



Bear Facts

The Weekly Newsletter of
Bethany Lutheran School
Long Beach, CA
www.bethanylutheran.org

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I had an entirely different column written for today, then someone sent me a prayer given for the start of the academic year at a school in Michigan. It spoke to my heart, and I hope it speaks to yours:

*"Jesus Christ, you are the image of the invisible God, and all things have been created through you and for you. **We** have been created through you and for you. We are recipients of your mercy and your grace, and we are so grateful...

Thank you for gathering us together at the start of this new school year. We pray that the faculty and [students of Bethany Lutheran School] will be known as people who love you, known as people who serve with joy, and known as people who see [each other] as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ....

Jesus, we want you to have first place in all things. Be the center of this campus. Be the center of our teaching. Be the center of our coaching. Be the center of every meeting....Cast every idol from its throne and take your place as the Only one who is worthy of worship...

You are the image of the invisible God. Through you and for you we were created. Hold us together. Make us one. Be our center. In your name we pray, Amen."

***God bless our school year together!
Dr. Fink***

**Adapted from the prayer for the opening faculty conference of Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan.*



Don't forget: tomorrow is a **LATE START** day for 3rd-8th. Doors open at 8:30 AM.

Also, tomorrow is a **LOGO** shirt day for everyone...wear your Bethany logo polo!

All the News That's Fit to Print

Bear Facts is our official school bulletin. It will be coming home every Tuesday afternoon with the youngest child in each family and will always be printed on **BLUE** paper. Please watch for it! You may also access the newsletter on our website.



New Parent Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 6:30 PM in Room 130 (the Choir Room.) This information meeting **IS REQUIRED** and it is important that one or both parents attend. You will receive your copy of our Parent Handbook, meet members of the staff and Bethany community and hear about many of the happenings here on the Bethany campus. Childcare for school-aged kids will be provided in the daycare room during the meeting.

School Bulletin #2

August 29, 2017

DON'T FORGET

- ☺Aug. 31-Catalina Meeting-Gr. 7-6:30 PM
- ☺Sept. 6-New Parent Orientation-6:30 PM
- ☺Sept. 6-Room Parent Meeting-7:15 PM
- ☺Sept. 8-Bethany Bears Beach Bonfire-Bolsa Chica Beach
- ☺Sept. 11-Astrocamp meeting Gr. 5-6:30 PM
- ☺Sept. 12-DC Meeting
- ☺Sept. 15-School Picture Day

YEARBOOK PHOTOS

School pictures will be taken on Sept. 15. Please avoid out-of-school appointments that day. We do have a make-up day for students who are absent, but those children will not be in the class photo. Your picture package has been pre-paid with your Registration Fee, and additional prints will also be available.

Attention Room Parents!

Are you signing up to be a room parent (or room parent assistant) for your child's class? Please plan to attend a *short* orientation meeting on September 6 at 7:15. We will meet in the library. ☺ (And if you have a conflict with the confirmation parent meeting at the same time, let Dr. Fink know so she can take notes for you!)



The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

HELP! HELP!

We can always use parent help to make our school the best it can be. Watch this column in future Bear Facts for more FISH ideas.

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Col 3:17

WE ♥ SCHOOL!



We are pleased to be able to offer teacher-supervised study hall after school. Students in Grades 3-8 may use study hall, which lasts from 3:30-4:15.

Parents, you can order study hall hours on the EDC/Study Hall form each month.



CHAPEL OFFERING

Every Wednesday we have a Chapel (church) service for the entire school. Sometimes the students lead these, and sometimes members of the staff lead them. At each of these services we collect an offering for a worthy charity. These offerings teach our students the importance of using our financial blessings to make a difference in the lives of others. You are always welcome to attend our chapel services and your support is always appreciated.

For September, we will be donating our offerings to an organization called Fikisha, who serves street youth in Africa. Learn more here: fikisha.org

Our school theme this year:

Timeless Truth in a Changing World



Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8



Save money on your tuition, pay your Tech Fee, or save money for the 8th Grade DC trip by using Scrip/gift cards.

Everyone buys groceries, so everyone can earn a Rebate! We probably have a way for you to use Scrip no matter where you buy your groceries. We have debit type cards for Albertsons, Smart & Final, Sprouts, Stater Bros and Vons/Pavilions. Does Amazon deliver your groceries? Purchase Amazon certificates to pay for your purchase. If you go to Costco or Trader Joes use our Visa gift cards.

Some new ideas for using Scrip have been put into use recently by some of our families.

- The Visa gift cards can be used for many expenses that we don't have retailer specific Scrip for. Some of our families are using the Visa cards to pay their cell phone bill, there are many other ways to use them.

- Purchase or renew your AmazonPrime membership for \$99 and earn a 8% rebate. The AmazonPrime membership certificate is available as a physical card or a ScripNow eCard.

Scrip order forms can be printed from our website (www.bethanylutheran.org), click on "Forms".

If you have questions about Scrip please contact Carol Grudt, 420-7783 ex. 58, or stop in the school office during office hours.

Parents, you are ALL members of our Parent Teacher League (PTL), our amazing group of parent leadership and an important part of making Bethany such a special place. Would you like to get involved in a PTL activity? There's a place for you! Just contact our PTL President,

Jen Carlson: msjencarlson@gmail.com



Camp Meetings

Our 5th and 7th grade outdoor education camps are coming up quickly!

Parents, please plan to attend the mandatory information meetings for these camps:

7th Grade-Room 206-August 31-6:30 PM

5th Grade-Room 222-Sept. 11-6:30 PM

Bethany Lutheran Music Academy

The Music Academy was established in 1990 to provide extra-curricular music instruction to all children associated with Bethany Lutheran Church and School.

This is an after school program with instruction taking place on the Bethany campus, Monday - Friday between 3:15 and 6:30 p.m. We have Christian instructors who are professionals in their field. There are twelve weekly lessons scheduled each semester; fall semester begins Monday, September 18th. Tuition: \$275 plus \$25 annual registration fee. Students may select from the following instruments: piano (2nd grade and up) and trumpet (4th and up).

Brochures and enrollment forms may be picked up in the school or church offices; you may also go online to: www.bethanylutheran.org to download your enrollment form. **Enrollment is now open through Monday, September 11. Forms are due no later than Monday, September 11.**

Questions? Contact Academy Administrator, Mara Widmann at mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org or 562-421-4711 ext. #55.

Family Park and Pool Day

Save the date! Our annual Family Park and Pool day will take place on Sunday September 17th from 6:00-8:30 PM at Mayfair Park. We will start with a picnic in the park and end the evening in the pool with fun and games. Cost is \$5 per person (\$20 Max per family). RSVP today with Pastor Seth (smoorman@bethanylutheran.org).



Box Tops

Box Tops, Box Tops, send in your Box Tops! Please save your Box Tops and start sending them in now. We are going to have a surprise for all classrooms that bring in 50 Box tops by October 20th. Thank you!



Parents, please note that we have a couple of changes to our uniform dress code:

Logo sweaters/vests: Vicki Marsha will be offering logo sweaters and sweater vests as cooler weather approaches. Students may wear these items (with plain uniform polos underneath) on Wednesdays.

Speaking of logo shirts: Our logo shirts are now available from Vicki Marsha in a new “dri-fit” fabric. You may order these shirts from Vicki Marsha.

School year theme t-shirts: Every student will be receiving a school theme t-shirt. Students may wear this t-shirt on Fridays with uniform shorts/pants/skirts.

Finally, here's a great tip: USE SCRIP! We have it for Vicki Marsha, Gap/Old Navy, JC Penney, Kohls, Target, Children's Place and Lands End!!!

RAISE A GLASS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS!

Our annual **RAISE A GLASS** event is planned for Saturday, October 21, 2017! **RAG** is the annual fund raising event for Bethany Student Success Program! Please add this date to your calendar and plan to also extend this invitation to other friends and family to celebrate and support Student Success. We will have a great new venue at the Gaslamp Restaurant in Long Beach, an amazing assortment of unique auction items, and a delightful afternoon to “raise your glass” with other “Friends of Student Success”!

Ticket sales are planned following Sunday worship services on September 24, Oct 1, 8, and 15! For information about SSP, please contact Mrs. Jill Moorman at jmoorman@bethanylutheran.org. See you there!



Bethany's PTL 2017-2018 (Parent Teacher League)



wants you to **Save the Date** for these fun events this year!

YOU are a member of our PTL - EVERY parent is!



Bethany Bears Beach Bonfire

Friday, Sept. 8th, 5-10 p.m., Bolsa Chica State Beach

Celebrate the start of school with your fellow Bethany Bears on the beach for one last bonfire of the season! Bring a chair, your own dinner, and PTL will provide the s'mores. Exact lifeguard station location to be sent via SchoolReach text and via the BLS app the day of the event. The entire family is invited!



Jog-A-Thon

Friday, October 6th, AM (this is a half day for students), on the field

This is our largest fundraiser of the year. More info to be sent home with your child on how you and your family & friends can support Bethany through sponsorships. Come cheer our kids on as they have a good time jogging, dancing and laughing!



Oktoberfest

Sunday, October 29th

Join us as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with our school and church event for families. Food, drinks, games and fun for all. *This event will replace our annual Pumpkin Patch carnival for this year.*



Christmas Store

Tuesday, November 14th - Thursday, November 16th, Room 101/102

We open a store on campus where the kids have the opportunity to do a little Christmas shopping (at discounted prices!) for their parents and family. Older students and parent helpers are on hand to help the little ones, along with gift wrapping so everything goes home ready for the holidays.



"Grandfriends" Day

Friday, November 17th, AM (this is a half day for students)

It's always a treat when Grandparents, "Grandfriends" and other special visitors join us on campus. Stay tuned for more details on this fun day.



Golf Ball Drop

Friday, March 9th, at our school Open House

Our Spring Fundraiser! Students sell golf balls to friends & family with numbers assigned to them. On the "drop date", the LBFD will bring their ladder truck and drop all the balls on our field. If your numbered ball lands in a target set on the field, cash and gift card prizes could be yours!



Teacher Appreciation Week

May 7 -11, 2018

We celebrate our teachers, aides and school staff this week. We are blessed with a great group here!



Fun Day Carnival

Saturday, May 19th, 2016, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., in the parking lot

Our school carnival is the best! Join us for games, food booths, water slides, inflatable obstacle courses, jumpers for the little ones, face painting, silent auction, a bake walk and raffle prizes!