

Bethany Lutheran School

Long Beach, CA

BEAR FACTS

Issue 17 Jan. 9, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Happy New Year, Bethany families! It's good to be back together again. I ran into a few of you during the break and heard more than once, "it's time for the kids to go back to school!"

The **parenting** gig is hard work, isn't it? And it never ends. (I have a 27- and 29-year old. The answer is "nope...it just changes over time.") :)

One of our parenting priorities is helping our children navigate technology. It's possible there are some new devices in their hands after Christmas: phones, game systems, tables, smartwatches, etc. and that means helping kids balance the new freedoms that come with these devices with the responsibility to use them wisely.

Do you need to brush up on the sites that go along with said devices? How about some suggestions for monitoring screen time and coaching your child's onscreen behavior?

I encourage you to check out <u>Common Sense</u> <u>Media</u> for straightforward guides to the latest media and great advice for families. Then put February 12 on your calendar: we'll be hosting a parent workshop from <u>Protect Young Eyes</u>, an organization dedicated to creating safer digital spaces for kids.

> Partnering (and parenting!) with you Dr. Fink

COMING UP

- Jan. 12-Middle School Movie Night
- Jan. 15-No school in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Jan. 19-End Quarter 2
- Jan. 21-Trinity sings 8:00, Troubadour sings 9:30 Family Ministry Skating event
- Jan. 21-26-National Lutheran Schools Week
- Jan. 23-PTL Meeting-6:30 PM
- Jan. 26-Talent Show-6:30 PM Middle School Lock-in
- Jan. 28-Music Academy Recital

Parents, put this on your calendar!

• Feb. 12-Digital Safety workshop for parents-6:30 PM

Leading chapel this week:

Dr. Fink with guest speaker Todd Moritz from LuTEC High School.

Parents, you are welcome to join us at 9:00 AM in the sanctuary.





This month's offering is going to **The Military Project.**

to support chaplains and other military personnel in theaters of war and their families with prayers, encouragement, and items of support for both their body and, most especially, their life in Christ.

https://www.ctsfw.edu/military-project/

"Remem-bear":

 Outerwear (sweatshirts, jackets, etc.) must be in <u>dress code</u>. Did your child get a new jacket or sweatshirt for school? Be sure to put your child's name inside so we can return it if it's lost!



Parent Pulse

The results are in from our fall ParentPulse survey!

2 Positives:

- All cumulative responses met or exceeded Benchmark scores (Benchmark scores are the average score across the ParentPulse network of schools.
- 28% response rate from our parents, Preschool 8th grade.

2 Areas of Opportunity:

- 60% of responding families know BLS has an app, but 52% have not downloaded it.
- 24% of responding families in grades 1-5 had a child attend BLS Summer Camp in 2023.

2 Action Items:

- Thanks to the feedback provided we will be sunseting the BLS app in the coming months.
- We shared your teacher and staff shout-outs directly with the faculty member. Thank you for your encouragement!

Watch for a new round of surveys coming your way in the weeks ahead and plan to respond: we're listening and want to hear what you have to say!



Formerly ShopWithScrip

Happy New Year! Make this the year you get started using Scrip or up your game! If you are only using physical cards, give eCards a try. You can purchase them on the go and never miss an opportunity to make an impact on your tuition rebate or Bethany ministries. Our focus for the church this year is to raise money for a Bethany kitchen facelift. Gift card fundraising is the easiest and best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. The brand is the one giving back. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator <u>rlopez@bethanylutheran.org</u> 562-420-7783 ext. 58

Middle School Corner

Does looking at the blank pages of the year ahead make you feel anxious? You're invited to add Breath Prayers to those pages:

Breath Prayer Samples



Spring Semester Enrollment: Bethany Music Academy

Twelve weekly private lessons will be offered beginning the week of January 29. Students may select from the following instruments: piano (2nd grade and up), clarinet (4th and older), trumpet (4th and up), and voice (6th and older).

- Lessons are held on our campus after school, between the hours of 3:15 and 6:00 p.m.
- Tuition: \$300 plus \$25 annual registration fee.
- Information sheets and enrollment forms can be picked up in the school or church offices; or go online to <u>download the enrollment form</u>.
- Enrollment forms are due no later than Friday, January 19 to secure your child's spot.
- Questions? Contact Academy Administrator, Mara Widmann at (562) 421-4711 ext. 55, or mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org

Page <mark>03</mark>











Do you like to plan ahead? *Here are the dress-up days we have planned for National* Lutheran Schools Week, January 22-26.

Monday: Exploration Day- If you could, where would you explore? Space? The Wild West? A tropical Island? The sky's the limit. How would you dress?

Tuesday: Wild about Animals Day- Dress like your favorite animal.

Wednesday: Silly Sock Day- Rock your craziest socks.

Thursday: Who's Your Hero Day- Who is super to you? Dress like someone you admire. Friday: Neon Day- Come to school in your brightest outfit.

The talent show is on Friday that week...it's not too early to start practicing your act!





JANUARY 26 6:30 PM

SIGN UP TO TRY OUT!

https://bitly.com/BLSTalent2024

• We know we have lots of talented students! Come and show us what you've got! (Remember: try to keep your act to about 2 minutes....no lip-syncing...we want to hear YOU!)

READERS CHOICE AWARDS VOTE FOR US!

INSPIRING LIFE-LONG LEARNING THE SCHOOLS OF BETHANY LUTHERAN CULTIVATING CHRISTAN CHARACTER



It's time again to choose the **BEST!** We've made it easy for you!

Go online and vote January 5 through February 4

LBVotes.com

PRESS-TELEGRAM Local, News, Matters, GRUNION GAZETTE

A NIGHT OF MAGIC FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Saturday Feb 2024 \$40/pp 🛛 🙀



Private Long Beach Residence

STROLLING MAGICIAN Two evening showings 4pm & 7pm

benefiting the Student Success Program at Bethany Lutheran School