Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

Last week I spent some time talking about our Staff Conference at the end of term 3 and I explained how we are able to measure the Catholic Identity of a school. This week, I want to explore another main idea of the seminar. Moving on from Catholic Identity we looked at the faith and family traditions that have been handed down to us through the ages. Many traditions only last a short while and are outgrown by a community. Some are so important to us that we will hand them on to our children. For example, a tradition that will perhaps never die is the way in which we bless ourselves with the Sign of the Cross. We bless ourselves when we enter church, when we pray, when we are fearful and when we begin liturgy together. Will this tradition die out? It has been part of my family’s traditions for as long as anyone remembers, it has been a tradition for hundreds of years.

What faith traditions did you grow up with? As a staff, we shared some of our traditions and it was very obvious that some staff had a much richer traditional experience of faith than others. Those with a strong connection to their culture had a richer link to tradition. So many of the traditions are now fading away. What are the traditions that you keep in your family? What traditions are you beginning in your family? Are these traditions connected to your faith or to the liturgical life of the church? What happens when our families have no traditions to share and hand on? What impact does this have on family life and faith life?

In our classrooms we still have traditions that are very much part of who we are as people of faith. We do have prayer tables, we do have class prayers and we do have coloured cloths on the prayer table that link to the church’s calendar. Some traditions have gone though. We don’t stop at midday for the Angelus bell as I did in school. The children don’t stand up and say ‘Good Morning’ when an adult enters the learning space, we do not march into the school at the end of recess to a brass band recording. There are some traditions that no longer connect with how we experience our world.

Perhaps the key question we should as a school community be asking is, ‘What is the reason behind keeping this tradition and what is the reason for dropping it?’ As long as we are clear about the reason behind using a tradition and not using a tradition, we know where we are going and what we are doing. We are taking responsibility for our actions. The next question we should be thinking about is this one, ‘If we drop all traditions, what will be the glue that keeps our school community together and keeps the faith life of our students enriched?’ We are working on those thoughts as a school as we prepare for our next 4 year plan.

Have you thought about these questions in the context of your own family life? What traditions do you celebrate, what traditions have you not kept? Great questions to think about as we look around our world with so many unhappy people and so many people who see life as pointless. How fortunate are we to know that we do have a purpose in our lives, we are called to make a difference, to continue God’s work in creation and each of us is called to be the very best person we can be. Our traditions should give life to this mission!

Christine Ash / Principal
Gospel Summary
Like a relentless child, the widow in Jesus’ parable wouldn’t give up. She continually begged the judge for justice against her opponents. Not because the judge wanted to see justice done, but because he grew tired of the woman’s pleading, he granted her request. The point Jesus wanted to make with this week’s gospel story is how much our loving God will answer our prayers if we persist in our asking.

Reflection for Families
What happens when children pester parents long enough for something? If it’s not life threatening and they’ve bugged them long enough, they usually find a way of giving in without losing face. Parents know just how the judge in this week’s gospel felt! Let the story of the persistent widow strengthen your prayers. Even if they are not answered in just the way we ask, God hears our prayers and cares for us.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family
Over the next week, be faithful praying with your children. Teach them simple prayers for starting their day, grace before meals, and prayers at bedtime. Say prayers every day. Here are some suggestions:

A morning Prayer: Dear God, We offer this day to you and all we think and say and do. Amen.

A Table Grace: Bless us O, Lord; and these gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Bedtime Prayer: Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God’s love commits me here. Ever this night be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and to guide. Amen.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:
 Confirmation
A reminder that the following forms and items are due:
1. Profiles for Church display are due by Friday 25th October.
2. Banners are due by Wednesday 30th October.
3. Parent letter to Confirmation Candidates are due by Friday 1st November.

All candidates will meet with Bishop Elliott on Wednesday 6th November at 11:30am in the church. Please note that it is vital that ALL candidates be at school on this day. Not only will they meet with Bishop Elliott, but they will stay on to go through the entire practice of the Mass. This is extremely important for ALL of them so they know what to do on Sunday 10th November when they celebrate the actual sacrament.

God Bless!

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

PICNIC SPORTS DAY

Don't forget next Monday is our Picnic Sports day. All of our children will be competing in an all-school sports program on our oval. The opening ceremony starts at 12.10 p.m. and will finish at 3.15 p.m.

The children are encouraged to wear the colours of their houses. Please ensure your child wears their school shorts and hat, and brings a water bottle. Sunscreen is also highly recommended as the students will be outside for a significant length of time.

All of our families are invited to come along and cheer for the children throughout the afternoon. Also you are invited to join us for a picnic lunch that will start at 1.30 p.m.

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Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
Sports Teacher
ORGANIZATION

Organization means setting a goal to be successful in your schoolwork and other areas, planning your time so that you are not rushed, having all your supplies ready, and keeping track of what you have to do and when you have to do it.

**Types Of Thinking That Build Organization**

**Setting Goals** - means thinking that setting a goal to do your best in school helps you to be successful.

**Planning my time** - means thinking about making sure you understand what your teacher wants you to do before you start working and writing down when your homework is due.

**Teaching / Types Of Thinking That Develop Organization**

**Teach setting goals** -
- Have the young person discuss the importance of having the goal of ‘success’ (doing their personal best) in his/her schoolwork.
- Explain that ‘success’ as a goal means doing your best to learn and accomplish something. It does not mean being the very best or being in the top group.
- Encourage the young person to set a goal to do his/her personal best to be successful and not to compare his/her accomplishment with others.
- Develop with the young person a means for helping him/her to monitor progress towards achieving his/her goals e.g. checklist of tasks accomplished.
- Discuss with the young person the difference between promising to do something and being committed to do something.
- Provide feedback to the young person for having set goals and for being committed to working towards being successful (doing his/her best).

**Teach planning my time** -
- Discuss with the young person what it means to be a good ‘time manager’ and how being good at managing time helps him/her to be an achieving young person.
- Help the young person to establish a set time each night when he/she will start homework.
- Discuss the meaning of the word ‘priority’ and give the young person practice in deciding on the priority of various schoolwork, family and fun activities.

**Additional Ways To Strengthen Organization In A Young Person**

- Provide the young person with a checklist and instructions regarding how to organize his/her room, backpack and notebooks.
- Provide the young person with a checklist to complete of things to do each day and time when things need to be done.
- Establish a homework routine and schedule, including a diary and homework folder.
- Establish a set routine at home for wake up, being dressed and ready for school, homework time, dinner, ready for bed time and sleep.

Nan Perazzo / Wellbeing Coordinator

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**Market Night - Friday 18 October 2013**

Reminder **Market Night tonight** - Friday 18th October undercover in the PAC and Learning Link 4. Come along, enjoy the night. A great variety of stalls this year ~ many new stalls. Start your Christmas shopping or simply spoil yourself. 7pm ~ 9:30pm.

Sausage sizzle and drinks available. See you all there.

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**Sports Top for Yr 5 and Yr 6, 2014**

If you have not already placed an order, can you please send in your order as soon as possible, as we need to place an order with the supplier.

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**Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie & Biscuit Dough Fundraiser**

Form and information sent home this week. Completed forms and monies due back 1st November.

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**School Canteen Changes to Menu**

Drinks now $2.00, new drink Apple PopTop, **Deleted items** - Fried Rice, Sushi, Chicken Pies and Topical Drink.

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**Students leaving St. Elizabeths at the end of 2013**

Could any families, who are planning on leaving St. Elizabeth’s School at the end of the year, please notify Lisa in the School office on 9795 5258.

This will enable us to accurately plan for next years classes.

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**School Canteen Changes to Menu**

Drinks now $2.00, new drink Apple PopTop, **Deleted items** - Fried Rice, Sushi, Chicken Pies and Topical Drink.

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**St Justin's Parish - Annual Parish Fair - Saturday 9 November 2013**

The annual “FAIR ON THE HILL” will take place on Saturday 9th November, 2013, and will be held at St. Justin’s Primary School, located at 48 Whalley Drive, Wheelers Hill. Commencing at 10am and concluding at 4pm, there will be plenty of events and entertainment for the whole family and community to enjoy. Many new stalls, Silent Auction, fresh food and plenty of kids’ activities, with a NEW and exciting ride for 2013! So, keep the day free and come and enjoy a fun filled day at the “FAIR ON THE HILL”.
Why iPads in Education?

- Audience
  - Everyone, anyone, any age
  - Understanding students' learning & combine different apps to show band etc.

- Creativity
  - Office 2, Garage, SmartPhone, Move, Garage, Show
  - Using apps such as: Learning 4 Teaching 4

- Technical
  - Mobile
  - Learning can take place anywhere

- Anyone with access to apps can upload with iOS

Rebecca Gage
Learning & Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenong.catholic.edu.au
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**ST. ELIZABETH'S PARISH SCHOOL - TERM 4, 2013**
**Contact Details**

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

**Weekly Activities**

- **Monday**  
  Board/Computer Games, Paper Craft, Fruit Salad, 40-40, Pit Stop

- **Tuesday**  
  Jewellery Making, Painting With Stencils, Origami, Line Tiggy

- **Wednesday**  
  Pool & Soccer Board Challenge, Play Dough, Ball Tiggy, Hula Hoops

- **Thursday**  
  Colouring, Cut & Paste, Dress Ups, Marble Games, Lego, Dominoes, Skipping, Badminton

- **Friday**  
  Play Station Sing Star, Dancing, Darts, Chess & Checkers, Fish & Chips

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

**Beginning:**  
Monday 21st October, 2013

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

**After School Care:**  
Permanent: $13.00 / Casual: $14.00  
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

**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.