



Bear Facts

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

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



It's Teacher Appreciation Week!

I don't know if you've seen the license plate holder on our car, but it says, "Those who can, teach. Those who can't do something less significant." I bought the holder because I absolutely despise that old saying, "Those who *can't*, teach." I really do believe teaching is an incredibly important profession, and I'm proud to serve with an excellent and caring faculty here at Bethany.

This is "nacho" average Teacher Appreciation Week! Our PTL has some wonderful thank you activities planned and I also encourage you to take time to say "thanks!" to your child's teacher, your partner!

This week I'll be traveling with 8th graders in our nation's capital, Washington DC. I love student travel for SO many reasons:

- ☺There's a huge difference between *reading* about history and *seeing* it.
- ☺Traveling with a group, moving through the airport and rooming together at the hotel is an education in manners, social graces and coping abilities. ("Who's showering tonight and who's showering in the morning?")
- ☺Learning to pack a suitcase (that *you* can carry) and keeping track of your stuff is a learning experience, too.
- ☺Freedom is not free, and hopefully our students will get that message loud and clear at the war memorials and Arlington Cemetery.
- ☺Finally, I'm looking forward to watching our students represent their school well and shine their Gospel lights for all to see!

Blessings on your week!

Dr. Fink



The Scholastic Book Fair is next week! All proceeds from the Book Fair support our Bethany library. ☺

Something new this year: you can set up a "digital wallet" for your child so they don't have to carry cash. Here's more info:

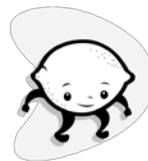
<http://bit.ly/fairwallet>

And here's a link to set up your wallet!

<http://bit.ly/BLSwallet>

Got a lemon tree??

Bethany's Student Council needs LEMONS for Fun Day! You can drop them off in the school office. Thanks!



Get your wristbands and tickets!! (order form attached to today's newsletter.)

School Bulletin #34

May 8, 2019

DON'T FORGET

- ☺May 8-9 4th Grade to Sacramento
- ☺May 10-Minimum Day-Faculty Inservice
- ☺May 13-18 Scholastic Book Fair
- ☺May 14-Understanding Dyslexia-6-8 PM
- ☺May 14-PTL Meeting-6:30-Room 203 (NOTE ROOM CHANGE!)-Childcare provided!
- ☺May 6-17 MAP Testing
- ☺May 18-BETHANY BLOCK PARTY
- ☺May 19-Confirmation-10:55
- ☺May 22-5th Grade State Banquet
- ☺May 24-No School
- ☺May 27-No School
- ☺May 31-School Musical-GO WEST!
- ☺June 3-Sports Recognition Event-6 PM
- ☺June 5-Primary Music Recital-6:30 PM
- ☺June 9-Retirement Celebration for Mrs. Dahlin

Chapel Schedule

May 8-Kindergarten

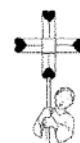
May 15-1st Grade

May 22-8th Grade

Chapel is at 9:00

(in the gym while we are under construction.)

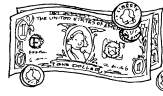
Parents are always welcome to join us!





The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

We are gearing up for our annual Block Party on May 18. (This year we have a County Fair theme!) There will be LOTS of opportunities to volunteer to finish up those FISH hours!



CHAPEL
OFFERING

Our chapel project for the month of May and June is to support Zach Barz, currently serving as a missionary in Costa Rica. You can learn more about his ministry here: <https://missionofchrist.org/zachbarz/>



Cook's Night Out

Come and support Bethany's Mission Alaska Trip

Round Table

Wednesday, May 15

Watch for a flyer next week!



Our PTL Year is coming to a close and it's time to start thinking about next year's board members. **Are you interested in getting involved??** We will be holding elections for the following positions:

President (sets monthly agenda, runs monthly meeting)

Vice-President (assists President and fills in when needed)

Treasurer (maintains PTL checkbook and writes checks as authorized)

Secretary (takes minutes at monthly meetings)

Executive Board members must also be members of Bethany Lutheran Church.

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please contact Jen

Carlson: jcarlson@asprack.com

Would you rather serve on a PTL committee? Watch for sign-ups in August!!

"Teaching Kids to Count is Fine,
but Teaching Them What Counts is Best."

It's Teacher Appreciation week and we are lucky to have some of the best at Bethany to call our own. From homeroom teachers who bond with their class all year long and give them a strong rock to lean on, to specialty teachers in arts, sciences, P.E. and sports, music and languages, and our incredible staff of librarians, after school care experts, custodians, office staff, principal, pastors, ministry educators and more – I can't think of a better family and village to help teach our kids to count, and teach our kids *what counts*. Our teachers pour their hearts, minds and energy into making each day great for our kids and it shows in each one of our Bethany Bears. Our kids learn daily that they are loved by Jesus, they are loved by the Bethany family and they are loved by you. They are growing to be strong, mindful and exceptional leaders!

The PTL is proud to partner with you this week as we thank our teaching staff and spoil them a bit with some surprises, fun dress-up days and small tokens of our appreciation. Be sure to tell your teacher how much you appreciate them, and the impact they have on your family. I know they will be thankful to hear it from you. Have a great week, Teachers & Staff!

Jen Carlson, PTL President

You're invited to a support group meeting for parents and caregivers of children of all ages with dyslexia and other language-based learning differences on Tuesday, May 14 from 6-8 p.m. School Psychologist Dawn Raya will lead a discussion about what dyslexia is and isn't and what it looks like in the classroom and at home. Come with questions and leave with resources. Please see attached flyer for more information.



This is Teacher

Appreciation Week! Choose a gift card from Bethany Scrip to say "Thank You" to your child's teacher. We have Teacher Wish Lists in the school office to help you choose a gift card for their favorite restaurant, retail store or place to get a treat.

Bethany Block Party

Auction Baskets are another way to use Scrip. Please use Bethany Scrip to purchase items for your class basket if you shop at Amazon.com, Target or Walmart. Visa gift cards are easy to use for shopping at Costco. If gift cards are included in the basket please purchase them from Bethany Scrip.

Treat Mom this Mother's

Day, your mother-in-law, grandmother, sister, and best friend are Mom's too! Acknowledge all the important mother's in your life. Whether she would love an evening at her favorite restaurant, a new outfit, or home accessories, we have gift cards for everything you need to make her day special. For the Mom who has (almost) everything, give her a Kohl's gift card!

Scrip rebate letters were mailed to your home. If you are using your rebate for the May 20th tuition payment please return your rebate slip this week. If you would like to use your rebate for your August 2019 payment, or bank it for Washington DC, please return your rebate slip by the last day of school.

OOPS!!

We made a mistake in last week's Bear Facts...our 7th Grade monthly award winner was

Alexis Munoz

Sorry about that, Alexis!



Parent Pages

RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY



When Children Defy Us

“There are those who rebel against the light, who are not acquainted with its ways, and do not stay in its paths” (Job 24:13).

How often does **this verse** describe your child? How often does it describe you and your relationship with God? Children of each age rebel, turning away from parents in defiance. The battle against defiance is a marathon, not a sprint. Your child’s defiant behavior needs a careful, calculated response that assures learning at each stage of development.

Teaching and discipline with children is best defined by the term “serve and return.” Certainly, children learn from watching us, but that learning is reinforced by interacting with us. In defiant behaviors, the child is typically pushing the limits in order to see your response. Sometimes they are pushing buttons, other times performing an experiment of sorts. For a young child, one of the best ways to understand a concept (“No!”) is to find out what is not included (“Is this activity on the ‘no’ list?”). When they are testing you, they are learning more about what is “no” and what is “yes.” They also need to know that you are consistent. It is an effective, albeit aggravating, way to learn. Let’s peek into the brains of defiance at each age group:

Toddlers

Children who have just learned to walk have fully discovered their curiosity and are working on self-regulation. This means they are training their bodies, emotions and attention. When they are defiant it is usually because they are testing the rules to see where the boundaries are. The best response is to be both verbal and physical. Remain calm, repeat the rule and



move the child away from the “no” when necessary. Even though your child may have that sly toddler smile, it doesn’t mean he is trying to aggravate you. He simply enjoys this interactive process of learning.

Early School Age

Early childhood age children are looking to understand others. As they learn social skills, they often try things to see the reaction. They still need you to calmly repeat your request and not give in. Another technique that will work with this age group is humor. This is especially good if their defiance is a bit ridiculous already:

“What? You won’t put away your bike? Well, I guess it’s now my bike! Let’s see if I can ride it.”

A bit of humor has the same effect as moving a toddler away from what is forbidden. It simply resets the situation and helps your child to see a better way to respond than to turn a request into an unwinnable argument.



Elementary

Once children have reached about second or third grade, they have moved to a new stage of moral development. They are constructing their own senses of how to determine right from wrong. They have a new understanding of rules and need to test them all over again. Patience, calm and persistence are still the best teachers. However, now you can discuss the reasoning behind the rules and question your children's understanding. They are now better able to understand the natural consequences of not following rules. In fact, the discussion that happens after the discipline is just as important as any consequence you might give. This is an important time to be clear about God's guidance on what is right and wrong.

Adolescence

This is a particularly challenging time in regard to rebellion and defiance. As a part of identity development, adolescents examine the values of their families and decide what to carry with them into their adult life. It is especially difficult to watch a teen be defiant with a value that we as parents hold dear. Teenagers do things that make us cringe or embarrass us. They are testing the boundaries of values. The best way to push back is to do so with the same patient, calm persistence that you use with children of any age. Praying *for* your teen and *with* your teen will do much to bring God's peace to the situation. Keep things in perspective when responding to defiance. Piercings, tattoos and clothing choices are cringe-worthy but probably not battle-worthy. On the other hand, harmful and/or addictive behaviors need an immediate, firm and loving response. God has provided us with experts to help in these situations.

When we read in the Old Testament about God's relationship with His rebellious children, we quickly see that there is no easy fix for this type of behavior. We must find that perfect mix of law (rules and consequences) and grace (forgiveness and unconditional love) to patiently teach our children how God loves and protects us from our own sin. We don't just love our children in spite of their defiance — we love them right through it. This is what God models for us.

Understanding Dyslexia

YOU'RE INVITED

To a support group meeting for parents and caregivers of children with dyslexia and other language-based learning differences

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST DAWN RAYA WILL:

ENGAGE ATTENDEES IN A DISCUSSION ABOUT WHAT DYSLEXIA IS AND ISN'T, AND WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE IN THE CLASSROOM AND AT HOME. PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US TO INTERACT WITH PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS WHO MAY BE EXPERIENCING THE SAME ISSUES AS YOU. ATTENDEES WILL BE PROVIDED WITH RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDENT AT HOME. PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF CHILDREN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME.

Tuesday, May 14 from 6-8pm

Bethany Lutheran School

Location details will be sent when you RSVP. Make sure to RSVP to the Long Beach group.

<http://dyslexiala.org/parent-support-groups>

THERE IS NO CHARGE TO ATTEND; HOWEVER, YOUR RSVP IS REQUESTED. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED. THE SUPPORT GROUP IS FOR ADULTS ONLY.

SUPPORTED BY INTERNATIONAL DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION- LOS ANGELES. QUESTIONS?

EMAIL: DRAYA@VERIZON.NET





Get ready! Bethany Lutheran's 2019 Block Party (previously known as Fun Day) is just around the corner. Hosted by your very own PTL, it will be a day of fun and excitement for the whole family. Come and experience county fair themed events as you listen to live music performed by The Back Home Band! Purchase and enjoy kettle corn and lemonade sold by our eighth-grade student council, and delicious barbeque cowboy meals prepared by our seventh-grade parents. Don't forget to visit the PTL General Store where you can purchase items like cotton candy, caramel apples, mini pies, farm animal balloons, and much more! There will also be corn dogs, churros, and Yogurt Land ice cream for your enjoyment. Be prepared for smiles, laughter, and amusement. You don't want to miss this!

You will also have the opportunity to bid for some wonderful gift baskets at this year's on-site auction and have the chance to win some great prizes by purchasing raffle tickets. (Raffle ticket prices are listed below.)

WRISTBANDS to enter the event can be purchased for \$5 per person. If you have more than four family members attending, you may receive a discount rate of \$20 for the entire family. Wristbands must be worn and allows the wearer to have full access to unlimited games, crafts, and activities! (Food purchases, raffle tickets and basket auction bids are NOT included in the wristband cost.) You may purchase your wristband by using the pre-sale order form below or purchase your wristband at the door on the day of the event.

(Cut and send back with your child by May 16th and your items will be sent home to you!)

PRE-SALE ORDER FORM			
	Cost	Qty Needed	Total Cost
Wristbands	\$5		
5 Raffle Tickets	\$4		
25 Raffle Tickets	\$15		
50 Raffle Tickets	\$25		
Total Amount Due			

Please charge my FACTS account: _____

Authorizing Signature Required

Child's Name Grade Teacher