

Bethany Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1 Week 9 – Wednesday 27th March 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,



During this week our school community is re-enacting and meditating on the **Passion of Christ**. The word Passion comes from the Latin word for suffering. The events we commemorate during **Passion Week** are the central pieces of our faith and our Christian story.

During this intense and emotionally charged time we are led to contemplate both the humanity and divinity of Christ. We do this through journeying with him through his **Passion** and meditating on the questions he poses during his final days.

These questions are in turn posed directly to us now and during our lives:

- Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?
- Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others said it to you about me?
- Have you not the strength to keep awake for one hour?
- Am I a brigand that you had to set out to capture me with swords or clubs?
- Where is my dining room in which I can eat the Passover with my disciples?
- Will you also go away?
- Do you know what I have done to you?
- Have I been with you so long, and yet, do you know me?
- Simon, are you asleep?
- My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
- Woman, why are you weeping?

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED



Jesus always asks questions before he imparts an important message or action, so he is alerting us to remain **awake** and **attentive** to the deeper question posed. Each one of these questions is a profound challenge to enter more deeply into God's heart and imagination. Making sense of these questions is a life-long process.

Passion Week offers us a sacred opportunity to immerse ourselves into Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, His Last Supper, His suffering, His death on the cross and His Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

What we see in the story of Jesus, during **Passion Week** is **profound suffering** on one hand and **unwavering** and **unqualified** love on the other – Divine Love.

Wishing all a blessed **Passion Week** and a grace filled, and joyful **Easter** with your family.

Sergio Rosato
Principal



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we conclude another year of NAPLAN testing, I find myself reflecting on the immense effort and dedication demonstrated by our entire school community. With completion of the tests, I want to take a moment to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your hard work and preparation.

To our esteemed teachers, I want to express my deepest appreciation for your unwavering commitment to our students' academic growth and development. Your dedication to preparing our students for these assessments while fostering a nurturing learning environment does not go unnoticed. Your tireless efforts in imparting knowledge, building skills, and instilling confidence in our students have undoubtedly contributed to their success.

To our resilient students, I commend you for your diligence and perseverance throughout the NAPLAN preparation period. Your willingness to engage with the material, push yourselves beyond your comfort zones, and strive for excellence is truly inspiring. Remember, these tests are but a snapshot of your abilities, and your hard work extends far beyond any standardised assessment.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I extend my deepest gratitude to our supportive parents and carers. Your partnership in your child's education is invaluable. From providing encouragement at home, to reinforcing the importance of learning, your role in our students' academic journey cannot be overstated. Thank you for entrusting us with the privilege of educating your children, and for your unwavering support throughout the NAPLAN preparation process.

As we await the results of the tests in the coming months, let us remember that while they provide valuable insights, they are just one measure of our students' progress. Our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals, who are not only academically proficient, but also compassionate, resilient, and empathetic remains steadfast.

Let us continue to work together in fostering a supportive and nurturing learning environment where every student feels valued, challenged, and inspired to reach their full potential.

Thank you once again for your dedication, hard work, and unwavering support.

With warm regards,

Rebecca Lloyd
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



HOLY WEEK

This week is the holiest week for Christians. Throughout this week, Bethany students have presented liturgies commemorating the events of Jesus' final journey before his Crucifixion.

We will celebrate Jesus' Resurrection when we return from the Easter break on **Tuesday 2nd April at 8:45am**. Parents and carers are welcome to join us for this celebration.

YEAR 6 ENCOUNTER



On Friday 15th March, Year 6 students attended a day of encounter along with other Year 6 students from the Parramatta Diocese. This day included songs by Gen Bryant (musician and animator), prayer, adoration and reflection. Below are some reflections of the day from some of our FIAT committee members.

"Have you heard about Encounter? Well if not, its an AMAZING experience and opportunity to have! You can do so many fun things and sometimes you have to be silent and listen. The music there is so wonderful - its like you're at the Opera House. Now one of the highlights for me was swapping 'About Me' cards with thousands of people. It's a great time to make new friends. The people there are so kind and gentle, so don't think no one will want to not be your friend. I hope you get to have the best time there like I did." **Lily Power**

The encounter was an experience I could never forget. From the singing and praising to the sitting and listening - the whole time I could feel God's presence around me. Before I actually went I was confused as to what we were going to do. As soon as I got there I immediately understood what it was about. It was about encountering God and connecting ourselves with other younger Christians. Gen Bryant truly had a gift, she could help us easily understand by singing. One of the best parts was the short clip about Carlo Acutis, even though he died at 15, over 18 years ago, the impact he makes on children as a modern day saint is truly astonishing. When we began to talk about pilgrimages it was so interesting, teenagers close to my age went to Italy to be closer to God. They went to experience God and his presence. To finish off, we wrote in our 'Soul Journal'. This was something that was so pure, it was amazing. Overall the Encounter was a new perspective of everything for me. **Aluel. T**

The Encounter was a really fun and delightful experience where you can make new friends and sing and dance to music and hear Christian music. **Kaitlyn Stubbings**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTINUED



YEAR 6 ENCOUNTER CONTINUED

The Encounter was an amazing, spiritual experience. Year 6 got to go to Panthers and were able to experience a fun time while also learning more about Jesus and God.

There was Adoration. Adoration was very touching to me. Adoration involved us kneeling and praying to God. We were told some very personal stories from other kids who strengthened their belief and faith in God by their experience of their pilgrimage. We got to meet Students from other schools who were experiencing the encounter with us. We finished with some enjoyable songs. **Mia Fajloun**

I enjoyed singing and dancing, being able to meet new friends during eating time. It also gave me the opportunity to catch up with my friends from other schools. The venue was great! I learnt that Saint Carlos was a cyber saint which means he helped and supported people online. It helped build my relationship with God by talking with Father Chris and participating in adoration. **Sebastian-Neil Earl (6W)**

The Encounter day was an opportunity of experience to acknowledge the faith of religion. It is a day that I will never forget. It started off with songs that we got to sing, dance and worship God. The band that came to perform included a lady called Gen/Genevieve, she is from NSW but moved up to Melbourne. After the songs were finished I looked around and realised it was a safe community that I could be friends with. We got to listen to a couple of memory verses that a lady explained and it was really easy to understand. After another person and her two friends came up to talk about a mission trip they went on, changing them to look at the way they are blessed and how other people get treated. After that Gen played with her band again and she played some songs that she had created and they were about God, while she was singing them I could feel safe and like the Holy Spirit was with me. We traded cards to show what we can do and how we act. **Skyla Eastwood**

The highlight of the Encounter day for me was being able to meet new people trying to get cards from different schools, singing and dancing, getting time to just talk to God without any distractions and just being able to reflect on what makes me closer to God. Being able to learn about St. Carlos Acutis and being able to learn that you don't have to perform miracles to become a saint. All you have to do is be kind and help others in every way you can. **Phoebe Portman**

The Encounter Day was one of the many experiences that will happen in Year Six. The Encounter Day is when all the Year Six students from the diocesan schools come together with Gen Brynat to talk to and about God and do different activities about God. The Encounter Day was an experience I will never forget because we were having lots of fun yet learning about God. Some of my favourite things we did was swapping cards with other students, writing in my soul journal and singing. We sang and danced, talked to and about God, we wrote in a journal and answered questions, we swapped cards with other people from other schools, we talked about the pilgrimage and modern day saints, and had moments of silence and reverence. **Achik Dau**



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTINUED



YEAR 6 ENCOUNTER CONTINUED

The highlight of my experience? I went out and did my mission to get closer to God. I enjoyed making friends and learning about God and his beautiful creations.

What did we do? We caught a bus there and back. We sang and the whole community worked together to become closer to God. Everyone had so much fun.

How did you get closer to God? Father Chris came and blessed us. We all knelt down and said a prayer for the people we wish to get better or to help others.

How did you meet new people from other schools? We handed out our cards that talked about us and all the good things about us, so we got to know about new people and make friends with others from many different schools at lunch. We could go up to each other and say hi. It was a very fun experience and I hope I could interest you and show you something new. **Aliyah Parisi**

On the 15th of March 2024, a few schools from all over the Parramatta Diocese joined together for an Encounter Day, with Gen Bryant and her crew. Encounter was a good day for me to grow closer to God and clear my mind out for a day. Three people who went on a pilgrimage came to the Encounter and talked to us about how they grew closer to God and Jesus, and how God changed their lives for the better. One of the girls spoke about how she was involved in a car crash when she was younger and that she should have passed away but God helped her, and that's her story. Not just the Encounter inspired me that day, but also the music. The music was really meaningful and it wasn't just a song, it was a story on her life and her challenges in life and that is what made me really think deeply about myself that day and how I can be a better person. (Also me and my friend started to tear up because of how meaningful the songs were). And that is how Encounter changed my life for the better! **Nate Culbert**

I loved the encounter day, the singing, meeting new people, feeling the body of Christ surround me . I could be myself while enjoying my time and not getting worried about other things. It was a great way for me to put all my worries behind me and enjoy my time with my friends.

I learnt on the encounter day about St Carlos Acutis/Blessed Carlos Acutis that he had cancer and died at the age of 15 but through his life he shared the word of God.

*Father Chris taught us about adoration and he walked around with the body of Christ. I felt like it surrounded me and I love the feeling of God all around me. **Nicky***

UPCOMING DATES

Term 1 dates

Tuesday 2nd April: Easter Sunday – The Resurrection @ 8:45am led by Year 3 in the School Hall

Sunday 7th April: 10am Children's Parish Mass led by Year 3

Term 2 dates

Tuesday 30th April: ANZAC Day Liturgy at 12pm in the school Hall

Tuesday 7th 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

SPORT



NSW Catholic Primary Schools Swimming Carnival

We wish the following swimmers all the best at the NSW CPS Mackillop trials on the 3rd April, 2024!

Harlow Pollock- 50m Freestyle

Zane Duncan- 50m Freestyle

Monique Naudi- 50m Breaststroke

Ivy Belcastro- Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke (MultiClass)

Aydan Moschoudis- Backstroke (MultiClass)

Bethany is Proud of you all!

Diving Expression of Interest - Nominations

Nominations are now **OPEN** for **DIVING** registrations. Parents **MUST** register on the CSNSW Sport portal. **Registrations close on 11th April.**

DIVISIONS

- *Springboard - 8 Years, 9 Years, 10 Years, 11 Years, 12/13 Years - Boys, Girls*
- *Platform - Open - Boys, Girls*

DIVING REQUIREMENTS

Springboard

(Dives may be performed from either the 1m and/or the 3m springboard).

8 and 9 Years Boys and Girls - 3 dives

- 1 dive @ 1.5 degrees of difficulty or less
- 2 dives with no limit on the degree of difficulty

10 and 11 Years Boys and Girls - 4 dives

- 2 dives @ 3.6 degrees of difficulty or less
- 2 dives from 2 groups with no limit on the degree of difficulty

12/13 Years Boys and Girls - 5 dives

- 3 dives from 3 groups @ 5.4 degrees of difficulty or less
- 2 dives from 2 groups with no limit on the degree of difficulty



Platform

Open Primary Boys and Girls – 4 dives

- 2 dives @ 3.6 degrees of difficulty limit
- 2 dives with no limit on the degree of difficulty
- Dives may be performed from a 5m platform only

Students wishing to be considered for selection must submit a nomination form and must attend the selection trials to be eligible for selection.

The registration is an Expression of Interest and if successful in their nomination, parents will receive a notification via the website to log in, approve, and pay the levy **AFTER** the closing date.

Selections will be made on performance at the NSWPSA Diving Championships on 15 May 2024.

OTHER MATTERS

Bethany 2024 Easter Hat Parade

Last Friday we held a Hat Parade. The children looked absolutely wonderful in their headwear. Thank you to the many families who attended the parade and stayed onsite for the picnic lunch afterwards. Thank you also to Peter Rabbit who made a special appearance to lead each grade in the parade. Thank you to Logan from www.lcphoto.com.au for his generosity in making Peter available for this day.



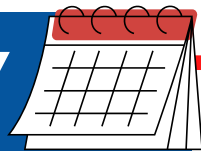
2024 School Photos

School Photo Day will be on Wednesday 15th May (Term 2, Week 3). Students are to wear **full winter uniform** even if their sports uniform day is on Wednesday. Information on ordering photos is available on Photo Day letters that each student will receive.

All students will have a portrait and class photo taken.

Please contact the school office if you do not want your child to have their photo taken.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Date	Activity / Event
Fri 29 Mar	Good Friday
Mon 1 Apr	Easter Monday
Tue 9 Apr - Thu 11 Apr	Carnevale Festival at Bethany
Thur 11 Apr	Effort in Learning Awards Assembly (Whole School - 1.45pm) change of date due to Carnevale celebrations
Fri 12 Apr	Last Day of Term 1
Mon 29 Apr	Staff Development Day
Tue 30 Apr	First Day of Term 2
Tues 7 May	Diocesan Cross Country @ Eastern Creek
Tue 7 May	Mothers Day Liturgy 12pm followed by picnic lunch
Wed 8 May - Fri 10 May	Year 6 Canberra Excursion
Wed 15 May	School Photos



Recent Compass Notifications

Date Sent Out	Communication Details
22/03/2024	Safe & Respectful Driving
21/03/2024	Canteen - Last Day Term 1 "Meal Deal"
19/03/2024	2024 ACARA Student Background Data Collection
19/03/2024	Holy Week Liturgies
19/03/2024	Carnevale Gelati - Orders Close Today
18/03/2024	Captivate Dance Auditions Years 3,4,5,6
15/03/2024	Qkr! app can now be set up on Android Phones
13/03/2024	School Uniform and Appearance
12/03/2024	Bethany Mobile Phone & Smart Watch Guidelines (Updated March 2024)
08/03/2024	Italian / Carnevale at Bethany in Week 11 Term 1 2024
05/03/2024	CARNEVALE COMES TO BETHANY!

2025 ENROLMENTS

Bethany

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.

Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2025



BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY

34-38 William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park
T 4723 3700 bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au

St Columba's Catholic College Year 7 Enrolments

Enrolments for Year 7, 2025 at St Columba's Catholic College, Springwood are now due. Please call Sandra O'Brien, Enrolment Secretary, if you would like further information on 4754 8900.

AT BETHANY WE ARE

SAFE
RESPECTFUL
LEARNERS



At Bethany we are **SAFE**

At Bethany we are **RESPECTFUL**

At Bethany we are **LEARNERS**



- 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