



Bear Facts

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

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Oh. My. What a year!

You've earned a well-deserved break, Bethany Bears and families. Kudos to you for sticking it out to the end!

THANK YOU, Bethany parents, for taking on a teaching role with your kids and encouraging them to do their best.

THANK YOU, Bethany teachers and staff, for leaping into new arenas of teaching and providing for our students.

THANK YOU, also, to our Bethany students. You rose to the occasion and made us proud. You're the best!

Bethany K-7 parents, I would typically go "radio silent" in the summer, but my plan is to send out occasional communication during the summer regarding our plans for the fall. Those plans are under development and ever-changing as we learn new things about COVID19.

For now, let me say this: Based on the survey results from you and the general consensus of our Board of Schools and staff, our *preferred* plan is to have all healthy students here on campus each day. That means we have lots of decisions to make regarding sanitation, social distancing, screening, etc. And the ability to execute our preferred plan will depend on the trajectory of the disease and any restrictions that are in place when school begins. As you can imagine, it's a complicated process so we covet your prayers over this matter!

It's a privilege to be part of your family's story. Have a blessed summer.

**Stay healthy.
Be safe.
You are loved.
Dr. Fink**

Congratulations to our 8th Graders who graduated this past Sunday!

Alexis Munoz
McBride High School

Caleb O'Conner
Valley Christian High School

Nolan Takle
McBride High School

Marcus Vander Horck
McBride High School

Gina White
McBride High School

Emma Olsen, Valedictorian
McBride High School

Isaiah Youngblood
Valley Christian High School

Angelina Attia
McBride High School

Philip Attia
McBride High School

Emma Barker
Valley Christian High School

Riley Brick
McBride High School

Mahak Gupta
St. Joseph High School

Scott DeJongh
Los Alamitos High School

Klara Hamori
Undecided

Gabriella Hernandez
McBride High School

Jacob Clagett
McBride High School

School Bulletin #38

June 9, 2020



©June 9-"Materials Collection Day" #packupyourstuff

©June 10-"Materials Swap" for 1st-8th

Last names A-H: 9-11 AM
Last names I-Z: 1-3 PM

©June 11-K Graduation (open to Kindergarten families only as scheduled) in the morning
Additional "Materials Swap" for 1st-8th in the afternoon

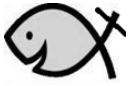
©June 15-Summer childcare begins

©Week of June 15: Final report cards mailed to your home.

©Sept. 1-First day of 2020-2021 school year

LOVE JUSTICE
DO MERCY
WALK HUMBLY
WITH OUR GOD.
MICAH 6:8

Bethany is a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and as such we encourage you to read the statements of our [church body](#) and our [district](#) regarding the death of George Floyd and the recent peaceful protests and unrest in our country.



The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

Thank you, parents, for all the ways you volunteered here at Bethany this year. We appreciate you!

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

Are you in need of pastoral care?

Please call the church office: 421-4711

Middle School Corner

Middle School Summer Opportunities!

If you will be in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade next year, this is for you!

You are invited and encouraged to participate in the summer opportunities in reading, math, spiritual formation and typing practice. Please look for the informational sheet coming home with each student's belongings this week.

Parents, please watch for a Gradelink email titled, "Bethany's Middle School Summer Opportunities," as it will provide all of the details and links.

Have a blessed summer!

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

James 1:7

PTL News

I have to confess – I well up with tears at big moments. The Olympic games, weddings, military homecomings, kids scoring their first goals, graduations of all ages and kinds (yes, even the online ones) give me all the feels. If you look over at me at any of these "life-long culmination moments", you'll see my watery eyes and quivering lip, and probably the same with my closest of friends (we're all alike!). Those moments that bring together a long period of hard work, struggle, adversity, grit, determination and faith in an end goal move me like no other.

So, it's no surprise to those who know me well, that the completion of this year is making me extremely proud at what we've collectively gone through and how well we've handled it – as a Bethany family. This year has been tough – no sugar coating that one – and that's just what we've been through together. Add in your own personal hills you've climbed, and you have a really gritty combination.

We knew the end of the school year would come, but for a while there, the light at the end of the tunnel was dim. But... here we are. Last week of school. Thanks to our teachers and staff, our children didn't miss a bit of education and everyone grew as we explored new ways to learn (and not to learn!). We accomplished something most schools didn't and hosted an in-person, live graduation for our 8th graders. Our annual traditions of "Back to the Future Day" and our video slideshow, were not stopped, but instead, viewed from our homes. We are sending two of our beloved teachers off to retirement with cheers and thanks for the impact they've had on our children and look forward to welcoming the new members of our staff. We've raised a LOT of money to help our school in ways we didn't know was needed at the time and will improve our campus for years to come. And most importantly – your home and family has struggled, grown, persevered through some of the hardest things a generation will see and you've done it well, friends. Our children are better for the ways they've seen us face a problem head on and handle it with grace, strength and faith. They see it, notice it and learn from it.

I'm proud of us, BearFam – we did it! I'm *more* than ready for this summer break. With watery eyes, I wish you a very blessed summer and can't wait to see you all in the fall.

You are loved, BearFam!

Jen Carlson, PTL President

Did you create a "chore chart" for your kids during COVID19 "Safer at Home?" This week we're including a parent chore chart...we hope it brings a smile and some ideas for you. 😊

This week's schedule:

- June 9:** Materials Collection Day! (a day for student to pack up their stuff and teachers to pack up students' stuff here at school.)
- June 10:** "Materials Swap"/Yearbook distribution for Grades 1-8
- June 11:** **Last day of school**
Kindergarten Graduation/yearbooks/Materials Swap (watch for an email with details)
Additional "Materials Swap" for 1st-8th (if needed)

Week of June 15: Final report cards mailed to your home.

Summer childcare registration is now open! Is your child missing social connections? Consider sending them to Bethany for a week or two of fun in the sun!

Here is the link to register:

bit.ly/BLSSummerCamp2020



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!