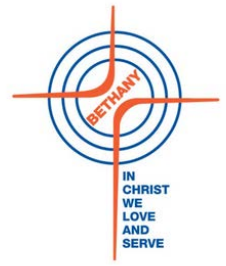


Bethany Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Term 3 | Week 4 | Thursday, 10th August, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Bethany Families,

On Tuesday we celebrated the feast of our one and only Aussie Saint - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop with a whole school liturgy.

Mary MacKillop was and remains a woman ahead of her time - courageous, resilient and down to earth. What she was able to achieve in a time without cars, airplanes or internet is simply astonishing. Mary's life-story had its fair share of personal loss, and trials which included family challenges, poor health and excommunication by the hands of the Church hierarchy.

Rather than feeling sorry for herself and becoming bitter and negative these experiences imbued her with a strong optimist faith steeped in an unwavering belief in the providence of God.

Mary and her Order of 'Brown Joeys' committed through action to serve the poor, embrace the outsider, and to welcome the stranger as friend.

At the age of just 25 years old Mary MacKillop took her vocational vows and the religious name, "Mary of the Cross". She began her first school with her newly formed *Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart* in the small rural town of Penola in South Australia dedicated to teaching children from the most impoverished families. Her first classroom was born out of a stable previously used to house farm animals.

The sense of outreach to look after the outcast of society and to educate the young remains an extraordinary legacy of the *Brown Joeys* - we who are now called to serve in their place, are the custodians of this sacred legacy.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Later this term the Year 6 students from Bethany will make a pilgrimage to *Mary Mackillop Place* at North Sydney. The site contains St Mary Mackillop's final resting place and is the home where she lived her final years until her death on August 8 1909 at the age of 67 years of age.

Mary was a truly remarkable woman and remains an extraordinary role model for all of us to emulate - a true hero of our Church and of Australia.



Mr Rosato standing in front of the school house at Penola South Australia (This schoolhouse replaced the first classroom which used to be a stable)

Wishing you and your family every blessing for the week ahead.

Sergio Rosato
Principal

Shaping a Nation: St Mary MacKillop
<https://youtu.be/eOqGWciHi70>

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

A topic that frequently comes up in the media and in our conversations with parents is building resilience. Michael Grose, leading parenting educator and author of 12 published best selling books for parents, explains that the research shows resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their kids.

Parents are in the best position to influence their children's resilience. Children watch our reactions to adverse events and view first hand how we look after – or neglect – our own mental health and wellbeing. Focusing on our own resilience is not as difficult as it may seem. If you adapt a resilience mindset you'll find that resilient behaviour follows. Promoting personal resilience focuses on helping kids cope with life's hurts, disappointments and challenges in the present, while building strengths for the future.

He suggests that parents can coach their kids through some of their more challenging moments and review what they may have learned for next time. As a parent it is hard to avoid solving all our children's problems for them but if we do we can help improve their resilience. Often our children surprise us because they may be more resilient than we are about circumstances.

You can promote a lasting sense of resilience in your children by:

1. Having a positive attitude yourself. Your attitude as a parent impacts on your child's ability to bounce back from some of the difficulties they face. Make sure you model a 'you can do it' attitude for your child when they meet some of life's curve balls.

2. Look for teachable moments. Many children's learning opportunities are disguised as problems. Make the most of these opportunities so that children can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face. Daily lessons in resilience are everywhere. You just need to be ready to make the most of these valuable lessons when they come your way.

3. Make children active participants in the family. Active participation in a family develops the self-help, problem-solving and independence skills of children that are necessary for resilience.

Promoting resilience in children is not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don't go their way. It also requires you as a parent to have an understanding of resilience, so that you can have faith in yourself, and your child's ability to cope.

Developing resilience in kids is like jumping off a pier with some friends on a cold winter's day. In both instances you need to go first!

Many blessings,
Rebecca Lloyd
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



This week we celebrated the feast of Australia's first saint, **Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop**. Each day when we pray 'The Angelus' as a school community, we conclude our prayer by asking St Mary of the Cross Mackillop to pray for us.

During our liturgy on Tuesday where we celebrated St Mary Mackillop, we heard about her life. The following is a brief summary.

Mary was the eldest of 8 children. Mary helped her mother look after her younger brothers and sisters.

When she was 16, Mary got a job in a bookstore to help support her family.

When she was 18, she went to live in South Australia with her aunt and uncle. She looked after her cousins and taught them.

Mary wanted to be a nun. Along with Father Julian Tenison-Woods (the parish priest at Penola) she opened a free school for poor children. Mary's brother turned an old stable into a school room. Not all of them were from poor families. More than 50 children began attending Mary Mackillop's school. Mary Mackillop wore black clothing and dedicated herself to God by becoming a nun.

The children who went to Mary's school were welcomed and treated equally. It didn't matter if they came from a wealthy family or a poor family.

Mary and her helpers showed kindness to everyone and helped many poor and sick people. The Bishop of Adelaide did not understand the work that Mary was doing. He excommunicated her, ordering her to leave the Catholic church. She was welcomed back 5 months later.

Mary Mackillop founded the Sisters of St Joseph. The sisters established many schools. Mary died in 1905. She became Australia's first saint in 2010.

A saying that is commonly attributed to Mary Mackillop is to never see a need without doing something about it. As we ask her to pray for us, we ask that we may be guided to also see a need and do something about it for the better of others.

Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist

Preparation for this sacrament has begun at St Padre Pio Parish. Please keep the children who are preparing to receive this sacrament for the first time, in your prayers.

If you have any questions about this sacramental program, please contact Mrs Regina Rossetto (Sacramental Coordinator) at padrepio.org.au

Upcoming dates

- **15th August:** Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Bethany students will be attending a whole school Mass at St Padre Pio at 9am. Note: this is a Holy of Obligation. **All students are required to wear full school winter uniform (no sport uniforms).**
- **31st August:** Father's Day celebrations at Bethany
- **1st September:** Year 6 excursion to Mary Mackillop Place, North Sydney

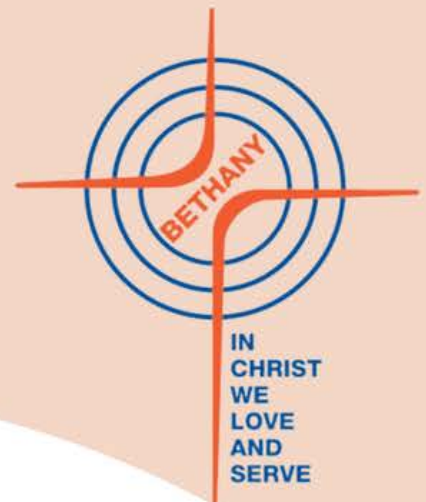
PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING FATHERS AND FATHER FIGURES WITH A FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST AND LITURGY.

HAPPY **Father's** **DAY**

Thursday 31st August | Liturgy @9:00am

Father's and father figures are invited to join their children at Bethany for this special celebration and enjoy a Sausage Sizzle breakfast (sausage sandwich) served from 7:30am - 8:30am.

[**FATHER'S DAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE BREAKFAST ORDER FORM**](#)



SPORT



SOCCER NEWS

On the 27th June, 2023, Stage 2 Boys and Girls represented Bethany at a Soccer Gala day held at Jamison Park. We had a wonderful day in the sunshine playing against other schools in the Diocese. The students displayed all their soccer skills on the field with great sportsmanship. I would personally like to thank Mr Fullam and Mr Mahlenhoff for taking on the role of coach for the day.

Congratulations to the following teams:

Stage 2 Girls team:

- Charlotte Okulicz
- Callie Davies
- Chelsea Gibson
- Harper Mahlenhoff
- Olivia Langmack
- Mia McGrath
- Annalise Wright
- Aria Fahey
- Emily Rudel
- Sophie Sapsed
- Isla Ellingsworth
- Ellie Kopp



Stage 2 Boys team:

- Morrison Browne
- Daniel Radcliffe
- Orlando Fedeli
- Zach Michael
- Antonio Cuttonaro
- Jett Ward
- Lucas Okulicz
- Phoenix Power
- Levi Fullam
- Archie Wright
- Jordan Shehata
- Noah Mourga



SPORT CONTINUED



ATHLETICS

Congratulations to our Bethany Zone Athletics team:

BOYS		GIRLS	
Jett Ward Orlando Fedeli Harrison Vella Lachlan Eadie Caleb Commerford Marco Cavina Xander Pringle Jude Dunn Xavier Harbison Jacob Youssef Brody Willmott	Alejandro Flammia Morrison Browne Phoenix Power Braxton Lawler Zane Duncan Lucas Okulicz Ephraim Amponsah Brayden Fretton Lee Charlie Jare Eli Coburn	Olivia Langmack Charlotte Okulicz Briana Geoghegan Hannah Saliba Sophie Parker Jasmine Galea Mia Magnoli Chelsea Easterbrook Lexie Harris Indiana Dewhurst Ellie McElroy	Jayda Finn Jaleah Harris Francesca Vella Heidi Lloyd Angelina Polimeni Elidie Gal Mary Kay Sophie Rudel Georgia Gately Olivia Grady Charlotte Russell Bethany Kay

The students competed at the carnival on Wednesday 9th August on a newly resurfaced synthetic track at Blacktown International Sports Park. It was so exciting to watch our relay teams and all our athletes run, jump and throw on the day.

Stay tuned for the results!



NETBALL

Thank you to all the students that trialled for netball and the teachers that gave up their recess and lunch times to select the teams.

I will announce the teams in the next newsletter. The gala day will be in week 7.

LIBRARY



READ GROW INSPIRE

Book Week 2023

Join us as a school community on

Thursday 24th August

from 1.00pm

to celebrate the stories and book characters that
enrich our lives and inspire our imagination.

As part of the day, we will be having a special anniversary tribute to **Possum Magic** the wonderful Australian picture book which has been read by thousands of children over the past 40 years. Many parents and grandparents will recall reading this book at school.

Mem Fox's story telling along with Julie Vivas' beautiful watercolour illustrations capture the imagination of young and old as little Hush, the invisible possum, sets

out with her Grandma Poss on a journey around Australia. Their quest is to restore Hush's visibility and along the way they enjoy eating many iconic Aussie foods in their attempt to make this happen.

Can you recall the 9 foods they sampled along the way? *

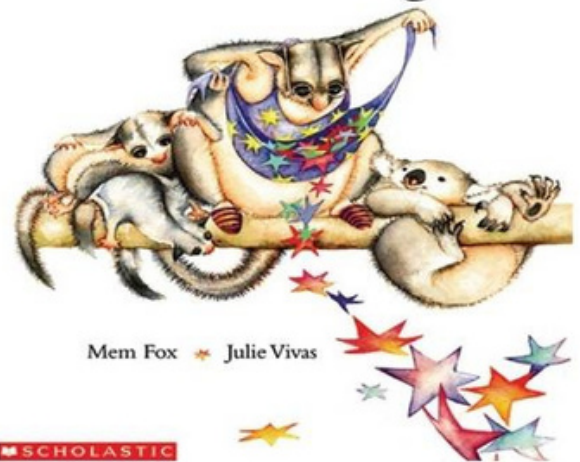
1.00pm Readers Theatre presentation of **Possum Magic** in the school hall.

1.15pm Picnic Lunch with a **Possum Magic** theme. Can we challenge you to include in your picnic lunch some of the foods Hush and Grandma Poss ate as they travelled around Australia?

1.45pm Book Character Parade around the school with parents seated along the parade route.

*The foods are: Anzac biscuits, mornay, Minties, steak and salad, pumpkin scones, vegemite sandwiches, pavlova and lamingtons! Which ones will you include in your Book Character Parade Picnic?

Possum Magic



CURRICULUM



A Peek through the Year 5 Learning Window

Year 5 has been investigating shapes and their nets. Thierry used two dimensional hexagons and pentagons to create a three-dimensional sphere.

ATTENDANCE

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day
just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,	That equals ..	Which is ...	and over 13 years of schooling that's ...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

every learner
every day 



Catholic Schools
Parramatta Diocese

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.

STUDENT MEDICATIONS ADMINISTERED AT SCHOOL

A friendly reminder to parents, as per CSPD's Student Medication Policy, the school can only administer medication to students that have been prescribed by a Doctor (this includes Panadol and Nurofen).

Parents will need to complete relevant documentation at the school office and provide a copy of the Doctor's written prescription before office staff can administer any medication.

Full details are outlined in the Bethany Parent Handbook. For further information or clarification, please contact the school office staff.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENDED LEAVE

Parents/Carers may approach the school to seek permission for extended leave for their child to travel during the school term. Extended leave is considered to be 5 or more days during the school term for the purpose of a family holiday, family business, bereavement or other reasons. Parents/carers must complete and submit the Application for Extended Leave form prior to commencing leave or apply for extended leave in writing to the principal directly. Application for Extended Leave forms can be found on our school website or collected from the school office.

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.

SCHOOL FEES

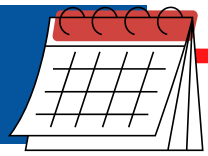
Dear Parents and Carers,

Families should have received their third installment of school fees for 2023. If you have not received your copy, please contact the office so we can arrange for one to be sent home.

The final installment of fees for 2023 is due on, or before, Wednesday 23 August 2023.

Unless you are on a current payment arrangement, or have made contact with the school, it is expected that your fees will be paid in full by the due date. If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, you are encouraged to contact the school office.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



11th August	Year 2 Excursion to Penrith Gallery
15th August	Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Whole School Mass - St Padre Pio - 9:00am
16th August	Yr 6 Personal Development Parent Information Session via Zoom 7pm
17th August	Year 4 Excursion to The Rocks
21st August	Yr6- Voice of Youth Cluster Final @St Mary Mackillop Primary
21st - 24th August	Book Week - Read, Grow, Inspire
24th August	Book Character Parade
24th August	Effort in Learning Awards Assemblies Years K-2 - 11:00am, Years 3-6 - 12:00pm
31st August	Father's Day celebrations
1st September	Year 6 Mary Mackillop Place Excursion



Recent Compass Notifications

09/08/2023	Effort In Learning Awards Assembly
09/08/2023	Book Fair Follow Up
09/08/2023	NETBALL TRAINING
08/08/2023	NETBALL TRAINING
08/08/2023	Zone Athletics Competitors 9/8/23 - Years 2-6
07/08/2023	NETBALL TRAINING
04/08/2023	First Holy Communion - Children's Sunday Parish Mass
03/08/2023	Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Liturgy
02/08/2023	Year 6 Parent Information Evening - Things are Changing
01/08/2023	Lowes Sale Information Updated
27/07/2023	Children's Parish Mass - Sunday 6th August 2023



Safe RESPECTFUL Learner

Bethany's PBS4L Purpose Statement:

Our purpose is to create a safe, respectful learning environment for students who love and serve Christ. We nurture students who are responsible and valued members for our Bethany school community.



- We keep our hands and feet to our self
- We move safely and calmly
- We are in the right place at the right time
- We use equipment and belongings safely
- We follow instructions



- We use active listening and follow instructions
- We care for and respect each other
- We care for our environment
- We wear our uniform with pride



- We try our best in everything we do
- We demonstrate perseverance and resilience
- We ask questions and take risks
- We work collaboratively

COMMUNITY



Bethany CATHOLIC PRIMARY

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2024 & 2025

CALL FOR A SCHOOL TOUR YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME



BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
34-38 William Howell Drive
Glenmore Park 2745
p: 02 4723 3700
e: bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au

bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au

At Bethany we encompass the spiritual, academic, relational, creative and physical development of each child. Bethany students are engaged and committed learners who thrive in our quiet and peaceful setting. We invite you to tour our school and discover the benefits of a Bethany Primary education.

Phantoms

Softball Club

SIGN UP FOR THE NEW SEASON

Training and games start in September and run through to March

\$50	\$110-\$130	\$160
Benny Ball (3-5)	Juniors (6-17)	Seniors (18-99)

All games and training at the Surveyors Creek Softball fields

All skill levels welcome

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