

BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Welcome back to Term 2! I trust that all families were able to enjoy some time together to celebrate the Easter Season.

It is incredible to think that Jesus was such an accomplished teacher given that he had not undergone any 'formal training' - even so, his teaching practice has never been bettered.

Ultimately, what made him such a transformational teacher was that he was concerned with the holistic needs of His learners. He understood their traditions, their culture, their day-to-day lives and their spiritual longing.

Throughout his teaching ministry, Jesus used a variety of methods that made his teaching striking, memorable, relatable and provoking. These methods included stories, proverbs, parables, questioning and imagery.

Last Sunday was 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. In the Gospel reading of the day, Jesus the master teacher, uses the imagery of shepherding as his teaching allegory.

The image of the shepherd is one that Jesus elaborated on many times in his teaching. So why did Jesus often use the images of the shepherd and sheep to teach?

This image of sheep, shepherding & the sheep's gatefold would have been very familiar to Jesus' audience of the time. It spoke of leading, caring and protecting.

They could immediately connect with it both through their day-to-day experience and from their faith tradition as Jews.

Jesus' elaborations on the imagery of the shepherd directly connects us to the Good Shepherd's two great promises to us:



He is WILLING to LAY DOWN his LIFE for us.

He has COME so that they may HAVE LIFE and have it TO THE FULL.

Wishing you and your family a blessed week ahead.

Sergio Rosato

Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

Staff Development Day

The teachers at Bethany engaged in some very productive professional learning last Monday during our Staff Development Day. Teachers worked with the new English and Mathematics syllabus and curriculum implementation in these areas. They consolidated their knowledge of data analysis to improve student outcomes in their literacy and mathematics learning. Time was spent drilling into and tracking data to inform planning for new learning experiences based on identified student needs. Jo McKay and Amanda Parnis from CSPD spent some time sharing their expertise and working collaboratively with us during the day.

Getting The Most Out Of Gaming - Free Webinar For Parents and Carers

The Council of Catholic School Parents NSW/ACT and the Office of eSafety Commissioner is offering a free 45 minute webinar for parents and carers.

This webinar will provide 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 games.

Getting The Most Out Of Gaming

Tuesday 23 May 7.30pm - 8.15pm

Register [here](#)

Many blessings for the week ahead,

Rebecca Lloyd

Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Bethany students began term 2 by celebrating The Resurrection/Easter and ANZAC Day with whole school liturgies. Whilst we are still in the liturgical season of Easter, The Resurrection/Easter liturgy brought to close the events of Holy Week that we celebrated in Week 11 of Term 1.

The ANZAC Day liturgy gave students an opportunity to experience the importance of remembering the sacrifices made by Australians during times of war. Mrs Emmett created a beautiful display in the library for ANZAC Day.



Learning in Religious Education

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

- + Kindergarten - How does the Church bring me closer to Jesus?
- + Year One - What can the Bible teach us about God's love for us?
- + Year Two - Why is it important for me to speak to and listen to God?
- + Year Three - How is the Church a community that follows the mission of Jesus?
- + Year Four - In what ways does the Eucharist inform our mission?
- + Year Five - How are the sacraments a special sign and celebration of God's love for us?
- + Year Six - How can our school community grow in love through the celebration of the sacraments?

Masses and Reconciliation

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

5th May - Years 1 and 5

19th May - Years 2 and 4

Parents are welcome to attend.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONT'D

The following grades will be attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation this term:

Year 4 - 4th May

Year 5 - 9th May

Year 6 - 10th May

Students who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will need to attend this Sacrament. If the opportunity to attend at school is missed, students will need to attend the Sacrament on Saturday morning at St Padre Pio prior to Confirmation.

Children's Parish Mass at St Padre Pio

This coming weekend is the Children's parish Mass at 10am.

All Bethany students and their families are invited to attend. Students who have trained to serve as altar servers will be inducted at this Mass.

Mother's Day

Our Mother's Day Liturgy will take place on Friday 12th May. Mothers and mother figures are invited to attend this celebration with us beginning at 12pm. The liturgy will be followed by a picnic lunch with the children. Please see the letter that was sent home on Tuesday for more information about the liturgy and the Mother's Day stall.



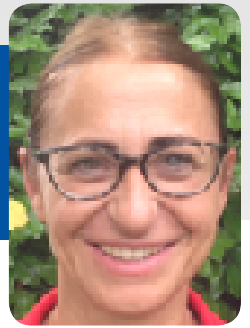
Rosary Club

Being the month of May, a month dedicated to Mary, we have once again begun Rosary Club. Rosary Club is open to all students and takes place on Monday and Wednesday at lunch time during the month of May. During this time, students are accompanied to the statue of Mary outside the church and together pray a decade of the Rosary. Students can bring their own Rosary Beads if they have a set.



Mrs Baldacchino

SPORT



PE /SPORT Rotations with Mrs Neilly

Athletics Program

This term, during rotations with Mrs Neilly, the students will be continuing the Athletics program including running, jumping and throwing activities.

Volleyball Program

From week 6, the students will be learning volleyball skills with Mrs Neilly.

Year 5 and Year 6 may be given the opportunity to work with Volleyball NSW coaches during sport rotations.



Athletics Carnival Years 2-6 Reminder

The carnival will be taking place at Blair Oval, St Marys, in Week 4.

Please return the permission notes as soon as possible to your class teacher.

LIBRARY



Bethany Library Class Visits for Term 2 2023

Just a reminder that some classes have had their Library day changed for Term 2.
Students need to bring their Library bags on their Library day.

Year 6 Thursday

Year 5 Red Tuesday

Year 5 Blue Wednesday

Year 5 White Thursday

Year 4 Wednesday

Year 3 Tuesday

Year 2 Tuesday

Year 1 Thursday

Kindergarten Wednesday



The Library is also open before school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for students to change their books or for parents to visit and borrow some extra Library books to read with their children at home.



Scholastic Book Club

Issue 3 was sent home last week.

A reminder that payments are made by credit card using Scholastic's online LOOP payment system.
[scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) After 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 Issue 3 is Friday 5th May

Great work all those students and families who are enjoying reading books for the PRC. Challenge closes on 18th August 2023.



*Go to the Premier's Reading Challenge website at online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc

*Click on "Logon" on the left side of the screen.

*Enter the **PRC username and password** you have been given. These were sent home to all K-3 students with a letter in Term 1 and given to students in Years 4-6 during Library class visits.

*Click on "Student Reading Records" and type the titles of the books you read.

*PRC Booklists and support can be found on the PRC website.

Any 3-6 student who has problems logging on can see Mrs Emmett in the library before school or at lunchtime on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Parents of K-2 students who require assistance with logging PRC books can contact me by email via the Bethany office at bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Emmett

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Monday 8th May	Mother's Day stall
Wednesday 10th May	Diocesan Cross Country - Eastern Creek
Wednesday 10th May	Sacrament of Confirmation Formation Workshop
Thursday 11th May	Confirmation Practice - 6:45pm-8pm
Thursday 11th May	Mother's Day stall
Friday 12th May	Mother's Day Liturgy 12pm, followed by picnic
Sunday 14th May	Sacrament of Confirmation Mass - St Padre Pio Church - 2pm
Tuesday 16th May	Athletics Carnival - Blair Oval, St Marys
Wednesday 17th - Friday 19th May	Year 6 Canberra Excursion
Sunday 21st May	Sacrament of Confirmation Mass - St Padre Pio Church - 2pm
Monday 22nd May	Effort in Learning Awards Assemblies
Wednesday 24th May	National Simultaneous Story Time

COMMUNICATION



Recent Skoolbag Notifications

4th May	Children's Mass - Sunday 7th May - 10:00am
4th May	Parent Virtual Pilgrimage Invitation
2nd May	Emergency Evacuation Drill
2nd May	Time changes for Bus number 4080
2nd May	AFL Paul Kelly Cup
2nd May	Cross Country Volunteers required
2nd May	Mother's Day Stall and Liturgy
1st May	Mother's Day - request for photos
1st May	Canteen Orders
28th April	Bethany Class Library visits Term 2
28th April	Bus number 4541 is running late
28th April	Nicholas Tadros' return to school
28th April	2nd Hand Clothing Pool
27th April	Children's Mass - Sunday 7th May - 10:00am
25th April	Sport uniform days - Term 2

ATTENDANCE

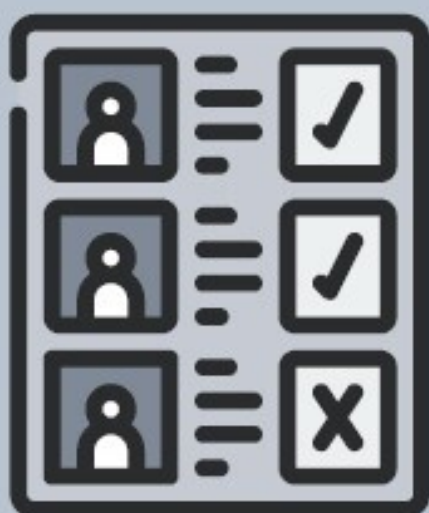
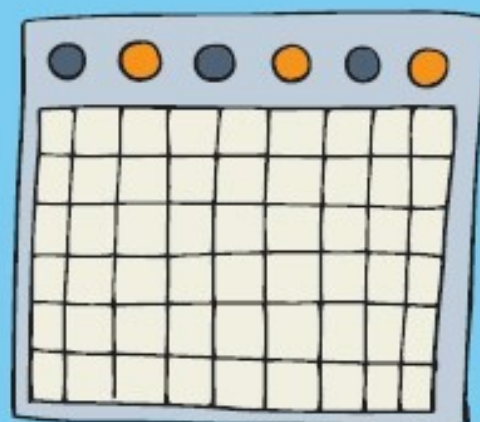
DEFINITIONS

Every Learner Every Day

ATTENDANCE

A student is considered to be in attendance at school when they:

- attend the school site while the school is open for instruction
- participate in a school approved activity or
- participate in an offsite flexible learning pathway/ program approved by the Principal.



ATTENDANCE CONCERN

A child or young person is considered to have an attendance concern if they have:

- an attendance rate of less than 90%
- recurring absences without explanation OR recurring absences and explanations provided by parents/ carers that are not accepted by the Principal.

OTHER MATTERS

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.



BETHANY WINTER UNIFORM

All Students are required to be wearing the full school winter uniform from **Monday 8th May, Week 3 Term 2.**

KINDERGARTEN 2024 ENROLMENTS

If you have expressed interest in enrolling your child at Bethany for Kindergarten 2024, please submit your enrolment application form by Friday 20th May. Please contact our Enrolments Officer on 4723 3700 if you have any enquiries regarding the enrolment process.

