

BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Term: 4 | Week 2 | Date: Friday, 23rd October

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Welcome back to Term 4! I hope your family was able to enjoy the break from school routines and your children were able to refresh themselves ready for the term of learning that lies ahead.

Visual Literacy

One of the priority areas of learning for our students living in a digital age is interpreting visual literacy. This is certainly an important part of 21st century learning however it is not something that is unique to this age. Religious art for instance has been used over time to help people to envision and gain extra insights into biblical stories and better relate these to their daily lives.

Jacopo Di Bassano

One such artist was Jacopo Dal Ponte. Jacopo was a 14th century artist who took on the name of his village, Bassano (located near Venice) as his artistic surname. One of Jacopo Di Bassano's most famous paintings depicts the **Parable of the Good Samaritan**.

The context of this parable as described in Luke's Gospel involves a lawyer testing Jesus by asking him what he must do to receive eternal life. The response is that he should do two things: **love God and love your neighbour**. The lawyer goes on to ask Jesus, **Who is my neighbour?** In response to this further testing question Jesus goes on to tell a parable.



Jacopo Di Bassano's painting of The Good Samaritan is a **treasure trove** of detail of a man travelling down a deserted road from Jerusalem towards Jericho when he is attacked, beaten and left to die on the side of the road.

The Priest and the Levite

The priest and the Levite can be seen in the background of the painting skulking away from the battered victim. Afraid of becoming ritually unclean by engaging with a bleeding person they do not stop to help the beaten and bruised man, rather they choose not to get involved. The priest can even be seen in the painting crossing the road to get away from the poor injured man.

The Poor Injured Man & The Samaritan

In the painting the injured man is depicted leaning up against the rich Samaritan. In turn the Samaritan is shown leaning up against the injured man. Di Bassano is illustrating through this image that the **poor require the rich** in order to lift them up but also that **the rich need the poor** (otherwise they become materialistic, self-centered and greedy). The two main characters are also depicted as reminiscent of another important scriptural event - Christ being taken down from the cross and lying in His mother's arms (as in Michelangelo's Pieta). In doing so Di Bassano is saying that whenever we reach out to hold up a person in need **we are in essence holding Christ in our arms**.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Oil, Wine, Animals & Township

The painting also shows oil and wine jugs offered by the Samaritan to help heal the victim. These are expensive items, necessary to help revive the injured man. Animals are also present in the painting - the donkey which carries the injured man to the inn (also carried Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday) and two dog symbols of loyalty and fidelity (Love of God and love of neighbour).

Jacopo also paints his own town of Bassano in the background (rather than the town of Jericho.) By doing this he is making the Good Samaritan story meaningful to his time and place.

The Hero

Jacopo Di Bassano tells us through his painting that the **real hero** of this story is the generous and compassionate Samaritan, rather than the two pious characters who chose to not help the bruised and battered man because of their own self interest.

Fratelli Tutti

Pope Francis' recently released an encyclical called **Fratelli Tutti** (meaning we are all brothers and sisters). In it he devotes an entire chapter to the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Pope Francis like Jacopo Di Bassano is imploring us to make the example as told by Christ to become real and active in our families, in our workplaces, in our communities, in our country and in the world - particularly at this time. So, like the Good Samaritan we can help create a more just, a more compassionate, a more peaceful and a friendlier world.

The parable illustrates that **love is the ultimate standard of fidelity**; when we love others as siblings in the human family (like the Samaritan), God is there on the road with us.

"...go, then and do the same". (Lk 10:37)

Until next time,
Sergio Rosato

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Maintenance & Building Work Completed During the Holidays

During the holidays the following improvement work was carried out to the school:

1. Artificial grass areas installed throughout the school to improve the aesthetics, provide more student sitting areas and to alleviate potential paving trip hazards. Stage 3 artificial grass area installed, complete with picnic & cafe tables. Shade umbrellas purchased for this senior student area.
 2. All shade sails professionally pressure cleaned.
 3. Line marking of car park, pedestrian crossings, basketball/netball/volleyball court, extra handball courts & canteen lines.
 4. Fencing replaced near Year 6 classrooms.
 5. All garden areas in the school area pruned and heavily mulched by a landscaper
- The school is currently working with an architect and staff from CEDP to design the refurbishment of our student toilet facilities. Work on the first stage of this refurbishment will commence shortly.

Sergio Rosato



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



A Saint for Our Time

"All people are born as originals but many die as photocopies.

-Blessed Carlo Acutis

To the average person he looks like your typical teenage boy. But some two weeks ago now, the young Carlo Acutis was beatified as Blessed Carlo. The beatification Mass on October 10th took place at the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi. Unlike other venerated individuals, the Catholic Church probably has it's first 'Blessed' who loved being on his computer and playing Super Mario. The perfect example that holiness is attainable for all young people, in the tomb Carlo is dressed in jeans, sneakers and a Nike jumper.



Carlo was only 15 years old when he died of Leukemia in 2006. He was known for his computer programming skills and love of the Eucharist. At the age of just seven, Carlo wrote, "to be always united with Jesus, this is my life program." As a teenager he was committed to researching Eucharistic miracles to create a website cataloging and sharing this information with others. He researched over "136 Eucharistic miracles that occurred over the centuries in different countries around the world, and have been acknowledged by the Church" and collected them into a virtual museum. According to the official website for the cause of his beatification, the Italian teenager never missed daily mass from the time he received his First Holy Communion at age seven.



Carlo was also gifted in the area of film editing and laying out comics. But he was also conscious not to spend too much time online. He would only allow himself one hour a day. Before he passed away he said, 'I'm happy to die because I've lived my life without wasting even a minute of it doing things that wouldn't have pleased God.'

A number of sources have confirmed Carlo's body to be fully integral, having all its organs, at the time that it was exhumed. Although given the time and modern methods of caring for bodies, it is too early to declare

Carlo's body incorrupt. And although incorrupt bodies are not a sure sign of holiness, they definitely point to it.

The beatification of Carlo Acutis took place after a miracle attributed to his prayers and the grace of God. In Brazil, a boy named Mattheus was healed from a serious birth defect called an annular pancreas after he and his mother asked Acutis to pray for his healing.

As the first millennial to be beatified Carlo is a worthy example to all our children. In his homily, Cardinal Vallini, hailed the young teenager as a model of how young people can use technology at the service of the Gospel to "reach as many people as possible and help them know the beauty of friendship with the Lord."

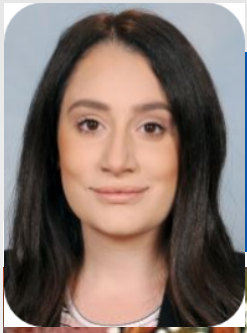
Oh Father,

who has given us the ardent testimony, of the young Blessed Carlo Acutis, who made the Eucharist the core of his life and the strength of his daily commitments so that everybody may love You above all else, let him soon be counted among the Saints in Your Church.

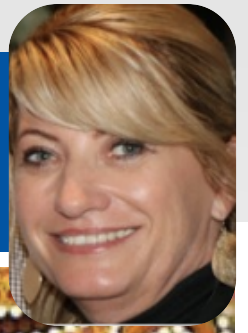
Confirm my faith, nurture my hope, strengthen my charity, in the image of young Carlo who, growing in these virtues, now lives with You.

Grant me the grace that I need (Mention your request here)

I trust in You, Father, and your Beloved Son Jesus, in the Virgin Mary, our Dearest Mother, and in the intervention of Blessed Carlo Acutis. Amen.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Last Sunday students from Bethany and neighbouring schools of the St Padre Pio Parish made their First Holy Communion. With COVID-19 restrictions the celebration was limited to the children and their parents only. This made for a more intimate experience for the children themselves, their parents and the staff that attended. A very special element of the celebration was our live music and singing by Serge, Pascale and Glenn. Thank you very much for making this such a memorable occasion.

First Holy Communion Masses will continue over the next three Sundays. As a community we pray for these children as they receive the sacrament for the first time.

SOCKTOBER - CATHOLIC MISSION

Last week at Bethany we participated in **Socktober**. It was a way we could engage with mission in a holistic way within the **head, heart, hands** model: encouraging a learning mind, an open heart and hands for action.

Students and staff fully embraced the day. In learning spaces students were shown videos and information that outlined the works of Catholic Mission.



SPORT



SPORTS UPDATE

All Term 4 outside school sport has been cancelled for this year.

CANCELLED:

Basketball Gala Day

Touch Football Gala Day

Gymnastics Competition

The Parramatta Team Sports trials will go ahead at this stage later in the year and next year. I am awaiting further information on these trials.

HEALTHY TIP:

TURN OFF SCREENS + get active!

Screens can be great for learning, play and communication. Too much screen time can be unhealthy. Try to sit less and move more.

HOW MUCH SCREEN TIME EACH DAY?		
0-2 years		NO screen time Choose active toys and play instead of screens
2-5 years		Less than 1 HOUR per day Less screen time can help kids' sleep and growth
5-12 years		Less than 2 HOURS per day Not including homework time

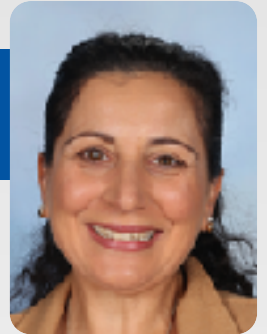
WHAT IS A SCREEN?

- TV/DVD/BLURAY
- Computer
- Game Console
- Tablet/Portable Games
- Phone

Source: Australian Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines and Australian 24-hour Movement Guidelines for the Early Years (Birth to 5 Years)

NSW **MAKE HEALTHY NORMAL** This resource has been developed by Western Sydney Local Health District, published November 2018

Mrs Neilly



Every Child Deserves a Good Book

Issue 7

Orders Close Monday, 26th October 2020

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our school is participating in Scholastic Book Club this year. Once a term, during the school year, I will send home a Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and because they are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$2).

It is easy to order. The [Book Club LOOP platform](#) for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school safe and sound and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or using the LOOP app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school, however there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.



Happy Reading !

Mrs Liepa

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sunday 25th October	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Tuesday 27th October	Kindergarten 2021 Transition Session 1 9:00am to 10:20am
Sunday 1st November	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Sunday 8th November	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Monday 9th November	NAIDOC Week 2020
Tuesday 10th November	Kindergarten 2021 Transition Session 2 9:00am to 10:20am
Tuesday 17th November	Kindergarten 2021 Transition Session 3 9:00am to 10:20am
Tuesday 17th November	Caroline Chisholm & St Dominics Year 7 Orientation
Tuesday 24th November	Kindergarten 2021 Transition Session 4 9:00am to 10:20am
Monday 30th November	Twilight Swimming Carnival at Penrith Pools 6pm to 8pm
Wednesday 2nd December	Kindergarten 2021 - Follow-Up Parent information Evening via Zoom - 6:30pm
Thursday 10th December	Year 6 Fun Day
Friday 11th December	Thanksgiving /Graduation Mass 9:am
Friday 11th December	Year 6 Graduation Presentation via Zoom
Tuesday 15th December	Year 6 Social Bethany Hall
Tuesday 15th December	Year 6 Guard of Honour 2:30pm
Tuesday 15th December	Last day Term 4
Wednesday 16th December	Staff Development Day
Thursday 17th December	Staff Development Day

COMMUNICATION

The following information has been advised via the SkoolBag App:

21/10/20	Head Lice alert Year 4
20/10/20	Sport Colour Mufti Day - Friday 23rd October 2020
19/10/20	Book Club
	Head Lice Alert Year 4
16/10/20	Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education
	Class Grouping Process for 2021
	Important Information Year 4
15/10/20	Birthday Celebrations
	Vinnies Community Sleepout
	Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist 2020 Reminder of Practice for Mass
12/10/20	Sport Uniform days Term 4 2020

School Fees:

Term 4 School Fee Statements (due 18/12/2020) were sent on 19th October. If you have not received your statement or are suffering financial difficulty, please contact Wendy Vincent on 02 4723 3700 or bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au to discuss.



COMMUNITY



The Western Sydney Vinnies Community Sleepout is going virtual and seeking your support to assist those in need our local community.

On Friday 23 October, participants across NSW will sleep out at home in their cars, backyards or couches and come together in a state-wide effort to help those in regional communities who are doing it tough.

From the devastating droughts to the brutal bushfires and now a global pandemic, townships far and wide across NSW have been hit hard. It's why we need your help more than ever.

The night will be live streamed connecting participants from twelve locations across NSW. That means everyone can sleep out – no excuses! And we'll be doing it together as an entire state. **[JOIN NOW](#)** and register as a team with your family, school, sports club, business or join as an individual.

All funds raised from the Western Sydney Vinnies Community Sleepout will go towards three Western Sydney Vinnies Hubs, providing vital support to those experiencing hardship and disadvantage in our local community. Proceeds will also help fund the Western Sydney Vinnies Van, offering food and drink and some basic amenities, social interaction, and a listening ear to those in need in Mount Druitt and Parramatta.

To join or donate visit **www.vinnies.org.au/communitysleepout**



COMMUNITY



LC PHOTO

LC PHOTO Holiday Camper Minis

Make your holiday portraits really stand out with our fun and festive mini sessions! Don your cutest Christmas outfit and come to LC PHOTO where all the holiday magic you can muster will be waiting just for you.

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