

BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term: 3 | Week 10 | Friday 17th September, 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Today brings to a close Term 3 - in many respects, a term like no other. The term break provides us with an opportunity to take some time out and take stock of the challenging times we are journeying through with a sense of **GRATITUDE** and **HOPE**.

GRATITUDE - being thankful for what we have, and **HOPE** - anticipating what the future will bring is at the heart of our Christian faith.

Pope Francis recently spoke about **GRATITUDE & HOPE** and their interconnectedness by saying:

*If we are bearers of **GRATITUDE**, the world itself will become better, even if only a little bit, but that is enough to transmit a bit of **HOPE**.*

In this way, **GRATITUDE & HOPE** go together and cannot exist without the other and the graces that stem from each of them leads us to the Divine.

We look forward to our students and staff returning on site during next term with a sense of renewed **GRATITUDE** for the many blessings we have been given and full of **HOPE** in God's providence and that better days are indeed ahead.

On behalf of the entire staff at Bethany I would like to **THANK YOU** for your ongoing understanding and support this term. Wishing your family a safe and blessed term break.

Go gently,

Sergio Rosato
Principal



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

"Hope" is the thing with feathers

By Emily Dickinson

*"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -*

*And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -*

*I've heard it in the chilliest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me -*



"Hope" Is The Thing With Feathers is one of the best known of Emily Dickinson's poems. It is a kind of hymn of praise, written to honour the human capacity for **HOPE**. Using **extended metaphor** the poem **portrays HOPE as a bird that lives within the human soul**; this bird continues to sing its tune during good and tough times.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

What an incredibly different and challenging term this has been; a whole term of learning remotely, navigating through and adapting to new routines, being flexible and creative! We look forward now with hope to a very well deserved break, a time to rest and rejuvenate for the final leg of this journey we've been on together.

I'm sure many of you hold concerns about what is happening to your child's education as remote learning goes on and continues into Term 4 however, Professor Jenny Gore, the director of the Teachers and Teaching Research Centre at the University of Newcastle, shares reassuring research.

"My message to parents is this: there's no need to panic. Our research shows that learning continues regardless. This chimes with the latest NAPLAN results, which found the pandemic had no significant impact on students' literacy and numeracy achievement at the national or state level. Last year, when COVID-19 anxiety was at fever pitch, many experts, policymakers, educators and media commentators speculated that the toll of lockdown would cripple student learning. Some pundits predicted months of learning would be lost.

Our research shows this simply was not the case. The academic achievement of more than 3000 Year 3 and 4 students in our study was just as strong in 2020 as it was in 2019. Looking more closely at our data by subject, year, and school socio-economic status we found Year 3 children in disadvantaged schools achieved less in maths, while their peers in mid-range schools achieved more. However, in other subjects like reading and science we found small or no differences in learning growth. There were also no differences in achievement in Year 4 in all three subjects. From this analysis we can say, at least academically, on average students did not fall behind, and they certainly didn't suffer "learning loss".

The term "learning loss" is highly problematic, no doubt adding to parents' fears about the short and long-term consequences for their children's futures. But even the Year 3 students from disadvantaged schools who achieved less growth in maths compared with 2019 students didn't go backwards. They didn't lose learning. They gained new knowledge and developed new skills in 2020.

So, what does this mean for the impact of remote learning in 2021? We don't know. We are in uncharted waters when it comes to the cumulative effects of lockdowns and multiple periods of learning from home. Based on our research last year, and the latest NAPLAN results, we anticipate learning for most kids will be okay. Families and teachers now have prior experience with lockdowns and learning continues, despite the challenges. Most importantly, though, we must look after one another!

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The 2021 NAPLAN results were posted to our Year 3 and Year 5 families this week. There is so much learning to be celebrated!

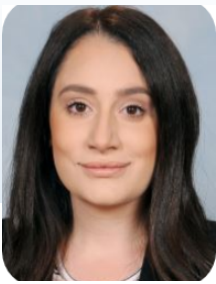
Wishing you a safe and restful holiday break with your families and looking forward with hope to welcoming you back in Term 4.

Go gently,

Rebecca Lloyd

Assistant Principal

Mrs Lloyd



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



CELEBRATION OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LEARNING AT BETHANY

We are so proud of our Bethany students for their commitment and resilience during Remote Learning this term. Enjoy reading through some work samples from each grade, celebrating their successes and their great engagement throughout our Religious Education lessons.

Year 1

5 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP'S LIFE

Juliet Gregory-Facchetti. 1 RED

- 1 She was born in Melbourne
- 2 She was a governess to her cousins
- 3 She ran a small school in Penola
- 4 She was known as Sister Mary of the Cross
- 5 She was made a Saint in 2010

YEAR 6

My Novena

Saint Joseph,
You were the earthly father of Jesus Christ,
Guide my father to all good things of the world.

They follow in your footsteps of being caring, generous, and empathetic,
This is why I plead you,
Through this tough time,
To bring good things to all fathers.

May fathers be tougher than COVID
So we can be once again inspired by our fathers,
Just like Jesus was inspired by your actions.

Our hope is not lost,
With you on our side,
We pray to you,
Saint Joseph.

Our fathers are the light in the dark,
Bless fathers for always providing families,
Help my father to keep his job,
Help us to get through this obstacle in life.

We pray through christ our lord

Amen.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTINUED



Year 3

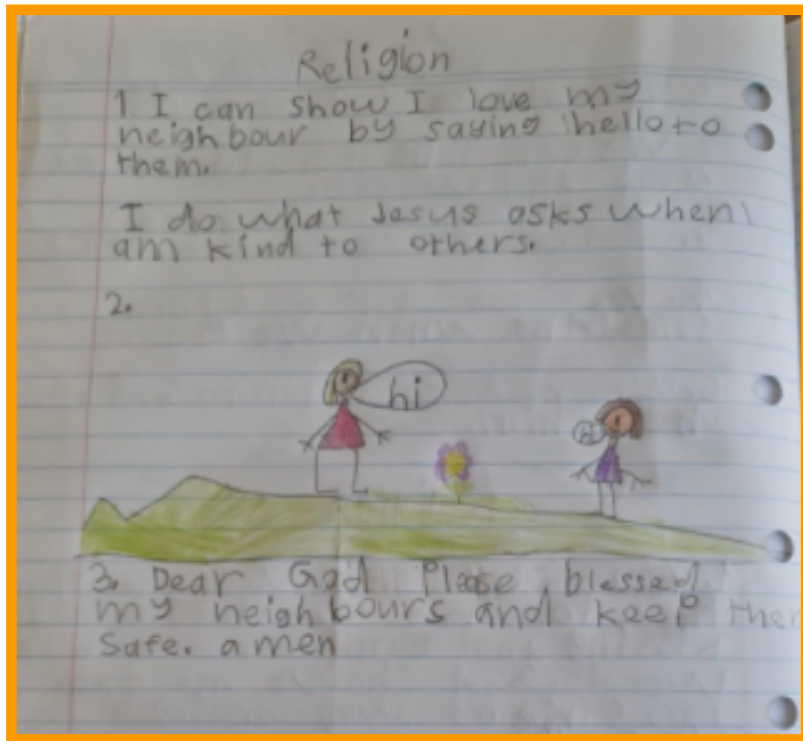
RELIGION
response

How is the Good Samaritan scripture passage an example of the message in Fratelli Tutti?

The Good Samaritan scripture passage is an example of the message in Fratelli Tutti because the meaning of the message in Fratelli Tutti was to let everyone be your neighbour and become one big family of the world. The meaning of The Good Samaritan is that a Samaritan was very kind to another man who was hurt so he was the man's neighbour. It is an example of Fratelli Tutti because the Samaritan was a Neighbour to the hurt man and in Fratelli Tutti Pope Francis wanted all to be neighbours so the Good Samaritan was an example of the two men being neighbours.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTINUED



Year 2

Laudato Si

The letter describes how the earth is our common home that we all belong to.

1. What does Pope Francis want us to learn from his letter? What is he trying to teach us?

To look after and respect the world

To stop cutting down the forests

2. Draw a picture to show how we care for and protect God's creation or write a prayer for our Earth.

Eli is putting his rubbish in the bin.

Dear god,
Thank you for our beautiful earth and helping and teaching us to be nice.
Thank you for teaching us to help look after the world.
Amen

KINDY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTINUED

Year 4

Prayer is a way of *communicating with God and developing a closer relationship with Him*. It is *talking and listening to God*. We can pray to God by ourselves or we can pray with other people.

We would like you to finish today's lesson by *writing your own prayer*. Which type of prayer will you write? A prayer of praise, petition, thanksgiving or sorrow? You can choose.

Dear God,

Please keep my family, friends and teachers safe from covid-19.

Lord Guide the scientists and doctors to help the sick and look after those in need.

watch over the people in hospital who are unwell

Amen

This is a prayer of Petition

Jude - 4R

Dear God,

You have done good things to us in the world. So that we can live. You sacrificed yourself for us, So we hope that we can make it up to you.

Things are going to change if we spread the word to other people who don't have school about you

Amen

This is a prayer of Praise, and Thanks

Roarke - 4W

Dear God,

Thank you God for giving me the best mum in the whole world . I am so lucky to have her love and care. Please continue to give her strength and patience while we are in lockdown. Thank you also for keeping us safe.

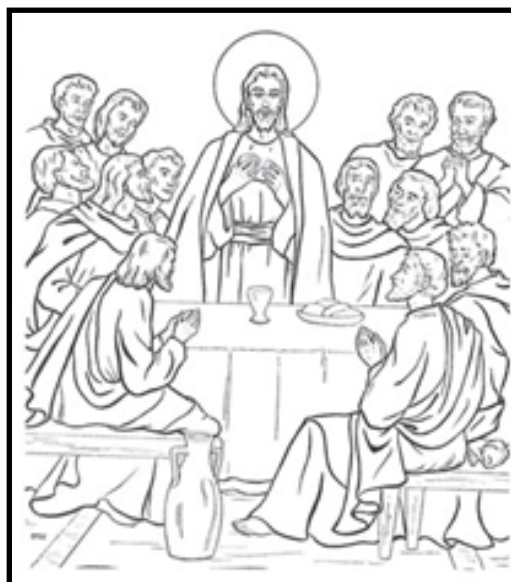
Amen

This is a prayer of thanks and petition

Liam - 4B

As mentioned in the last edition of the Bethany newsletter, preparations have begun for children to prepare for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We ask you to keep these children in your prayers as they continue in their faith journey.

Andrea Antunovic
Sarah Baker
Marco Cavina
Petar Celar
Anna Coburn
Caleb Commerford
Lara D'Agostino
Jacinta Devaise
Koby Ellingsworth
Vita Fazio
Alejandro Flammia
Ilara Flammia
Jasmine Galea



Georgia Gately
Cooper Gauci
Bonnie Hams
Cooper Lyzwa
Mia Magnoli
Ava Marakovic
Sophia Marakovic
Liam McAlister
Rosa Polimeni
Amelia Rubelj
Sophie Rudel
Ariana Spiteri
Francesca Vella

Mrs Wakim

Mrs Baldacchino



REPRESENTATIVE SPORT

The following information is also available at (click on the link):

[Opportunities for students with disabilities in the representative school sport pathway](#)

TRANSFORMING LEARNING



Opportunities in sport for Students with Disability

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools offer representative sports pathways in swimming, cross country and athletics for students with a disability. Students can progress through the representative pathway commencing at school level and the pathway is open to 8 - 19 year olds.

The representative school sport pathway allows students to progress from school to Zone (Blacktown, Cumberland, Hills & Nepean), Diocesan (Regional), NSW Combined Primary Schools (MacKillop), NSWPSA State and then to School Sport Australia National competitions depending on their level of success.

Students may be able to participate in one or more events as a representative of their school if the student is able to:

- swim 50m proficiently in one or more of the 4 strokes - freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly
- proficiently compete in one or more of the following disciplines in Track and Field - 100m, 200m, 800m, shot put, discus and long jump
- complete a 2km cross country course within the specified qualifying time (Primary)
- complete a 3km cross country course within the specified qualifying time (Secondary)

Not all disabilities are recognised in the sport classification system. Only students with 'sport classifiable' disabilities are eligible to participate and progress along the pathway. Please see listed on the next page the classification categories that are considered 'sport classifiable'.

WHAT IS CLASSIFICATION?

Classification is based on a person's functional ability to participate in a sport, and helps decide your eligibility to compete in zone, diocesan, regionals, state, national and international competitions. Classification helps make sure athletes of similar abilities compete against one another.

The classification system exists to provide a fair and equitable competition for students and athletes with a disability. The sports of swimming, athletics and cross country each have a unique classification system whereby athletes who compete in more than one sport will receive a different classification for each sport.

SPORT CONTINUED

TRANSFORMING LEARNING



CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES

Eligibility is based on the criteria explained within the classification category below:

Physical - *Classification codes: Athletics TF31-64, R1-R3 and Swimming S1-10*

Functional classifications involve a series of physical assessments to determine the extent of the limitation. This classification may include athletes who present with hypertonia, ataxia, athetosis, limb deficiency, leg length difference, short stature, impaired range of movement, impaired muscle power, amputees etc.

Vision - *Classification codes: Athletics TF11-13 and Swimming S11-13*

Students with a visual acuity that is less than or equal to LogMAR = 1.00 (6/60) and/or the visual field is less than a diameter of 40 degrees. All classifications are allocated from the best eye with best corrected vision. Eye conditions may include albinism, retinitis pigmentosa, macular dystrophy and rod cone dystrophy.

Intellectual - *Classification codes: Athletics TF20/TF21 and Swimming S14*

Students with an IQ equal to or less than 75 as assessed by a professionally administered IQ test, and significant limitations in adaptive behaviour (conceptual, social or practical adaptive skills).

**Students with Down Syndrome now have an individual disability category of T/F21.*

Hearing - *Classification codes Athletics TF01 and Swimming S15*

Students with hearing level loss of at least 55 decibels (dB) over 3 frequencies at 500, 1000 and 2000 Hertz (Hz) in the better ear as assessed by an audiologist or audiometrist.

Transplant - *Classification codes: Athletics TF30 and Swimming S16*

Students who have had an organ or bone marrow transplant including kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas.

ELIGIBILITY AND CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Parents are encouraged to contact their School Sports Coordinator or the CEDP Primary Sport Teaching Educator, Margaret Thornton or Secondary Sport Teaching Educator, Chris Anschau to discuss their child's eligibility. If the student meets the criteria they are able to participate at the zone or diocesan carnival as a member of their school representative team. If the student wishes to progress onto the NSW Catholic Primary School Championships or NSW Catholic Combined Colleges (Secondary) then formal classification needs to be obtained.

SPORT CONTINUED

TRANSFORMING LEARNING



HOW DO I GET CLASSIFIED?

Teachers and parents should be aware that students cannot participate beyond a diocesan representative school pathway level **without** a formal classification.

At the NSW Catholic Primary School Championships or NSW Catholic Combined Colleges in Athletics, Cross Country and Swimming, students must have at least a provisional classification and to participate at national championships – full national classification is needed.

Classification is handled by Athletics NSW and Swimming NSW in conjunction with their respective national sporting associations. For details on the different classification requirements, levels, how and when to obtain classification view the links below.

Classification Category	Governing Sports Body	Classification Website	Contact
Hearing	Deaf Sports Australia	http://deafsports.org.au/	(03) 9473 1191
Vision	Australian Paralympic Committee	https://www.paralympic.org.au	(02) 9704 0514
Intellectual	Sports Inclusion Australia	https://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/	(03) 5762 7494
Physical	Athletics Australia	https://www.athletics.com.au/multi-class-athletics/cet-classified/	(03) 8646 4550
	Swimming NSW	https://www.swimming.org.au/swim-1/compete/multi-class	(02) 9763 5833
Transplant	Transplant Australia	https://transplant.org.au/	(02) 9922 5400

COMPETITION STRUCTURE - WHAT IS A MULTI-CLASS EVENT?

Multi-Class events are a form of competition designed specifically for students (athletes) with disabilities. These Multi-Class events exist with some minor modifications to the rules and regulations, where necessary.

Multi-Class events see students with a range of disabilities, from multiple classification groups competing in the same race. Students race against the world record time in that event for the classification i.e. an athlete who is hearing impaired would race against the world record time of a hearing impaired athlete. The winner of the race is not always the student (athlete) who touches the wall first, throws or jumps the furthest or crosses the line first, but the student (athlete) who posts the best time/distance closest to the world record for that classification. This allows meaningful competition.

SPORT CONTINUED

TRANSFORMING LEARNING



WHAT NEXT & WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS?

- Liaise with the Sports Coordinator and/or Learning Support Officer/Diverse Learning Teacher from your child's school to ensure that your child is eligible for this opportunity.
- Identify to your School Sports Coordinator which events your child would like to participate in.
- The School Sports Coordinator will then nominate your child as an Multi Class (MC) athlete when registering all athletes from the school.
- Your child will be invited to attend the zone carnival as a member of the school's representative team.
- Our aim is to ensure that their experience is fun, rewarding and that they feel safe and supported and at zone carnival you may accompany your child to marshalling, watch them during the event and communicate with them throughout the event.
- If your child is successful in being selected to represent the diocese at the NSW CPS Championships then formal classification will need to be obtained.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF STUDENT INVOLVEMENT?

Students can:

- gain a sense of enjoyment & achievement
- build self-esteem & confidence
- socially connect with liked ability students

NSWPSSA School Sport website and videos

Here is the link to some great videos and information on the NSWPSSA School Sport website where parents and school's can read more about opportunities and how to become classified.

[Department of Education - Disability and participation programs](#),

CONTACTS

For further information or clarification on these opportunities please contact your School Sports Coordinator or alternatively you can contact:

Margaret Thornton - Primary Sport Teaching Educator

Email: mthornton@parra.catholic.edu.au

Mobile: 0408 278 918

Chris Anschau - Secondary Sport Teaching Educator

Email: canschau@parra.catholic.edu.au

Mobile: 0418 411 731

Mrs Neilly

LIBRARY



2021 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations

to the 297 Bethany students who completed the PRC.

Certificates will be issued during Term 4 with some Bethany students being eligible for a **Gold Certificate**. This is awarded when a student successfully completes the challenge for four years.

For some students in Year 6 this was the 7th consecutive year they had completed the challenge which is an outstanding achievement. These students will be receiving a **Platinum Certificate** and are on their way to achieving a PRC medal which is awarded when a student completes the challenge every year from Year 3 until Year 9.

If you didn't finish the challenge this year, keep reading as many wonderful books as you can ...there is always next year!



Mrs Emmett

Bethany Library



Mrs Emmett

COMMUNITY



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

FREE WEBINARS RETURNING TO SCHOOL - PRIMARY FOCUSED




Be part of an interactive hour where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with families and school staff living and working in South West and Western Sydney who support autistic students.

Once again, NSW students are preparing to return to school. For students on the autism spectrum, returning to school may present challenges and opportunities.

We invite you to join us as we:

- explore why students on the spectrum may need additional support
- share strategies to support students on the spectrum who have returned or are returning to school
- plan for home/school communication and collaboration during the transition back to school and beyond
- identify ways to support the mental health and wellbeing of students on the spectrum.

There are two different session times to choose from.

 **Tuesday 7th October, 2021 –**
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM AEDT

 **Friday 8th October, 2021 –**
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM AEDT

All of our webinars are free and participants receive a certificate following their completion of the webinar.



To register for these webinars, please click on your preferred date above.

OTHER MATTERS

Health and Safety

Our priority remains the safety and wellbeing of all in our community. With this in mind, we wish to reinforce that if your child is unwell whilst at school you will be called to collect them immediately.

NSW Health advises that anyone with symptoms should isolate and be tested immediately.

Parents need to provide the school with a COVID-19 test result in such circumstances. Please send a screenshot of the results via the Bethany email address bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au

Please keep children at home if they display any symptoms.

