

BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term: 2 | Week 4 | Thursday, 18th May, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Last Sunday we celebrated Mother's Day – a day where we honour and give thanks to mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and mother figures in our lives.

It is fitting that Mother's Day occurs on the second Sunday of May as the month is dedicated in a special way to honouring Mary as the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church.

Our Lady is the embodiment of the steadfast, compassionate, loving, faithful, courageous and devoted mother.

It is striking to note that babies the world over, exposed to different languages, across different continents call to their mother with a word beginning with an "m" ie. *Mère, Mamma, Mutter, Moeder*

Linguists seem to think that the word for "mother" develops in all babies, regardless of culture as they go through their babbling period around 6-10 months. During this stage, babies start producing simple repeated syllables, with "mamama" being among the first.

These sounds are random, and the baby is not yet capable of associating the sounds with a particular person—but this does not prevent the mother from associating the sounds with themselves.

Christ as a baby would have called to his mother with the same babbling sounds and Mary would have responded in the same ecstatic way that all mothers do to their own child.

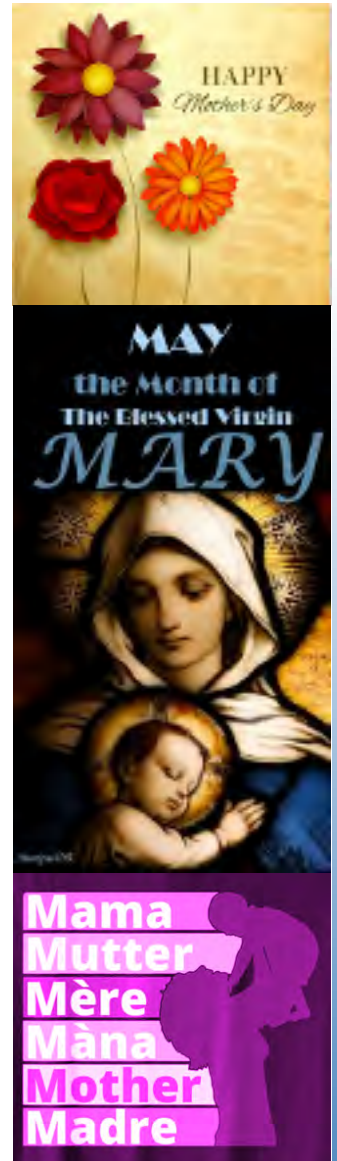
The sound made by babies to first name their mother is both primal and sacred - it is a name taught to all babies by the Divine, claiming their mums as their own forever.

We pray that last Sunday afforded all families a special time to show love and appreciation towards mothers, grandmothers and mother figures - wherever they may be.

Blessings to all families for the week ahead.

Sergio Rosato

Principal



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

How Was Your Day?

As parents, one of the most helpful partnerships that we can have with the school is to know what our children are doing and learning at school during the day.

Our fortnightly newsletter, children's set homework, semester reports, Google Classroom, Seesaw, Facebook and Compass posts help us out a little but of course hearing from our children about their day is the most helpful and timely source of information.

This is not always as easy as it sounds though! I think parents all agree that helping our children tell us about their school day can sometimes be quite challenging and we can often be met with one word responses or nothing at all. This can be that you are all in a rush to get to after school activities, your child is tired, hungry or not in the mood to answer questions after school or that you are not able to speak with them until you have returned home from your own work.

The following open-ended questions might help you to find out more about your child's day:

- What was your favourite part of your day, and why?
- What made you laugh today?
- What did you do at lunchtime?
- Who did you have the most fun with, and why?
- What's something you learnt that you didn't know before?
- What are you looking forward to about tomorrow?
- What did you do that made you feel proud today?
- What did your teacher do that was funny?
- What made you really happy today?

I hope these questions prompt some fantastic conversations with your children.

Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners In Learning Survey

In the coming weeks we will be inviting our students and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

From Monday 22 May to Friday 9 June, we invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning* survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at *Bethany Catholic Primary School*.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey (20 different languages available) on your computer or mobile device. A link to the survey can be found [here](#).

Many blessings for the week ahead,

Rebecca Lloyd

Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



In the coming weeks, we will be celebrating several significant feasts. These include The Ascension of The Lord and Pentecost Sunday. Bethany students will celebrate these feasts through classroom and whole school liturgies.

Parents and carers are invited to attend the whole school liturgy celebrating Pentecost on Monday 29th May at 2pm in the school hall.

Last weekend, children from St Padre Pio Parish, including students from Bethany celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation.

A second group of children will be celebrating this Sacrament this coming Sunday 21st May at 2pm.

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers during this special time.



Masses at Bethany

In the coming weeks, the following grades will be attending the Friday morning Parish Mass at St Padre Pio:

19th May - Years 2 and 4

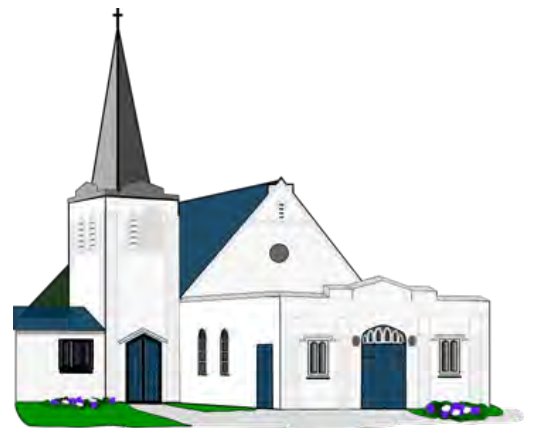
26th May - Kindergarten and Year 3

Parents are welcome to attend.

Children's Parish Mass at St Padre Pio

The next children's Sunday Parish Mass on Sunday 4th June will be coordinated by Year 4.

All Bethany students and their families are invited to attend.



Mrs Baldacchino

LIBRARY



National Simultaneous Storytime

Wednesday 24th May



For 23 years, the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) has promoted the value of reading and literacy through its annual National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS). Each year a picture book, by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously at thousands of venues across the country.

Next Wednesday 24th May students at Bethany will join with an estimated 2 million children across Australia to read **The Speedy Sloth** written by Rebecca Young and illustrated by Heath McKenzie.

This year our Library Monitors will be presenting **The Speedy Sloth** as a Reader's Theatre performance for students from K-6. Some Year 11 Caroline Chisholm students will also be visiting Kindergarten to read with them and do some related activities.

Story Box Library A reminder that our school has a subscription to **Story Box Library**. This enables all Bethany students and their families to access Australian literature read by Australian authors, illustrators and storytellers. It is a safe online space free from advertising.

Story Box Library does not replace the important experience of borrowing books from our school library and reading each night at home. Story Box Library supplements children's reading experiences by connecting them with literature through the complementary medium of film and allowing them to read and listen to books that may not be available in our school library.

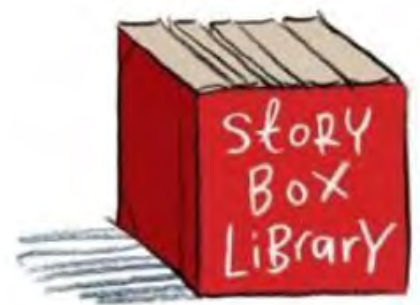
Story Box Library regularly adds new books, so is an ever-growing library aimed at Kindergarten to Year 6 students. The wide selection of books can be searched by themes, length and appropriateness for different age groups.

To access **Story Box Library** at home:

- 1) Visit www.storyboxlibrary.com.au
- 2) Choose Log In from the top right corner of the screen
- 3) Log in using the username and password provided below. This is the same for all students.
- 4) Enjoy the library of stories on any device with internet connection

USERNAME: bethanycps

PASSWORD: stories



Mrs Emmett

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Sunday 21st May	Sacrament of Confirmation Mass - St Padre Pio Church - 2pm
Monday 22nd May	Effort in Learning Awards Assemblies - Infants - 8:45am Primary - 9:30am
Wednesday 24th May	National Simultaneous Story Time
Monday 29th May	Pentecost - Whole School Liturgy (Red, Orange, Yellow Mufti) 2:00pm - school hall
Wednesday 14th June	NSWCPS Cross Country- Sydney Equestrian Centre
Monday 19th June	Effort in Learning Awards Assemblies - Infants - 8:45am Primary - 9:30am
Monday 26th June	Family Learning Conferences (FLCs) & Pupil Free Day
Wednesday 28th June	Family Learning Conferences 3:15pm - 8:15pm
Friday 30th June	Last Day Term 2



COMMUNICATION



Recent Skoolbag / Compass Notifications

15/05/2023	TTFM Student Survey
15/05/2023	Athletics Carnival Reminder Tuesday 16th May - Years 2-6
12/05/2023	Head Lice Notification - Year 4
12/05/2023	Head Lice Notification - Year 1
11/05/2023	Reminder regarding lost property
10/05/2023	Supermarket brochures and food magazines
10/05/2023	Lost Property
10/05/2023	Labelling of all items
09/05/2023	Mother's Day Photos
09/05/2023	Reminder - Thursday Mother's Day Stall
09/05/2023	Bethany Clothing Pool - Day Change
08/05/2023	Transition to CSPD Compass Communication Platform
05/05/2023	Information regarding Diocesan Cross Country - Years 2-6
05/05/2023	Head Lice notification - Year 5
05/05/2023	Head Lice notification - Year 3
05/05/2023	Kindergarten Excursion - Calmsley Hill City Farm
05/05/2023	Winter Uniform - Week 3

OTHER MATTERS

LABELLING OF LOST PROPERTY

We continue to have a large number of lost property items with no names. Overtime with regular washing the names often fade and are unable to be read. Please take a moment to check that all your child/ren's items are labelled correctly.

Attendance Notes

Thank you to those parents/carers who enter attendance notes into Compass. This process is to be used for whole day absences only. Please ensure that times are not adjusted as this will create a partial absence.

School Fees

Instalment 2 School Fee invoices have been sent. If you have not received your invoice please contact Wendy Vincent on 02 4723 3700 or email bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au.

ATTENDANCE

MISSING SCHOOL = MISSING OUT

Early primary children learn new sounds and words every day. These are important building blocks upon which all future learning is built.

Help your children achieve their best by getting them to school on time every day.



every learner
every day 



Catholic Schools
Parramatta Diocese

COMMUNITY

Positively

PENRITH

You're invited to the

GLENMORE PARK FAMILY FUN DAY!



Saturday 3 June

Ched's Town Reserve,
Glenmore Park

10am-3pm

Craft workshops

Petting zoo

Meet live turtles

Rock painting

Inflatable obstacle course

Yard games

Kids' yoga classes

Drumming workshop

Games bus

Council services

and more!



**PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL**

Find out more:

penrith.city/events

COMMUNITY



**PENRITH
GIANTS**



JOIN US FOR SEASON 2023
TEAM VACANCIES FOR AGES 8-18
\$100 REGISTRATION OR USE ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER OR CONTACT US
penrithjafcexec@gmail.com
0434516489



Register Now!

St Clair Auskick Centre
Enjoy 14 Fun and engaging AFL sessions while making new friends!

Each participant will receive their own NAB AFL Auskick pack including a football, puma, trading cards, draw string bag & choice of a shirt, backpack and more.

Total price is \$300 or **FREE** with an Active Kids voucher.
Location: Caddens Oval, Claremont Meadows
Monday afternoons from 24th April to 14th August
Time: 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Ages: 5- 12 years



SCAN ME

Contact: Harry Young at Harryyoung@afl.com.au
Sign up for junior footy at play.afl 



BLUE MOUNTAINS AFL **JOIN THE FUN!** 

Training Times:
14 YG Friday 5:30pm start

Training Locations:
Alternating between Tom Hunter Park Faulconbridge
and Dukes Oval Emu Plains

Contact:
Dan 0447 595 006 or president.bmkaf@gmail.com