Dear Parents and Guardians and other members of the Parish Community,

**NEWS FROM JERUSALEM**
In Chris’ words, ‘It’s awesome being in this Holy Place.’ She has visited the Mount of Olives and walked the path of the Palm Sunday procession. She is staying in a place that is the Second Station of The Cross which stands on the ground where Jesus was crowned with thorns. There is a chapel on the first floor of the building that was built in the time of the Emperor of Constantinople and acquired about the only time that Christians could buy land in the old city.

Last weekend Chris travelled to the desert for two days and also to the area around the Dead Sea.

**FUNDING UPDATE**
Extract from a letter sent by Director of Catholic Education, Stephen Elder to primary schools last week:

“Last week amendments were introduced to the Australian Education Bill 2012. The amendments introduce the new legislative framework that will determine how government funding for schools will be distributed, and the new regulatory and reporting requirements for schools and school systems.

The amendments confirm the Gonski Review-based commitment that students with disability and other additional learning needs, will receive the same funding to meet their needs, regardless of the school they attend.

The debate on the amendments begins this week, and negotiations between Catholic education and the Australian Government are continuing. These negotiations are considering the level of funding that Catholic schools might receive under the proposed funding provisions and additional regulatory burdens that might be imposed on Catholic schools as a result of the proposed changes.

An analysis of the funding model in light of the new amendments suggests that Victorian Catholic schools could receive a substantial increase in funding in the medium to long-term. Our understanding is that in the first four years of the funding proposal, funding increases are very modest. Beyond 2017 if the model is in place it is forecast to deliver sizeable funding increases to all schools.

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**CALENDAR**

**St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass Times:**
Saturday, 6.30pm, Sunday, 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30 pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 17th June</td>
<td>School Assembly - 8.45-9am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Regional Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 18th June</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting - 2.15pm, Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 19th June</td>
<td>Keyboard Concert - 1.35-2.15pm</td>
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<td>Ed Board - 6pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, 20th June</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews - 3.30-8.30pm</td>
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<td>Friday, 21st June</td>
<td>Winter Inter School Sports - Round 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 23rd June</td>
<td>School Closure Day - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Level 3 Hosting Mass / First Eucharist Gathering Mass - 10.30am</td>
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**UPCOMING EVENTS**
Friday, 28th June
Last day of Term 2 - 3.15pm finish

Children are supervised on the playground during recess and lunch times. There is a teacher on duty on the playground before school 8.30am-8.55am and after school 3.15pm-3.30pm. We ask that you collect your child promptly.

If you are for some reason running late, please contact the school office on 9795 5258 and let us know.
It is unclear whether the indexation arrangements proposed will ensure that funding keeps pace with the real costs of education. This will be critical to our understanding of whether our schools will be able to introduce the proposed reforms and comply with the extended transparency and accountability requirements, which have not been costed at this stage.

In the meantime, it is critical that parents write to their local Member of Parliament. We have already seen at this early stage, that this communication from schools has lead the Australian Government to be more forthcoming on the information we need to gain a better understanding of the funding model. We also hope that if the message is sent to Coalition Members of Parliament, they will be able to clarify their education policy for our school.

As parents of students attending a Catholic school, you are in a position to significantly influence the Australian Government’s proposed school funding and regulatory reform plans for Australian Schools. Writing a letter to the school’s local federal Member of Parliament can have a significant influence on the eventual decisions that the Australian Labor Party and the Liberal Nationals Coalition make about the future of Australian education."

NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

We are sure your children have very excitedly told you about the new playground equipment that has been installed on the far side of the oval. A big thank you to the P & F parent group for their wonderful fundraising efforts that contributed to the cost of the playground equipment. Thank you too, to all parents, for without your support of the P & F fundraising the children would not receive the benefit of a new and exciting and adventurous place to play.

WORKING BEE

Last Saturday 8th June, a group of very hard working parents and students prepared the veggie boxes and filled them with soil ready for the planting of vegetable seedlings which took place on Wednesday of this week thanks to the generous support of Bunnings.

A very big thank you to Bunnings Dandenong for donating all the seedlings for our students to plant in their veggie boxes.

All children had an opportunity to be part of the planting in their community veggie box and I am sure, if you are able, the children will very proudly show you the results. We look forward to a plentiful harvest!

STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Interviews will take place on Wednesday 19th June 3.30 – 8.15pm and Friday 21st June 9.00am to 2.30pm and parents are reminded that online bookings close this Friday 14th June. It is important that all students attend these interviews with their parents/careers.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

Please note that Friday 21st June is a SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY. OSHC will provide a day program on this day. Bookings can be made by contacting Elarine on 0422 893 709.

ZUMBA

Unfortunately due to lack of numbers, Zumba on a Monday night will be cancelled from Term 3.

Nan Perazzo
Deputy Principal
Religious Education News ...

‘Your sins are forgiven ...
Your faith has saved you; go in peace.’
Luke 7:43-48

There is no doubt that Simon, the Pharisee, prided himself in his religion. He followed the laws and thought himself a very devout person. Therefore, it bothered him that such a sinful woman would join the dinner in his home. It especially annoyed him that his guest, Jesus, allowed her to stay and even treated her with respect. Of course the woman knew rejection at the hands of people like Simon who thought they were better than she was, but Jesus forgave her sins because she was so sincere in her belief.

To explain his action, Jesus told Simon a parable about two people who owed large sums of money. One person, however, owed ten times the amount of the other. Jesus asked the Pharisee which debtor would be more grateful for the forgiveness. Naturally he replied that the person with the greater debt would be happiest. Jesus said it was true for the person with the greatest sin. At that he turned to the woman, forgave her, and told her to go in peace.

The woman in this week’s Gospel was really sorry for her sins. She knew that she had sinned greatly. She wanted to see Jesus to tell him how sorry she was. On the other hand, the Pharisee didn’t think he had sinned very much. Matter of fact, he didn’t even treat Jesus with common hospitality indicating that he didn’t really have much faith in Jesus’ message. Like the woman, our tears can be cleansing. Can you remember a time when forgiveness felt good? Maybe you forgave someone or perhaps another person forgave you. One or both of you may have cried. It is through our faith in God and in each other that we can be healed and move toward the Kingdom.

Over the next week, invite each family member to draw faces on paper plates. On one paper plate, draw a smiling face. On another plate, draw a frowning face. Go around the table asking each person to hold both plates. Looking at the frowning plate, think of a time when you hurt someone or someone hurt you. You might share a story about someone at the table, or it might be someone apart from your family. Holding the smiling face, recall how the hurt was resolved. Or if it hasn’t been resolved, how might it be. Other people at the table may share ideas and impressions. After everyone has had a chance to share a story, think about how your family’s experiences are similar to those of the sinful woman. How does forgiveness help bring peace in our lives?

Keep the faith alive!

Elisabetta Salierno
Catholic Identity Coordinator
saliel@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

CLASS LITURGIES:

Friday 14th June: 1/2 Learning Community Mass at 9.15am.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:

First Communion:

A reminder that to mark the end of the First Communion program, the Level 3 children will come together to host the 10.30am Mass next Sunday 23rd June. This will give all those who have celebrated First Communion an opportunity to come together with all their friends and share in this Mass.

Confirmation:

A reminder regarding the Confirmation Parent Information night on: Wednesday 14th August at 7:00pm at St Elizabeth’s Church.
This night is vital for all parents and children to attend.
I will certainly answer the many questions that you may already have!

“Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

YOUTH LITURGY:

You matter! You hear me... you matter and you are loved.

“The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved”
MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR STUDENT / PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEW

Student / parent / teacher interviews provide a great opportunity for you as a parent to find out how your child is progressing at school.

Student / parent / teacher interviews are tightly scheduled, but teachers are highly organized so they can make the most of the time you have together.

It makes sense also for you as a parent to be prepared and ready to make the most of the brief time you have with teachers.

Here are some guidelines to make the most of these interviews.

- **Prepare well** - Before the interview, list any questions that you want to raise. Keep questions short and to the point.
- **Attend with you child** - Children are responsible for their own learning.
- **Give the teacher and student a chance** to share the assessments made of your child’s progress. This may seem obvious but some interviews never get off the ground because enthusiastic parents take over!
- **Take notes and clarify information that you don’t understand.** Make sure you have a good understanding of the message your child’s teacher is giving.
- **Be prepared to give an assessment of your child’s performance.** You may be asked how you think your child is performing so give an honest, but realistic assessment.
- **Ask how you can help your child if there are any areas that need to be strengthened.** No doubt your child’s teacher will have some strategies for you to assist your child, so make sure you have a clear understanding before you leave.

If there are unresolved issues or you wish to discuss your child’s difficulties in greater detail, consider asking for another interview at a different time. This is being respectful of the teacher’s time and of those parents who follow.

**Once the interview is over consider how you will discuss it with your child.**

- Avoid giving generalizations or simplistic appraisals such as: “The teacher says you are doing well”.
- Discuss areas that need work in positive terms. Talk about strengths or successes first before discussing areas that may need more work.
- A clear message such as, “We have talked about your reading, and the teacher is suggesting that we try...” is far more helpful.
- Involve your child in discussing any plans for improvement. Avoid making big plans for your child to improve in a particular area without involving your child in the discussion - when children take ownership, and set themselves short term learning goals, and identify how they will know they have been successful, they are more likely to achieve success.

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
perana@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
When your child is taught spelling at school, they learn to understand:

- how words sound.
- how words look.
- how words change form, e.g. from ‘jump' to ‘jumped'.
- where words come from.

What you can do to help your child with spelling

Explain to your child that some words can be sounded out, but not all English words can be spelt correctly by ‘sounding out', e.g. the words ‘you' and ‘said'.

- Talk to your child about how you spell, and what you do when you don't know how to spell a word.
- Encourage your child to write at home on paper and on the computer, e.g. filling in forms, writing notes to family members, writing phone messages and reminder notes, making lists, replying to letters and emails, and sending cards.
- Provide a dictionary and use it together. Remember that dictionaries are more useful if your child knows about the alphabet and how a dictionary works.
- Encourage your child to first try spelling unknown words themselves, and then praise the parts of the word that are correct and suggest what else is needed.

What you can do when your child asks how to spell a word

- Encourage your child to have a go first, and then discuss their effort.
- Make sure they have access to a dictionary (if they have learnt to read) and know how to use it.
- Simply tell your child how the word is spelt and talk about it together.

Should you correct your child's spelling?

- First, encourage your child to check their work and find any mistakes.
- If they have made a mistake with a common word, ask them to try to fix it without your help.
- It's always useful to show your child the correct spelling of a word.

What if you aren't a good speller?

No problem. Use a dictionary or a spell checker on the computer and work out how to spell words together.

Should you let your child use a spellchecker?

Yes. Spell checkers can be useful, but remind your child that they still need to be thinking when they use it. Your child will need your support:

- when the word is spelt correctly but it is not the right word, e.g. ‘shore' and ‘sure'.
- when the computer gives suggestions but your child still doesn't know which word is correct when the computer uses American spellings.

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
In Level 4 VA, Elli has shown the pillar of persistence. She is always ready to begin each task on time and she always strives to achieve her goals, no matter how difficult the task may be.

Elli never gives up and does not let others distract her when she is working independently.

Congratulations to Emily D-W for finishing 2nd in the Greater Dandenong Division Cross Country. She ran a very strong race through puddles and drizzle last Friday. Emily now qualifies for South Metro Regional race next Monday. Our whole school community wishes her well.

Rozetta and Shannan also competed on the day and both finished mid field - a great effort to get as far as they did. Thank you to the three families for their support on the day.

Next term we will be offering a NetSetGo! program to our St. Elizabeth’s students and the broader community. NetSetGO! is an introductory program for netball. It has been developed to provide children aged from 5 to 10 years with the best possible introduction to the sport of netball. The program incorporates skill activities, minor games and modified matches in a fun and safe environment.

The program will run every Wednesday afternoon in Term 3 from 3.30pm till 4.30pm at St. Elizabeth’s Parish School on the front netball courts.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
The Woolworths Earn & Learn Program has now finished, but you can still send any stickers you have along to school. Do you still have stickers at home, on the fridge, in your bag, in the car? The more we collect, the more choices we have when we redeem them. Thank you for all your support in collecting these stickers.

Parents and Friends.

We are meeting this Monday 17th June at 2:15pm in the staffroom. Do you have any ideas for fundraising?

Yes! Come along and share your ideas.

No! Come and have a cuppa with us.

Mark your calendars and diaries for the upcoming Parents and Friends meetings:

15th July ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom
16th September ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom
11th November ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom
26th August ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom
14th October ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom
AGM 9th December ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom

Come along and have a cuppa this friendly group of parents.

LRC help needed.

If you have some spare time, I’d love some help putting labels into books, stamping, taping and some covering. It is all very easy to do. If you can help, please come and see me Monday ~ Thursday.

Thanks
Trixie Martin

Reminder:

Each Monday after morning assembly Parents and Carers are invited to stay for a chat and a cup of tea or coffee.

Upcoming events for you to add to your calendar.

Friday 28th June  (last day of term) ~ The canteen is having a Hot Dog Day. Hot Dog and drink $6.00. Order to be in a paper bag with name and grade of child on front. Pre-order before Tuesday 25th June

Saturday 31st August 7pm onwards in the PAC. Hopper Night ~ Family Fun Night in the PAC. Tickets are available after weekend masses or see Trixie Martin in the LRC. $15.00 Adults, Children under 12 $10.00. Unlimited hoppers served with Chicken or Beef Curry and Sambols. Be entertained with Bingo and music by the band Mu Theory.

Friday 18th October  is the next Market Night. Bookings open soon. Please email Trixie on info@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au if you are interested in having a stall.
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The program will run every Wednesday afternoon in Term 3 from 3.30pm till 4.30pm at St. Elizabeth’s Parish School on the front netball courts.

The cost of the ten week program will be $53.00 and every child will receive a participant’s backpack, a netball, a t-shirt and a pencil case.

Registration day will be on Wednesday 17th July at St. Elizabeth’s Parish School at 3.30pm
YOUTH LEADERSHIP VICTORIA PRESENTS
ST. ELIZABETH’S OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM

Weekly Activities ...

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<th>Activities</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>Puppet Show, Make Your Own Drama, OUTSIDE - Cheeky Monkeys, Four Square, Fruit Salad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Pipe Cleaner Creations, Colouring Own Creations, OUTSIDE - Chalk Drawings, Hula Hoops, Ball Games</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Junk Creations, Stencil Pictures, OUTSIDE - Poison Ball, Silent Ball, 40-40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Dot Painting, Make Book Markers, OUTSIDE - Football, Netball, Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY Paper Flowers, Sleeping Children, Nachos, M&amp;M Bingo, Movie OUTSIDE - Dodge Ball, Tunnel Ball, Piggy in the Middle, Marble Game</td>
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Contact Details ...

St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program
111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North
Ph: 0422 803 709 / 0402 133 225

Before School Care:
7.00am to 8.45am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.
Permanent: $11.50 Casual: $12.50

After School Care:
3.15pm to 6.15pm Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.
Permanent: $13.00 Casual: $14.00

Vacation Care / Pupil Free Days:
7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday
Per Day: $45.00

Late Pick Up Fees:
Per minute: $1.00

For enquiries or further information, please contact Elarine on 0422 803 709 or 0402 133 225 during session times.