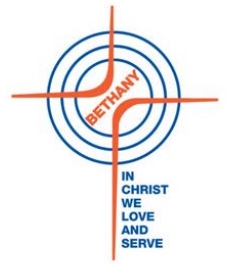


# Bethany Catholic Primary School

# NEWSLETTER



Term 1 – Week 7 – Thursday 14th March 2024

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,



Last week we marked **Catholic Schools Week**. CSW is an opportunity to reflect on the unique mission that is Catholic Education in Australia. A mission instituted by the greatest teacher, **Jesus Christ**. This same mission that we are entrusted to carry forward with faith and hope.

Like the birth of Christ, its beginnings were spawned not in a city like Sydney or Melbourne, but in a lowly stable in an isolated and little-known South Australian township. On 19 March 1866, on the feast of St Joseph, an 18 year old 'nanny' named **Mary Mackillop** started the first classroom in the town of Penola. Mary was encouraged on her mission in education by a local priest, Fr Julian Tenison Woods.

This first Australian Catholic 'school' accepted **all** children, irrespective of family income or social status and was free to all, especially to the poor and illiterate. Its mission was pure – **to educate & nurture children in Christ's name**.

It is fitting therefore that we continue to mark Catholic Schools Week during the month of March. From this one classroom in a stable, Catholic Education in Australia has grown to now comprise more than 1756 schools nationwide, educating more than 805,000 students and employing more than 109,000 staff.

With 83 primary and secondary schools the Catholic Schools Diocese of Parramatta (CSPD) currently provides faith-based learning to more than 43,000 students and employs approximately 5,000 staff across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

On a number of days last week we hosted **Open Day Tours** for prospective families. It was really pleasing to welcome a large number of families to our school for these visits. Whilst the tours tend to focus on the school environment and buildings, the critical element that we were seeking to provide is more intangible. It is about giving prospective families a glimpse into the unique tone and learning culture that exists in our school.

The main reason we host these tours during school hours and include our Year 6 Hospitality leaders as guides is to help convey these intangible aspects to our visitors during their short stay.



We should pride ourselves as being a **GREAT CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY** which dedicates itself to nurturing the *spiritual, emotional, social, aesthetic and academic development* of each of the children in our care - **It does, after all, take a village to raise a child.**

## SCHOOL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT COMMENCES

The exciting news is that our school refurbishment project has finally commenced with establishment work carried out by the building contractor. Visitors to the school will notice the setting up of a site base adjacent to the school hall.

Late last week our three Year 6 classes relocated from their normal classrooms to the recently refurbished demountable rooms normally used for Italian, Music and Counselling. Year 6 and their teachers will remain in these rooms until the refurbishment of the Year 6 building is completed in 4-6 weeks.

After Year 6 is completed, the refurbishment project will continue with other grades in a gradual and planned manner. We will continue to keep our community informed of progress of this project which will see the complete refurbishment of every classroom in the school and include new furniture.

Wishing all families a blessed week ahead.

Sergio Rosato  
Principal

# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are in the midst of the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) testing period, we wanted to take a moment to provide you with some information about this important assessment and extend our heartfelt best wishes to our students.

NAPLAN is a nationwide initiative designed to assess students' progress in the key areas of literacy and numeracy. It provides valuable insights into their academic development and helps identify areas where additional support may be beneficial. While it is just one measure of student achievement, it plays a crucial role in shaping our educational approach to ensure we meet the unique needs of every child.

Our dedicated teachers have been working diligently to prepare our students for the NAPLAN assessments, fostering an environment that encourages them to showcase their skills and knowledge. We believe in the importance of a well-rounded education that goes beyond test scores, and our commitment to nurturing each child's individual strengths remains unwavering.

As our students embark on this assessment journey, we want to express our confidence in their abilities and commend their hard work and dedication. We understand that the NAPLAN experience can bring about a mix of emotions, and we encourage both students and parents to approach it with a positive mindset. Remember, it is an opportunity for growth and reflection, and we are here to support our students every step of the way.

We kindly ask for your support and encouragement as our students participate in the NAPLAN assessments. A few words of encouragement and a sense of calm at home can go a long way in helping our students feel confident and well-prepared.

On behalf of the entire Bethany community, I want to wish each student the very best during the NAPLAN testing period. May they approach the assessments with confidence, showcase their skills, and feel a sense of pride in their achievements.

Thank you for your continued partnership in fostering a positive and supportive learning environment for our students.

Warm regards,

Rebecca Lloyd  
Assistant Principal

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Last week, the Bethany community celebrated Catholic Schools Week with a whole school Mass. The celebration of the Eucharist is the ultimate way to show that as a school community, we are in communion with one another.

A Catholic School is a place of inclusivity, where teachers provide students with authentic learning opportunities. A Catholic School is a place of collaboration where teachers work together with parents to build upon the teaching that parents began as the first educators of their children. A Catholic School is where students and their families can experience the love of God through their peers and teachers.

Our school prayer, developed by the pioneers of our school, describes our school community as it was then and continues to be now – a place where all are welcome, where students can strive to be their best selves and live the Gospel values of love and service to others.

## OUR BETHANY PRAYER

Loving God,  
Jesus went to Bethany to rest and pray;  
He was welcomed by His friends and comforted by You.  
May we follow Jesus and the people who walked here before us  
to create a loving community.  
We pray that our Bethany be an oasis of learning,  
where we become the people we were born to be.  
In our actions and words to each other,  
Let us remember that  
In Christ we love and serve.  
Amen



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTINUED

## UPCOMING DATES

- Fri 15 Mar:** Years 1 and 5 attending 9am Parish Mass  
Year 6 Mission Encounter Formation Day at Penrith Panthers  
St Patrick's Day – Gold coin donation mufti day (Project Compassion fundraiser)
- Sun 17 Mar:** Feast of St Patrick
- Tue 19 Mar:** St Joseph's Feast Day
- Wed 20 Mar:** Parish Sacramental Program  
(Sacrament of First Reconciliation/ Penance – 6:45pm)
- Fri 22 Mar:** Years 2 and 4 attending 9am Parish Mass  
Easter Hat Parade @ 12pm followed by picnic lunch on the playground
- Mon 25 Mar:** Palm Sunday liturgy @ 12:15pm led by Kindergarten
- Tue 26 Mar:** Holy Thursday – The Washing of The Feet @ 8:45am led by Year 4
- Wed 27 Mar:** Holy Thursday – The Last Supper @ 8:45am led by Year 1
- Wed 27 Mar:** Holy Thursday – The Garden of Gethsemane @ 12:15pm led by Year 2 & 5
- Thu 28 Mar:** Good Friday – The Crucifixion @ 8:45am led by Year 6
- Tue 2 Apr:** Easter Sunday – The Resurrection @ 8:45am led by Year 3

\*\* All Easter Liturgies will take place in the school Hall

### Term 2 dates:

- Tue 30 Apr:** ANZAC Day liturgy at 12pm in the school hall
- Tue 7 May:** Mother's Day Liturgy at 12pm followed by a picnic lunch



**HOLY WEEK EASTER TIMETABLE**  
**PADRE PIO PARISH**

**ST PADRE PIO PARISH**  
**HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2024**

**RECONCILIATION**

**TUESDAY 19 MARCH 7:00PM**

**(Saturday mornings after 9:00am Mass)**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**SATURDAY 23 MARCH**

**5:30pm Mass (procession begins outside the church)**

**SUNDAY 24 MARCH**

**8:00am Mass (procession begins outside the church)**

**10:00am Mass (procession begins in the park)**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**THURSDAY 28 MARCH**

**7:00pm Mass (No 9:00am Mass)**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**FRIDAY 29 MARCH**

**10:00am Stations of the Cross**

**3:00pm Passion of the Lord**

**EASTER VIGIL**

**SATURDAY 30 MARCH**

**7:00pm Mass (No 9:00am Mass)**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY 31 MARCH**

**8:00am Mass & 10:00am Mass**

# LIBRARY



PRC 2024 ARTWORK BY SAMI BAYLY

**The Premier's Reading Challenge aims to encourage students to read for leisure and enjoyment. It is not a competition but an individual challenge for each student to increase their reading and to experience a wide range of literature.**

Kindergarten to Year 10 students in all NSW schools can participate in the PRC with certificates awarded at the end of each year to acknowledge students' achievements.

Last year at Bethany, 333 students completed the challenge with many students also receiving Gold and Platinum Awards acknowledging their participation over several years.

At Bethany, **K-2 students** are read their 30 PRC books in class and these are recorded by their teachers. However, last year many of our K-2 students completed the challenge at home with their families, with many parents commenting on what a great experience this was to read aloud and share so many books as a family. We want to encourage this again in 2024 and increase the number of K-2 students who will enjoy 30 books in class plus another 30 at home!

**Students in Years 3-6** will be reminded during their library visits about logging the 20 books they have read. Each student has a PRC Username and Password that remains the same from K-10. Any new students to our school, including all Kindergarten students will receive their details on a laminated bookmark when they next come to the library with their class.

**The PRC website can be found at**  
**[www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au](http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au)**  
or search for **PRC 2024**

The PRC Booklists can also be found on the website.

**The Premier's Reading Challenge for 2024 closes on Friday 23rd August.**

Here are some steps to help you when logging the books you have read.

1. Go to the Premier's Reading Challenge website.
2. Click on "Login" on the left side of the screen.
3. Enter the PRC username and password you have been given.
4. Click on "Student Reading Records" and type the titles of your books. Sometimes it auto-fills the information. Make sure it gives the correct author and title.
5. If needed, click on "Support" on the website for answers to frequently asked PRC questions.

Parents of K-2 students who require assistance with logging PRC books can contact Mrs Emmett by email via the Bethany office at [bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au) or call into the library before school on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

# SPORT



## SWIMMING & ZONE SWIMMING NEWS

At the end of last year, we had our Bethany Twilight Swimming carnival. The points were collated from the night and the following achievements were announced at last week's award ceremony.

### 2024 Bethany Swimming Age Champions

|                                | Junior Boys | Junior Girls   | 11 Year Boys     | 11 Year Girls  | Senior Boys  | Senior Girls  |
|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Age Champion</b>            | Eli Coburn  | Natalya Martin | Nikola Marakovic | Mia Gorgievski | Zane Duncan  | Monique Naudi |
| <b>Runner Up</b>               | Lochlan La  | Harlow Pollock | Agniv Jaidev     | Karli Gunawan  | Charlie Jare | Heidi Lloyd   |
| <b>Multiclass Age Champion</b> |             | Ivy Belcastro  |                  |                |              |               |



Another award has been given from Zone which was held earlier in the term.

Congratulations to **Nikola Marakovic** for getting the 11 years Runner Up Age Champion on the day!



# SPORT CONTINUED



## DIOCESAN SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We congratulate our Bethany swimmers that swam for the Nepean Zone team at the Diocesan swimming carnival held at Blacktown pools on Tuesday. The day started with our four Bethany relay teams and continued with individual swims where many personal bests were achieved throughout the day. Further results will be posted in the next newsletter.

### Bethany Swim Team

|                |                  |               |                  |           |            |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|------------|
| Heidi Lloyd    | Eden Choi        | Damien Yostos | Caitlyn Trimboli | Ivy       | Aydan      |
| Mia Gorgievski | Nikola Marakovic | Eli Coburn    | Lola White       | Belcastro | Moschoudis |
| Karli Gunawan  | Charlie Jare     | Jonathan Finn | Natalya Martin   |           |            |
| Monique Naudi  | Zane Duncan      | Lochlan La    | Harlow Pollock   |           |            |

## CROSS COUNTRY

In week 5 we had our Bethany school cross country carnival across the road at Ched Towns Reserve. We were blessed with the weather and the many parent helpers that supported me on the day. **A BIG THANK YOU!**

Congratulations to the following runners that will be competing at the Diocesan Cross Country in Term 2.

**GOOD LUCK** at the DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY on 7th May. Happy training!

|     | 8/9 Year Boys        | 8/9 Year Girls | 10 Year Boys    | 10 Year Girls     | 11 Year Boys      | 11 Year Girls       | 12 Year Boys   | 12 Year Girls     |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1st | Eli Coburn           | Skylah Ward    | Ethan Saliba    | Olivia Langmack   | Jett Ward         | Ellie McElroy       | Harrison Vella | Skyla Eastwood    |
| 2nd | Jacob Youssef        | Emma McElroy   | Levi Fullam     | Olivia Voyce      | Orlando Fedeli    | Skye Gale-Veriketis | Beau Wright    | Angelina Polimeni |
| 3rd | Christian Gorgievski | Roop Sandhu    | Morrison Browne | Audrey Commerford | Zach Michael      | Olivia Tyrrell      | Nate Culbert   | Audrey McDonagh   |
| 4th | Leo Riskalla         | Nina Thompson  | Phoenix Power   | Harlow Pollock    | Nicholas Hamilton | Willow Briggs       | Ryan Sapsed    | Sienna Dinaro     |
| 5th | Archer Misso         | Keiley Garcia  | Lucas Okulicz   | Lola White        | Xavier Riskalla   | Karli Gunawan       | Brighton Hsu   | Hannah Saliba     |
| 6th | Ethan Lincoln        | Kate Brian     | Jordan Shehata  | Indiana Dewhurst  | Ephraim Amponsah  | Alyssa Rizzo        | Xander Pringle | Monique Naudi     |

# SPORT CONTINUED



## KINDER & YEAR 1 FUN RUN

It was the perfect day last Friday for our Fun Run!

Lots of smiles, music, laughter and cheering as their tired little legs crossed the finish line!

I would personally like to thank the year 6 students for helping me supervise and support their buddies on the run.



# SPORT CONTINUED



## PARRAMATTA TEAM SPORTS TRIALS

The following students recently attended trials against many other students from across schools in the diocese and have been picked to make a Parramatta Diocesan team for the following sports.



Netball

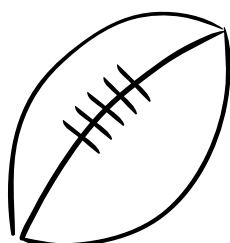
Jayda Finn!



Soccer

Angelina Polimeni!

Orlando Fedeli!



AFL

Met West Team

Serenity Thomas!





# OTHER MATTERS

## NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCES

A gentle reminder to parents and carers to please notify the school if your child is absent.

The automated attendance SMS system is an efficient way for parents/carers to notify the school of their child's absence. If a student is absent, an SMS notification will automatically be sent to parents/carers. The notification will contain a one-time link that can be clicked on to add an attendance note for your child. The one-time link is valid for 48 hours.

Other ways to notify the school of your child's absence include contacting Bethany via email ([bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au)), phone (4723 3700), or sending a note with your child to school.

## ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

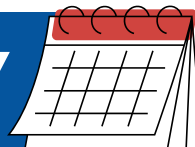
We wish to remind you, for the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff, animals are not permitted on the school premises (with the exception of service dogs).

## CONTACT DETAILS

Please notify the school if you have changed address or any contact details such as emails or phone numbers. It is vital that we have the correct information in case of emergencies, school communication and to ensure accurate billing information. Please send an email to the school with new details. **Change of Details Form** is available at the office and is also on the school website.



# DATES FOR THE DIARY



| Date                   | Activity / Event   |
|------------------------|--|
| Fri 15 Mar             | Year 6 Encounter Formation Day - Penrith Panthers                |
| Fri 15 Mar             | St Patricks Day Mufti Day  |
| Wed 13 - Tue 19 Mar    | NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5 only                                       |
| Fri 22 Mar             | Easter Hat Parade 12:00pm - 1:00pm<br>(followed by Picnic Lunch) |
| Fri 29 Mar             | Good Friday  |
| Mon 1 Apr              | Easter Monday  |
| Tue 9 Apr - Thu 11 Apr | Carnevale Festival at Bethany                                    |
| Wed 10 Apr             | Effort in Learning Awards Assembly<br>(Whole School - 1.45pm)    |
| Fri 12 Apr             | Last Day of Term 1   |
| Tue 30 Apr             | First Day of Term 2  |
| Wed 8 May - Fri 10 May | Year 6 Canberra Excursion  |



## Recent Compass Notifications

| Date Sent Out | Communication Details   |
|---------------|---|
| 13/03/2024    | School Uniform and Appearance   |
| 13/03/2024    | Skyworks Planetarium Presentation - Year 6                            |
| 12/03/2024    | AFL trials - Years 5 & 6 Boys & Girls                                 |
| 12/03/2024    | Year 5 Homework   |
| 12/03/2024    | Messages From the Library   |
| 12/03/2024    | Bethany Mobile Phone & Smart Watch Guidelines<br>(Updated March 2024) |
| 12/03/2024    | Easter Hat Parade 22nd March 12pm - 1pm                               |
| 11/03/2024    | St Patrick's Day Mufti Day  |
| 11/03/2024    | NAPLAN 2024   |
| 08/03/2024    | Italian / Carnevale at Bethany in Week 11 Term 1 2024                 |
| 05/03/2024    | CARNEVALE COMES TO BETHANY!   |
| 04/03/2023    | 2024 NAPLAN Information For Parents and Carers                        |



# 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

# 2025 BETHANY ENROLMENTS

Thank you to our Year 6 Hospitality Leaders who assisted Mr Rosato, Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Baldacchino with our Open Day school tours last week. We had a large number of families attend the Open Days and it was lovely to see the students take pride in showcasing our wonderful school.

If you have a child starting school next year – or know of family or friends who do – we encourage you to submit an application this term. Enrolment forms are available from the school office or our school website.

**First Round Offer applications to be submitted by 31st March 2024.**

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## Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2025



## BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY

34-38 William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park  
T 4723 3700 [bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au](http://bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au)



# COMMUNITY



The poster features a collage of children and adults in sports gear. A large, stylized '8' logo with 'motiv8sports' text is prominent. The main title 'SUPER CAMP' is in large, bold, orange letters, with 'SPORTS FESTIVAL' in a white banner below it. A child in a blue cap and green jersey is shown in a dynamic pose on the right. The background is dark with green and yellow light effects.

**8 | motiv8sports**

# **SUPER CAMP**

## **SPORTS FESTIVAL**

**EXPERIENCE A MULTI-SPORTS CAMP  
WHERE EVERY CHILD FEELS LIKE A ROCKSTAR  
USING SPORT AS A TOOL TO MOTIVATE, INSPIRE &  
ENTERTAIN CHILDREN IN A SAFE SPORTS DREAMLAND**

**Dear Parent/s**  
**WE WOULD LOVE TO INVITE YOUR CHILD TO BE PART OF**  
**AUSTRALIA'S NO. 1 MULTI-SPORTS CAMP THESE HOLIDAYS.**

When we use the word camp we don't mean sleepover.  
Our Motiv8sports events run from 8.30am to 3.30pm and are designed for K(Prep) - Grade 6 children.

At Motiv8sports there is a reason why the word motiv8 comes before the word sports. The sports we perform are really important but our primary focus is creating a sports dreamland where children are not only safe but motivated by our team of energetic coaches to get in and have a go. Sportsmanship, building resilience, forming new friendships and learning about teamwork is all part of the Motiv8sports experience.

Over the course of our event children will receive a free jersey and be placed in age appropriate groups of 18-22. Our events are as much about entertainment as they are about sport and our participants get to play a wide range of non-contact hybrid sports only experienced at Motiv8sports. Vortex Gridiron, Ultimate league, 4-Ball, Super Soccer, Flagball, Street Hockey, Ruckus AFL, SS Racers, Ballers and Sector-8 are just some of the innovative sports we offer.

We take pride in providing the best school holiday camps on the planet. Please scan the QR code below or call the number listed to learn more about our staff, supervision and safety.

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT ONE OF OUR CAMPS THESE HOLIDAYS.**

**KINGSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Mon 15th - Tues 16th April**

**KINGSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Fri 19th APRIL**  
**Our 23rd Birthday BASH!**

**KINGSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Wed 17th - Thurs 18th APRIL**

**St CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Mon 22nd - Tues 23rd APRIL**

[motiv8sports.com.au](http://motiv8sports.com.au)



**scanme**