of Term 3 parents were advised of the refurbishment schedule for the administration block. All the staff who worked in the administration block have been relocated to the three demountables previously known as Italian, Learning Support and Music.
- An amendment was made to the Arrivals and Dismissal procedures and was communicated via Skoolbag and the official Facebook page. Please visit our Bethany Facebook page to view the video clips of the new arrival procedure and the fantastic video where Dorothy and the Scarecrow are greeting our parents and students on Day 1.
- We welcomed Kristy Rudel and Daniela Hansen to the staffing this term. Kristy Rudel will be executive release for the following classes: Year 3W, Year 3b (during Miss Vion's leave) and Year 6G. Daniela Hansen will be working with the Learning Support team on Tuesday and Friday.
- Miss Sandra Dunphy celebrated her wedding day during the holidays and is now Mrs Nolan.
- Miss Sarah Brady is getting married and will be known as Mrs Wilson.
- Miss Pascale Joseph has been seconded to St Aidan's, Rooty Hill for Term 4 only. A number of staff have been appointed to higher duties throughout the duration of Miss Joseph's secondment:
 - ◇ Mrs Cristina Cignarella – Acting Assistant Principal
 - ◇ Mrs Catherine Baldacchino – Acting Religious Education Coordinator
 - ◇ Miss Karlie Vella and Mrs Lauren Inskip - Acting Literacy Coordinators
 - ◇ Miss Cassandra Cimilio has taken up the Acting Coordinator 1 position whilst Miss Christel Vion is on leave until Week 7, Term 4.
- It was announced at Bethany on Wednesday this week that Mrs Michelle White has been appointed to a permanent position as Learning Support Teacher at St Justin's Catholic Primary School, Oran Park in 2019. Mrs White has taught at Bethany for 18 years and whilst we congratulate Michelle on her new appointment, we will sadly miss her at Bethany.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

- I wish to thank a number of casual teachers who have taken up a teaching position whilst the permanent class teacher is either on long service leave, acting duties and/or sick leave: Miss Jessica Tiller currently in Year 1 Blue for Miss Sarah Brady, Miss Leanne Bailey in Year 6 Red for Miss Nikita Dingemans on sick leave, Mrs Fiona Boulous supporting the RFF team on Wednesdays and Mrs Belinda White in a job share arrangement with Mrs Ingrid Akkari for Term 4 enabling Mrs Cignarella to take up the Acting Principal position.

On Wednesday evening, Bethany welcomed the 2019 Kindergarten parents to an information evening session. It is always a wonderful experience meeting with our new parents and introducing them to all the wonderful things we do at Bethany. A number of our community members were invited to talk to our parents. I wish to express my appreciation to Mrs Kelli-Jean Poulton and Mrs Marina Fannuchi for attending the evening and providing information on COHSC and the Parents and Friends Community respectively.

It was wonderful to hear Fr Suresh talk to our prospective 2019 parents. Our School and Parish work collaboratively to ensure Bethany is a faith filled community where we:

- are truly Catholic in our identity and life
- are a centre of evangelisation
- enable our students to achieve high levels of 'Catholic religious literacy', and
- are led and staffed by people who will contribute to these goals.

All the staff of Bethany are working collaboratively to improve the quality of the learning and teaching that will ignite our students' desires to learn and achieve their personal potential. Bethany staff is participating in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) with the focus to increase student learning by creating a culture that is:

- focussed on continuous improvement by linking the learning needs of students with the professional learning and practice of teachers
- committed to professionalism by providing NESA accredited School Based Professional Learning (SBPL)
- fuelled by collaborative expertise.

Exciting learning is happening with Bethany staff engaging in PLCs working on the:

- new Science and Technology Syllabus K-6
- Assessment and Reporting incorporating student voice – feedback and feed forward

In closing, I wish to acknowledge the gifts and talents our staff brings to our Bethany community. Throughout this week a number of staff have engaged in facilitating professional learning, stepped up to leadership roles confidently and have demonstrated a willingness and determination to make a difference in the teaching and learning for our students.

God Bless
Cheryl Brown

Important Dates

Tuesday 23rd October	Stage 2 and 3 Basketball Gala Day Penrith and Districts Basketball Complex, Cambridge Park
Thursday 25th October	Kindergarten 2019 Transition 1 9:00am - 10:20am
Friday 26th October	Celebration of Learning, Year 4 - 2:15pm
Friday 26th October	Sock it to Poverty Crazy Sock Day
Thursday 1st November	Kindergarten 2019 Transition 2 9:00am - 10:20am
Thursday 1st November	Colour Run (new postponed date)
Sunday 4th November	Padre Pio Children's Mass led by Kinder, Year 3 and Year 6 students, 9:30am
Thursday 8th November	Kindergarten 2019 Transition 3 9:00am - 10:20am
Friday 9th November	Celebration of Learning, Year 5 - 2:15pm



RE - Mrs Baldacchino

Mission: Sock It To Poverty

Term 4 sees each grade at Bethany beginning their learning in Religious Education with a 3-4 week unit about Mission. The following are the units for each grade:

Kindergarten	Mission: Living as Jesus Showed Us
Year One	Mission: Sharing with others as Jesus Showed Us
Year Two	Mission: Loving God and others as Jesus (PBL unit)
Year Three	Mission: Reaching Out with Jesus (PBL unit)
Year Four	Mission: Serving others with Jesus
Year Five	Mission: Witnessing and Proclaiming Jesus Throughout the World
Year Six	Mission: Living and Sharing the Mission of Jesus

Mission can be defined as 'the vocation or calling of a religious organisation, especially a Christian one, to go out into the world and spread its faith'. One of the main scriptures focused on within the Year 3 Mission unit is 'The Mission of the Twelve'. Just like Jesus' disciples, we are called to mission, to reach out to those in need and answer the call to love God and love our neighbour.

'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.' John 13:34

Catholic Mission, a charitable organisation, is the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. Their mission is to 'answer the call to love God and love our neighbour, and work to establish the Reign of God through building communities of missionary disciples of Jesus, who share their faith by proclaiming the Word, serving people in need, acting for justice and creation, and adopting child-focused development programs.

An initiative of Catholic Mission is Socktober. Friday 26th October is '**Sock It To Poverty**' day at Bethany. On this day, the students are encouraged to wear 'crazy' socks to school instead of their regular school socks. Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation on this day. All monies collected on this day will be donated to Catholic Mission. Participation in this initiative helps us to fulfil our obligation to answer the call to love God and love our neighbour.





LITERACY - Miss Vella & Mrs Inskip



NAPLAN

The individual student reports provide information about what students know and have achieved in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. They also provide information on how students have performed in relation to other students in the same year group, and against the national average and the national minimum standards.

In Term 4, the NAPLAN data will be analysed by teachers across Bethany and used to inform our Bethany School goal in Literacy, as well as identify areas of need.

PAT-R

This week students in Years 2 - 6 completed a diocesan assessment for comprehension. This assessment comprises questions across a range of difficulties, whilst assessing different areas of comprehension. The data gathered from this assessment will also be used to identify areas of need across the school, contribute to the Bethany Literacy goal, and will be analysed by the classroom teacher, the learning support team and the school leadership team.

Early Years Assessment-EYA

In Weeks 7 and 8 of Term 4, K-2 students will be involved in the Early Years Assessment for Literacy. This test has already been conducted in Term 1 with their classroom teacher. Data is gathered from this assessment and used to identify, as early as possible, students who may need extra support or enrichment. The following is an outline of the focus for each grade:

- Kinder**
 - Letter Identification
 - Concepts About Print
 - Reading Running Record

- Year 1**
 - Writing Vocabulary
 - Hearing and Recording Sounds in Words
 - Burt Word Test
 - Reading Running Record

- Year 2**
 - Reading Running Record



SPORT - Mrs Dowlan

2019 Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials

Currently only the Summer Sports of BASKETBALL & TENNIS are open and registrations close on Wednesday 31st October as these trials will be held in November 2018.

All OTHER sport registrations will open in November for 2019 trials.

Any Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2019 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term 4 in 2018 and Term 1 and 2 in 2019.

It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is **strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 and 6 in 2019 be invited to attend.**

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au.

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2019 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. Parents may complete this form to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria; therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and **MUST be approved by the child's school**. In order for the child to attend the nominated trial or event this may come down to the discretion of the school as to who is selected to attend the trial. In some sports only 2 students per school can be nominated. **All fields and especially "Representative Experience" MUST be completed.**

Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the Online Registration Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

MACKILLOP CRICKET

The Bethany community wish to congratulate James Lennox in year 6 for his inclusion in the MacKillop cricket team and wish him every success next week when he competes in the NSW/Vic border town of Barooga. We look forward to hearing all about this event on his return.

MARK TAYLOR SHIELD CRICKET

As sent out earlier in the week, the Mark Taylor Shield cricket match against St Joseph's, Schofields scheduled for next week has been postponed due to a clash with St Dominic's Orientation Day. As it is an away match for us St Joseph's are working with Blacktown Council to find another date. As soon as this is known the players will be informed and an alert sent out.

SPORT Continued- Mrs Donlan

PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN BASKETBALL GALA DAY

On Tuesday the 23rd October approximately 40 students will be representing Bethany at the Parramatta Diocesan Basketball Gala Day. They are congratulated on being chosen to represent Bethany. Results and photos will be in the next newsletter.

The children are to meet Mrs Inskip and Mrs Gibson at the venue (Penrith Basketball Complex, Cambridge Park) at 7:45am.

The teams are as follows:

Stage 3 Girls

Sara Malinowsky
Charisse Maron
Zara Harris
Georgina Martin
Abbey Grech
Alyssa Tagudin
Tahlia Tanti
Sofia Hunt
Charlyse Russo
Chelsea Graham

Stage 3 Boys

Callum Donnelly
Callum Gately
Ryan Banister
Michael Harvey Panis Jr
Ivan Sudulic
Josh Bourke
Tristan Scott
Marley Hayward
Mitchell Hayes

Stage 2 Girls

Amelia Wood
Ayla Tagudin
Alani Pettitt
Tahlia Tadros
Charli Kasouff
Annabelle Tran
Emerie Gal
Grace Donnelly
Aliyah Chilly
Charlotte McLean

Stage 2 Boys

Apai Dau
Lincon Daines
Rory Gately
Thomas Gobrael
Liam Moldez
Alex Puposki
James Baker
Lachlan Hay
Bronx Bloom
Alexavier Chhuy

Other News

School Fees

Thank you to all those families who have paid their 2018 school fees. Families with accounts that have not yet been paid will receive a Term 4 statement showing the outstanding balance. Prompt payment would be appreciated, as accounts will be referred to CEDP if no contact has been made. This may affect your credit rating in the future.

Summer Uniform

As we start Term 4, all students are now to be wearing full summer uniform and we ask parents to ensure their children are in the correct uniform each day. All school uniform items are available from Lowes, Westfield Penrith. Bethany school hats form part of the school uniform and are therefore a compulsory item. Bethany hats are available to purchase from the school office.

There are a large number of second hand summer uniform items available from our school clothing pool. The clothing pool operates every Tuesday at 2:30pm-2.45pm and enables good second hand uniforms to be sold at very reasonable prices. Many thanks to the parent volunteers who assist in running the clothing pool.

Hair accessories such as ribbons and clips are to be of school colours.

For safety reasons, we ask that children wear minimal jewellery or no jewellery at all. Students may wear a silver or gold chain necklace with a cross or other religious symbol. One pair of studs or sleepers may be worn.

Sickness

Earlier this week a letter was sent out via the Skoolbag app, notifying parents and carers that a number of students in various grades have been sick with gastroenteritis. This is a highly contagious virus and easily spread, particularly in places such as schools.

To reduce the spread of illness to our students and staff, we ask that you keep your child at home if they are unwell. It is particularly important that you remind your child of the importance of washing their hands thoroughly with soap and running water, and covering their mouth when coughing.

Further information on viral gastroenteritis is available at the NSW Health website
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/viral-gastroenteritis.aspx>