

# BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term: 4| Week 2| Friday 15th October, 2021

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Bethany Families,

Our final term of the school year promises much as we gradually return onsite and welcome back our students over the next fortnight. Our focus as children return will be on gradually re-establishing **relationships** and **routines** as well as seeking to ensure the **wellbeing** of all in our community.

I would like to acknowledge and pay tribute to you as **parents** for your **dedication** and **perseverance** in maintaining your many and varied family and employment responsibilities whilst at the same time shepherding your children through remote learning during the lockdown period. You have done a great job under the most challenging of circumstances.

Likewise, I congratulate our **children** for their **effort** and **resilience** in completing their daily learning tasks to the best of their ability. I hope that amongst the many significant challenges confronting families during this period there have been moments of grace - where families have been able to appreciate the simplicity of just being together.

Finally, I wish to thank and acknowledge the **school staff** and **teachers** for their ongoing **dedication** and **generosity** of spirit in teaching and attending to our students and families during this extended lockdown period.

As we look forward to resumption of school it is worth reflecting on the notion that living through the adversity, fatigue and often loneliness that came with the lockdown has also provided many with a **new perspective** on life.

It is also worth considering that **like gold**, which needs to be **tested in fire** for it to change and achieve its preciousness, we often **learn** and **grow** more during fragile and difficult times rather than during our successes. It is a reminder that tough times, such as the COVID lockdown can come with silver linings that we need to take stock of and often, through these, come **wisdom**, through the **Grace of God**.



Wishing all a blessed and safe term ahead.

Sergio Rosato

Principal

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

After twelve weeks of remote learning I'm sure you and your children are feeling a range of different emotions. The teachers and staff are feeling the same way too. However, we are definitely feeling very excited to be welcoming our students back to face to face learning over the next two weeks and having the school environment return to normal - a school is not a school without the students!

We are also feeling so very grateful! Grateful to our students who have worked so hard and shown great resilience, to our staff and colleagues who have collaborated and demonstrated great flexibility and creativity and also to all of our wonderful parents and carers.

All parents and carers of school students have done something truly remarkable this past term and I believe they need to be acknowledged for it.

Over the past twelve weeks I have spoken to many parents with differing circumstances. Parents working full time from home while juggling the remote learning requirements of numerous children, parents who have had to do most of their paid work at night or on weekends so they can be available to help with schoolwork during the day and parents who have taken leave from their job to focus on their children's learning.

Parents have had a thousand things to do and more demands on their time than is almost humanly possible. And yet they have always made the time to speak to their child's teacher about how to best support their child, fill teachers in about their child's emotional needs, work collaboratively to adjust work loads and set tasks, help their child attend Zoom meetings, spend time listening to their child read, upload work samples and educate themselves on how to teach concepts that they learnt differently when they were students at school.

Teachers have been working harder than ever, but have been unable to offer the face-to-face support we know our students need. That is where you as parents have stepped in. You have been the best partners we could have asked for in supporting and teaching our students. We are so grateful to be working in partnership with you during your child's primary school education journey.

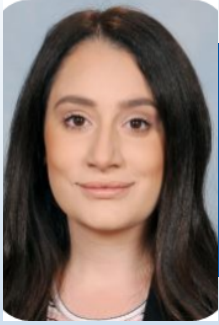
The support that parents and carers have given schools, teachers and their children during this period of remote learning needs to be acknowledged. You are and always will be your child's first teacher and you have truly done an amazing job! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Go gently,

Rebecca Lloyd

Assistant Principal

**Mrs Lloyd**



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Stained glass window from St. Dominic's Church in Washington, D.C. Photo by R. Lawrence Lane, O.R.

In the Church Liturgical Year, the month of October is dedicated to The Holy Rosary. The feast of The Holy Rosary is celebrated on October 7th.

The Holy Rosary is a prayer which, according to Catholic tradition, began when the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to St Dominic in the early 13th century and instructed him on how to use a set of beads to pray.

The Holy Rosary is a prayer that not only honours the Blessed Virgin Mary, but it also provides us with an outline of the entire life of Jesus Christ.

**Did you know:** the word 'Rosary' is taken from the Latin word "rosarium" meaning "rose garden"?

During Religious Education lessons in Term 4, students at Bethany will begin new learning cycles which will be taught for the duration of the term. Each of the learning cycles will focus on the areas of Mission, Advent and Christmas. The following is an overview of the learning that each grade will be engaging in this term:



GRADE	OVERARCHING QUESTION	CONTENT
Kindergarten	Which scriptures from the Bible tell us who Jesus is and what he did?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bible is a very special book through which God speaks to us today.</li> <li>• The Scriptures are stories about God's love for his People.</li> <li>• The Gospels contain stories of Jesus and people who believed in him.</li> <li>• The story of Jesus is found in the Gospels.</li> </ul>
Year 1	How can we grow our relationship with Jesus?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus is the Son of God and son of Mary.</li> <li>• Jesus showed us God's love.</li> <li>• Jesus is our brother and friend.</li> <li>• Jesus showed us how God wants us to live.</li> <li>• Jesus sends God's love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.</li> </ul>
Year 2	How does scripture from the Bible help us appreciate God's everlasting love?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bible is a very special book through which God speaks to us today.</li> <li>• The Scriptures are stories about God's love for his people.</li> <li>• The Gospels contain stories of Jesus and people who believed in him.</li> <li>• The story of Jesus is found in the Gospels.</li> </ul>

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONT'D

Year 3	How does prayer help us understand important events in the liturgical year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer is a very important way through which we grow in closeness to God.</li> <li>• Prayer involves ritual, symbols and celebrations.</li> <li>• When we pray, God is present and active, especially when the Church celebrates the Eucharist.</li> <li>• Our prayer is inspired by the feasts and seasons of the liturgical year.</li> <li>• There are various traditional and contemporary cultural forms of devotion to Mary and the saints.</li> </ul>
Year 4	What connections can we make between stories from the Bible and our life experiences?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bible contains the books of the Old Testament and the New Testament.</li> <li>• The Scriptures proclaim the Good News of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.</li> <li>• The Scriptures help us to reflect on our lives and to respond in prayer and action.</li> </ul>
Year 5	What connections can we make between stories from the Bible, current world issues and our personal experiences?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Scriptures are inspired by the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• The Scriptures tell the story of God's saving love for us and challenges us to live Christian lives.</li> <li>• The Scriptures comprise different types of sacred stories and writings which reveal important religious truths.</li> </ul>
Year 6	How can we use prayer to guide our mission and express our devotion to God during different liturgical feasts and seasons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer is a means of recognising the centrality of God in our lives.</li> <li>• Prayer helps us to live a life like that of Jesus.</li> <li>• We pray as we celebrate the Church's liturgical feasts and seasons.</li> </ul>

# DATES FOR THE DIARY

<b>18th October</b>	Kindergarten and Year 1 return to school.
<b>25th October</b>	All remaining year groups return to school.
<b>11th November</b>	School Photos - (To be confirmed)





# OTHER MATTERS

## Message from the Canteen.

The canteen will be fully operational on 25/10/21.

## School Uniform

Students returning to school on their set date are asked to wear their full summer uniform. Sports days will remain the same as Term 2.

## School Fees

Thank you to everyone that has already paid their School Fees. If you are experiencing financial difficulty due to COVID, please contact Wendy Vincent on 02 4723 3700 or [bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bthy-glmpfees@parra.catholic.edu.au) to discuss.

## School Photos

School photos were scheduled to be held in Term 3. We have been able to secure a rescheduled date of Thursday 11th November (Week 6), however this will depend on further easing of Covid-19 restrictions regarding visitors to the school, as outlined by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP). We appreciate your understanding and will keep you updated as further information becomes available.

SAY CHEESE!



## 3 DAY EVENT

14<sup>TH</sup> - 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS

**20% OFF\***  
**SCHOOLWEAR**  
& EVERYTHING ELSE!

DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR  
ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS

T&C'S APPLY. SAYINGS OFF ORIGINAL PRICES. IN-STORE & ONLINE

## LOWES OFFER

The **Lowes 3 DAY EVENT** is continuing today and tomorrow, with **20% off** everything including **SCHOOLWEAR**. This offer is available to all Lowes cardholders (Zero and Rewards) - please visit [www.lowes.com.au](http://www.lowes.com.au) for further details.