



# 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



I read an article once by Ron Reynolds, director of the California Association of Private School Organizations, about why private (or in our case, parochial) schools are successful. The author believes two critical factors surpass all others: community and character.

Mr. Reynolds says many schools try to *build* a sense of community, but private/parochial schools are a community by definition, because parents, students and staff are *choosing* to be a part of a school that shares their core values and interests.

The best private/parochial schools also have a “tangible sense of character.” They stand for something and it is reflected throughout their school’s activities.

Does Bethany fit this profile? I certainly think so. It is our shared love for Jesus and His kids that brings us together in the Bethany Family. We hope that this love is reflected in everything we do or say here.

Serving Him with you,  
Mrs. Fink



Do you love candles? How about cheerleaders? ☺

Yes, those two things go together here at Bethany. Our Bethany Bears cheerleaders are conducting a Yankee Candle Fundraiser. If you’re interested, find a cheerleader and ask them about it, or stop by the office to place your order! Thanks for your support!

### Standardized Testing

Our achievement tests, the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) will be given in grades 1-8 during the weeks of Oct. 13-24.

*It is very important that we have regular attendance during these testing weeks. Please avoid making any appointments for your children or scheduling any activities that will take them out of school during this time.*



If you are interested in learning more about Bethany Lutheran Church, plan to join us this Sunday, Sept. 28, 4:00-5:15 for “Bethany 101.” This is the first step toward becoming a Bethany church member. Child care is provided.

Please RSVP to the church office: 421-4711.

### School Bulletin #5

September 23, 2008

### DON'T FORGET

- ☺Sept. 23-Room Parent Meeting, 6:00, PTL General Meeting, 7:00
- ☺Sept. 26-Jr. Hi Dance
- ☺Sept. 28-Bethany 101 begins
- ☺Sept. 29-Oct. 3-7<sup>th</sup> Graders to Catalina
- Oct. 6-Meet the Masters
- Oct. 8-10-5<sup>th</sup> Graders to Astrocamp
- Oct. 10-Professional Inservice- Minimum Day-Noon dismissal
- Oct. 13-24-ITBS Testing



### School Cents

Save those receipts from Lakewood, Cerritos or Stonewood Centers dated September 15 and following! Turn them in to the school office or EDC and we’ll log them for you. Want your receipts back? Put them in an envelope with your name on the front. We have special envelopes here in the office and EDC if you want one.

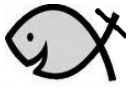
### FREE BJ'S GIFT CARD

Buy \$100 of SCRIP before 8:30 am, Oct. 3 and you will be entered in the drawing for a \$25 BJ's gift card.

*Enter as often as you wish!*

Would you like to support the Lakewood Schools Teacher Grant program? (Bethany teachers have benefited from these grants in the past.) Consider participating in their inaugural fundraising golf tournament on Monday, Oct. 13. Information is available in the school office or at [lakewoodschools.blogspot.com](http://lakewoodschools.blogspot.com).





The FISHin' Hole  
*Opportunities to Serve*

We have a toner recycling program that helps us earn points for technology equipment. Miss Stejskal could use some help packing up toner so it's ready to be picked up by UPS here at school (no need to take it anywhere!) Contact her at [cstejskal@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:cstejskal@bethanylutheran.org).

**PTL**

Our next big event is our annual Jog-a-thon on Oct. 10. We'll need lots of parent help that day to cheer the kids on and help mark laps. We'll also need some help with set up in the morning (7:30 AM) and clean up after the event.

Our Jog-a-thon funds will be used to purchase rubber nuggets for the playground equipment area, begin a fund for new student laptops, and support 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade trips. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, so we need your support!

Please bring us VONS/PAVILIONS receipts that have the "10% Back-to-Schools" redemption code. Collect them from all your family and friends, but only send in one per clubcard holder. The same code will print on every receipt until Oct. 6, but we can only redeem the code one time. Our earnings from this promotion will be used to re-finish the gym floor, last year the top school earned \$23,000!

If your card is registered with Bethany's e-Scrip program, your code has already been redeemed for Bethany.

Put Friday, October 10, 2008 on your calendars. We're planning an old-fashioned "Family Fun" night. We will begin at 6:00 pm with a pot-luck dinner. Bring your favorite main dish, and either a salad or a dessert. We will provide paper plates, utensils, napkins, and drinks. Come to eat and visit with your children's friends and their parents, as well as Bethany staff members. After dinner, we will have some GREAT "INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT," led by our own Mr. Pat Gagan. What does that mean? Well, come join us and find out. There will be a sign-up sheet in the school office, so that we know how to plan.



**Moms In Touch International**

Moms In Touch

International impacts children and schools worldwide for Christ by gathering mothers to pray. Join us for one hour of prayer, 8:45 Wednesdays in the conference room.



Looking for a fun, FREE thing to do with your kids? Check this out:

**Orange Co. Kids' Book Festival**  
**Sunday October 5**  
**10:00AM-4:00PM**



Interested in violin or private piano instruction? Ms. Niermann is giving lessons in her home. You can contact her at 631-6483 or [kniermann@yahoo.com](mailto:kniermann@yahoo.com).



Is everyone working on registering their friend's and relative's RALPHS Rewards cards? Remember you have to turn in the Ralphs sign-up sheet that was included in last week's Bear Facts if you want to get tuition rebate credit.

Gas Cards are now available in larger denominations. \$50 gas cards for Arco, Chevron, Mobil and Shell are in stock all the time. If you would like \$100 or \$250 Arco or Chevron cards, \$250 Mobil cards or \$100 Shell cards they can be special ordered. The \$250 cards have a bonus rebate. Several parents have asked their employer to purchase gas cards, either for the company vehicles or for employee incentives. They were happy to receive a large tuition rebate last year!

*Need some FISH hours?* Our custodian, Mr. White, could use some help during lunchtimes on Tues, Thurs. or Friday. Contact Ms. Charette.

**School Dance**

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders: Put your dancin' shoes on and join us this Friday, Sept. 26 from 7-10 pm in Bethany's gym. Cost is \$10 and you'll need a signed permission slip. (Parents, we could use some chaperones, too!)

