

# BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term: 3 | Week 6 | Date: Friday, 28th August

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Over the last four weeks more than 80 students from the **ST PADRE PIO PARISH** have received the sacrament of **CONFIRMATION**. At each of the masses, Father Suresh has elaborated in his homily on the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and specifically on the **GIFT OF COURAGE**.

What is **COURAGE**? When we think of the word **COURAGE** what do we imagine in our minds? Do we think of people who gave of themselves for what was right and just, to help make the world a better place such as St Mary Mackillop, St Teresa of Calcutta, Martin Luther King?

Do we think of heroes like Edmund Hillary whose **COURAGE** saw him climb Everest, or a sporting great like Bradman? Or do we think of the **COURAGEOUS** bravery of an ICU nurse working to save someone's life during a viral pandemic? Often, the person such as the nurse does not feel that he or she is doing anything extraordinary or courageous. What we often hear them say is, **"I was just doing my job"**.

To better understand what **COURAGE** means we need to look at where the word **COURAGE** comes from, its etymology.

**COURAGE** comes from the Latin base word, **COR** (French **CORAGE**) meaning, **HEART**. So rather than meaning some super heroic act of bravery, the true meaning of the word **COURAGE** is to act from one's heart.

The word's origin tells us that when we act **COURAGEOUSLY**, we are being true to our real self, true to the person that God made in His own image.

This ordinary type of **COURAGE** is what we are more likely to see in our everyday lives. The **COURAGE** shown by the many less-famous people in our world who go about their daily lives such as police officers, factory workers, paramedics, scientists, fire fighters, teachers, retail workers, cleaners, mothers, fathers and carers. Those who show daily **COURAGE** humbly, quietly and with dedication using the **GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** to make the world a better place.

True **COURAGE** can happen anytime and in many different and unexpected ways. The real challenge for us is to recognise this **COURAGE** in our midst.

- Forgiving someone who has said something to offend us is an act of **REAL COURAGE**.
- Saying, I am genuinely sorry because I have hurt you takes a **LOT of COURAGE**.
- Trying to imagine what it is like to stand in another person's shoes takes **MINDFUL COURAGE**.
- Helping those who are unloved takes **GENTLE COURAGE**.
- Trying again after making a mistake requires **DETERMINED COURAGE**.
- Putting others before ourselves takes **SELFLESS COURAGE**.
- Listening in order to understand takes **EMPATHETIC COURAGE**.
- Learning a new skill and practicing it in order to master it takes **UNWAVERING COURAGE**.
- Undergoing surgery and being in hospital when you are sick takes **ENDURING COURAGE**.



At the heart of all **COURAGE** is love. Our best example of **COURAGE** out of love is Jesus Christ. His model of **COURAGE** was always to love, forgive and **enCOURAGE** all those he met and taught, even as he was hung on the cross.

As always, the model that Jesus gives us is complete, purposeful and challenging. It is a template and a guide for the way we **TREAT** each other and how we **WITNESS** this for our children.

Be courageous this week.

Sergio Rosato

# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



## Principal and Assistant Principal Colloquy

Earlier this week, Mr Rosato and I were invited to take part in a Principal and Assistant Principal Colloquy. Without being entirely sure what a colloquy was, we gracefully accepted the opportunity to engage with other colleagues in the diocese. A colloquium is literally 'a speaking together'. A colloquy is many things, in short, it is a coming together for theological discussions through our faith to seek understanding.

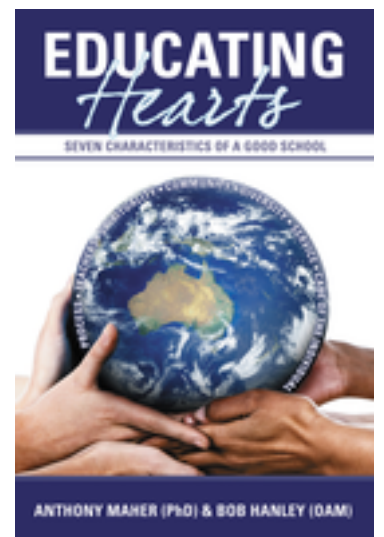
In leading up to the gathering, we engaged in some prior reading from the text, **Educating Hearts: Seven Characteristics of a Good School**, by theologians Professor Anthony Maher and Bob Hanley. During our colloquy Mr Rosato and I had the opportunity to engage in rich dialogue with fellow principals and assistant principals, facilitators Carmen Cassar and Anthony Maher about a number of topics, namely:

- The Challenge of Growing up in Today's World
- The Existential Purpose of a Catholic School
- Wisdom of the Heart

Through these themes we explored today's context of the Catholic school, for it's students, parents, teachers and clergy. The reality for all stakeholders is that schools are a complex web of relationships, experiences, values and technologies. Despite its complexities, as educators we are urged in our daily interactions with students to strive for an education of the heart. That is, education of the whole person, where learning takes place in and outside the classroom and where values are implicit in the school's environment.

I wish to share with you just some of the direct quotes and insights from the day's readings and discussion:

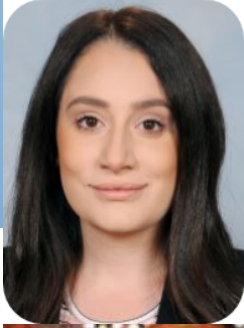
- 'Education of the heart builds upon cognitive learning, knowledge of the world, and focuses upon achieving personal insight into love, relationships, belonging and identity.'
- 'Experiential learning in the form of caring for others, develops emotional intelligence that can assist young people in learning to live and form lifelong loving relationships.'
- 'Education is a life-long process; but every teacher will claim the importance of learning the foundational basics at a young age.'
- 'The evidence suggests that the present reality of childhood nurturing is not sustaining our young people in healthy identity formation.'
- 'Today young people grow up in the so-called global village. Satellite communication brings the world to our table and yet the data suggests that many of our young feel more isolated than ever before.'



If I may, I'd like to leave you with these provoking questions both in and outside of the school context:

- What **experiences** is your child having?
- What are the **values** being **implicitly** or **explicitly** taught in these experiences?
- What are your **priorities** for determining a **good school**?
- What is the **existential purpose** of a Catholic school?





# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



## SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

"The Eucharist is at the heart of 'Christian initiation', together with Baptism and Confirmation, and it constitutes the source of the Church's life itself. From this Sacrament of love, in fact, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness."

Last week there was an Information Meeting with parents via ZOOM led by Fr Suresh that detailed how the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be prepared for.

The workshops for students commenced on Wednesday of this week in the library.. These will continue for the next three weeks at the same time. Parents are asked to bring their children to Gate 5 (gath near the church carpark) at 4:10pm and collect them from this same gate at 5:15pm.

Due to recent restrictions outlined by the NSW government, only students from Bethany will attend these workshops. Students from other schools will complete the workshops via ZOOM.

Students will be presented to the parish community over four Sunday Masses. Two of these were last week. This Saturday at 5:30pm and on Sunday at 10:00am the remaining candidates will be presented.

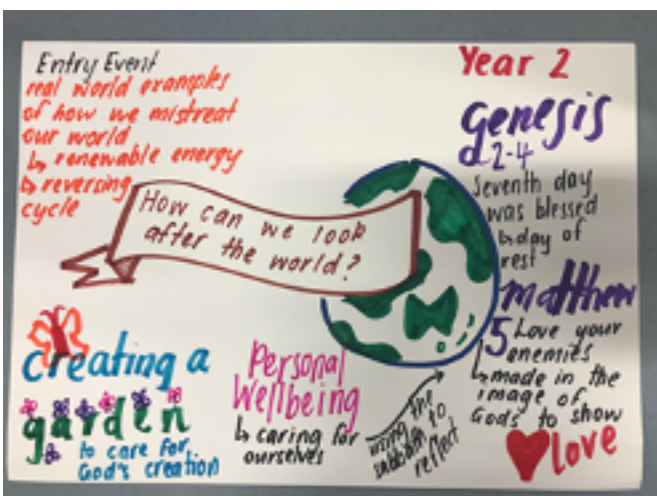
Information about the ceremony dates will be in the next newsletter. We wish these children well as they embark on this journey of becoming united with Jesus in a way that they never have before.



## NEW DRAFT CURRICULUM - PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WITH STAFF

This week staff engaged in an hour long session of learning which covered the following:

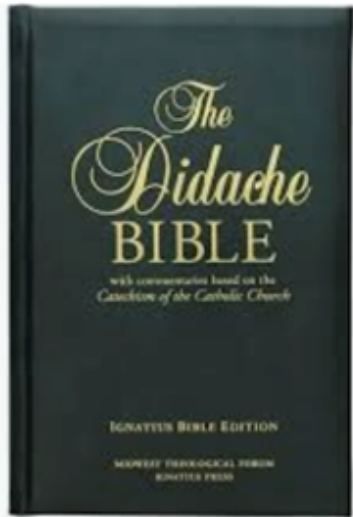
- Review of year 3's trial on the new learning cycle, 'How am I merciful?'
- Navigating the Scriptures that are embedded in the learning cycles
- Assessment in RE
- Structure of the 'New Curriculum'
- 'New' Aligned programming template
- Collaborative planning time in relation to their current or next term's learning cycle



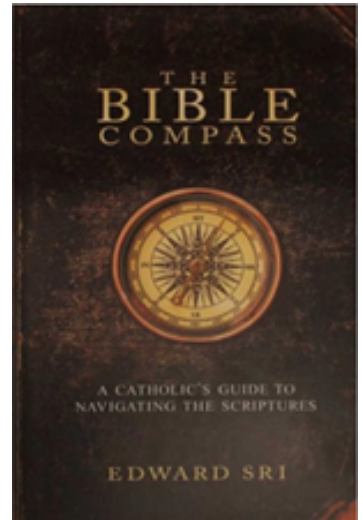
Year 2 used the time well, straight away mindmapping the cycle and Year 5 spent much of the time looking at the vocabulary in their term 4 cycle, "Eucemenism - What are the challenges and opportunities for interfaith relations?"

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All teachers in the school were provided with a professional reading by Edward Sri, a well known theologian, titled "The Bible Compass - Navigating the Scriptures" that they will complete in their own time. This book and extract provided to staff highlights the importance of gaining knowledge and insight into the background of the scripture, particularly about the author, the date it was written and the audience it was written for. Within the school we have multiple 'Didache' bibles where commentaries can be located for assistance in unpacking the scriptures.



Mrs Wakim and myself will now work with the grades on resources that will assist throughout the teaching and learning of this inquiry cycle. We look forward to keeping our community updated on our journey of implementing the 'New Draft RE Curriculum'. We wish all our fathers, grandfathers and father figures a very special day.



## FATHER'S DAY - LITURGY

Next week at Bethany we will celebrate Father's Day with a slideshow liturgy created by the 'White' classes that will be presented in all spaces on Friday. Students in these classes will present various parts of the liturgy including the readings, prayers of the faithful and hymns. Mr Rosato and Mr Green will also make an appearance in the way they now how, through music and song.

We wish all our fathers, grandfathers and father figures a very special day.

*God our Father,*

*Bless all the fathers in the world.*

*Guide them to be good role models*

*and loving to all their children.*

*Help them to be a father like You are.*

*Strengthen them by your love that they may become*

*the loving, caring persons they are meant to be.*

*Amen*



We will place this slideshow on our Bethany FACEBOOK page for viewing by the community.





## SPORT



# Kinder and Year 1 Fun

Last Friday, Kindergarten and Year 1 were involved in some fun-filled extra sport activities at school. The session began after recess where the children moved in their class groups completing six different activities across the playground. To complete the day, the classes moved up on to the oval to compete in some running races!

It was wonderful to see the students' smiling faces and enthusiastic participation throughout the day!



**Mrs Neilly**

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KIDS**

WITH THE POWER OF  
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# HAVE A BLAST!

**GET INTO WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST. IT'S A FUN AND ACTIVE PROGRAM FOR KIDS OF ALL ABILITIES – WHETHER IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME WITH A BAT OR YOU'RE A BACKYARD CRICKET STAR!**

Glenmore Park Cricket Club Junior Blasters

Tues 27th Oct - Tues 15th Dec (8 Weeks), 6:00-7:00pm

Location: Blue Hills Oval, Glenmore Park

Contact: Tristan Smythe, 0451 892 063

\$125 including Blast Pack or \$25 with Active Kids!

\*BASED ON PROGRAM ERP OF \$140. MORE INFO AT [SERVICE.NSW.GOV.AU/ACTIVEKIDS](http://SERVICE.NSW.GOV.AU/ACTIVEKIDS)



**JOIN A CREW NEAR YOU TODAY**

**PLAY CRICKET**

OFFICIAL KIDS PROGRAM





# YEAR 6 REFLECTION DAY

## 'FINDING OZ'

This term Year 6 completed a novel study titled, 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz'. On Thursday 20th August, the students of year 6 participated in a reflection day with a focus on finding themselves and their own unique qualities. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz was an opportunity for students to explore the world of imagination, and make connections to their own life and experiences. The students were able to watch the classic motion picture, therefore being able to compare and contrast the two different texts.

Year 6 teachers hosted a 'Finding Oz Day', with the purpose of making spiritual connections, as well as an opportunity to recognise their own important gifts and talents in this world. This day consisted of students participating in team building activities, activities of self reflection and exploring how Year 6 works together as one to achieve a common goal. This experience covered the main themes of the story, with a focus on following their individual paths towards high school.



### Student reflections from the day!

*'I learnt that everyone has extremely unique qualities and how to build friendships with others'* - **Daniella Muscat**

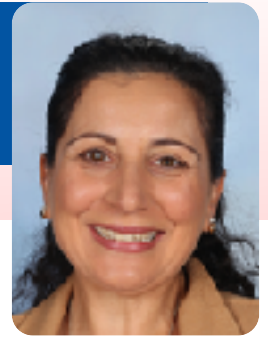
*'I learnt that you need to appreciate everyone not matter who they are, everybody is different'* - **Amelia Wood**

*'Today I have learnt about how we are all different in our own way but together, we can be UNSTOPPABLE!'* - **Charli Kassouf**

*'Today during the Wizard of Oz experience I learnt to value others qualities and to respect their differences'* - **Nathan Leary**

*'I learnt that people across the grade may be different to me but we connect in different ways'* - **Alani Pettit**

# LIBRARY



## Library News Flash!

I am so excited to announce that [Matt Cosgrove](#), an author and illustrator of many children's books, will be visiting our school on **Wednesday, 2nd September 2020 (Week 7)**.



Matt Cosgrove is based in Sydney and grew up in our local area. His book "Alpacas with Maracas" was this year's NLIA Simultaneous Story time chosen story.

Matt Cosgrove is highly sought after and I know our students would thoroughly enjoy the experience of meeting and engaging with a local famous author.

If you would like to purchase a signed book by Matt Cosgrove please visit:

<https://www.thechildrensbookshopspeakersagency.com.au/person/cosgrove-matt-speaker/>

The Children's Bookshop will then send the book/s to the school for your child (free delivery). Alternatively, you can call The Children's Bookshop directly on 9571 1897 to order and pay over the phone.

To avoid disappointment please pre order your signed copy ASAP to receive it by next Wednesday.

**The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge will be closing on Friday, 28th August 2020.**

The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge will be closing on the 28th August 2020.

Congratulations to those students who have eagerly completed the 2020 Premier's Reading Challenge. Well Done!

For PRC rules and booklists please go to the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge website <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

Students who have completed the PRC in previous years can log in using the same username and password as last year.





# DATES FOR THE DIARY

<b>Wednesday 2nd September</b>	Author Matt Cosgrove visit Eucharist Workshop 4:15pm to 5:15pm
<b>Wednesday 9th September</b>	Eucharist Workshop 4:15pm to 5:15pm
<b>Thursday 10th September</b>	Kindergarten 2021 Parent Information Evening - 6.30pm - 7.45pm <a href="https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/95081072967">https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/95081072967</a>
<b>Wednesday 16th September</b>	Eucharist Workshop 4:15pm to 5:15pm



# COMMUNICATION

The following information has been advised via the SkoolBag App:

28/8/20	Letter from The Very Reverend Christopher de Souza
27/8/20	COVID 19 Update
26/8/20	Kindergarten's 101 Days of Learning Celebration
	Red,White Blue Mufti Day 28/8/20
25/8/20	Matt Cosgrove is coming to Bethany!
	Automated SMS system - Attendance
20/8/20	Automated Attendance SMS System
	Tell Them From Me Survey
19/8/20	Updated COVID 19 advice from CEDP
	NSW Premier's Reading Challenge
18/8/20	Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist 2020
14/8/20	Kindergarten and Year 1 Sports session





# YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Year 5 students at Bethany would like to invite you to read the first  
**"Bethany Year 5 Student Newsletter"**.

Please scan the QR Code below to access the newsletter,



# COMMUNITY

## HOLIDAY FUN



**BOOK NOW** **2-DAY OLYMPICS**

**ST CLAIR - OCT 1ST-2ND**  
**NEPEAN - OCT 6TH-7TH**

**HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN GOLD?**

**IN THE ULTIMATE 2-DAY MULTI-SPORTS CHALLENGE**

**2-DAYS / 8.30AM TO 3.30PM**

**BOOK NOW! LIMITED TICKETS**

**CREATIVE KIDS**

**USE YOUR \$100 VOUCHER**

**OLYMPICS IS COMING.....GET MOTIV8ED DURING THE SEPT/OCT SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AT THE MOTIV8SPORTS OLYMPICS!**

Held only once each year the Motiv8sports Olympics is the heart and soul of our multi-sports calendar year. Campers will be treated to an incredible array of our trademark team sports in an environment full of energy, motivation and unbelievable guidance from our professional team of coaches.

if you have what it takes to complete all 2-days including 12 x team sports, 12 Olympic Individual events and 3 x mega sessions then we will be hanging that gigantic finishers medal around your neck. We will be creating an atmosphere full of colour, culture, and energy as 12 x countries battle it out.

Like all Motiv8sports events, there will be music, prizes, crazy competitions, and non-stop entertainment. This event caters to all ability levels and we would love the opportunity to motiv8 your child at our legendary multi-sports camp.

**CHECK OUT THE CAMP DATES BELOW**

**CAMP #1 SEPT 28-30 - SOLD OUT**  
**CAMP #2 OCT 1-2 - St Clair HIGH SCHOOL**  
**CAMP #3 OCT 6-7 - Nepean Christian School**

**motiv8sports**