

Bear Facts

The Weekly Newsletter of Bethany Lutheran School Long Beach, CA www.bethanylutheran.org Learn+Love+Lead+Serve



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It's National Lutheran Schools Week!

Lutheran schools in America were founded in 1947 with 12 churches and 14 schools. Schools have always been a priority, not an afterthought. ©

This week we are celebrating with the 185,000 other Lutheran school students in the 1,950 Lutheran schools across the nation. Our schools are divided into districts; Bethany is part of the Pacific Southwest District. The PSD has 97 preschools, 43 elementary schools, 8 high schools and 1 university.

Through the years, several Bethany alums have become Lutheran educators including our district's Executive of Schools, Rachel Klitzing!

This year's National Lutheran Schools Week theme is also our school year theme: "In All Things" based on Colossians 1:16-17: "For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve. And we are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families.

Happy NLSW! Dr. Fink

Parents, you can help keep our Bears safe by:

- Monitoring your child for illness.
- Keeping your child home if he/she shows ANY signs of illness, then contacting the school office to obtain a rapid test to rule out COVID (even if your child is fully vaccinated.)
- Keeping your child home if he/she is exposed to COVID outside of school (family members, friends, etc.) unless he/she is fully vaccinated.
- Providing a medical-grade mask for your child (strongly recommended by the health department.)

The rules for quarantine due to exposure have changed per the Long Beach Health Department:

- If students are exposed to COVID by a classmate at school, they do not need to quarantine unless they develop symptoms. We will provide rapid tests to rule out COVID, as well.
- If students are exposed to COVID outside of school and are not full vaccinated, they must quarantine for 5 days. If no symptoms develop and they test negative on Day 5, they may return to school.
- If students test positive for COVID, they must quarantine for 5 days. If there are no symptoms and they test negative on Day 5, they may return to school. Otherwise they must continue to quarantine.

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SDON'T FORGET

©Jan. 25-PTL Meeting (by ZOOM only) ©Jan. 31-Feb. 4 Sex Ed Week (see attached letter) ©Feb. 7-18 MAP Testing,

©Feb. 7-18 MAP Testing, Grades 3-8

©Feb. 9-2022 Kindergarten Info Night-6:30

©Feb. 15-Middle School Info Night ©Feb. 18-Minimum Day-

Noon Dismissal ©Feb. 21-President's Day-No School

©Mar. 4-Open House and HAPPY 75th BIRTHDAY to Bethany! 6:30-8:00

Who's leading chapel this week?

1/25-Mrs. Rodrigues 2/2-Mrs. Blake 2/9-Mrs. Evans

Parents, you are always welcome to join us at 9:00 in the sanctuary!





The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

We could use some construction help with a school-wide art project. Contact Dr. Fink!

Calendar Change:

Friday, March 11 will now be a minimum day with noon dismissal.



Monthly Awards

For January, we are recognizing students who display **Great Generosity** by giving freely of themselves with happy spirits! (I Corinthians 9:7)

K-Charles Bonner

K- Brooke Bauer

1st- Christopher Street

2nd-Kaidence Frazier

3rd-Jessie White

4th-Eric Vega

5th-Analia Arellano

6th-Bryce Gorne

7th-Kate Newton

8th- Jenna Walleman

We will hand out awards at the end of chapel tomorrow.

PTL

Parents, our PTL meeting will be by Zoom tonight at 6:30.

Watch your email for a Zoom link. Hope to see you there!



Many hands make light work.



Please send your child's offering collection box to chapel tomorrow!

Our February offerings will be going to World Mission. We will be working with all the Lutheran schools in our district to support this organization that provides God's Word to people around the world in 6000 different languages/dialects!

Cook's Night Out

Watch this space for our next event!



ShopWithScrip®

Have you signed up for Scrip yet? Please consider signing up now if you haven't! The rebate you earn can go towards your own child's tuition, tuition assistance for others, student success, and music. So, even if you don't need the rebate, you can help other programs at BLS and preschool.

It's easy to sign up and buy online or stop by the school office and choose from cards that we have on-hand. I am happy to help you get started!

Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator

rlopez@bethanylutheran.org 562-420-7783 ext. 58

Middle School Corner

A glimpse into the middle school classrooms...

8th Grade

History: The Jefferson Era

English: Analyzing and writing poetry Math: Linear Equations and Real Numbers

Science: Chemistry: Phases of matter & periodic table

Literature: The Diary of Anne Frank play by F. Goodrich and A. Hackett

Spanish: Describing things and people

Spiritual Formation: The Book of 1 & 2 Samuel

7th Grade

History: Imperial China

English: Analyzing and writing poetry Math: Ratios and Proportional Reasoning

Science: Evolution & Creation

Literature: <u>The Outsiders</u> by S.E. Hinton Spanish: Describing things and people Spiritual Formation: The Book of Luke

6th Grade

History: Ancient Greece

English: Analyzing and writing poetry Math: Fractions, Decimals, and Percents Science: Earthquakes & Plate Tectonics Literature: <u>Hatchet</u> by Gary Paulsen Spanish: Describing things and people Spiritual Formation: The Life of Christ



Dear Bethany Parents,

It is our goal to work with you to teach our students morals and values using God's Word as our guide. Part of our collective responsibility is to teach students what God has to say about gender, family, marriage and sexual reproduction. At school, we do this in a developmentally-appropriate fashion at each grade level, K-8.

Here is a short summary of our objectives for "sex-ed" at Bethany:

K to 3rd:

- God created boys and girls with unique characteristics.
- God's plan is for marriage to be between a man and a woman.
- Families can vary in make-up.
- Where do babies come from?

4th-6th:

- "How are our bodies changing?" and onset of adolescence. (Boys and girls are taught separately.)
- Time may be set aside for appropriate anonymous questions from students.

$7^{th}/8^{th}$:

- The human reproductive system.
- Consequences of sexual contact (i.e. STDs)
- Abstinence until marriage and the gift of sex within a marriage.
- Fetal development and the sanctity of life.
- Appropriate anonymous questions from students.

We use curriculum materials by Christian publishers to accomplish this task. These materials are Biblically-centered and teach lessons about gender, physical development, marriage and the family that are in line with the teachings of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. (For more information, visit lcms.org.) We have copies of these materials in the school office for parents to examine at their leisure. Before we teach the lessons, we do refer to the permissions you signed as part of your registration. If you have asked that your child not be included in the lessons, we will make arrangements for them to be elsewhere.

We are letting you know that we will be teaching these lessons **next week** (January 31-Feb. 4) so that you can be prepared for any questions that may arise. If you would like some guidance for addressing this topic with your children at home, please let me know. I have some materials you may check out for your use.

Please also let me know if you have any questions about our program, and thank you for partnering with us!

Dr. Mary Fink, Principal

Schools TIJES

January 24-28

"In ALL Things" Colossians 1:15-20

JAN. 24 MONDAY



SUPERHERO DAY

Jesus is our hero! Wear your superhero gear to school. Please no costume masks or props.

JAN. 25 TUESDAY



ALOHA DAY

Bust out your Hawaiian shirts and leis for a day on the islands. Please no swimsuits or revealing clothing.

JAN. 26 WEDNESDAY



WACKY TACKY DAY

Forgo all fashion rules! Bring on the mismatched clothes.

JAN. 27 THURSDAY



CAREER DAY

Dress up in clothes for the job you want to have when you grow up.

Jog-a-thon jumpers will be here, so plan your outfit accordingly.

JAN. 28 FRIDAY

PAJAMA/COZY CLOTHES DAY

Let's be cozy today! Wear your pajamas or loungewear to class.

Bethany Lutheran School