This newsletter is available online at https://www.bethany.sa.edu.au/news-and-events/newsletters/newsletter-week-7-term-1-2020







Photos from our recent Indonesian Trip.

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to our week 7 newsletter for Term 1. We have certainly had an interesting start to 2020. It seems that many of the things that we have taken for granted are being challenged and our lifestyles are needing to be adjusted to cope with that. One of the reflections I have made is that over the past 4 years, Bethany Christian School has been on a learning journey which has caused us to look for problems worth solving and so we actually feel that God has been preparing us for these challenges in advance. We are seeing many opportunities to have empathy, think through possible solutions and try some different ways of operating. We are also seeing what is most important and how we can continue to be a caring community that thinks of others as well as taking care of ourselves. This kind of life brings about peace amongst what seems to be a storm. I am reminded that Jesus is the one who can calm the storm and our faith in Him brings peace to our souls.

We will continue to update you as things are adjusted through our school app and the website. This enables us to communicate with you efficiently and means that you can stay up to date. Please follow the steps to download and set up the app that were sent home again this week if you have not done that. It is a simple process that just requires that you allow notifications for this app on your smart phone. Please check that your notification settings are switched on in your phone and in the School app settings (BCS App > Settings menu > Notifications > make sure all tick boxes are green)

The latest advice is still saying that schools will remain open for the time being as this reduces the spread of COVID-19. If this changes, we will notify you.

One of the best things that each of us can do in a time like this is to look after our health and wellbeing. Our children pick up on our anxiety and this interferes with sleep, rest and health. If you are feeling overwhelmed with fear, the bible has some clear advice for us and that is to pray. Speak to God who is greater than the circumstances and able to do the miraculous. Other practical things that you can do include reducing the number of articles and news reports that you read or watch throughout the day. Accept that you are not in control of some things but that you are in control of your attitudes, habits and choices in your relationships. Spend time doing things that bring you enjoyment, spend time with your children doing some fun things like playing games, playing outside or reading together. Remind yourself of what is most important and keep your priorities in check to ensure that you are staying present with your family. Remember that we are resilient and that we have excellent medical care here in Australia. Keeping your thinking in check will make a great difference. Generosity, thankfulness and helping others is also another way that we can stay calm and focus on what really matters.

We really appreciate your support in changing your behaviours to help too. We will not have family and visitors coming to school during the day for any chapels or sporting events like cross country until further notice. This is to minimise risk for students and staff. We still intend to hold parent teacher interviews through video conferencing. This means that you will still get a 10 minute time slot when you will call in via an app. You will be able to meet with your child's class teacher via a web meeting. We will send you all of the information that you will need to your email account with step by step instructions so that you can stay home and still meet with your child's teachers.

Thank you for your vigilance and for working with us so brilliantly so far,

God bless,

#### Wendy Matear Principal

#### **Memory Verse**

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Matt. 20:28

## **DEPUTY'S CORNER**

### LOOSE PLAY

You may have noticed a large space that was made available by the removal of our transportable buildings. While this space has been earmarked for a new nature playground area, until it has been planned and built, a 'loose parts play' space has been established for immediate use. Loose play is where a variety of ordinary items that have no single given purpose have been assembled so that children are released to use their imagination and creativity to use the items in play.

The launch of the loose play was a terrific success. Students built cars, a moving 'wheelchair', shelters, and towers among other amazingly creative things! It was also wonderful to see students from all year levels interacting with each other, conversing with one other and discovering new things as they experimented with the materials left out for them.

I look forward to seeing this play space become a well utilized area during break times and to see what the students dream up while playing outside.



In the light of what is happening in the world at the moment, we have decided to re-publish an article from earlier in the year about how to settle the anxiety that some children my be experiencing.

### TALKING ABOUT SCARY STUFF IN THE NEWS

Digital media means we increasingly witness wars, terrorist attacks, accidents and natural disasters as they happen – through our phones, TVs and social media feeds. And while this coverage helps us stay informed about what's going on, it can be distressing – especially for kids.

It's pretty much impossible to shield children completely from upsetting news. And keeping things secret can mean kids get snippets of information, adding to their sense of anxiety.

Your best option is to monitor what kids are seeing and reading, and support them to understand what's happening.

#### 5 tips for parents and guardians

#### 1. Be aware of what kids are watching

- On average, adults in Australia spend nearly 100 hours watching TV or browsing online and that's not including work-related stuff. Think about how often kids are in the room or watching over your shoulder, and be proactive about switching off when they're around.
- Put some age-appropriate boundaries around how much news kids are seeing. For example, children

under the age of six should have very limited or no access to upsetting media. As kids mature, supervise what they're watching and talk through what you're seeing together.

#### 2. Help them understand

- Encourage your child to ask questions about what they're seeing.
- Explain that sometimes scary things happen in the world and it can be hard to understand why and it's really normal to feel scared and worried.
- Often children aren't able to fully understand what's happening, and this can add to their distress. It can help to explain things in concrete ways, such as by showing them on a map how far away the event was from your neighbourhood, or explaining that what they're seeing on TV is a replay of something that happened before, not a new incident.

#### 3. Provide plenty of reassurance

- Traumatic events can challenge our belief that the world is a safe place whether we're five or 50. Reassure your child that you're looking out for them and help them see that these kinds of scary things happen very, very rarely.
- Stick to your regular family routines these help kids feel secure.

#### 4. Focus on the helpers

- Help your child see the positives that there are lots of people working to fix the frightening situation and stop it happening again. Point out the helpers the emergency workers and volunteers as examples of the goodness in people.
- Find something they can do to make a difference, such as writing a thank you letter to emergency workers or donating pocket money to a charity.

#### 5. Take care of yourself

You don't need to be directly involved in a tragedy to feel its effects. It's important to take care of yourself so you can continue to support your family.

- Allow yourself to feel. It's a normal reaction to upsetting news. It shows compassion.
- Limit how much news you watch if you're becoming pre-occupied or feeling overwhelmed.
- Talk to others about how this event has affected you.
- Calm yourself. Go for walk. Take deep breaths. Do things that relax you.
- **Think helpfully.** Tragic things happen but remember most of the time we're safe and most people are good.
- Take care of yourself. Sleep. See friends and family. Do things you enjoy.
- **Re-direct your energy** into things that will make a positive difference. Donate money. Volunteer your time. Raise awareness about the response efforts and available support.
- Don't be afraid to **seek professional support** if you need it.

Children often learn how to feel about something by watching and modelling adults' reactions. Share your feelings, but show that you're managing them. If you're feeling upset or distressed, talk privately with another adult you trust or a health professional.

#### Changes in behaviour - what to look for

When children are confronted with something stressful, like news of a traumatic event, they're not always able to express their feelings in the same way adults can. Instead, kids show how they're feeling through their behaviour.

#### **Common reactions include:**

becoming clingier

- having more tantrums or outbursts
- acting younger than their age
- not sleeping as well
- being more irritable
- talking more about death and dying.

If your child is acting differently and you're worried about their reaction to distressing news, seek support from a <u>health professional</u> or contact the <u>Beyond</u> <u>Blue Support Service</u>.

From Beyond Blue's Heathy Families website.

Wishing you a healthy and safe week,

God bless you,

**Deb Clifford** Deputy Principal



# HIGHLIGHTS

### PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

2R	Amira S-E	Andelazia L	Ira P
Aker M	Connor T	Daniel M	Matthew G
Briarna B	Ebony L	Ebony-Rose H	Tobiasz T
Devon S	Emily H	Gurman S	
Elise K	Lily N	Logan L	4G
Laila J-H	Nhial Yuang M-Y	Tiana V	Tam G
Millie-Rose K	William W	Antonio F	Yanish G
William H	Daniela M	Eknoor S	Elijah R

### SCHOOL BANKING

#### Notice from CommBank School Banking

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people is our first priority. Due to the rapidly developing situation with coronavirus, School Banking has been temporarily paused from **20 March 2020** until the start of **Term 2**. Please don't bring your deposit book with your weekly banking into school and we will notify you when banking will recommence.

## SUNSMART

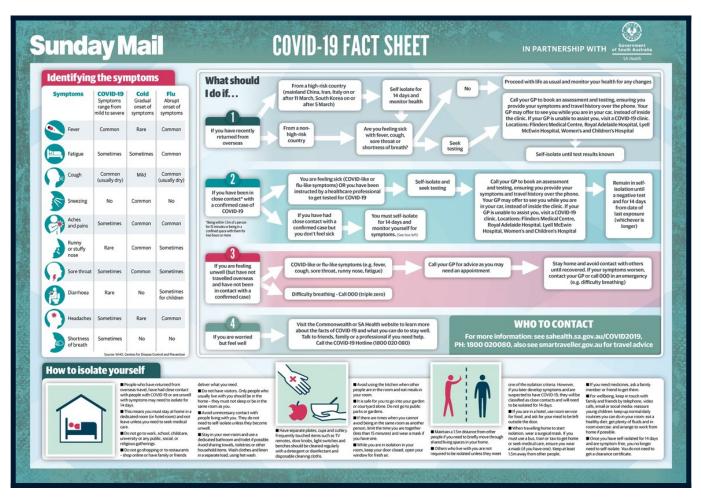


Open Are\_you\_SunSmart\_Poster\_web\_400x200.pdf (115.08 KB)

### LOST PROPERTY

After our recent sports days we have a large amount of lost property at the student desk. Please come in to check through the items that we have before the end of term or these items will be donated.

### CORONA VIRUS GUIDE



Open Coronavirus Guide Poster.pdf (3.46 MB)

### 18 MARCH 2020 - COVID-19 - PRINICPAL'S VIDEO MESSAGE

MMP and whole school gatherings are cancelled until further notice.

- Chapel will be held in year level groups or smaller in larger spaces, or even outside, and will be held for shorter times.
- Swimming lessons, Year 4 excursion, Year 6 camp are cancelled or postponed.
- Cross country will go ahead for students but we ask that no visitors attend the event.
- Parent teacher interviews we have begun trialling an alternative using a video conference app to reduce contact.
- SACSA and SAPSASA have cancelled some events and we will continue to update you as these are rolled out. We will cancel any additional sporting tryouts that require a large group of students to meet together that would not normally be in class together.
- Choir will be cancelled at this time.

Read School Management Memo for more information

### **BETHANY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL APP**

We will be sending all updates and relevant information through the App. These broadcasts will appear in the "Newsfeed".

Please check that your notification settings are

switched on in your phone and in the School app settings (BCS App > Settings menu > Notifications > make sure all tick boxes are green)

If you haven't already, we invite you to download the Bethany Christian School mobile app and sign in. You will be able to access the school calendar, manage children's absentees, get the latest school information and more.

If you did not receive a setup email for the BCS App

on the 7<sup>th</sup> Feb please <u>check your junk mail</u> to see if it is there. If not please call the office on 8283 0000 and make sure your email address is up to date. Karen can help you through the setup process.

10:18 ◀ ◀ Search	all 🗢 🔳
< Notification Settings	
Choose the type of activities that interes stay up-to-date with Push Notifications.	
Absence Alerts, Requests and Verifications	
Event Permissions and Appointment Requests	
Broadcast and Space Post activity	

# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **TEMPLE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE - EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**



Open History Coordinator Replace ME.pdf (597.20 KB) Open Music Coord Replace Teach T3 2020.pdf

(597.27 KB)

# SPORTS NEWS

## WEEKLY SPORTS RESULTS

### MATCHES WEEK ENDING: 7/03/2020

Sport	Team	Opposition	Coaches Pick	Score
Sport	Team	Opposition	Coaches Pick	Score
Basketball	U8 Blazers	No Game		
	U10 Bucks	No Game		
	U10 Raptors		No Game	
	U12 Rockets	No Game		
Netball	U8 Bright Stars		No Game	

### MATCHES WEEK ENDING: 14/03/2020

Sport	Team	Opposition	Coaches Pick	Score
Basketball	U8 Blazers	No Game		
	U10 Bucks	No Game		
	U10 Raptors	No Game		
	U12 Rockets	No Game		
Netball	U8 Bright Stars	Tiny Tigers	Aleesha B Emily D	1.5

### 2020 JUNIOR ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Friday March 6, 2020 we held our second carnival for the week which was the Junior Athletics Carnival.

### INDIVIDUAL AGE GROUP WINNERS

7 Year Old Female	Aleesha B	7 Year Old Male	Oscar E
8 Year Old Female	Liliah M	8 Year Old Male	Nhial M-Y
9 Year Old Female	Jessica S	9 Year Old Male	Piol D

### SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

7 Year Old Female	Ebony L	7 Year Old Male	James L
8 Year Old Female	Ebony-Rose H	8 Year Old Male	Vincent M
9 Year Old Female	Charlotte B	9 Year Old Male	Charlie W

Final House Results were as follows:

Meshach	1002
Shadrach	881
Abednego	871

Thank you so much to everyone who came out to support our students - It was fantastic to see such a great crowd. Also another big thank you to the many people involved in making this day run smoothly including the BCS Staff, Year 10 PE classes at Temple Christian College – Paralowie Campus and their teachers along with our volunteers.

### 2020 SENIOR ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Thursday March 5, 2020 we held our annual Senior Athletics Carnival on the school grounds and the Fairbanks Reserve. It was a fantastic day for our students and all involved.

Congratulations to the following medal winners:

### INDIVIDUAL AGE GROUP WINNERS

10 Year Old Female	Jayda M	10 Year Old Male	Mitchell M
11 Year Old Female	Kaylee W	11 Year Old Male	Reilly S
12+ Year Old Female	Holly S	12+ Year Old Male	Austyn M

### SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

10 Year Old Female	Olivia F	10 Year Old Male	Noah J
11 Year Old Female	Adesola A	11 Year Old Male	llyas D
12+ Year Old Female	Tessa B	12+ Year Old Male	Anthony B

#### Final House Results were as follows:

Meshach	1168
Shadrach	991
Abednego	938

We would like to thank all the spectators for coming out and supporting our students as they competed. Also, a big thank you to the Year 10 PE classes at Temple Christian College – Paralowie Campus students and their

teachers along with our volunteers and staff for making this day possible.

### Some photos from the Junior Sports Day



### Photos from the Senior Sports Day



# WEEKLY INFORMATION

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Date		Event
Friday 27th March		Cross Country
Thursday 9th April		Last day of Term 1, 12.10 pm dismissal
2020 Term Dates		
Term 1	Term 2	
Monday 3rd February to Thursday 9th April	Tuesday 28th April to	3rd July
Term 3	Term 4	
Tuesday 21st July to 25th September	Monday 12th October	to Wednesday 9th December

## **UNIFORM SHOP TIMES**

Monday	8.00 to 11.00 am
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	1.15 to 4.15 pm
Thursdy	Closed
Friday	8.00 to 11.00 am

### CHAPEL TIMES

### Primary Chapel (Years 3 - 6)

10.50 to 11.30 am on Wednesdays

### Junior Primary Chapel (Reception - Year 2)

12.10 to 12.50 pm on Wednesdays

### MONDAY MORNING PRAISE

Whole school worship

10 - 10.30 am Monday mornings

## **BETHANY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

PO Box 2125 Salisbury Downs SA 5108

## WEEKLY PE LESSONS

#### 37 Countess St Paralowie, SA, 5108

**P.** 08 8283 0000

- **F.** 08 8283 0101
- E. office@bethany.sa.edu.au

Class	Days
ELC	Monday to Friday
RD	Tuesday and Friday
RH	Wednesday and Friday
RHW	Tuesday and Wednesday
1C	Wednesday and Friday
1D	Tuesday and Friday
1P	Tuesday and Wednesday
2HS	Monday and Thursday
2R	Monday and Thursday
2Z	Tuesday and Thursday
3L	Monday and Thursday
ЗК	Monday and Thursday
ЗТ	Monday and Thursday
4G	Monday and Friday
4P	Monday and Friday
4W	Monday and Friday
5R	Tuesday and Friday
55	Tuesday and Friday
5T	Tuesday and Friday
65	Monday and Wednesday
6Т	Monday and Wednesday
6W	Monday and Wednesday



Association of Independent Schools of South Australia





Newsletter published: Friday, February 7 2020