



# Bear Facts

The Weekly Newsletter of  
Bethany Lutheran School  
Long Beach, CA  
[www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Well, we've been doing the learning-from-home thing for 34 days. I think I can safely say that the majority of us are "over it," but there is not an end in sight at this point. ☹️

Governor Newsom did announce the "easing of restrictions" in California, but guidance for schools is still not available. (Here's the site we monitor for that in case you want to join us in our Snoopy-vulture-like stare:



<http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/education/GuidanceSchoolAdministrators.pdf>

So while we are waiting, we are also brainstorming scenarios for our return to school for 2020-2021 as well as figuring out additional ways to keep our students and staff safe and healthy. **(Speaking of return, our current plan is to keep our regular calendar and start date: September 1.)** We're thinking about campus modifications we might need, as well. Fortunately, private schools are included in the recent CARES Act federal funding and those funds can be used for a variety of expenses, including safety and sanitation. We do need to conduct a survey with our families in order to qualify for these funds, so we'd appreciate it if you'd take a moment this week to answer a couple of questions anonymously on our third parent survey...this one is short and sweet, but is really important for our Bethany Bears! Watch for it in your email by Friday!

Keep up the good work, parents! We're blessed to partner with you.

**We miss you.  
Be safe.  
You are loved.**  
*Dr. Fink*

P.S. Speaking of planning, we plan to offer childcare to children of essential workers beginning June 1 and **WE WILL HAVE SUMMER CAMP** this summer. We're working on our COVID-19 plan for camp and will follow all the guidelines in place at that time for student and staff safety. **Please watch the Bear Facts for more information in the weeks ahead.**

## School Bulletin #34

May 11, 2020

## DON'T FORGET

☹️ May 16-The Bethany Block Party/Fun Day is cancelled.

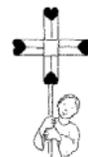
☹️ May 11-24 VIRTUAL Book Fair

☹️ May 22 and 25: No school



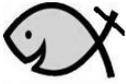
## Chapel

We will post a chapel service each week on Wednesdays so we can be united in worship! This week our friends at **Concordia University** will bring us the message.



Bethany Parents, we know some of you have been affected financially by this crisis. Please reach out to Dr. Fink if you need to make any adjustments in your FACTS account or are in need of any other kind of assistance.

We are standing by ready to help as best we can!



The FISHin' Hole  
*Opportunities to Serve*

Parents, of all the things to stress about right now, FISH Hours should not be on your list. Please don't give it a second thought. ☺

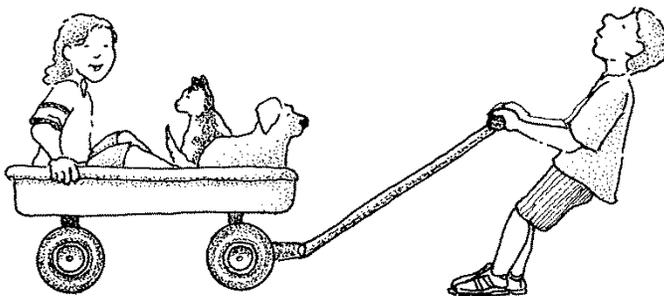
[Bethany Lutheran Church Worship](#)  
Our church services are pre-recorded and posted online...you can find the links on the Bethany website:  
[www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)  
**Are you in need of pastoral care?**  
Please call the church office: 421-4711

### Middle School Corner

**Calling all Middle School students! How many online learning tips can you cross off this list? If you can cross off 8 or more, give yourself a pat on the back!**

- o Yes! I am keeping a routine close to regular school hours with bedtime and waking up.
- o Yes! I set up a quiet and clean place to complete school work away from distractions.
- o Yes! I am joining three or more Google Meets a day.
- o Yes! I am exercising for 30 minutes or more daily.
- o Yes! I am going outside for fresh air as much as possible.
- o Yes! I use the online learning agenda to keep track of assignments and due dates.
- o Yes! I send my teachers private comments in Google Classroom when I have a question.
- o Yes! I take brain breaks often throughout the day for activities not involving a screen.
- o Yes! I am trying to drink water and eat healthy food choices.
- o Yes! I am reading a book or magazine for enjoyment.

**Way to go! We are proud of you for working hard!**



### Seeking gently-used jewelry and accessories!

Student Success will once again be hosting our gently-used accessories sale at some point in the future.

Are you cleaning closets while you are sheltering in place? Please save your gently-used accessories (jewelry, scarves, handbags, belts, etc.) and drop them off for Jill Moorman when school is back in session. Separately-bagged items are greatly appreciated. (Items remaining after the sale will be donated to a worthy cause.) If you would like to help with this sale, please contact Jill Moorman: [imoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:imoorman@bethanylutheran.org) 562-307-6123

One of the things that I love is my calendar. A nice, color-coded, organized calendar brings me a lot of joy, with activities all lined up. My work and home calendars sync in one app and I love using fun stickers on the family wall calendar at home. I even get a daily email from Google telling me what's on my agenda for the day. It just makes me feel in control.

But, the flip side (ha, calendar jokes) of this is an often overwhelming schedule that finds you no matter where you go. When life came to a screeching halt a few months ago, our calendars emptied out pretty quickly. Emails from Google started saying "You have nothing scheduled today". Life got a lot slower and you know what? I found that I loved it. I felt like I could breathe and I welcomed the empty space on the screen. I filled my days with time and moments with my kids, my family, with myself. The break from the norm has been refreshing, healthy, renewing. As things begin to change again, I can feel the activities slowly creeping onto my schedule. It's going to be up to me to be more protective of my time, allow myself to say "no" sometimes and to make sure I include downtime in my life so I can keep enjoying the peace and connections I've experience with my kids the past few months. This "pause" was God-given. He planned it, saw we needed it, and gave it to us. I pray we all use it wisely and as a guide for more time, more space, more peace going forward. Hang in there! You are loved, BearFam!

*Jen Carlson, PTL President*

## Dear Parents and Families:

Reading increases knowledge and vocabulary, lowers stress, and supports your child's emotional growth. But perhaps the best benefit is the lasting bond you create with your child when you read with them.

**Visit our VIRTUAL Book Fair with your child to discover new books together!**

## Save the date!

Book Fair dates: **May 11<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Shopping hours: **All Day!**



**NEW In-School and Online Shopping Options!** With Book Fair eWallet, a safe and convenient digital payment account, your student can shop the Fair cash-free! And if you're not able to attend the Fair, try our new online shopping option. We've partnered with The Scholastic Store™ to offer over 6,000 products that ship direct to your home (with free shipping on orders of \$25 or more)! Visit our homepage to access eWallet or shop online.

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair!

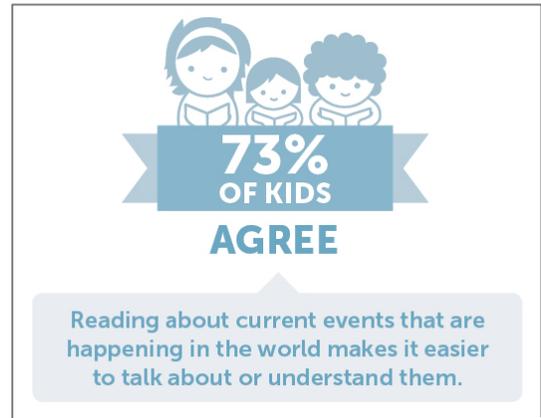
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/bethanylutherschool5>

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Fink  
Principal

Mrs. Natasha Aguilera  
Librarian

**Bethany Lutheran School**



Kids & Family Reading Report™: 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

## Well done, good and faithful servants.

Bethany Lutheran School announces the planned retirements of two of our beloved teachers: Diana Orr (19 years of service) and Chris Boerrigter (44 years of service, 19 of them at Bethany!) at the end of this school year.

Like the true professionals they are, Mrs. Orr and Mrs. Boerrigter have risen to the challenges of remote teaching during this pandemic, certainly an unexpected circumstance to end their careers. These faithful servants have been a vital part of our school staff and will be greatly missed, but we know they will continue to use their many gifts to serve the Lord in the future.

We do not have a date yet to celebrate these two amazing educators, but we are collecting congratulations and memories from friends, former students and colleagues in preparation for the event. Would you take a moment to help us celebrate their many years of service?

You may send your thoughts/memories by **May 30** to Mary Fink:  
[mfink@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:mfink@bethanylutheran.org) and/or your congratulatory cards to the

teachers at this address:

5100 E. Arbor Rd.

Long Beach, CA 90808

Attn: Retirement

