

# BETHANY'S NEWSLETTER



FRIDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2019 TERM 1 WEEK 4



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Bethany,

Welcome to Week 4's Newsletter. It has been a wonderful start to the year. It gives me great pleasure to share the wonderful feedback that Bethany has received after the Parent Information Evening on Wednesday in Week 3. There were so many comments referring to how the students have been welcomed by their new teachers for 2019. The Parent Information Evening was a positive experience for the families who attended. Later in the evening parents visited their child's grade and were well informed of the grade's curriculum and learning information. Parents were also invited to put their name on a list requesting an additional interview opportunity to meet with the teacher to discuss their child's learning and wellbeing.

I wish to thank the Bethany Leadership Team and staff for hosting an excellent evening for our parents and carers.

If you didn't attend the information evening, I encourage you to arrange an appointment to meet with your child's teacher. I encourage all parents and carers to build a relationship with your child's teacher, so we can support you as the first educators of your child.

This year, at Bethany, we would like to foster parent and school relationships. We will be researching ways to build quality parent and school relationships. Below are characteristics where school and parents engage in effective partnerships, e.g.

- responsive to student and family needs and aspirations
- commitment to collaboration
- mutual trust and respect
- equal valuing of the different roles in the partnership
- sharing a responsibility and influence
- open dialogue and effective communication
- appropriate and adequate resources

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE, continued

International research has shown that parental engagement (of various kinds) has a positive impact on many indicators of student development; educational and beyond. These include:

- more regular school attendance
- better social skills
- improved behaviour
- better adaptation to school
- increased social capital
- a greater sense of personal competence and efficacy for learning
- greater engagement in school work, and
- a stronger belief in the importance of education

We look forward to working with all parents and carers in building a positive and effective school and parent partnership at Bethany.

Let us be reminded of the sign when we enter our school everyday...

***Welcome to Bethany***

***In Christ We Love and Serve***

***Our school name was inspired by the ancient biblical village Jesus often visited and is associated with hospitality, service, listening and learning.***





# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

## Staff Professional Learning

Effective professional development serves to identify student learning needs. It focuses on the relationship between teaching and student learning. Time spent out of class and in professional learning allows teachers to collaborate and discuss students' data in order to make informed decisions about future learning. Throughout this week, all classroom teachers were provided an additional 2 hours of professional learning time as a grade team. This gave them the opportunity to look at student samples, pre-assessments and to plan appropriately for the students' needs.

Over the next fortnight the following staff will be attending outsourced professional learning experiences:

### Week 5:

- Monday 25th February - Miss Sibbald will be released for a Beginning Teacher day
- Tuesday 26th February - Mrs Baldacchino will be attending the RE Curriculum Developer Gathering
- Tuesday 26th February - Miss Joseph will be taking the Year 3 EMU group to a Behind the Screen professional learning session
- Wednesday 27th February - Mrs Andreatta will be attending Reading Recovery Training

Mr Scott Carroll (CEDP personnel) will continue to work in the Stage 2 spaces around the new RE Curriculum on Monday 25th February. Mrs Lise Sercombe (CEDP personnel) will continue to work on Literacy practices, alongside the Stage 1 team of teachers on Wednesdays.

### Week 6:

- Thursday 7th March - Mrs Cignarella will be attending Reading Recovery Training

Please note that throughout Weeks 6 and 7, the Kindergarten and Year 1 teachers will be out of class on various days to carry out the mandatory Early Years Assessment with the students.

# IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 22nd February	Welcome BBQ - new families - 5:30pm
Monday 25th February	St Dominic's College talk to Year 5 and 6 boys 1:45pm
Tuesday 26th February	McCarthy Catholic College talk to Year 5 and 6 students 12:00pm
Tuesday 26th February	First Sacrament Workshop session 1, Padre Pio Church - 7:00pm
Wednesday 27th February	AFL Trial
Wednesday 27th February	Year 3 excursion Muru Mittigar
Wednesday 27th February	Year 1 Incursion Start Smart from the Commonwealth Bank
Friday 1st March	MACKILLOP Basket Ball & Tennis Trials
Sunday 3rd - Saturday 9th March	Catholic Schools Week
Sunday 3rd March	Children's Mass - Padre Pio Parish 9:30am
Monday 4th March	2019 Hockey Trials - Kingswood
Tuesday 5th March	Open Day for Kindergarten 2020, 9:00-10:30am and 11:30am-1:00pm
Tuesday 5th March	First Sacrament Workshop session 2, 4:00pm
Wednesday 6th March	Ash Wednesday Mass, Padre Pio Parish - 9:00am
Thursday 7th March	School Liturgy, School Hall - 12:00pm Open Classrooms - 12:30pm BBQ Lunch Fundraiser - 1:00pm



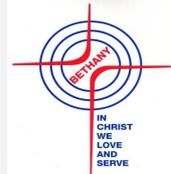
# RE - Mrs Cignarella

Below is the Religious Education Agreed Practice. Every grade / class from Kindergarten to Year 6 follow the same Agreed Practice no matter which unit / content is being taught. This is the same as in Mathematics and Literacy.

All Catholic primary schools in the Parramatta Diocese follow a similar practice.

With the trial of the new RE Framework, there may be some amendments made to the practice throughout the year. We will endeavour to inform parents when changes are made.

<b>Bethany Catholic Primary School</b> Agreed Practice – <i>Religious Education</i>	
Every student at Bethany will be engaged in quality Religious Education lessons daily for 30 minutes, as outlined below.	
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION WARM-UP</b>	3 minute warm-up where teachers review and address student Need to Knows. Knows and Need to Knows will be evidenced in the teaching program.
<b>DIRECT TEACHING TIME</b>	20 - 25 minute Direct Teaching with a clear focus, transparent with <b>visible learning intentions and success criteria</b> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will participate in tasks outlined in unit teaching and learning pathways, that relate to relevant outcomes, key concepts and relevant scripture.</li> <li>• Students will engage with interactive word walls.</li> <li>• Teachers will support learning with the use of current resources that promote religious literacy eg. Understanding Faith website, Senses of Scripture, Exploring Scripture, Scriptural meditation, To Know, Worship and Love, CEDP Mission Google + page etc.</li> <li>• Direct teaching may be supported by opportunities to integrate Religious Education in other Key Learning Areas, such as English.</li> <li>• Student learning will be enriched by observable teacher use of unit Theological Background.</li> </ul>
<b>REFLECTION TIME</b>	3-5 minute Reflection Time that includes opportunities to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• refer back to visible learning intentions and success criteria.</li> <li>• address any misunderstandings or extend student thinking.</li> </ul>
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	All unit assessment will be developed with 'the end in mind'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will participate in pre and post testing of Five Fast Facts / Fast Facts generated before the teaching of a unit pathway - may focus on key concepts / scripture. Results for these will be recorded.</li> <li>• Pre / Mid / Post Testing of units of work (depending on unit length)</li> <li>• Assessment OF, FOR &amp; AS for each outcome assessed</li> </ul>





# Numeracy - Mrs Donlan

All students attending Bethany have now completed the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI). Last year I explained that the MAI was developed from an extensive Australian research base of 30,000 interviews from the Early Years Numeracy Research Project (1999-2001), conducted by the Australian Catholic University and Monash University.

The MAI consists of four number domains and five measurement domains.

As previously mentioned, it is current practice in the Diocese of Parramatta for K-6 class teachers to complete the four number domains on each student at the beginning of the school year.

The 'On the Way' Growth Points are used by classroom teachers and EMU specialist teachers to identify students who are vulnerable in one or more number domains. This information is used to prioritise students for placement in EMU intervention groups.

February to June <i>On the way</i> Growth Points for each grade level									
Number Domains	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Counting	(1)	2	3	4	5	5	5	6	6
Place Value	(1)	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	6
Addition & Subtraction		1	2	3	4	5	5	5	6
Multiplication & Division		1	2	3	3	4	5	5	6

In addition, this data from the MAI's is currently being analysed by teachers in each of the grades to create a '2019 Numeracy Goal' that is specific to the grade. This will mean that grades can plan & target teaching so that teachers can identify the experiences that will most effectively help children achieve the next growth point in their mathematical learning.

Once goals have been established, each of the grade's numeracy goal for 2019 will be communicated.



# SPORT - Mrs Neilly

Well done to all our swimmers who represented Bethany at the Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival on Tuesday. It has been wonderful to hear about your races and some personal bests that were achieved.

A special mention to:

**Sara Malinowsky awarded the Senior Girls Zone Champion**  
**Joshua Bourke awarded the 11 years Boys Zone Runner Up**

I would like to thank Mr Pospischil and Mrs Gibson for attending the day and all the parents who helped fulfil our timing duty.

Congratulations to the following swimmers who have made it to the next level and will be competing at the Parramatta Diocesan Carnival this Friday 22nd February:

Sara Malinowsky  
Joshua Bourke  
Georgia Dudley

Amelia Wood  
Matilda Mobbs  
Charlotte Finnimore

Rory Gately  
Xavier Pizanis

## **Junior Male Relay team**

Christian Vella  
Xavier Pizanis  
Logan Krahe  
Rory Gately

## **Junior Female Relay team**

Melissa Bourke  
Alyssa Ermita  
Charlotte Finnimore  
Amelia Wood

## **Senior Female Relay team**

Matilda Weeks  
Neva Spiteri  
Alyssa Finnimore  
Sara Malinowsky





# PBS4L - Mrs Cignarella

## Designing our new Bethany logo!



Bethany held a competition with their students late last year to design their new mascot for PBS4L. Last Friday we called some of the entrants to discuss their designs with Chad from Signpac. We loved hearing student voice in the design making process for our logo.

We should have a draft back from Chad by next week. Watch this space for the final design!



We continued with our Focus of the Week with Mr Pospischil explaining the new focus at the school assembly on Monday morning. We continued in the area of RESPECT, one of our whole school rules. This week the focus was around speaking respectfully to others. This includes to our peers, our teachers, our family. We discussed the importance of showing kindness and courtesy through our words - being polite, speaking respectfully, using kind words.

It was great seeing our students remembering last week's focus as well. Lots of greetings, lots of eye contact as well, lots of smiles all around!

### PBS4L Team Leaders

Mrs Cheryl Brown

Miss Cassandra Cimilio

Mr David Pospischil

Mrs Cristina Cignarella

Mrs Rosa McLean

Miss Natasha Samy

Miss Nikita Dingemans

# PARENT INFORMATION

## ATTENDANCE

School attendance plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools. Every day attendance adds to student's achievement and success at school.

Our aim at Bethany is to work in partnership with parents in promoting the regular attendance of students. This includes a whole day at school, as well as striving to ensure that students arrive on time and leave at the conclusion of the school day.

Parents are encouraged to make appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.

Please note that our school gates will be closed at 8:35am. Any student who arrives after this time is considered late for the day and parents will be required to sign them in at the office.

We thank you for your support in ensuring a healthy attendance culture here at Bethany.

## BETHANY COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES HANDLING

If at any time you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and speak with the teacher/s, Assistant Principal and / or Principal to find a resolution for your concern.

It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and professionally fulfilling experience of our staff.

If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Further Information, including how to lodge a complaint, can be obtained from the Bethany Complaints and Grievances Handling Policy available from the Office.

## MEDICATION

All student medication is to be kept in the office. If your child requires medication to be given during school time a Medical form is to be completed. Please contact the School Office if you would like to obtain a Medical form. **Please do not send medication with you child to school.**

## \$100 CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHERS GO LIVE

As parents begin planning for the year ahead, they can now access Creative Kids vouchers, providing them with \$100 for every school-age child to help cover the cost of enrolment for creative and cultural learning activities. Parents can use one voucher for every school-age child per year to help meet the cost of structured creative and cultural activities, such as music lessons, languages, coding, drama and theatre, photography and graphic design. Minister for Finance, Services and Property Victor Dominello said the NSW Government's Creative Kids program builds on the success of the Active Kids program, which is back this year, helping to reduce the cost of registration for sport and organised physical activity.

## SCHOOL BANKING

School banking commences on Wednesday 6th March and will continue each Wednesday thereafter. A big thank you to the lovely parents who have kindly offered to volunteer each week with the banking. Please remind your child to hand their bank books in to their teacher each Wednesday morning. Once the money has been banked the deposit book will be returned with a token for students to collect.

# OPEN DAYS

## 2020 ENROLMENTS

FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

Open Night: Monday 11th March 2019

5:30pm - 7:30pm

CAROLINE  
CHISHOLM  
COLLEGE 

.....  
Come along and see for yourself why girls are  
so happy to learn at Caroline Chisholm College.  
.....

**Tours of the college: 5:30 - 7:30pm**

**Principal's information sessions:  
6pm & 7pm**

Further information can be obtained on our  
website and Facebook pages.

[www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au)

**90-98 The Lakes Drive Glenmore Park**

Enrolment packages can be obtained by  
contacting the college on:  
**4737 5500**

Follow us on  



St Dominic's College

## Open Day 2019

Sunday, 3rd March

**You are invited to join us for our  
Annual Open Day at the College from  
10:00am to 2:30pm.**

**The morning session starts at  
10:00am, followed by a tour of the  
College at 10:30am.**

**The afternoon session starts  
at 12:30pm, followed by a tour  
of the College at 1:00pm.**

St Dominic's College  
54 - 94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood NSW 2747  
Ph: 02 4731 1933  
Email: [info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: [www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au)



# PARENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



## HELPING YOUR CHILD MANAGE ANXIETY



Learn effective way to deal with child anxiety and positive behavior practices

What can you do?

How is the Catholic Education Department Parramatta (CEDP) helping?

Our guest speaker for the evening is:

### Anoushka Houseman

#### Clinical Psychologist

Wellbeing Coordinator - Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP)

Register FREE now: [www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)

**Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm (2 hours)**

(PRC AGM- will be held prior to guest speaker)

**St Patrick's Primary School: 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown**

Light supper and refreshments will be provided and  
a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!

[www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)



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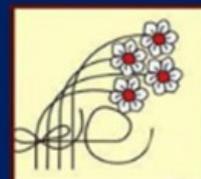


THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 SPONSOR

### Floral Expressions

For details on the school fundraising program

Call Charles Lukasik on 02 9683 1116



# PARISH

## ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Altar Server Training will take place on Saturday, 23 March 2019 at 1:30-3:00pm in the Padre Pio Church. If you have received your First Holy Communion you are eligible to attend this training. All current Altar Servers are also required to attend this training. A parent or guardian is required to be in attendance with their child(ren).

An RSVP sheet will be placed in the Church for those who would like to attend.

For any further information please contact David Baker Ph: 0405 046 118.

## REAL WOMEN'S CAFÉ EVENING

### Real Women's Café Evening

An evening of Coffee, Cake &  
Fabulous Conversation



Guest Speaker & Supper  
Cost: \$10.00  
Bring some girlfriends & book your seat

Presented by Secret Women's Business & Pastoral Care

DATE: Friday 15 March 2019

TIME: 8.00 p.m.

VENUE:

Bethany School Hall  
34-38 William Howell Drive  
Glenmore Park

Ordinary lives  
Extraordinary Women

Bookings Essential  
Noelene Bangel 47337481  
Payment by 10 March 2019