



Bear Facts

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

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



We're in the home stretch this week! It's hard to believe, because we just had Thanksgiving, didn't we??? People have those "dazed and confused" looks on their faces from too much shopping. It's hard to keep our focus in the midst of the merriment, so I'd like to share one of my favorite Christmas sayings with you. I hope it will help you keep your eye on the Reason for the season, the child in the manger.

*If our greatest need had been information,
God would have sent us an educator;
If our greatest need had been technology,
God would have sent us a scientist;
If our greatest need had been money, God
would have sent us an economist;
If our greatest need had been pleasure,
God would have sent us an entertainer;*

*But our greatest need was forgiveness, so
God sent us a Savior.*

God's blessings on your Christmas celebrations as you worship the newborn King! If you do not have a church home, you are welcome to any of Bethany's Christmas services:

Christmas Eve: 5, 7 and 11 PM
Christmas Morning: 10 AM

Have a safe and blessed Christmas! See you in 2009!

Mrs. Fink



Playground Update

You raised the funds, so we thought we'd give you an update on our playground/rubber nugget project. We have some good news: Eric Orr (Mrs. Orr's son) will be taking this on as his Boy Scout Eagle project! He is working out the details and getting his proposal together. He hopes to do the project in January.

We know we're going to need quite a bit of small gravel and landscape groundcloth to put under the nuggets, as well as a couple of "low boys" to haul away the old playground chips, so if you have a "source", please contact Mrs. Fink and she'll pass the info along to Eric.

Test Scores

1st-8th Grade test scores will come home with your child's progress report. (Some of you may have gotten them last week.) If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Fink.

Congratulations!

This year our monthly awards will have the book of Proverbs as a focus. For this month, we chose Proverbs 14:23:

"All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty."

Congratulations to the following students, chosen by their teachers for exemplifying this proverb:

Isaac Gonzalez, Moriah Ivins, Brian Hall, Stephanie Walsh, Caitlyn Bott, Alex Pollard, Amber Goebel, Rylan Moeller, Nicole Parker, Derek Murray, Caiti Crahan, Jarvis Perkins, Alexander Hamilton and Katelyn Stewart.

School Bulletin #16

December 16, 2008

DON'T FORGET

- ☺Dec. 17: 4th and 5th Grade Christmas Service.
- ☺Dec. 18-Pep Rally Day-Wear your Blue and Gold!
- ☺Dec. 19: Wear your Christmas outfits!! Minimum Day-Noon Dismissal



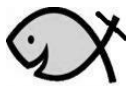
Thank you for your generosity in supporting The Big Red Bucket drive! Special thanks to Alice Hansen, Julie Park, Cindy Blodgett, Lori Rhodes and Bronwyn Estephan for assembling the dinners. We put together 44 complete dinners and 7 boxes of extras for Project Shepherd.

If you have mail receipts from Christmas shopping, we would LOVE to log them for points! Just bring them to the office! Want them back? Just put them in a marked envelope.

Bookfair Thanks!

Thanks to all of our Bethany families who supported our winter Bookfair last week. Funds raised go to support our High School youth in various activities. Thanks to you, we surpassed our goal of \$3500 gross!

Enjoy your Holiday reading! *Bethany's Youth Board*



The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

Thank you to Mr. Cottrell for painting our nativity scene...it looks much better!

And thank you to Mr. Ford, for offering to hang some blinds for us. We appreciate the help.

Advent/Christmas Worship Opportunities

You are welcome to join us for any or all of these special worship services:

Dec. 17: Advent Worship with Grades 3-5, 7:00 PM
Christmas Eve: 5:00, 7:00 and 11:00 PM
Christmas Day: 10:00 AM
New Year's Eve: 7:00 PM

Christmas Season Worship Services



Here at Bethany Lutheran School, we don't do gift exchanges at our Christmas parties. Instead we prepare individual Personal Hygiene Kits for distribution by Lutheran Social Services of Long Beach. Each kit is a gallon zip lock bag containing: a bar of soap, a washcloth, a tube of toothpaste, a toothbrush, a small size shampoo & a comb.

At school the children will create a Christian Christmas message, to which they add their first name only, and these will be included in the kits.

Please put these items on your grocery list and try to involve your children in the preparation task. Send the kits with your children by Friday, 12/19.

Bears' Basketball

The Bears' varsity basketball team went 2-3 this past week in a tourney in Orange. John Crawford made the All Tournament team as he played fine basketball all week. The team made a great showing after only 5 practices! Thanks for your efforts, boys! We will just practice Thursday this week.

Go Bears!

Bethany students have access to two wonderful online resources that are provided to them free!

One is **Typing Pal**, an online typing program and the other is **World Book Online**, which is paid for by our PTL. Information on how to access these programs is on the Bethany School website in the Student Resources/Internet Resources section. Students need a user name and password for both programs.

For Typing Pal the user name is the first name and the year of graduation from 8th grade and the password is the last name and graduation year. For example, Joe Smith, 8th grader, user name is Joe09 and password is Smith09.

The user name for World Book Online is bethanylutheran and the password is jesus.

We hope you'll make use of these wonderful programs from your home computer!

Thank you for generously supporting our chapel projects so far this year. Here's how much we have collected, and where we sent it:

September-Hurricane Ike: \$361.93
October-Red Cross: \$544.51
November-World Vision: \$303.87
Grandparents' Day-Walter Reed Society: \$481.08



This year we have teacher "Scrip Wish Lists" in the school office if you would like to know what to give your child's teacher! Scrip makes a great teacher gift and supports the school and your tuition rebate at the same time.

We still have a lot of gift cards on hand, but by Friday we will most likely be out of some of the popular ones, so make your list and buy your gift cards soon! Every SCRIP purchase gives you a tuition rebate and puts us that much closer to having the funds for replacing the gym floor.

We have \$5 Starbucks and \$8 United Artist/Edwards movie tickets on hand if you are looking for a little something to put in a card. \$15 iTunes and \$25 Gamestop are on hand, but if you have to have it, buy it soon!

SCRIP will be sold Sunday, December 21 in Friendship Square 9 am-11 am and in the school office December 22 and 23.

DC Trippers Marie Callendar's Fundraiser

There's a flyer attached to today's Bear Facts to use at Marie Callendars on Dec. 21, 22 or 23 for either pies or dining. Proceeds support the 8th grade trip! Yum!

7th and 8th Girls Basketball Players:

Join us for workouts on Tuesday and Thursday, 4:30-5:45! Go, Bears!