Dear School Community and Other Parishioners,

Yesterday, we had a difficult situation with many of our teachers taking the decision to withdraw their labour. This meant they all lost a day’s pay as well as putting all of you in a difficult situation at short notice. As you know and appreciate, our teachers are dedicated to the education of the students in their care and so it was very stressful to come to a decision to support their colleagues in Government schools to put pressure on this state government to make sure that teachers are paid their due. All the staff here respect the right of our colleagues to do what they think is right in this matter.

Once the State Government decides on an acceptable decision, the CECV (Catholic Education Commission of Victoria) will negotiate the claims of teachers in Catholic schools with the IEU (Independent Education Union). Until our colleagues and the Government come to an acceptable compromise on pay and conditions, we cannot proceed in our own negotiations. Two years has been a long time to wait for a decision! Teachers are sick and tired of being treated badly by the media and governments. Society in general should take a long hard look at the work being done in schools and be thankful and respectful of our profession.

The right to take industrial action is a drastic step. Whilst I respect the right of teachers to withdraw their labour, I am not of the opinion that we should be supporting any action initiated by the AEU. The AEU is the union covering teachers in government schools and as you know this group is actively working to cut funding to our schools. They put in countless submissions to the Gonski Review asking that our funding be cut so that Government schools could receive enough to educate their students properly. We think all children should be treated equally and we believe parents should have a right to choose.

The work that teachers do has changed so much in recent years and they work so willingly, learning new skills daily, working long hours and covering everything from student wellbeing to health issues and beyond. Teachers are the critical agents of change working in society today to make sure that our future is a positive one. No-one knows what the world will be like in 10 weeks time but teachers prepare children for the future 10 years away. It is a job that carries with it a huge responsibility. Almost as great as parenting!

So many thanks for the way in which you managed the situation. Thank you for expressing your support by making arrangements to care for your children with family and friends in such a positive way.
Thank you to all the staff who extended courtesy to their employer in a timely manner by notifying Father Tad in writing of their decision to take industrial action. It is so important not to let the divisive action of outside agencies destroy the community we have at St Elizabeth’s.

It was unfortunate that the decision of Fair Work Australia to decide that the IEU should not involve its members or itself in Thursday’s action came to our attention too late for staff to consider this in making their decisions. Staff only knew of Fair Work’s position on Wednesday morning after the notice of a partial school closure had been sent out. We were notified by CEO of Fair Work Australia’s decision late on Tuesday afternoon.

Our Director had asked earlier in the week that the following piece be inserted into our newsletter.

‘The Australian Education Union (AEU) is planning industrial action against the Victorian Government on 14 February 2013 in the form of a statewide stopwork. As in September 2012, the Independent Education Union Victoria Tasmania (IEU) wants to join with the AEU by asking Catholic school teachers to also participate on this day.

This stopwork action is intended to pressure the government to increase its wages offer to teachers from 2.5% to 4.2% per year.

The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) is not opposed to teachers taking protest action but believes it should be taken in ways that minimise the impact on students and parents.

For this reason, the CECV decided to obtain an Order from the Fair Work Commission (FWC), Australia’s industrial umpire, to prevent the IEU action.

On 11 February 2013, the FWC determined that the IEU stoppage on 14 February 2013 would indeed be unprotected and therefore unlawful industrial action and ordered the IEU to cease organising it. The CECV expects the IEU to comply with this FWC Order.

In the past the majority of Catholic school teachers have respected the umpire’s decision and the CECV hopes they will again in this case.

Like the IEU, Catholic employers would be pleased if the pay dispute between the Government and its employees was resolved as quickly as possible so that the Catholic agreement can be progressed accordingly.

The overall objective of the CECV is to negotiate a fair outcome for all employees with minimal disruption to schools, parents and students.’

Christine Ash
Principal

NAZARETH COLLEGE - OPEN SCHOOL
Manning Drive, Noble Park North

Tuesday 12 February, 2013
4.00pm-6.00pm
Year 7, 2014 applications close 1 March 2013.
Religious Education News...

“You must not put the Lord your God to the test.”

Each year, at the beginning of Lent, the lectionary has us hear the story of the devil tempting Jesus in the desert. This year we hear Luke’s version. Following his baptism, Jesus went out into the desert for forty days during which time he ate nothing. Knowing that Jesus would be hungry, the devil tempted him to turn a stone into bread. When Jesus did not, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the earth, promising Jesus all the glory and power of them if Jesus would worship the devil. Again Jesus refused. Finally, Satan took Jesus to the top of the temple in Jerusalem and told him to jump because God’s angels would save him. Jesus refused each of the three temptations by quoting scripture from the book of Deuteronomy thus making clear his obedience to God.

Sometimes we think only of the divinity of Jesus and forget how difficult these temptations must have been for the human Jesus. We face far lesser temptations every day and some we resist while others we give in to. When we think of obedience like daily exercises, it becomes habit and we condition ourselves to obey God. Through our example and guidance, we can help the children in our care do the same thing. If the temptations are hard to resist, we know Jesus understands our difficulty because he went through a similar experience. He will be there for us when we ask for his help.

With the beginning of Lent, together as a family, make a list of all the temptations each member faces at home, at school, at work, in the neighborhood. Next to each temptation write down ways you will work to avoid them. Allow all family members to help one another with suggestions and make a time in each day of Lent to pray for each person as they work to resist the temptations they face. I know for me, I will need to face the temptation of buying shoes!!!

GOAL SETTING MEETINGS:
Next week is Goal setting for all children in our school. This is a great opportunity for all children to set themselves some learning goals and work towards achieving them. In light of this week’s gospel focus, it would be wonderful for families to set themselves a family goal in terms of attending a parish community mass at least once or twice a month. This will particularly help support the children celebrating sacraments this year, but also build a strong relationship between our school, home and parish.

We all remember the wonderful diagram that Father Tad shared a few years ago; it shows the link between school, home and parish. It’s not one or the other, it’s all three intertwined together and the relationship we share between ourselves, home and school and ultimately the church. I encourage you to really think about this at home with your family, paying particular attention to making an effort to attend mass so that children become familiar with the idea of all of us working together and not in isolation!

After all, we a family here at St. Elizabeth’s Parish School and all are welcome!

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

Class Liturgies:
Friday 22nd February: ‘Opening School Mass’ Whole School and community Mass at 9:15am.
Friday 1st March: Level 4 learning community will prepare and lead the 9:15am mass.

RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING:
Wednesday 20th February - Reconciliation Parent and Activity Meeting at 7.00pm commencing in the Church. Parents and children celebrating the sacrament MUST attend.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:
Confirmation Candidates

Those students in level 4B looking to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation this year should have all received a notice regarding their participation in the Lenten masses over this term. I ask if all the Mass forms could be returned as soon as possible. The children will be invited to stand with Fr Tad for the final Blessing and then process out with him.

Children will then sign their name on the sheet located in the foyer of the Church for me to keep as a record.

“Just as despair can come to one from other human beings, Hope, too, can be given to one only by other human beings.”

ELIE WIESEL
Wellbeing is the general state of being happy, feeling safe, having positive relationships with others, being interested in the welfare of others and being involved in and striving to do one’s best in a wide range of activities. (Bernard 2006)

In the school learning context, SEL is the process for integrating thinking, feeling and behaviour to achieve important social/life tasks, meet personal and social needs and develop the skills necessary to become a productive, contributing member of society.

SEL skills include:
1. Recognizing and managing emotions.
2. Caring about and respecting others.
3. Developing positive relationships.
4. Making good decisions.
5. Behaving responsibly and ethically.

Five Core Social and Emotional Learning Competencies:

Self Awareness:
- Identifying emotions - identifying and labeling one’s feelings
- Recognizing strengths - identifying and cultivating one’s strengths and positive qualities.

Social Awareness:
- Perspective taking - identifying and understanding the thoughts and feelings of others.
- Appreciating diversity - understanding that individual and group differences complement each other and make the world more interesting.

Self Management:
- Managing Emotions – monitoring and regulating feelings so they aid rather than impede handling of situations.
- Goal Setting - establishing and working towards the achievement of short and long term pro social goals.

Responsible Decision Making:
- Analyzing Situations – accurately perceiving situations in which a decision is to be made, and assessing factors that might influence one’s response.
- Assuming Personal Responsibility – recognizing and understanding one’s obligation to engage in ethical, safe and legal behaviors.
- Respecting Others – believing that others deserve to be treated with kindness and compassion, and feeling motivated to contribute to common good.
- Problem Solving – generating, implementing, and evaluating positive and informed solutions to problems.

Relationship skills:
- Communication – monitoring and regulating feelings so they aid rather than impede handling of situations.
- Building Relationships - establishing and working towards the achievement of short and long term pro social goals.
- Negotiation – achieving mutually satisfactory resolutions to conflict by addressing the needs of all concerned.
- Refusal – effectively conveying and following through with one’s decision not to engage in unwanted, unsafe, unethical or unlawful behavior.

Research indicates that students with social and emotional skills experience:
1. improved quality of learning.
2. improved sense of belonging.
3. improved study skills.
4. improved school attendance.
5. improved attention.
6. increased academic competence.
7. increased motivation to learn.
8. increased commitment to school and the time devoted to school work, including valuing learning.
9. reduced anxiety.
10. reduced suspensions.

Nan Perazzo  /  Wellbeing Coordinator
Welcome to another year of Student Banking at St Elizabeth’s Parish School.

Student Banking has commenced for 2013 and for those of you who are new to our school, our banking day is every Thursday.

Remember to put your child’s name and new class on the front of the deposit book.

If you already have a Commonwealth Bank or Dullamite account you may start depositing next week! Just bring your deposit book in and hand it to your Teacher.

If you are interested in joining school banking, please pick up an Application Form from the office, complete it, attach a copy of your licence and return it to the office to sign off that they have seen your child’s identification. It will then be sent to the Commonwealth Bank and you will receive your deposit book in about a week.

You can also do banking for children that do not attend the school. All you have to do is complete the same Application Form and attach a copy of your child’s Birth Certificate and your licence and return it to the office. When you receive your deposit book, just get their brother or sister to bring it into school each week.

Alternatively, you can go into any Commonwealth Bank branch with your ID and your child’s Birth Certificate and you can open an account on the spot and receive their deposit book straight away.

The Student Banking program is aimed at helping students understand core financial values and money management skills. The emphasis on this program is on regular savings and not the value of each deposit so there is no minimum deposit amount, it is more of a fun and engaging activity for the students to enjoy!

You may or may not know that the School Banking Program is a fundraiser for the school, earning commission for every new account set up through our program and for every deposit made by the students.

Last year we raised $705 which goes to the school to spend on whatever is needed. This has been given to the Parents and Friends group to raise money for exciting new equipment for our students. So not only does your child learn about saving money and working towards goals such as rewards, it benefits the school through the commission it earns.

Each week your child deposits using school banking, they receive a silver token to collect.

If you have collected ten silver tokens, you are able to choose a Dullamite reward. Please fill out the table below, choosing one of the eight rewards available and return it with your ten silver tokens in your Dullamite Wallet next time you do school banking.

If ever you have misplaced a token or if I have forgotten to include a token in your wallet, just include a one line note with your next week’s banking letting me know this and I can provide it to you. If you are unsure if you are due to receive a reward, the easiest way to double check this is to look at your deposit book and count the deposit butt’s in your book. It only applies to deposits made through school banking, not at a branch. If you have ten, then you can complete this form. All rewards are subject to availability & there will be new rewards released later in 2013. If you would like to complete some fun Dullamite activities, please visit www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

If you have any questions, please come and see me at the office during snack time on a Thursday morning. Keep up the great work!

From your School Banking Co-ordinator

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**EMA FORMS**

Please don’t forget to return all EMA forms and copy Healthcare Card to the office by no later than Wednesday the 27th of February 2012.

Thank You

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“Looking for ways to enhance your child’s learning, then music may strike the right chord”.

Keyboard Kids Music School would like to offer your child the opportunity to learn the piano/keyboard. Learning to play a musical instrument has been shown to have great benefits for a child’s development.

Studies have shown children who have had musical training display larger vocabulary and better reading ability, increased memory function and learning skills, a greater ability to incorporate sound patterns for a new language, and have increased ability to focus in a noisy classroom.

Lessons are held once a week and are for 30 minutes. Please fill in an enrolment form located at the school office, or call Shelley for more information on 0417 390 489.
HOME—SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS

Last week I shared 3 ways to build the home-school relationship. This week I’d like to share some more:

- **Talk to your child every day about school** — it’s a great way to find out what he’s learning and to identify potential problems that you might need to discuss with his teacher. Start a conversation with “What was your favourite activity today?” instead of “How was school today?” to avoid vague answers. Some more questions could be: What went well today? What didn’t? What are you learning?

- **Be a cheerleader!** Don’t just focus on problem areas — let your child’s teacher know about his strengths too. You’ll help her to think of new ways to engage him.

- **Volunteer.** Ask, “What can I do that would be of help to you?” Let the teacher know how much time you have available. She’ll appreciate your effort to reach out.

- **Celebrate stepping-stones.** Identify steps along the way, e.g. as your child learns some sight words, gets closer to finishing a certain book, learning multiplication tables, and acknowledge these achievements.

- **Respect his homework.** If you show an interest in your child’s homework — looking over his work, not doing it for him — your child will stay more motivated. Be sure he has a quiet study area and make sure homework time is accounted for and not an afterthought. In addition, wander over sometimes when he’s doing homework and ask if you can take a look at the work being completed. Take a few minutes to browse through the text, not to check up on his work but to familiarize yourself with what he’s learning. Show interest and curiosity.

- **Attend events.** Next Tuesday 19th February each Level is holding an Information Session. These will be run at the 3 different times which will hopefully allow everyone an opportunity to hear how your child will be learning this year. If you are unable to attend, these presentations will be added to the school website. Take the time to sit with your child to view the presentation. Ask them about the goals they have set for their learning this year.

Rebecca Gage
Learning & Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandennonorth.catholic.edu.au

School Sport News ...

Last Thursday we played our first round of Inter-School Summer Sports. We travelled to Noble Park Primary School and played cricket, softball, basketball and volleyball. Our bat tennis stayed at St. E’s to practice for the next round.

We had mixed results but it was a positive day as our players learnt rules, strategies and teamwork playing in a competitive game. Although we don’t mind winning the odd game, by far our main focus is on enjoyment and playing to our potential.

This week’s games have been cancelled due to the industrial action across all schools in the district. Thus round 2 v Chandler Park PS has been rescheduled to 14th March.

Thank you to the parents that came down to watch and barrack. Our students love it and it adds to the atmosphere!

Yours in sport
Dean Andrew
Do you shop at Waverley Gardens?
When shopping at Bakers Delight mention our school name, and they will donate a percentage of your purchase back to the school through their Dough Raiser Program.

ST ELIZABETH’S CANTEEN
There will be no Apple/Blackcurrant pop tops available from the Canteen until further notice. The supplier is out of stock.

Sorry for any inconvenience caused.
Thank You

ST ELIZABETH’S - SCHOOL BANKING
School Banking has now commenced. Before you hand in your bank book next Thursday, please make sure that you remember to put your new classroom on the front cover.

Thank You.

Parents and Friends:
The next Parents and Friends meeting will be held on Monday 18th February, 2:15pm in the staffroom.

All very welcome. Come along, join in and meet the friendly parents who make up the Parents and Friends Association.

The first event we are organising this year is the annual Easter Raffle.

We are asking our school families to donate Easter items eg Easter Eggs, Easter Bunny’s, box of chocolates etc for the raffle. The more donations we have the more prizes can be won by the children and families. Donations can be left with your child’s classroom teacher or at the school office.

We thank you for your support in helping us raise funds for our school.

Community News ...

PARISH DINNER DANCE

- **Saturday 20th April**, in the Performing Arts Centre 7pm onwards.
- Dress is smart casual.
- Tickets: ~ $35 Adults $20 Children under 12.
- Banquet dinner included.
- Band: Next Generation. DJ: Tyronne.
- Tables of 10 - If you do not wish to have an entire table, we are happy to create one for you.

*As we sold out fast last year we recommend that to avoid disappointment, get your tickets early.*

Contact Janine after Masses or Trixie at school on 9795 5258 or email marttr@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au to prebook your tickets.
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**Notes:**
- Details of events and activities.
- Specific times and locations provided for each event.

**Important Dates:**
- Term 1, 2013
- School Assembly 8:30am
- School Council Meeting 9:30am
- Parents' Night 7:00pm

**Contact Information:**
- School Office (0123-456789)
- Principal's Office (0123-456780)
ASSORTED FRESH: SANDWICHES, WRAPS & ROLLS (wraps & rolls 50c extra)

Ham or Chicken (cheese, tomato, lettuce) ........................................ $2.50
Salad Sandwich (cheese, tomato, lettuce, carrot & cucumber) ........... $3.00
Ham & Cheese ..................................................................................... $2.00
Cheese & Tomato ............................................................................... $2.00

Cheese ................................................................................................. $1.80
Ham or Chicken .................................................................................... $1.80
Tomato ................................................................................................... $1.80
Vegemite ............................................................................................... $1.50
Buttered ............................................................................................... $1.00

ASSORTED TOASTED SANDWICHES (white or wholemeal)

Ham, Cheese & Tomato ......................................................................... $3.00
Ham & Cheese ....................................................................................... $2.50
Ham & Tomato ....................................................................................... $2.50
Cheese & Tomato ............................................................................... $2.50

Cheese ................................................................................................. $2.50
Ham ........................................................................................................ $2.00
Cheese ................................................................................................. $2.00

HOT FOOD

Lasagne ................................................................................................. $4.00
Macaroni & 3 Cheese ............................................................................ $4.00
Fried Rice ............................................................................................... $4.00
Party Pie ................................................................................................. $4.00
Party Pies ............................................................................................... $3.00
Pie (large) ............................................................................................ $3.00
Sausage Roll (large) ............................................................................ $2.20
Hot Dog (no charge for sauce) .............................................................. $3.00
Steamed Dim Sim (with or without soy sauce) .................................... $0.80
Steamed Dim Sims (with or without soy sauce) ................................. $3.00
Pizza Singles (hawaiian or cheese & bacon) ....................................... $2.50
Tomato Sauce Sachet .......................................................................... $0.20
Fantastic Noodle Cups (chicken or beef) .......................................... $1.80

DRINKS

Bottled Water ....................................................................................... $2.00
Pop Tops (Apple/Blackcurrant, Orange & Tropical) ....................... $1.80

ICY POLES

Lemonade / Raspberry Icy Pole ....................................................... $1.00
Frosty Fruit - Tropical ...................................................................... $2.00
Lifesaver Icy Pole .............................................................................. $2.00
Billabong - Triple Swirl .................................................................... $2.00
Billabong - Chocolate ...................................................................... $2.00

HOW TO ORDER A LUNCH ORDER

SCHOOL LUNCH ORDER BAGS

School Lunch Order Bags are available to purchase from the Uniform Shop at a cost of $6.00.

These bags promote our schools "Nude Food" initiative and help to avoid any issues with lost money and/or lost paper bags.

Your lunch order will be distributed in this bag on Wednesday at second lunch.

HOW TO ORDER:

Please write clearly on a paper lunch bag your child’s name, class, and order (including prices).

Exact change is appreciated.

Please provide an extra 10c if paper bag is not supplied.

Please hand in your lunch order to your classroom on MONDAY, TUESDAY AT THE LATEST.

Your lunch order will be distributed on Wednesday at second lunch.

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<tr>
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<td>1 x Lasagne - $4.00</td>
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<td>5 x Pop Tops - $0.20</td>
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These advertisers support us, please support them: