

BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term: 1 | Week 3 | Thursday, 9th February 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Parents and Carers,

The positive tone around the school during this past first fortnight has been wonderful to experience as students have reconnected with friends and settled into the daily learning routines in their new classes.

The first days of the new school year are very much about forging a sense of **belonging**. The importance of fostering this sense of belonging in our students can never be underestimated and hinges on getting to know each child and their story.

It is in these first few days and weeks where we can learn much about our students - their interests, needs, dreams, abilities & motivators.

Whilst building this sense of belonging happens almost subconsciously in the classroom through discussion, observation and activities, it is also encouraged, modelled & explicitly taught each day.

By creating these connections, we foster not only a sense within the class of belonging to a *community of learners* but also nurture a culture of empathy, kindness & curiosity.

May we continue to hold in our prayers all in our community who are in need of support particularly **Nicholas Tadros** as he continues his recovery. We also give thanks to God for the vocations of the doctors and nurses who continue to look after Nicholas with such care whilst in hospital.

I leave you this week with a *Blessing for the New School Year* which echoes this notion of **belonging** and working as a community for the **common good**.

Yours in Christ,

Sergio Rosato

Principal



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

A Blessing for the New School Year

With gratitude for the gift of a fresh new year we ask blessing on our whole community -

May every classroom be a place of **respect** and **possibility**.

May every staffroom and playground be a place of **friendship** and **laughter**.

May every hall and assembly be a place of **connection**.

May every library be a place of **discovery**.

May every tree and plant call us to **care for creation**.

May every snack and lunch remind us of those who are **hungry**.

May every student grow in confidence and **love of life**.

May every teacher find daily **vision** and **hope**.

May every support worker help create a **sense of belonging**.

May every leader find **openness** and **patience**.

May every parent **grow in wisdom**.

May every name in this school be **blessed**

because each person is **precious**

And only **together** can we **learn** and **grow**.

by Michael McGirr, Caritas Australia 2023

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another wonderful year of learning at Bethany. We also welcome all the new students and families who have started their educational journey at Bethany this year along with all the new Kindergarten students and their families.

We hope you can join us for our Welcome BBQ next Friday 17th February!

I hope you all had a relaxing holiday with your family and found the time to enjoy the things you love the most.

As we begin the 2023 school year there are just a few friendly reminders about attendance and online safety I'd like to share with you.

Attendance

Please send your child/children to school on time each day. Regular attendance at school is essential for a smooth start to the day and academic progress. Students should be at school by the bell at 8:30am for the commencement of the school day. The school gates are closed very shortly after the bell and any students arriving after 8:30am need to be taken to the office by a parent who is required to sign them in and obtain a late note.

It is very important that children remain at school for the entire day. The bell for afternoon dismissal goes at 2.45pm. Any child who is required to leave school early for illness, an appointment, etc must be signed out in the office by a parent and a partial absence will be recorded.

Keeping Your Child Safe Online

In 2023 CSPD continues to partner with the eSafety Commissioner to offer new webinars for parents and carers of all our students. These live webinars give parents and carers the knowledge, skills and tools to support their children to have safe online experiences.

The following FREE webinars for Term 1 are now available for registrations on the eSafety Commissioner's website:

eSafety 101: how eSafety can help you

This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in primary and secondary school. It will cover:

- Who the eSafety are
- What you can report to eSafety
- Helpful advice and resources for parents and carers

Term 1 dates:

8 February 12:30pm to 1:00pm

21 March 7:30pm to 8:00pm

[Register here](#)

Setting your child up for success online

This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in primary school.

It will cover:

- age-appropriate expectations and boundaries
- online risks and strategies to keep your children safe
- where to find support for you and your child when things go wrong

Term 1 dates:

8 February 7:30pm to 8:00pm

28 February 12:30pm to 1:00pm

14 March 12:30pm to 1:00pm

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONT'D

[Register here](#)

Getting the most out of gaming

This 45-minute webinar provides families with strategies for supporting children and young people to have safe, positive experiences when playing games online. It is designed for parents and carers of children aged 7 to 14.

It will cover:

- when gaming can be beneficial and strategies to promote better in-game experiences
- how to keep children safe online – using safety and privacy settings in games and platforms
- strategies to promote more balanced gaming and how to create smoother transitions from game-play to other activities
- the key online risks and where to find help for things like bullying and harassment in game.

Term 1 dates:

14 February 12:30pm to 1:15pm

14 March 7:30pm to 8:15pm

[Register here](#)

Navigating online friendships

This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in secondary school.

It will cover:

- how to support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships
- what to do when something happens at school and ends up on social media or private messaging apps
- how to report to social media platforms and eSafety.

Term 1 dates:

22 February 12:30pm to 1:00pm

29 March 7:30pm to 8:00pm

[Register here](#)

The full 2023 parent and carer education schedule is [available here](#).

Follow this [link](#) to access details of dates and instructions on how to register.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Go gently,

Rebecca Lloyd

Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



LEARNING IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Term One has started with such enthusiasm! The smiling faces say it all.

Each grade has begun their Learning Cycle in Religious Education for Term One. The following is an overview of the Focus Question that each grade will base their learning on in Religious Education:

Kindergarten - *How is Jesus A Friend Who Loves Us?*

Year One - *How am I a unique person who is loved by God?*

Year Two - *How can we as God's children care for the world?*

Year Three - *How does belonging strengthen our relationship with others?*

Year Four - *Who is God?*

Year Five - *How is God revealed to us through Jesus?*

Year Six - *In which ways does God offer us hope for our world?*



BETHANY RE ANGELS

Students at Bethany are always encouraged to be active in their faith. One way that we can support this is through the role of a Bethany RE Angel.

RE Angels are students in Years 3-6 who can assist in the preparation and presentation of liturgies and social justice events.

One RE Angel is selected per primary class (i.e. in grades 3 - 6). Next week (Week 4), the students will be informed of the opportunity to apply to be an RE Angel. Below is a list of qualities that an RE Angel would ideally model:

- **care:** offering support to others who they see might be struggling.
- **respect:** accepting that other people have different opinions, talents and abilities.
- **proud to be a Bethany student:** someone who strives to live out the school motto: In Christ we love and Serve.
- following Jesus' example by being **respectful** of the faith beliefs and experiences of others
- **honesty**
- **prayerful:** understand that praying is an important part of daily life at Bethany.
- **reverent:** during liturgies, Masses and prayer times.



Students who are interested in becoming an RE Angel will be invited to write an expression of interest explaining how they display the above qualities. All expressions of interest are due

NO LATER THAN **Monday 20th February.** (Please note: late submissions will not be able to be accepted.)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONT'D

ST PADRE PIO SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

The Sacramental Program for 2023 at St Padre Pio Parish will begin with the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. A reminder that the parent information session for this program will take place on Wednesday 15th February. Details about this session and the student workshops can be found on the parish website: www.padrepio.org.au

LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY

The liturgical season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on **22nd February**. We will mark this day with the whole school attending the 9am Mass at St Padre Pio. All families are welcome to attend.

Mrs Baldacchino

WELCOME BBQ 2023



Welcome BBQ 2023

All families are invited to the
2023
Beginning of School Year BBQ
at
Bethany Catholic Primary School

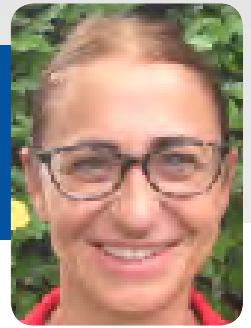
February 17th 2023

Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

RSVP: For catering purposes please complete the
attached form by Tuesday 14th February 2023



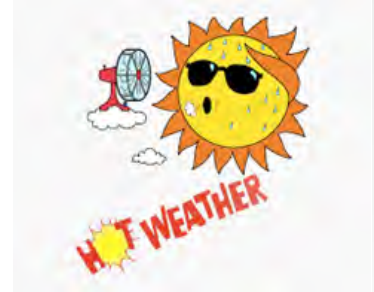
SPORT



SPORT DAYS with Mrs Neilly.

This term, we are learning the skills of Touch Football, improving our Fundamental Movement skills and will be starting our Athletics program towards the end of the term.

Please ensure your child has a drink bottle and a hat for Sport days!



NEPEAN ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Good Luck to the following swimmers that will be competing in the Nepean Zone Carnival on Monday, 20th February.

Jude Dunn	Zane Duncan	Anna Coburn	Anjelika Nikolovski
Eli Coburn	Archer Misso	Natalya Martin	Isla Duncan
Lochlan La	Owen Wallis	Harlow Pollock	Lola White
Nikola Marakovic	Agniv Jaidev	Celeste Devaise	Karli Gunawan
Mateo Tangata-Toa	Jayda Finn	Monique Naudi	Caleb Commerford
Sierra Ryan	Juliet Gregory-Facchetti	Mia Gorgievski	Owen McDonagh
Charlotte Okulicz	Heidi Lloyd	Alejandro Flammia	Xavier Lindsey
Georgia Gately			

Please return the permission notes and signed Code of Conduct notes as soon as possible.

Mrs Neilly



AFL SESSIONS

Last Friday, all students from K-6 took part in an AFL clinic that came to our school. You should have received information from AFL in regards to an AUSKICK after-school program.

Here are some photos from the day.



What is National Play Outside Day?

On the first Saturday of the month, everybody in the nation plays outside.

This includes kids, parents, adults, families and grandparents.

There are no scheduled events or activities, just go outside and do something fun with your friends and family.

Mark it on the calendar for the rest of the year so you don't forget! Make it a monthly tradition.



Why play outside?

- It's fun
- Develop a lifetime habit of physical activity
- Keep health and exercise a priority
- Discover new things
- Use your imagination
- Enjoy the beauty of nature
- Create lifelong memories with friends and family

LIBRARY

Bethany Library Class Visits in 2023

This week was our first week of library borrowing for 2023.

It was great to see so many students remembering to bring along their library bags so they could take home the books to read with their families.

Library bags keep books safe, clean and dry on the journey from school to home.

Here is a reminder of the days classes will be visiting the library this year.

Year 6 Tuesday

Year 5 Wednesday

Year 4 Thursday

Year 3 Blue Tuesday

Year 3 White Wednesday

Year 3 Red Thursday

Year 2 Tuesday

Year 1 Thursday

Kindergarten Wednesday



Scholastic Book Club

Twice a term **Scholastic Book Club** catalogues are sent home. This year there is a new look newspaper format featuring a wide selection of books for students from K-6.

Book Club News Edition 1 for 2023 will be sent home with students today.

Many families from our school take the opportunity to buy books from the catalogues but there is never any obligation to purchase.

Cash payments cannot be received at our school but Scholastic's online LOOP payment system enables families to make payments by credit card. [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)

Following the closing date, all book orders for our school are processed and as soon as they are delivered to Bethany the books are sent home with students.

The closing date for LOOP orders for Edition 1 will be Thursday 16th February

Lesley Emmett

Bethany Library Assistant

Mrs Emmett

DATES FOR THE DIARY



15th February	Sacrament of Reconciliation Parent Information evening - Padre Pio Parish - 7pm - Years 3-6
17th February	Opening School Mass - 11:30am
17th February	Welcome BBQ - 5:30 - 7:30pm
20th February	Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival - Glenbrook Pools
22nd February	Ash Wednesday Mass - 9:00am
27th February	Cross Country - Years 2-6
1st March	School Photos
1st March	Sacrament of Reconciliation formation workshop session 1 (7pm-8pm in the school hall)
3rd March	Fun Run - Kindergarten and Year 1
6th March	Catholic Schools Week
7th March	Bethany Open Day 9am - 10am
8th March	Bethany Open Day 9am - 10am
8th March	Sacrament of Reconciliation formation workshop session 2 (7pm-8pm in the school hall)
10th March	Bethany Open Day 9am - 10am
10th March	Mufti-day to support WYD
14th March	Diocesan Swimming carnival - Blacktown pools
15th March	Sacrament of Reconciliation formation workshop session 3 (7pm-8pm in the school hall)
15th March	NAPLAN - Years 3 & 5 - testing window - 15/3/23 to 27/3/23
22nd March	Sacrament of Reconciliation formation workshop session 4 (7pm-8pm in the school hall)
29th March	St Padre Pio Sacrament of First Reconciliation - 6:45pm
30th March	NSWCPS Swimming carnival- SOPAC

COMMUNICATION



Recent Skoolbag Notifications

09/02/2023	Year 3 workbooks - Year 3
09/02/2023	Cross Country and Fun Run - Save the date
09/02/2023	NAPLAN 2023 Information for Parents and Carers
09/02/2023	Parent volunteers for Welcome BBQ
09/02/2023	Welcome BBQ - Friday 17th February
08/02/2023	Letter of Introduction 2023
08/02/2023	Opening school Mass
07/02/2023	Seesaw Family App
07/02/2023	Morning Use of Play Equipment in the Welcome Garden & Morning/Afternoon supervision
06/02/2023	School Photos
06/02/2023	Free eSafety Webinars for Parents & Carers
03/02/2023	Kindergarten - full day commencing Monday 6th February
03/02/2023	Message from the Kindy teachers
03/02/2023	MULTI-CLASS STUDENTS - SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES
03/02/2023	Bethany Library Class Visits 2023
02/02/2023	Clothing Pool open this Friday 3rd February
02/02/2023	Letter from Executive Director, Jack de Groot
01/02/2023	2023 School Fees
01/02/2023	Guidelines - Responsible use of ICT and Social Media for Students
01/02/2023	Welcome, Kindergarten Parents!
01/02/2023	Request for Further Support Regarding Not Entering the Parish Car Park Before 2:30pm
01/02/2023	AFL Sessions for K-6 This Friday 3rd February
01/02/2023	Parramatta Team Sport Expression of Interest closing soon
31/01/2023	Family Car Signs

COMMUNICATION



Recent Skoolbag Notifications

31/01/2023	Year 6 Sports Shirts
31/01/2023	Skoolbag information to be updated - GROUPS
31/01/2023	MODE OF AFTER-SCHOOL TRAVEL FOR CHILDREN 2023
30/01/2023	Sport Uniform Days - Term 1 2023
30/01/2023	Not Entering the Parish Car Park Before 2:30pm
30/01/2023	Letter to Year 2R Parents
27/01/2023	Letter to Parents & Carers regarding the commencement of the 2023 school year

ATTENDANCE

CEDP promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education.

If your child is sick or absent you are required to notify their school on the first day of absence if at all possible. All explanations to the school must be provided within **7 days** from the first day of any period of absence.

Absences can be explained using one of the following methods:

1. SMS: click on the link that will be sent to parents via SMS if their child is absent
2. Email the school at bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au
3. Telephone the school office on 4723 3700
4. Note sent with your child

Where an explanation has not been received within the 7 day timeframe or the explanation has not been accepted, the school will record the absence as unexplained or unjustified on the student's record. **The school will not be able to accept explanations which are not received within the 7 day timeframe.**

Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

Why do I need to notify the school if my child is absent?

Parents of children aged 6 to 17 years are legally required to ensure their children attend school every day or provide an explanation if they are absent. Notifying the school and providing an explanation for your child's absence will fulfil this legal responsibility.

The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for schools. Parents need to know if their child isn't at school, and schools need to know when and why a child is absent. Notifying the school of your child's absence helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children in school.

What is your responsibility?

- Ensure your child attends school every day
- Notify the school immediately if your child is absent
- Provide an explanation for any absences within 7 days
- Make sure the school has your correct contact details so that you can receive attendance information about your child.

every learner every day 

OTHER MATTERS

SKOOLBAG, QKR APPS & MUNCH MONITOR ONLINE ACCOUNT

Please update your child's year level in the Skoolbag and QKR apps. This will ensure that all communication from the school is received and payments made correctly. The canteen has also asked that parents visit the Munch Monitor website to update their child's class for this year. Thank you.

REMINDER

To minimise interruption to important learning time, please check that your child/children have packed recess, a drink bottle, lunch and the books that are required for their school day before they leave home.

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Please ensure that the school has the correct afternoon dismissal information for your child. If you need to make a change to the dismissal arrangements for your child due to unforeseen circumstances please notify the School office by 2:00pm.

School Fees

School Fees have now been issued and are due by 15 March 2023.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty or have not received your invoice by Wednesday, 15 February 2023, could you please contact Wendy Vincent on 02 4723 3700 or bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au to discuss.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photos will be held this year on Wednesday 1st March (Week 6). *MSP Photography* photo letters were sent home with each child last week.

Please note some important information:

- Students are to wear full summer uniform regardless of whether their Sport day is on Wednesday. Students who have Sport on Wednesday can bring their sport shoes to change into. Please ensure these are clearly labelled with your child's name.
- Hair is to be neatly done and in keeping with the Bethany's Hair style policy.
- Hair accessories must be in the Bethany colours.
- Please note that photography and school staff are not permitted to adjust or comb students' hair.
- Please ensure your child arrives at school on time - photos will commence at 8:30am.

OPEN DAYS

BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



ENROLLING
NOW FOR 2024

2023 OPEN DAYS

Tuesday 7th March, Wednesday 8th March, Friday 10th March

9am-10am

Visit our website to register to attend

bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au

Please contact the school office on 4723 3700

for enrolment packs or visit our website.



OPEN NIGHT PENOLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Tuesday 7 March 2023 4pm - 7pm



Enrolling now for Year 7 2024

Self-guided & guided
tours available
no bookings required

Your local 7-12 co-educational Catholic School

Walking in the footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop



@PenolaEmuPlains

P: 02 4728 8100

www.penolaemuplains.catholic.edu.au

OPEN DAYS

2024 ENROLMENTS

FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

OPEN NIGHT TOURS:

Mon 13th to Wed 15th March 2023

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Join us to see for yourself why girls are so
happy to learn at Caroline Chisholm College.
.....

Tours of the college: 3:30 - 6:30pm

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Limited places available in other years
.....

Further information and bookings can be made
via our website and Facebook page.

www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au

90-98 The Lakes Drive Glenmore Park

Enrolment packages can be obtained by
contacting the college on: 4737 5500

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