

# BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term: 3 | Week 2 | Friday 23rd July, 2021

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Welcome back to Term 3. I recently heard an interesting comparison of the present situation we find ourselves in and running a **marathon**. I have always found the idea of running in a **marathon** perplexing. What type of person finds running 42 gruelling kilometres over different types of terrains in all kinds of weather pleasurable? Not me!

However, the analogy of living with the present challenge being like that of running a **marathon** is useful in providing us with some lessons to consider:

1. **Remember to refuel, rest and recover:** Looking after our health, getting enough rest and replenishing our bodies and minds has always been important - even more so during this challenging and disorientating time.
2. **Have a support team to help you along the way and to lean on:** We are in this together as a community - working as a team and supporting one another is vital in order for us to stay the course of the race which at the moment has no defined finish line.
3. **Plan flexibly and realistically and be ready to adapt plans if required:** Have an A Plan but also be on the lookout for what a B and C Plan looks like if required.
4. **Focus on the spot you are running in now:** Inexperienced runners tend not to pace themselves and focus on the finish line and therefore are more likely to give up and also tend to miss looking at the scenery around them.
5. **Stay connected:** Running a marathon is a lonely experience. We can find comfort and connection in these lonely moments by having a pleasurable, relaxing or enjoyable pastime activity or colleague/friend/family member to speak with.
6. **Continue to encourage one another:** Marathon runners look to the cheering crowd along the way for encouragement to keep going - we all have a part to play in spurring each other on.
7. **It's not a 100 metre sprint:** A marathon is about safely getting to the finish. We won't all cross the line together or at the same time but finishing is the objective.



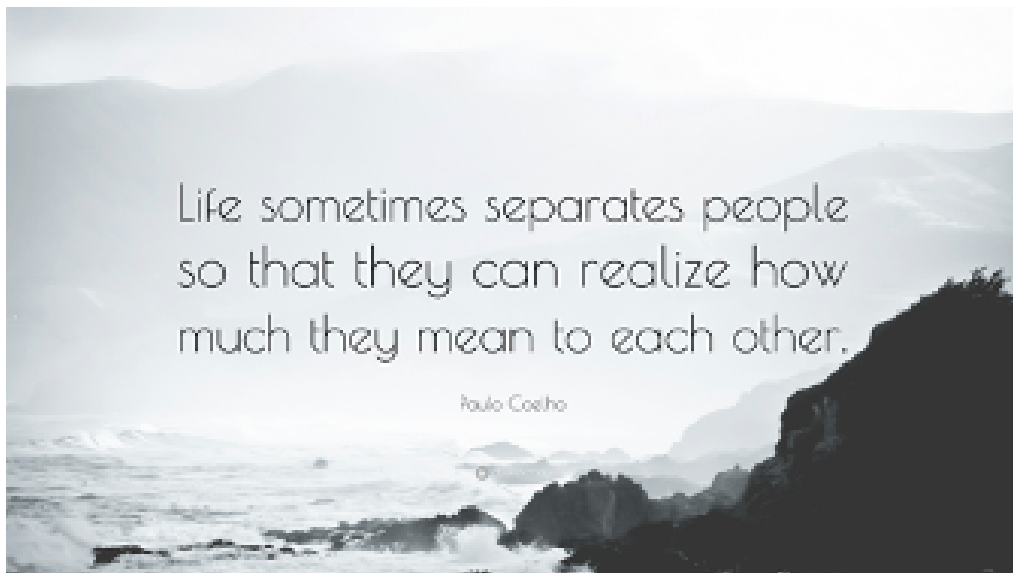
# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

**From theory to practice...**In the early 1980s a 61 year old potato farmer called **Cliff Young** won a 875 km ultra-marathon - running from Sydney to Melbourne - the distance of 21 normal marathons! He'd learnt to run in gum boots on his farm chasing sheep rather than by wearing Nike Airs. His running style was known as the "Cliff Young Shuffle". This efficient running style of a constant shuffle rather than fast stride enabled him to keep running when all the other runners were exhausted and needing to rest. Cliff just kept shuffling like Forrest Gump. Cliff's story is a lesson in **perseverance** and **resilience**.

A huge thank you to the **Bethany Community** for your understanding, support and positive approach to the start of remote learning. We are off to a good start to complete this marathon whilst staying safe and connected during this unique and challenging time.

Until next time,

Sergio Rosato  
Principal



# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 3! Although this is not the start we expected, we are all working collaboratively to embrace the current situation. I look forward to working in partnership with you all as we navigate through remote learning together.

I read a very insightful article on the weekend where Elizabeth Rouse who is a Senior Lecturer in Education at Deakin University and Paul Noble from the Kimberley School of the Air offered some valuable tips for parents on **surviving and thriving** whilst learning from home. Some of their tips got me thinking ...

- **Remember, you are not your child's class teacher...**

"Children are not being home schooled," points out Elizabeth Rouse, "they're actually being schooled by teachers who are working really hard to make the learning as enjoyable and engaging as they can and to support those kids at home to maintain their continuity with school. They are the children's teachers and parents need to take a bit of the pressure off themselves, thinking they need to take on yet another role of schooling children while also trying to be a parent and work from home." *Do what you can, the best you can!*

- **... but you are their parent!**

"Teachers need the parent at home to support their child to be focused and also to recognise if their child's just not coping today and to have that dialogue with the teacher." *Let us know if your child is struggling academically or emotionally so we can work together to support our children.*

- **Stick to a school routine**

Elizabeth emphasises the importance of sticking to a normal school-day routine of getting up and dressed and ready to work by the normal school start time. *This may suit some families but not others, it may work some days but not everyday - be flexible and do the work when it suits your situation.*

- **Organise a learning space**

Elizabeth recommends setting up a "quiet and comfortable" place to learn, ideally in a shared family space such as a lounge room or dining room rather than a bedroom "where your child can feel isolated and supervision can be more challenging". "Not everyone has the opportunity for a dedicated space," says Elizabeth. "If you're in a two-bedroom house with three kids all learning from home and you're trying to work and the only place you have is the dining-room table or the kitchen bench, then that's what you've got, that's your workspace." *However you decide to make it work for your family is ok.*

- **Take a break**

Paul Noble's Kimberley School of the Air delivers lessons to primary-school students across Kimberley cattle stations via satellite, but limited attention spans, he says, are a challenge for teachers everywhere. "With younger kids, if you can get a good solid two hours in and get that right you're doing well," he says. "It's easier to work with success and build it up, rather than insisting 'you're going to be at school for five hours' and it all ends up in tears. Break it up. Maybe you'll only get 40 minutes out of them, so go do some skipping and measure their heart rate, or have an apple and a bit of a wander around then back we come. Or maybe just do a stretch and touch your toes then okay, let's get back on with it now." *When students are at school they have regular breaks throughout the day from formal lessons.*

- **Make the most of the morning**

Paul recommends tackling more formal work such as maths and literacy early in the day. "Kids from mainstream schools know that anyway – they do the more complex work in the morning and then as the day goes on they're out doing sport or art." *Work hard when kids are fresh and enthusiastic.*

# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

- Remember that not all learning is formal

"Tasks that lend themselves naturally to learning are the go," says Paul, "because there's so much learning that goes on that's not formal – planting some seeds or taking the weeds out or building a tower with Lego. Your seed's grown three centimetres, okay let's go make a line or a bar graph, bring it back to formal learning." *Find ways to incorporate learning into less formal activities children already enjoy and engage with.*

- Give kids some control

Children will cope better if they have some control over their timetable or at least know what's on for the day, Elizabeth advises. "If a child is doing their own self-paced learning let them work out how they're going to manage things, because they know what works best for them. *Maybe they can have a visual timetable next to them so they can see what they need to do during the day.*

*During school closures, if you're having difficulty and feeling stressed with the added pressure of now being teacher to your child/children, please remember:*

*You don't need to replicate the school experience.*

*Don't try to be your child's classroom teacher. Just keep being the teacher you ALREADY are.*

*We trained for four years to teach the way we do, just as you trained for years to teach the way you do.*

*We wouldn't take over your job overnight, you won't be able to do ours.*

*Read with your child.*

*Cook with your child.*

*Garden with your child.*

*Enjoy nature with your child.*

*Make and create things with your child.*

*Sing and dance with your child.*

*PLAY with your child!*

*And above all, keep being the kind, calm, role model your child needs through this challenging time.*

*This is how you teach. Keep doing you. Your child is learning from you everyday.*

*Author Unknown*

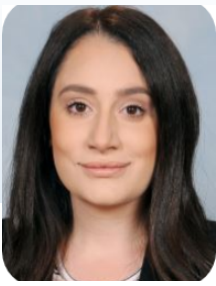
You are doing a wonderful job with your children and we thank you for your ongoing support. We are all here for you if we can help in any way.

Go gently,

Rebecca Lloyd

Assistant Principal

**Mrs Lloyd**



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



On Monday July 26, we venerate the memory of the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saints Anne and Joachim. An ancient story dating to the first centuries of the Church's life recalls how Saints Anne & Joachim, prayed to God because they had no children.

Angels appeared to Saint Anne in her garden and Saint Joachim in the desert, promising that, they would give birth to a special daughter, Mary, who would be known throughout the world. Anne and Joachim ran to meet one another at Jerusalem's Golden Gate and rejoiced in the new life which God had promised would be theirs.

Under 'normal' circumstances at Bethany, we would celebrate Saints Anne and Joachim, the Grandparents of Jesus, in conjunction with a community celebration of Grandparents Day, where we celebrate our own Grandparents. On this day we give thanks for all our grandparents who have influenced our lives for the better. We acknowledge all they have done for us – instilling family values, teaching us things that no one else could and loving us unconditionally. Our grandparents help to shape our lives and many of us have that most important relationship of all – a relationship with God – because of their example.

Students will celebrate Saints Anne and Joachim and their own Grandparents remotely this year. It is a challenging time for many families who are separated from their loved ones and especially difficult for families where grandparents have been accessible on a daily basis but are currently separated due to lockdown restrictions. We pray for all families in our Bethany community and offer this special prayer for Grandparents everywhere.

## A prayer for our grandparents

Dear God,

Please bless our grandparents.

Thank you for the life they have given to our parents and for the life they give to us.

For the ways they helped us and made us strong, we give thanks.

For the ways they love us no matter what, we rejoice.

For the ways they have paved the road that leads us here, we are grateful.

Let them grow in wisdom and joy in life.

Let them find peace and rest from their work.

And let them see with their own eyes the glory of your Son, Jesus, in the love of their children and grandchildren.

Bless them always.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mrs Baldacchino**



# SPORT



## SOCCKER GALA DAY

On Wednesday 23rd June, the Stage 3 Boys Soccer team represented Bethany at Jamison Park playing against other schools in the area. I would like to congratulate the team on their sportsmanship and skills they displayed on and off the field.

Thank you to Miss Abbey Tricot for organising and coaching the boys on the day.

A huge thank you to Sonny Maviglia and Cooper Ranieri from St Dominic's College, for refereeing games at the carnival.



### Primary Sport Update - 17 July 2021

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, all Term 3 Primary Sport Gala Days & Athletics carnivals are POSTPONED

## POSTPONED GALA DAYS, TRIALS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

POSTPONED TERM 3 EVENTS - Wk 1 TO 3	
Event	Date
Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day - BLUE	14th July 2021
MacKillop Softball	15th July 2021
NSWPSSA Cross Country	16th July 2021
NSWPSSA Netball	19th-21st July
Parramatta Cricket Trials	20th July 2021
Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day - GOLD	21st July 2021
Stage 3 Touch Gala Day	23rd July 2021
NSWCPS Girls Rugby Selections	23rd July
Stage 2 & 3 Touch Gala Day	30th July 2021

## POSTPONED ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The Zone and Diocesan Athletics Carnivals that were planned for 12th and 20th August will not go ahead on these days. Stay tuned!



## NEWS FLASH



Ellanor Paragalli (4W) is a member of the Southern Highlands Vaulting Team. This equestrian sport involves dance and gymnastic routines on a moving horse.

Ellanor and her squad team recently competed at the NSW State Vaulting Championships and they placed First in the Preliminary Compulsory Squad Team Event. The squad also competed in the Preliminary Barrel Freestyle and placed third.

Ellanor will be representing Bethany Catholic Primary School at the Interschools Championships.

We wish you good luck, Ellanor. Bethany is proud of you!



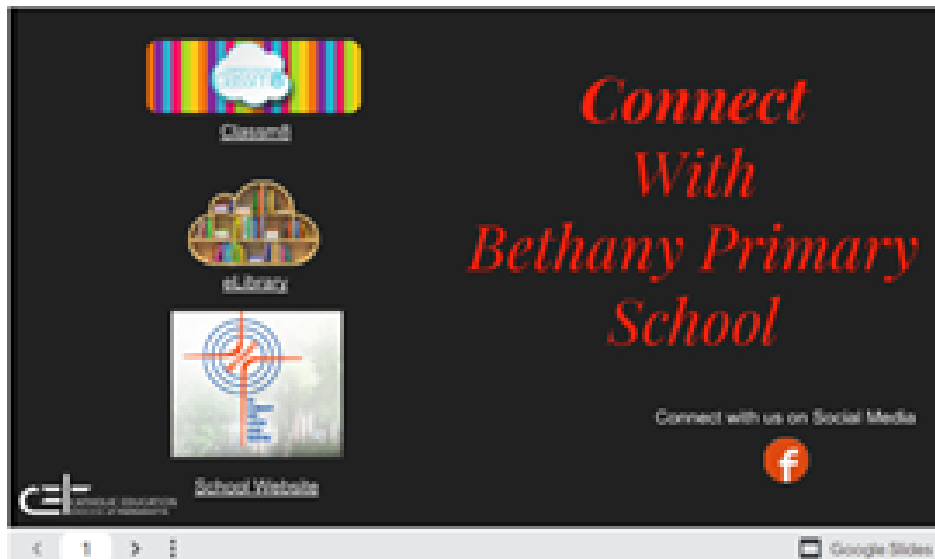
**Mrs Neilly**

# LIBRARY

## Library News

While it is not possible to borrow books from our school library at the moment, students in Years 3-6 are able to borrow e-books, audiobooks and e-magazines from CEDP's e-library.

The following link [https://ceop.ent.sirsiidynix.net.au/client/en\\_GB/13988](https://ceop.ent.sirsiidynix.net.au/client/en_GB/13988) will take you to "Connect with Bethany" - a series of Google slides that you can work through to find out about and connect to the e-library.



There are links that take students directly to the e-library allowing them to borrow with the username and password they use to login at school. There are hundreds of items to borrow that are grouped in Collections, so searching for e-books and e-magazines of interest is easy to do.

It was great to see so many students in Years 3-6 reading enthusiastically during Term 2. Borrowing from the e-library is a wonderful way to find some new books and magazines to read while at home.

Our e-library has many book titles suitable for K-2 but unfortunately K-2 are unable to login to the e-library at present. We will let you know when this becomes possible.

Remember too, if you are a member of Penrith Library, login to their website to find the many e-resources that you can borrow during this "stay at home" time.

## Book Club

**Book Club brochures cannot be distributed during the current lockdown circumstances.** Issue 5, 2021 brochure is available to view online and is the issue that will be distributed once we are able to return to school. Meanwhile, any family that wishes to, can purchase books from the brochure as a personal online order. Go to <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>

Ordering this way, families make a direct payment to Scholastic, a delivery cost is involved and books are delivered to your home. **The usual LOOP payment option for Book Club that allows purchasing through Bethany is closed and will remain that way until school returns, brochures can be issued and school ordering can recommence.**

**Mrs Emmett**



# CENSUS



Australian Government  
Department of Education, Skills and Employment

Dear parent/guardian

## Commonwealth School Data Collection Notice

The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (the department) would like to advise all parents and guardians that it collects certain information about your child's school, its staff, and student body.

### Why is this information collected?

This information is collected by the department in accordance with the *Australian Education Act 2013* (the Act) and the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (the Regulation). The Act and the Regulation require the legal entity responsible for the administration of the school (the Approved Authority) to provide certain information to the department. The department collects this information to:

- Ensure the provision of Australian Government funding to schools is properly calculated and appropriately managed.
- Conduct research, statistical analysis and develop school education policy for the Australian Government.
- Meet national and international reporting obligations on school students in Australia.
- Publish and provide information about schools to the public.

### How is information collected?

Information is provided to the department by a school or their approved authority via various data collections on the [SchoolsHUB website](#).

### What information is collected?

Each data collection fulfils a separate reporting requirement. The data collections conducted through SchoolsHUB are:

- **The Student Residential Address and Other Information Collection (Address collection)** provides student residential addresses (excluding student names), and the names and addresses of parents/guardians of students for eligible full or part-time primary and secondary students enrolled at most non-government schools.
- **The Financial Accountability (FA)** assurance activity is done to certify that the financial assistance provided by the Australian Government for schools has been spent or committed to be spent to provide school education.
- **The Financial Questionnaire (FQ)** reports the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities from all non-government Australian schools receiving Australian Government recurrent grant funding.
- **Student Attendance (STATS)** provides a school's student attendance rate data by grade, gender and indigeneity from non-government schools for full-time students in Years 1 to 10 attending regular and special schools.
- **The Non-Government Schools Census (Census)** provides information about the number and characteristics of the school's staff and student body during a specific reference period. Characteristics include student year level and workload, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and students, students with disability, students receiving distance education, boarding students, and overseas students. The names of students and staff are not collected, apart from

# CENSUS

the name, position and contact details of the staff member nominated as the primary contact for the annual census.

- **Census Special Circumstances Applications** may also be made by schools to include a student/s who did not attend during the Census reference period but otherwise meets Census eligibility requirements. Schools will provide the department with information and documents about the student demonstrating their eligibility. The department does not require information that personally identifies a student and asks schools to de-identify any documents before providing them.

## How will the information be used and disclosed?

Some of the information collected by the department from schools in accordance with the Act and the Regulation, may be 'personal information' for the purposes of the *Privacy Act 1988* (Privacy Act). Personal information is protected by law, including under the Privacy Act. Any use or disclosure of your personal information must occur in accordance with the Regulation. Personal information is information or an opinion about an identifiable individual. Personal information includes an individual's name and contact details.

Personal information collected by the department may be used or disclosed for the following:

- Used by the department to review school funding calculations and develop school education policy.
- Used or disclosed where it is otherwise required or authorised by law, including under the Act or Regulation, or otherwise permitted under the Privacy Act.
- Disclosed to the Australian Bureau of Statistics to calculate your non-government school community's capacity to contribute to the costs of schooling (Address collection only).
- Disclosed to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to publish on the [My School website](#) and include as high-level data for ACARA's National Report on Schooling in Australia and the Productivity Commission Report on Government Services (Census and STATS only).
- Disclosed to state and territory education departments and authorities in accordance with the Act.
- Disclosed to a contracted auditor where the department decides to audit or verify the information provided by an approved authority about a school. The contracted auditor may use previously collected information or request access to individual student records for comparison purposes. The contractors may pass this information onto officers within the department, if there is a discrepancy in the data provided by the school and the school's records and further investigation is required. The contracted auditor must handle personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act.
- Disclosed to its service providers for the purposes of the provision of information and communications technology (ICT) support services to the department.
- Other than in exceptional circumstances (for example, investigation of fraud relating to overseas students), the department does not disclose any of the personal information collected to overseas recipients.

For more information about how the department handles personal information, please review the department's [privacy policy](#).

## Protecting your child's privacy

When student information is provided to the department by schools or approved authorities, the department requests that the information must not explicitly identify any student. For example,

# CENSUS

student names or student identifiers are not provided. To help protect your child's privacy, we support schools to submit their reporting requirements using de-identified records.

In limited cases, even without student names or identifiers, a student may be reasonably identifiable from the information provided (for example, because of the small size of a particular school). In this event, the disclosure of such personal information to the department by a school, and the collection of that personal information by the department, are both required and authorised by law for the purposes of the Privacy Act.

## What do you need to do?

You do not need to do anything. Your school is responsible for providing the requested information to the department.

## Want more information?

Your school can provide information about data provided for your child. To find out more about school data collections and reporting, visit [SchoolsHUB](#).

# DATES FOR THE DIARY

<b>Monday 9th August</b>	CARES - 6R - To be confirmed
<b>Tuesday 10th August</b>	CARES - 6W - To be confirmed
<b>Wednesday 18th August</b>	NSWCPS Hockey Gala Day - Postponed
<b>Wednesday 25th August</b>	St. Nicholas Netball Gala Day - Postponed
<b>Thursday 26th August</b>	Mackillop Cricket Trials - Wagga Wagga - to be confirmed
<b>Friday 27th August</b>	Mackillop Cricket Trials - Wagga Wagga - to be confirmed

# COMMUNICATION

The following information has been advised via the SkoolBag App:

- 21/7/21**    **Communication to Parents, Carers and Children regarding 4R**
- 20/7/21**    **Collection Notice - August Census**
- 18/7/21**    **Bethany Students Can Now Borrow from The "E Library"!**  
**School Bus Service will not Operate Due to Covid-19 Restrictions**
- 14/7/21**    **Letter from Mr Rosato - Religious Coordinator Announcement**
- 12/7/21**    **Sporting Events cancelled - Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6**

## OTHER MATTERS

### School Fees

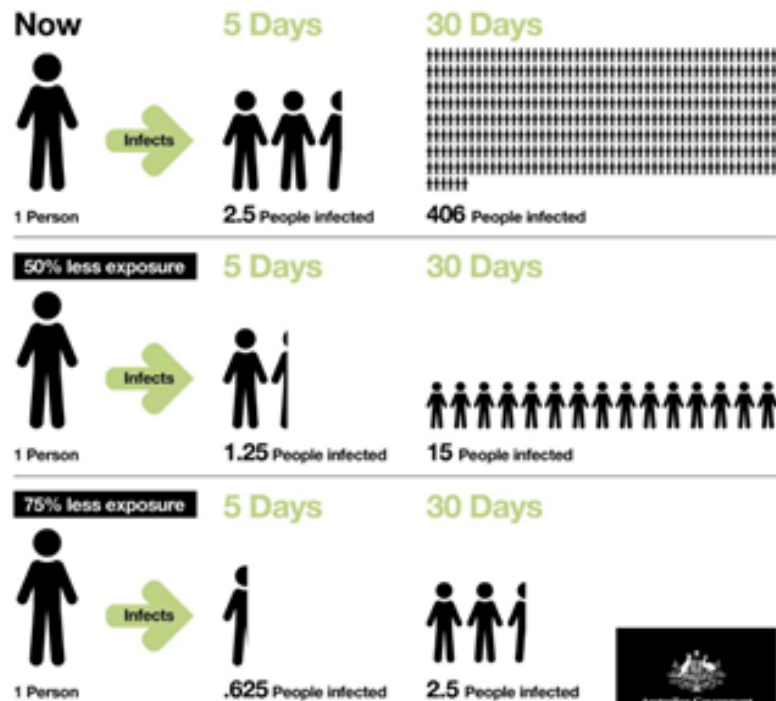
Instalment 3 Invoices will be posted by CEDP by Friday 23rd July 2021. If you are experiencing financial difficulty or have not received your invoice by Friday 30th July 2021, please call Mrs Wendy Vincent on 4723 3700 or email [bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au) to discuss.



# STAYING SAFE

## Why social distancing matters

Social distancing of 1.5 metres decreases the exposure of coronavirus (COVID-19).



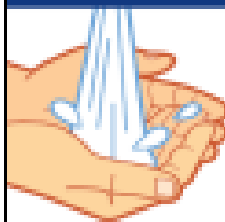
coronavirus.nsw.gov.au

## Practise simple hygiene by washing hands regularly

1 Wet hands

2 Apply soap

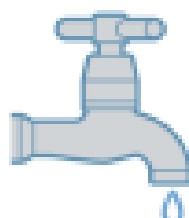
3 Lather & scrub



4 Rinse hands

5 Turn off tap

6 Dry hands



Spend 20 seconds washing your hands.

© Commonwealth of Australia 2020. All rights reserved. 202003