Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

We have been talking about the school newsletter going electronic for quite some time now.

This week, as well as receiving this copy of the newsletter, you will have an email notification saying that the newsletter is on our website and how to access it.

Next week is the beginning of a new era. This commences our sending you weekly email notifications only.

Therefore, it is very important that if you DO NOT receive an email notification this week, you either subscribe to the newsletter via our school website or email info@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au requesting your email address to be added to our subscription.

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.

NEW PARISH EMAIL: nobleparknorth@cam.org.au

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,
Principal’s Message ...

This week our Yr3 and Yr5 children sat the NAPLAN test. As you would all be aware, NAPLAN is a national assessment task given to students in Yrs 3, 5, 7 and 9. The children were assessed in Numeracy and Literacy. Literacy is broken into three sessions, Reading, Writing and Language Conventions. All of our children are able to sit these tests providing they have parent approval. If a child has a serious difficulty with learning, or if a child has just arrived in the country and has no English, they can be withdrawn.

NAPLAN testing provides an important set of information for parents and teachers and also for the children themselves. It is not the most important piece of information we collect, it is just one piece of information. We test our students at the beginning of each year to build a profile of each child as a learner. We mark the assessments immediately and we use the results straight away to help us know what each child needs to learn next.

NAPLAN has a place in the educational setting, but it is limited in its usefulness in terms of the individual students. It does provide a benchmark for us to assess state and national performance, it does increase school accountability. However, its usefulness as a tool to promote learning is limited.

The biggest problem with using the NAPLAN test to support learning is that the results are not given back to us for 4 months. In that 4 months the child should have made 4 month’s worth of progress. Teachers can look at the NAPLAN results and see if they match where the teacher thought they were 4 months ago, but they have little use as a means to support learning once they arrive at the school.

We continually collect evidence and data to show us the stage of learning for each child. These school based assessments are what supports good teaching. Teachers use the evidence and data to plan for effective learning. When we write reports we use all our evidence and data from across the year.

The NAPLAN results may be useful in measuring how accurate our assessments were in the recent past, but cannot replace school based assessments in helping teachers plan effective units of work which are pitched at the point of learning need for each student.

Maybe, when we move to a computer based assessment for NAPLAN, the time frame will be improved.

NAPLAN is also a one off snap shot of learning on one particular day, in a particular place and in a particular culture. If a child is unwell or upset about something that happened with a friend or a family member, it will affect the results on the day. If a school has a negative approach to NAPLAN and makes students fearful of it, that will have an effect, where the school culture places great emphasis on its results and overtly supports its students to get a good result, that too will affect the outcome.

Its important that parents at St Elizabeth’s have a sound perspective on the usefulness of the NAPLAN data.

**COIN TRAIL FOR MATUTINAO PRIMARY SCHOOL**

At this time we have not yet counted all the money donated on the coin trail for our sister school in the Philippines, but the line began at the front gates to the yard and finished near the flagpole! So many of the children brought money from their own money boxes! Thank you, and we hope that this first fundraiser will allow the children to have a photocopied work book each instead of having one book to be shared by up to 10 children.

Christine Ash
Principal

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Religious Education News ...

“I am the way and the truth and the life, No one comes to the Father except through me.”


Today’s reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus’ farewell message to the disciples. The disciples are worried. They still have many questions about their discipleship. Jesus sees their concerns and tries to assure them that the way to a place in God’s house is faith, and they already have a room waiting for them. The disciples, of course, want to know how they will get there. Jesus tells them that to see him is to see the Father. Jesus is the way to the Father. This was not enough for Philip. ‘Show us the Father,’ he says. Philip did not realise at that time that the Father lives in Jesus, and Jesus lives in the Father.

Jesus says that we are precious in his eyes. How are we precious in God’s eyes? We can do good works because Jesus lives in us. What good works can we do this week?

‘Family Week’ - International Day of Families

This week we celebrated Family Week. Our focus was ‘Stronger Families, Stronger Communities’.

We gathered together in our church to pray together as families and as St Elizabeth’s parish community. We gave thanks to God for his great love for us and for the kindness and support of those who care for us, our families and communities. Families had the opportunity to gather after Mass to wander through our school and finally have a chat over a cup of coffee. A wonderful way to celebrate families and communities.

**SACRAMENTAL NEWS:**

**First Communion**

On Wednesday night we again had the pleasure of hosting the second group of the Family Activity night and Liturgy Preparation. There was a great sense of togetherness and many shared family stories. It certainly made them think about their family and how they come together. Thank you to the families who came and got to know each other through lots of talking and laughter centered on our church family of St Elizabeth’s.

**First Communion Reminders**

May I remind those families with children celebrating their First Communion of the Sacramental levy of $25.00 (cash) that does need to be paid through the office?

**Family Poster** is optional for families. If you have completed one, please ensure it is returned to school by this Friday 23rd May so I am able to put them up in the church.

**Confirmation Candidates**

Commitment weekend - Feast of Pentecost: weekend of 7th and 8th June. We ask the candidates to attend the Saturday or Sunday 10.30am Mass to formally enrol themselves in their on-going program. Thank you to the many candidates with their families who are continuing their commitment to regularly attend Mass here within this parish community

Maria Popowycz
Catholic Identity Coordinator

popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Good family relationships help your child feel secure and loved. This is what children need to learn and grow.

Being a parent can be one of the most difficult (and rewarding!) jobs around. It’s not something that you can be perfect at. Most parents are doing the best they can for their kids while juggling work, friends, managing a house, and lots more.

But it’s worth trying to improve the relationships you share with your child and other family members. Good family relationships are more than just enjoyable for their own sake. They:

- make children feel secure and loved, which helps their brains develop.
- can help to overcome difficulties with children’s eating, sleeping, learning and behaviour.
- Even for the busiest of parents, there are plenty of easy things you can do to develop good family relationships.

Spend quality time together
- Use time together, such as mealtimes, to talk and share a laugh.
- Have one-on-one chats with each family member to build and strengthen individual relationships.
- Do fun things together as a family on a regular basis.
- Make decisions together about what to do for special events such as birthdays.

Communicate in positive ways
- Talk about everything (even difficult things).
- Listen with full attention to each other.
- Make it OK to talk about feelings (even the bad ones).
- Encourage each other rather than being critical.
- Work together to solve problems.
- Discipline with love, patience and understanding.
- Show appreciation, love and encouragement through words and affection.

All good relationships in life have the same thing in common - good basic communication. This can be applied to relationships in all cultures, religions and family structures.

Work together as a team
- Create family rules that apply to everyone.
- Include older children in decisions about things like family rules and family holidays.
- Share household chores.
- Think about everyone’s needs when planning family activities.
- Let children make some of their own decisions (as long as they’re still within the boundaries you’ve set and within their developmental levels).

Appreciate each other
- Take an interest in each other’s lives.
- Include everyone in a conversation when talking about the day’s events.
- Support each other in important events such as sports days and school concerts.

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator

Last week we travelled to Keysborough Primary School and played our third round of the Winter sports season. The students play footy, soccer, t-ball, netball and rugby tag whilst some of our students stay back at school with Miss A and participate in a school based fitness program.

The results have been very pleasing across all of our sports.

School sports is played in a competitive and safe environment and encourage the students to try their hardest. We value effort and sportsmanship above results. For several students it is the only competitive sport they play and for others it is an opportunity to play a sport they don't play out of school. For many of our Yr5 and Yr6 students it is the highlight of their week!

Also, our house captains are running x-country training every Wednesday lunchtime to prepare them for the District X-Country Carnival on Friday 30th May. Runners should be completing one running session every weekend to ensure they are in good shape for the big day.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
Supporting your child’s safe mobile phone use

Mobile devices are great for keeping in touch and now with smart phones your child can connect online whenever and wherever they are.

You can support your child’s use of their mobile phone by making them aware of the following:

- **Nothing is really ever free.** Be wary of advertisements for free downloads; you may be automatically subscribed to a service which can become very expensive. When buying a phone, check details of the plan or contract and don’t accept offers that sound too good to be true.
- **Protect your privacy.** Only give out your mobile number to people you know and trust. Don’t give out other people’s number without their permission.
- **Think before you send** or forward mobile content such as photos, texts and videos. Where might they end up?
- **Activate security features** so that if your phone is lost or stolen, you can protect your personal information.
- **If your phone is lost or stolen,** notify your network carrier and the police immediately. It is smart to record your unique International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number just in case it is lost or stolen in the future.
- **Treat your phone like your wallet.** Don’t store bank PINs or other passwords in your phone. Use a pin code to lock your phone if possible.

If you, your child or someone you know wants to talk about mobile phone safety, visit the Cybersmart Online Helpline ([www.cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx)) or call Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800.

[cybersmart.gov.au](http://cybersmart.gov.au)

**Glossary:**

**Download**

To download a file means to transfer it from one computer to another. This can refer to a music file, document or photo, transferred from a website or the internet to a home or work computer.

**International Mobile Equipment Identifier (IMEI)**

An IMEI is a 15 digit number which uniquely identifies a wireless device such as a mobile phone. The IMEI is usually found on a sticker inside the device or by entering "*#06#" on the keypad. To prevent the device being used when lost or stolen, you can ask your service provider to block your IMEI.

A full cybersafety glossary may be found at [www.cybersmart.gov.au/glossary.aspx](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/glossary.aspx)
This week’s ‘You Can Do It’ star is George B. from 2TZ because he has shown persistence in completing his work. He always strives to finish his work to the best of his ability and he is not afraid to ask for help if needed.

George also has a positive attitude which is greatly appreciated by his peers. During Investigation Time George gets along with his classmates and is able to work cooperatively.

Well done George!
Dear Parents,

As you know we take the health and safety of our students very seriously. As such we are adopting a new health and safety application named CareMonkey.

CareMonkey is an innovative parent controlled electronic medical form for schools, clubs and other groups with a duty of care. It’s an electronic version of the paper based forms you’re always having to fill in for excursions, camps, enrolments, etc. It provides parent’s the opportunity to update medical information promptly and accurately while providing the school with instant access to the emergency information provided by you. We will be using the CareMonkey app in the best interest of the children whilst also reducing the burden on parents to fill out the same information on multiple forms throughout the year.

Parents can use a PC, laptop, tablet or smartphone to enter the details including:
- emergency contacts;
- medical contacts;
- medical checklist including asthma, allergies, seizures, diabetes;
- health and ambulance insurance details;
- notes and other care instructions from parents;
- and more ...

As a parent we will send you an email from the CareMonkey system inviting you to enter the details for your child in an electronic medical form. From the school’s perspective, this information will only be accessible by the relevant teacher(s) for your child. However, if you choose, you will also be able to share this information with anyone else you trust with your child’s care - their grandparents, their child-minder, their sports club, etc.

You don’t need to do anything until you receive the email requesting the information. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions. You can also visit the CareMonkey website for more information: www.caremonkey.com or read the Fact Sheet on the reverse side of this page.

We appreciate your assistance.

Christine Ash
Principal
As you know we take the health and safety of our students very seriously. As a result we have adopted the CareMonkey system. We will be using CareMonkey in the best interest of the children whilst also reducing the burden on parents to fill out the same information on multiple forms throughout the year.

CareMonkey offers the school and families the following:

SECURITY:
- The data can only be viewed via an authorized staff member with their login and password making data more secure than paper forms.
- The CareMonkey system is located in a highly secure environment in Australia, and, for our Australian Customers, the CareMonkey data will always reside in Australia.
- It uses sophisticated security measures to keep data safe and it is backed up every hour.
- There is an automatic audit trail.
- The data in CareMonkey will never be shared with any other person or group without your consent.
- Parents control the data that is available and can remove access at any time.

UP TO DATE EMERGENCY INFORMATION:
- You have the ability to update the data at any time and ensure your child’s details are correct. This should be done whenever there is a change in information (such as a new emergency contact number or new medical condition).
- It is important to ensure these details are up to date before a camp or excursion to ensure staff are well prepared to care for your child.

MOBILE ACCESS:
- CareMonkey allows our staff to access your child’s emergency details on mobile devices while they are on excursions and camps. This saves time and reduces medical errors in emergency situations.
- Data is more secure than paper forms. If a mobile device with CareMonkey data is lost or stolen the data cannot be viewed as it is in encrypted (scrambled) format.

ELECTRONIC PERMISSION FORMS:
- Parents are able to receive electronic permission forms for excursions and camps and can reply instantly without filling in a single form.

MULTI-USE CARE PROFILE FOR FAMILIES:
- Once you have shared the care profile for your child with the school you can share it with other people who you entrust to care for your child such as family, friends and sports coaches. You can also create care profiles for other family members.
- You and others can download the free CareMonkey app for iPhone and Android smartphones and iPad and Android tablets and have access to your family care profiles on these mobile devices.
- If your child’s club uses CareMonkey you will be able to share the same care profile with the club. You only need to maintain one care profile for your child and it can be shared with our school, clubs, grandma, family, friends, babysitters...anyone you trust...and they are all instantly updated when you update the data.
### Contact Details...

St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program  
111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North  
Ph: 0422 803 799 / 0426 282 721

#### Weekly Activities...

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<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
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#### Before School Care:
- Permanent: $12.00 / Casual: $13.00  
- 7.00am to 8.55am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.

#### After School Care:
- Permanent: $13.50 / Casual: $14.50  
- 3.15pm to 6.15pm Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.

#### Vacation Care / Pupil Free Days:
- Per Day: $45.00  
- 7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday.  
- (No vacation care available in January.)

#### Late Pick Up Fees:
- Per minute: $1.00

For enquiries or further information, please contact Elarine on 0422 803 799 or 0426 282 721 during session times.

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**SHINNERS PLUMBING**  
PTY. LTD.  
Plumbers and Gasfitters  
Matthew Shinner Director  
13 Aylie Avenue Dandenong 3175  
Tel. 9791 6775  
Fax. 9794 5518  
Mob. 0414 403 970  
Email. shinnerplumbing@bigpond.com

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**Kip McGrath**  
EDUCATION CENTRES  
Give your child a brighter future  
www.kipmcgrath.com

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**St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program**  
111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North  
Ph: 0422 803 799 / 0426 282 721

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**Jeff’s Service Centre**  
Servicing All Types of Vehicles  
Minor & Major Repairs  
Ph: 9546 8506  
3-401 Princes Hwy, Noble Park

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**Melissa’s Salon**  
Your neighbourhood hair salon. For your entire hair cutting, colouring & styling needs serviced by friendly & professionally qualified staff. We know you are busy during the day so we are flexible to accommodate you according to your convenience.  
Please Call Jill on 0430 849 000

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**YOUTH LEADERSHIP VICTORIA PRESENTS - ST ELIZABETH’S OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM**