

BETHANY'S NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 2/2/2018 TERM I - WEEK I



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Bethany,

Welcome to the 2018 School Year! Every member of the Bethany School community was so excited to be back from holidays. We are all looking forward to new learnings and reconnecting with our friends, colleagues and peers.

Over the past week all the Bethany staff have been very busy transforming their classrooms into places of curiosity, wonder and excitement. All staff has been getting prepared to ensure that learning and teaching begins on the very first day of school. I am sure you would have heard from your children that all grades received a letter from myself about my holidays. It was exciting visiting some of the classrooms today and observing them writing their responses to my letter. I look forward to reading them all!!

On Wednesday the students from Year 1 to 6 returned, and yesterday all the 2018 Kindergarten students and families came to begin their learning journey at Bethany. All the students were so proud of themselves, confidently entering their classrooms with such excitement.

Once the parents safely delivered the children to their 2018 teachers, they gathered together in the hall for a 'Champagne and Tissues' experience. It was amazing!! Thank you to the wonderful people who helped set up and facilitated the event, especially Mrs Roseanne Liepa. All the parents gratefully appreciated your personal touches.

In the newsletter today I have includes photos taken over the past few days. I have also included the staff details for 2018 for your information.

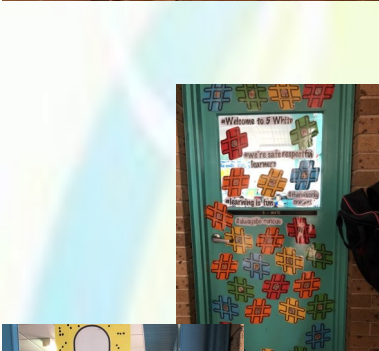
On Monday this week, all the Bethany staff gathered together in a 2 hour professional learning experience where we engaged in professional readings identifying the importance of building relationship with students, staff, parents and parish. I look forward to working collaboratively with all community members in creating an environment where people feel cared for, supported and nurtured – the very things we know that impact learning for students in our classrooms.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The school newsletter will be published every fortnight starting in Week 1. The newsletter is action-packed this week so please ensure you read the whole newsletter. I wish to thank you in anticipation of your support and look forward to working collaboratively with you throughout 2018.

God Bless and Keep Safe

Cheryl Brown



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

PASTORAL CARE

I am writing to advise you that our school currently has a student, Ryan Nesbit in Year 4 White, who is receiving medical treatment for Leukaemia. Ryan is actively involved in the school community and is currently undergoing treatments. The Bethany school community has rallied together to support Ryan and his family. The Bethany Parents and Friends facebook page is very supportive in providing updates and opportunities for Bethany community members to help out and to make a difference in the lives of Ryan and his family. Below is information for taking up the opportunity for blood donations.



Ryan's Renegade has joined the Australian Red Cross Blood Service and its group donation program, Red25, to increase awareness of blood donation and unite together for Ryan.

One in three of all the people you know will need blood in their lifetime. So, come on — donate and discover how giving blood feels good.

How to get involved

- [Book a blood donation online](#) or by calling [13 14 95](#) for any time that suits you — the need for blood is constant.
- Join Ryan's Renegade's Red25 donation group to have your donation counted towards our tally.
[Join here](#)
- Donate and know that you're a part of a lifesaving team!

Let's join together to save lives through Red25!

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

I am asking all parents to support Ryan whilst he is receiving treatment, which results in a lowered immune system, which means, that Ryan is more prone to getting ill from infections. As Ryan is not contagious but has a chronic illness, it is important he participates actively in the day to day school program without any major limitations. A major concern is that if Ryan develops measles, chickenpox, whooping cough or influenza, he could become seriously ill. I seek your cooperation in preventing this situation.

If your child has or may have measles, chicken pox or other infectious illness, I would ask that you please:

- 1) Do not send them to school.
- 2) Notify me as soon as possible.
- 3) Take them to your GP or medical centre to confirm diagnosis if possible

I wish to thank you in anticipation for your support.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

2018 STAFFING DETAILS

Principal	Cheryl Brown
Assistant Principal	Pascale Joseph
Office Staff	Wendy Vincent, Elizabeth Manoukian Donna Swadling, Olivia Barker
Religious Education Coordinator	Cristina Cignarella
Leaders of Learning	Catherine Baldacchino, Jodie Donlan, Leeanne Biordi
Kindergarten Red	Rosa McLean
Kindergarten White	Isabelle Naiker
Kindergarten Blue	Suzanne Neilly
Year 1 Red	Amy Green
Year 1 White	Lauren Inskip
Year 1 Blue	Sarah Brady
Year 2 Red	Leeanne Biordi
Year 2 White	Sandra Dunphy
Year 2 Blue	Catherine McGuirk
Year 3 Red	Catherine Thomas
Year 3 White	Catherine Baldacchino
Year 3 Blue	Cassandra Cimilio
Year 4 Red	Melissa Sunderland (Mon - Thurs) Melanie Krzton (Fri)
Year 4 White	Christel Vion
Year 4 Blue	Melanie Krzton (Mon), Michelle White (Tue - Fri)
Year 5 Red	David Pospischil
Year 5 White	Jodie Donlan
Year 5 Blue	Karlie Vella
Year 6 Red	Nikita Dingemans
Year 6 White	Jay-Ann Gutierrez

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Year 6 Blue

Cristina Cignarella,

Year 6 Gold

Kate Lazare

Executive Release Teachers

Ingrid Akkari (6B), Kate Mulkern (3W) & (5W)
Nichola Glazebrook (2R)

**Release from Face to Face-
(Tue, Wed, Thursday)**

Joanne Staunton, Glenn Green,
Antonietta Sciacchitano

Reading Recovery Teacher

Rebecca Andreatta

Learning Support Teachers

Bronwyn Rose - Mon, Wed, Thurs
Fiona Battaglia - Mon, Tues, Wed

Library Support

Rosanne Liepa
Mon, Tues, Wed

Classroom Support

Margaret Gibson, Larissa Sullivan
Karen Fruitniet, Rosanne Liepa, Michelle Stubbs hours

Groundsperson

Ross Bourke

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

ASSEMBLY 2018:

Commencing on Monday of Week 2, our weekly assembly previously scheduled on Thursday mornings, will now move to Monday mornings. This assembly will be led by our school leaders, as was the case last year. In this way, the school community will gather together to start off the week. These assemblies will be short in length, to ensure that learning time is maximised. The structure for these assemblies will be: Greeting, Prayer and National Anthem. Birthdays will be acknowledged in the classroom with a birthday ribbon and children's names will be specified in the fortnightly school newsletter.

Every three weeks the school will be holding a CELEBRATION OF LEARNING ASSEMBLY. The purpose of these assemblies is to provide parents with a glimpse of the learning taking place in the classrooms. On a roster basis, each grade will present at one of these assemblies. The structure will be as follows: Greeting, prayer, Showcase of learning and any announcements. We encourage parents, carers and friends to join us for these celebrations. Our Year 6 students will be the first to present a Celebration Assembly on Friday 16th February, at 2:15pm. The assemblies will take place at 2:15pm on Fridays - Week 3, 5, 7 and 10. Please note that this arrangement is for this term and will be changed in Term 2 to provide different parents the opportunity to attend when the day is changed.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Commencing this week the Bethany Newsletter will go out to the community on each ODD week of the term - Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11.

BETHANY SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE POLICY:

At Bethany we endeavour to ensure that our school is a safe and supportive environment for all students. To ensure that this happens a balanced approach is in place for reinforcing positive behaviours and managing inappropriate behaviours. Expectations are set on the classroom and whole school level. The behavioural expectations at Bethany are that all students are: Respectful and Safe Learners.

When these expectations are compromised we have in place a process known as RED SLIPS. Red slips are discipline records which note the inappropriate behaviours both in the classrooms and on the playground.

Below are the guidelines on the Red Slip:

Reportable to Coordinator immediately	1.	Intentionally hurting another person
	2.	Playing in an unsafe manner - fighting / spitting / kicking / biting / pushing / punching / hitting / throwing rocks / sticks
	3.	Inappropriate / offensive language / racism – behaviour
	4.	Harassing, bullying, intimidating others
	5.	Theft of property
	6.	Challenging authority – defying staff / refusal to cooperate / insolence / consistent lying
	7.	Persistent disruption – in class / on lines / with others' games
	8.	Damage / destruction of property
	9.	Out of bounds
	10.	Misuse of toilet areas
	11.	Continual breaking of school rules
	12.	Other

Behaviours which are in categories 1 to 4 are reported to Stage Coordinators and repeated offences from categories 5 to 12 are both followed up with phone calls to parents and carers. All investigations carried out by staff follow the process of procedural fairness.

The above procedure is shared in this year's first Newsletter to keep all parents well informed. We encourage you to have a conversation with your child about the process outlined to promote a collaborative and proactive approach between home and school.

Looking forward at 2018, more positive and rewarding systems, such as the Principal's Morning Tea will be reinforced.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Bullying No Way - Let's Take a Stand Together

On Friday 16th March 2018, Australian schools will stand united in their communities to celebrate the eighth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). We wish to inform our community that Bethany will recognise this day on Monday 19th March.

Lessons will be taught across the school in lead up to the Day of Action. On Monday 19th, creative activities will be carried out throughout the school day.

This anti-bullying initiative is to send out the message that Bullying is not acceptable and that all schools stand together and have a shared vision in providing a safe and happy learning environment for all.

We look forward to sharing our learnings from this event with you at future Celebration Assemblies.



BULLYING. NO WAY!
SAFE AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS.
TOGETHER.

Important Dates

Sunday 4th February

**Fr Suresh Kumar Installation Mass–
9:30am**

Monday 5th February

Parents and Friends meeting

Wednesday 7th February

**Parent Information Evening-6:30pm
(School hall)**

Thursday 8th February

**Opening School Mass 9:00am
Padre Pio Parish**

Thursday 15th February

**Kindergarten and New Families
Welcome BBQ– 5:00pm**

Kindergarten School Times for Weeks 1 –5 will be 8:30am to 2:40pm

Sport Days Term 1, 2018

Grade	Day 1	Day 2
Kindergarten	Tuesday	Friday
Year 1	Tuesday	Friday
Year 2	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 3	Monday	Friday
Year 4	Monday	Friday
Year 5	Monday	Wednesday
Year 6	Tuesday	Thursday



RE - Mrs Cignarella



I extend a very warm welcome to all families and caregivers for the 2018 school year.

As teachers in a Catholic school, we have a significant role in the mission and life of the Church. I am delighted to be leading the Evangelisation and Religious Education at Bethany, collaboratively alongside Fr Suresh, Mrs Brown and Miss Joseph, all our Leaders of Learning and classroom teachers throughout 2018.

By working collaboratively and in partnership with you all, we work together in the important formation of your children in the Catholic faith. Building relationships between the church and school is an integral part of preparing your children in their lifelong faith journey of learning about their unique place in the Kingdom of God.

This year promises to be an exciting one, with many great events to assist the students in their spiritual development and to apply their understandings of the sacred scriptures to their own lives.

Following from the success of our 2017 goal, our Religious Education school goal for 2018 is:
For all students to increase their existing knowledge of the spiritual sense using Sacred Scriptures with a focus on Sacraments and Jesus.

This goal will be explained in more detail during our Parent Information Evening next Wednesday and over the course of the term.

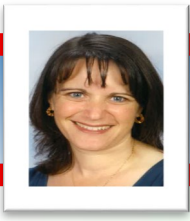


Thousands of starfish washed ashore.
A little girl began throwing them in
the water so they wouldn't die.

"Don't bother, dear," her mother said,
"it won't make a difference."

The girl stopped for a moment and looked
at the starfish in her hand.

"It will make a difference to this one."



LITERACY - Mrs Baldacchino

In 2018, our literacy school goal is:

For all students to demonstrate improved comprehension with a focus on knowledge about language.

Why this goal?

Comprehension and spelling development have been areas of focus in recent years at Bethany. This goal aims to continue to bring these two areas of focus together. During shared reading and writing lessons, teachers will monitor student development of comprehension through questioning and student responses to texts. The focus on knowledge about language, which incorporates the areas of spelling, vocabulary and grammar, will provide further opportunities for students to develop comprehension skills.

The 2018 school year began with each grade reading a letter from Mrs Brown during shared reading lessons. The students were given an opportunity to respond to Mrs Brown's letter during writing lessons. Through this initial written response, teachers were able to obtain a base for how to assist each student to work towards achieving our school literacy goal. Students will have further opportunities over the coming week to improve upon their written response to Mrs Brown, and focus on improving their knowledge about language and comprehension.





NUMERACY- Mrs Donlan

Numeracy News

A very warm welcome back to all students and their families. I wish to thank all those families who have been successful in having their children sit the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) in the first few days of school. It is a diocesan requirement that all students are interviewed. If your child has not had the interview rest assured your child's teacher will be administering the MAI over the next few days here at school.

The MAI is a clinical interview with a research based framework of growth points, that describe key stages in the learning of nine mathematics domains. Here at Bethany we focus on four of the domains;

- Counting
- Place value
- Addition & subtraction
- Multiplication & division

The MAI provides insights into children's current mathematical thinking. The growth point framework is a research based learning trajectory that teachers can use to establish where students are and where to next. They are major checkpoints in children's mathematical thinking and use of strategies.

Growth points are useful because they help teachers:

- Understand how children learn;
- Assess and monitor children's growth in understanding;
- Identify children who are at risk;
- Plan & target teaching so that teachers can identify the experiences that will most effectively help children achieve the next growth point in their mathematical learning.

Improving the learning outcomes of students is the heart of all we do and we look forward to working with you and your children in 2018.

Jodie Donlan

Leader of Learning (Numeracy)

LIBRARY NEWS

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Book Club 2018! Just a few reminders to help with the smooth running of book club this year. No cash will be accepted at Bethany, all payments must be processed through the LOOP system online with Scholastic.

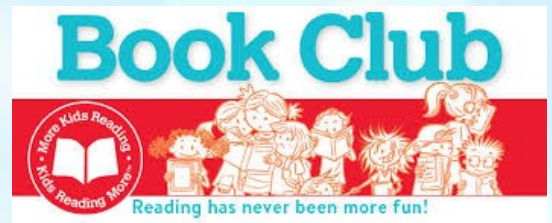
PLEASE follow all instructions carefully!

Also, Book Club is run by volunteers, if you would like to be part of this team encouraging our children to read please see Roseanne or Karen in the library.

Thank you and Happy Reading,

The Book Club Team!

For term 1 Book Club will close on Friday the 9th of February. No orders will be accepted after this date.



OTHER NEWS

School Fee Statements will be sent to families between 07/02/2018 - 16/02/2018, if you do not receive please contact Wendy Vincent in the Office
Term 1 fees are due on the 21st March 2018 .



School Banking will commence Wednesday 14th February 2018.

Collect those tokens for some great prizes.

Thank you to Amanda
McAlister and Amie
Bakhteari





Bethany Catholic Primary School

WELCOME BBQ

Glenmore Park



We invite
you to the

Welcome
BBQ
on
Thursday,
15th
February,
2018
starting at

5.00
pm

It is a Bethany tradition for Year 1 parents to volunteer and prepare the Welcome BBQ. Scrumptious sausage sandwiches will be provided with refreshments. We invite you to bring your picnic gear and nibbles to gather together on the astro-turf playground area.

Meet new people and have fun!!!

For catering purpose please complete the tear off slip below and return to the office by Friday 9th February, 2018

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

No. attending: _____ Parent/Carers _____ Children _____

If you have any dietary requirements please provide details below:-

Dear Bethany Parents, Students and Friends,

*You are invited
to the Installation of
Fr Suresh Kumar
as Parish Priest of
St Padre Pio Parish*



*9:30 Mass on
Sunday, 4th of February, 2018
Bishop Vincent Long presiding
Fellowship meal to follow in the church grounds*

We hope you can join us for this joyous event.

Please bring a chair & plate of food to share

Children are asked to wear their school uniform to represent
Bethany Catholic Primary School

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ORDER 24/7

BUS APPLICATIONS

Applications for 2018 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) and Term Bus Pass (TBP) travel entitlements are now open.

In coming days students who hold an SSTS entitlement and are changing grade bands i.e. going from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7 and changing school, and students whose entitlement was approved under a medical condition, will receive notification by email or post informing them of the pending expiry of their entitlement. TBP holders will also receive notification.

Students enquiring about pending cancellation should be advised to go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails> to update details/make application for next year's entitlement.

Application needs to be made before 31 December 2017 to ensure their entitlement is updated and their current card is not cancelled. If application is made after the expiry of their entitlement (31 December) the system will automatically cancel their card and a new one will need to be issued.

Please note: Students who are changing grade band and are remaining at the same school will not receive notification and do not need to reapply (the system now automatically validates a student's on-going eligibility if at the same school and going from infants to primary or primary to secondary). Where a student meets the new eligibility the system will automatically update their entitlement and card.

Students in the Opal area applying for a SSTS or TBP entitlement for the first time will receive their card (posted to the nominated address) a week or two before the commencement of 2018 classes. Please let students know new cards for 2018 are not posted in 2017 or during the Christmas / New Year period.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas are expected to receive their new travel pass at the commencement of the New School Year. **Note:** not all R&R operators issue passes (often in smaller communities where the student is known a pass is not issued).

Concessions

Email: Student@transport.nsw.gov.au



Transport