BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY **SCHOOL**

NEWSLETTER

Term: 3 | Week 8 | Date: Friday, 11th September





Dear Bethany Families,

A few years ago, I had the privilege of listening to the comedian, author, artist and film produce Anh Doh at a principal's conference

Most would know Anh as the author of The Littlest Refugee. An inspirational story of a family escaping war-torn Vietnam looking for a better future for their family in Australia.

Those who know Anh's story recognise that it shows the importance that resilience and education can play in enabling a person to develop to their full potential. The many obstacles that Anh encountered along the way make us mindful of the whole child rather than pigeon-holing students.

There were two episodes from his after-dinner presentation that have remained with me:

Episode 1

In primary school Anh was categorised as a "slow" student with special needs and with limited potential to improve. His lack of English was probably interpreted as more than simply a language issue. During primary school he was put in a remedial reading

Upon learning of this, Anh's mother went to the local St Vincent De Paul shop and was given a box of secondhand children's books. This is how she helped to teach Anh and his brother and sister to read and speak English.

Hard work and effort on Anh's part and that of his mother and school working together helped bridge the gap.

Episode 2

Anh attended a Sydney Catholic high school. Due to his family's poverty they were not able to purchase the full complement of textbooks for him to use at school. To manage this situation Anh would borrow textbooks from fellow students whilst they

were attending other lessons. This method meant that he spent considerable time and effort on this juggling quest. Sometimes when his friends were absent, he would have to go to lessons without the prescribed book.

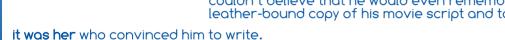
When asked by the teacher where his book was, he would say he had forgotten it. He was too proud and embarrassed to admit the truth. On these occasions he was often given detention, which he did without complaint.

A perceptive Year 8 English teacher, Mrs. Borny, was troubled by this

inconsistent behavior and instinctively knew that there was more to this than met the eye. She took the trouble to collect discarded textbooks and gave these to Anh - no questions asked.

One day Anh recalls that Mrs. Borny said to him, "Anh you're a very talented storyteller". She had no idea how far that one line of encouragement would take him. Ahn would eventually study to be a lawyer, later becoming a filmmaker, comedian, artist and celebrated author.

Years later Anh had the opportunity to meet up with the teacher again. Anh recounted that he walked up to her, gave her an enormous hug and told her about everything she'd done for him as a student. Mrs. Borny was surprised and couldn't believe that he would even remember her. He presented her with a leather-bound copy of his movie script and told her that



Mrs. Borny's pastoral care, belief and inspirational teaching had a profound effect on Anh's future.

Anh's last comment to us as a group of principals that night struck me. He cautioned us to guard against writing off any student in our care as a lost cause. As he pointed out, he could have very well been written off as a young boy but teachers like Mrs. Borny and his mum made him believe that he counted.

As parents and teachers, we plant seeds of faith, hope and love in our children through our words and

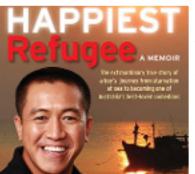
The legacy of this planting is often beyond our comprehension.

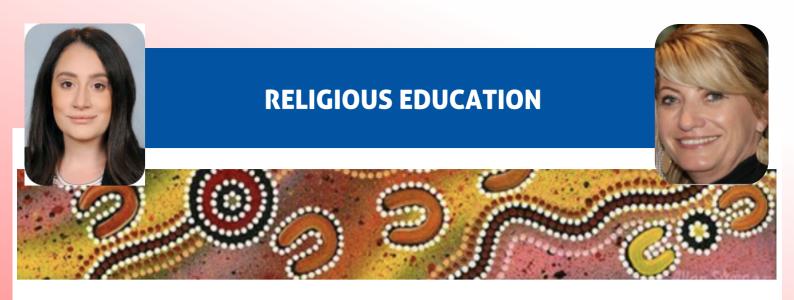
Until next time.

Sergio Rosato









NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

September 8 is the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary — Mary's birthday! God's gift of His Son to humankind was preceded by another precious gift — the gift of the Mother of His Son.

Mary brought forth Jesus into the world. In this modern world, each and every follower of Jesus is also invited to "bring forth" Jesus into the world, in his or her life situation. Mary gave birth to Jesus

once in history, but we can, in a way "bring forth" Jesus one hundred times a day! Whenever and wherever we stand for His values and are witnesses to His love and mercy, we "bring forth" Jesus. Also, by listening to God's Word and acting accordingly, each of us can become the mother, brother or sister of Jesus (Mk 3:31-35).



NEW DRAFT CURRICULUM - PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

This week I joined other Religious Education Coordinators in the Parramatta Diocese via ZOOM to continue Professional Learning on the New Draft Curriculum (NDC). The theme for the day was, 'A Theology of Hope'. We were very luck to again have Professor Anthony Maher a highly regarded

theologian lead the day and provide us with a draft paper he has written on the topic.



The remainder of the day was spent in workshops. The workshops entailed unpacking learning cycles that will be taught in Stage 2 and 3 at a later date, as well as us all being able to share and gain insights into how the NDC and the learning cycles in particular are being shared in the wider community with families and the parish. I hope to utilise other means of sharing with you the wonderful work our staff and students are doing in using inquiry questions to learn about Catholic traditions and faith and how to then put this into action.

SPORT



CLASS SPORT NEWS

Years 2 - 6 had a Long Jump and Shot Put competition during class sport. Congratulations to the following students:

1st PLACE - LONG JUMP

Yr 2 - Heidi, 2R

Yr 2 - Mason, 2W

Yr 3 - Amelia, 3W and Mia, 3B

Yr 3 - Jude, 3B

Yr 4 - Analise, 4R

Yr 4 - Levi, 4R

Yr 5 - Zachary, 5B and Isaac, 5W

Yr 5 - Imogen, 5R

Yr 6 - Cooper, 6B

Yr 6 - Hannah, 6B

1st PLACE - SHOT PUT

Yr 2 - Heidi, 2R

Yr 2 - Xander, 2W

Yr 3 - Summer, 3R

Yr 3 - Josiah, 3B

Yr 4 - Analise, 4R

Yr 4 - Ryan, 4W

Yr 5 - Joshua, 5B

Yr 5 - Zoey, 5B

Yr 6 - Hannah, 6B

Yr 6 - Lachlan, 6R









SPORT

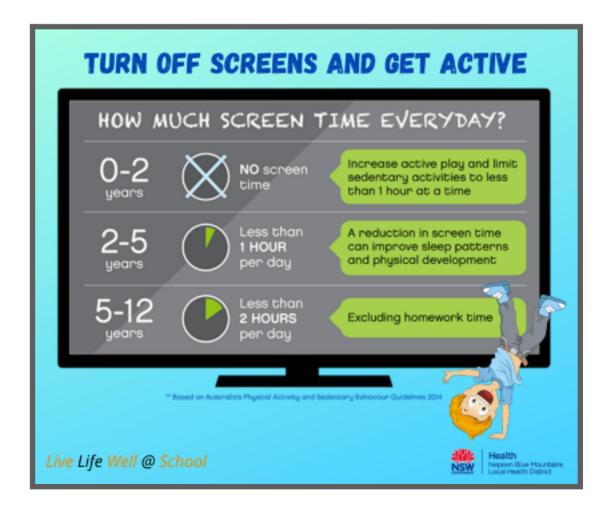
SPORT UPDATE:

2020 Parramatta Diocesan Gymnastic Competition for Term 4 has been CANCELLED.

NEWS FLASH - Weekend Sport Star

Congratulations to Francesca (Yr 3R) for trialing and being selected for the U12 Girls Penrith Softball team. Francesca is only 8 years old, youngest in the team! She will be representing Penrith at the State Championships in November. Best of luck!





LIBRARY



Congratulations!

Friday, 28th August the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge for 2020 came to an end. We are thrilled to announce that 299 students have completed the challenge . This means an amazing 7,475 books were read this year to complete the Premier's Reading Challenge. Well done Bethany!

Certificates will be distributed at the end of Term 4.

Congratulations to all and remember



LIBRARY



Matt Cosgrove not only shared his passion, creativity and love of language with us all but he has inspired us to use our imagination and our own real life experiences to make us all fantastic writers. We learnt how to use shapes and different techniques to help us draw a robot and our very own Macca the Alpaca.

Thank you Matt for visiting Bethany. We really enjoyed your visit!

















PBS4L RED, WHITE & BLUE MUFTI DAY

















YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Year 5 students at Bethany would like to invite you to read the current edition of the

"Bethany Year 5 Student Newsletter".

Please scan the QR Code below to access the newsletter,



LINK: Bethany Year 5 Student Newsletter

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wednesday 16th September	Eucharist Workshop 4:15pm to 5;15pm
Friday 25th September	Last day of term
Saturday 26th September	St Padre Pio Feast Day
Monday 12th October	First day of Term 4
Thursday 15th October	7pm Eucharist Practice
Friday 16th October	Socktober
Friday 16th October	7pm Eucharist Practice
Sunday 18th October	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Sunday 25th October	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Sunday 1st November	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Sunday 8th November	First Eucharist Mass 2pm



COMMUNICATION

The following information has been advised via the SkoolBag App:

9/9/20 Changed Wet Weather Afternoon Dismissal

8/9/20 Winter to Summer Uniform Transition Arrangements

Information for Year 1 Parents and Carers

Confronting Social Media Content

7/9/20 Religious Education Curriculum

Guitar Club cancelled 8th September

Information for Year 3 Parents and Carers

3/9/20 "Inside Out" Film Permission Note

1/9/20 Creative Arts



COMMUNITY







Wanting tee-ball and softball players.
All genders.
Tee-Ball U10
Modified Softball U12
Fastpitch U16 and above.
Registrations are now open for the
2020/2021 softball season, commencing
in October.

Same time, same place, every week. Surveyors Creek Softball Fields Glenmore Park

Contact Club President Craig Woodland. M: 0404 037 469.

Email:glenmorephantoms@hotmail.com Find us on Facebook: Glenmore Phantoms Softball Club

