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

Welcome back everyone. It was great to see so many smiling faces at Assembly on Monday morning. Hopefully all families were able to enjoy some quality time together during the holiday break.

POSTCARD NEWS FROM ABROAD

"Hi everyone,

I can’t begin to tell you how wonderful it is to be staying in Jerusalem. Everywhere you turn history and tradition comes to life. I have visited the little village in the hills outside Jerusalem where Mary went to visit Elizabeth. Jerusalem is truly an amazing place. People from so many religions believe it is a holy place. It is special for Jews, Moslems and Christians. I have been to Bethlehem and have celebrated Mass with others in the field where the angels appeared to the shepherds.

I am learning all day and at night time too. Keep learning and looking after each other.

Mrs Ash”

FUNDING UPDATE

“Victorian Government Proposes Alternative Funding Deal

In the Victorian Parliament, the Victorian Premier, the Hon. Denis Napthine MP, announced an alternative funding proposal for consideration by the Australian Government. Mr Napthine has stated the proposal is intended to drive school improvement and support the professionalism of Victorian principals and teachers through empowering the schooling system locally.

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.
Under the Victorian Government’s proposal, the state would invest an additional $3.5 billion over six years for all Victorian schools. The Australian Government would be expected to contribute $7 billion which would be consistent with the 2-for-1 funding offer it made in April.

The Victorian Government’s plan would also seek to strengthen local control of Victorian schools, saying that ‘our families and schools do not want bureaucrats in Canberra dictating the day to day running of Victorian classrooms’. Catholic school funding would be included in the Victorian Government’s arrangements.

**The Australian Education Bill 2013** has been passed by the Australian Senate. The passing of the Bill now enshrines the architecture of the Australian Government’s proposed school funding and regulatory reform agenda, the National Plan for School Improvement.

**The Position Of Catholic Education**
The announcement made by the Victorian Premier and the legislation passed by the Senate has created a unique opportunity for Catholic schools in Victoria.

Negotiations between Catholic education representatives and the Australian Government will continue. Many of the concerns that Catholic education has raised could be resolved through negotiation on outstanding issues including the final regulations and new Memorandum of Understanding which will govern funding for Catholic schools at a system level.

The position of Catholic education in Victoria will be informed by the Victorian Government’s response to the Australian Government. The funding and regulatory arrangements proposed by the Premier could benefit Catholic schools.”

We will be waiting to see how the Australian Government responds to the Premier’s announcement.

**ASTHMA TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS THIS WINTER**
Winter can be a hard time for people with asthma as cold weather, coughs, colds and the flu can bring on more symptoms and attacks.

- The common cold is caused by a virus and it is important to try not to cough and sneeze near other people, and to wash hands properly to prevent passing on the infection. The flu is different to the common cold and can be a much more serious viral infection.
- People with asthma are recommended to have an annual influenza vaccination (the flu shot). Preventing the flu protects people with asthma, as those with asthma are often unwell for longer and have a much harder time recovering from the flu.
- Make sure your child’s asthma is well-controlled; this will help them to bounce back quicker from a cough or cold and will help prevent asthma attacks when they are unwell.
- Some medications and herbal remedies that we use for colds and flu can make asthma worse. Speak to your doctor or pharmacist about any concerns you may have.
- Antibiotics are not normally prescribed for the common cold, or influenza, as these medications will not help a cold get better. Effective medications may include paracetamol and decongestants; however seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist before purchasing them for your child.
- Suggested remedies for the flu and the common cold are: rest, staying hydrated by drinking plenty of water, staying away from cigarette smoke, using steam inhalation, gargling with salty water for a sore throat and seeking medical advice if concerned at any time.

For more information on the common cold, medications and references used in this article please see the Better Health Channel (State Government of Victoria) - www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au and the NPS website - www.nps.org.au.

Contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462) or www.asthma.org.au.

**GET WELL WISHES**
Many of you will have missed Lorraine, our wonderful Crossing Supervisor this week. Lorraine is recovering after a stay in hospital. We have sent her flowers and get well wishes from all in the St Elizabeth’s Community. We hope to see Lorraine back with us again sometime in August.

Nan Perazzo
Acting Principal
Welcome back to another busy and exciting term ahead. I hope the school holidays were relaxing and filled with many outings! I had the absolute pleasure of just relaxing, catching up with friends and family and staying indoors rugged up! It certainly was a lovely and well deserved break. I now focus my attention on the business of this term with the main focus being on Confirmation.

**Gospel Summary**

Jesus upset a few Jewish norms in this week’s Gospel about Mary and Martha. First, it was unusual for a single man to be a guest in the home of a single woman, and secondly, it was usually the most acclaimed male student of a rabbi who received tutoring such as Mary. It was not the break in these norms that disturbed Mary’s sister, Martha, so much as the fact that Mary sat listening to Jesus’ teaching instead of helping her sister with the responsibilities of hospitality. Jesus, of course, knew that it was important to tend to the household chores, but he also wanted to make the point that in order to love and serve God, it was important to hear the Word of God.

**Reflection for Families**

Parents (especially mothers!) often classify themselves as Mary’s or Martha’s. The demands of caring for a family while often earning a living outside the home, makes a Martha out of most whether that’s what they want to be or not. They really have to concentrate on being Mary not only in their attentiveness to God but in their relationships with our families. Sometimes they have to schedule time to relax and just ‘be’ with one another. ‘Being’ is often more wise, healthier, and more loving than ‘doing.’

**Bringing the Gospel into Your Family**

Over the next week, listen to God’s Word together as a family. Have each member of the family share a favourite Bible story. Either retell a story, read it from the Bible or use a children’s Bible. When the family member is finished telling the story, have them explain why it is a favourite story and how the story helps them live today according to the way God wants us to live.

Keep smiling!

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

Wednesday 31st July: Level 2 (Grade 2’s) - Renewal of Baptism
   Level 2 (Grade 2’s) families & staff 6:30pm in the Church

Sunday 4th August: Level 1 (Foundation) and Level 2 (Grade 1 & 2)
   Hosting Mass at 10:30am

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:

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.

All candidates should have received their take-home Activity pack last term. These packs are due back to me by Wednesday 18th October (Term 4 – Week 2). There is also the expectation that the candidates attend Mass regularly.

The Confirmation levy for of $25.00 can be paid through the school office. You may wish to prepare yourselves and organise the payment, Lisa will then issue you with a receipt. The levy covers: Dove pins, Lysterfield Reflection day, bus hire, certificates, classroom resources and the key resource used for the Home Activity Pack.

“We should not let our fears hold us back from pursuing our hopes.”

JOHN F. KENNEDY
**MORNINGS**

It is important for children to get to school on time to maximize their learning experiences.

At St Elizabeth’s last term there were 380 recordings of lateness in the Late-Comers Book for the term - was your child one of these recordings? For some children their name has appeared on a number of occasions and for a few children on many occasions - late comers not only miss out on their own learning time, but also interrupt the learning time of others!

Mornings are often chaotic, particularly in households where both parents work or in the homes of sole parents. Both parents and children generally have a great deal to do to prepare for the day.

It is also important that children get to school on time so they can make the most of their learning experiences.

Attention-seekers and dawdlers often find mornings are ideal times to keep their parents busy with them. Many morning difficulties arise due to a lack of clear understanding of the roles to be performed. Most children, even young ones, are capable of doing their morning tasks without parental interference, yet we so often take those responsibilities away from them.

Some Ideas To Get The Morning Working For You

- **Establish a clear routine.**
  With your children's help - work out an order of activities that everyone understands.

- **Place the morning activities on a chart or even a photo chart.**
  Charts help younger children and boys who are 'organizationally challenged’ to go through their routine activities.

- **Identify the jobs that you and your children are to do.**
  Children should be able to do routine tasks that directly involve them, such as preparing their cereal, clearing dishes away, dressing, washing themselves and preparing school bags.

- **Slow starters can prepare the night before.**
  They can lay their clothes out or just make sure their bag is packed.

- **Be aware of possible distractions and get rid of them.**
  Some children become absorbed in television; some spend an eternity carefully choosing their clothes, others dawdle over just finding something clean to wear. Television, if it’s to be watched, can be turned on when children are ready for the day. Clothes can be chosen and laid out the night before.

- **Avoid covering for children’s misbehaviour.**
  If you are suffering due to their refusal to cooperate, or because they are moving slowly, then put the responsibility for misbehavior where it should be – with the children. Stay out of their way in the morning and refuse to be drawn into their arguments or nag them to hurry up. Allow them to experience the consequences of being late to school or even having to dress at school.


Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
Using the internet safely at home

Internet safety important is equally important in the home, the library and other public places. By planning to be cyber safe in any location, children are most likely to enjoy fun and rewarding online experiences.

There are four key steps to cyber safe practices in the home: **EDUCATE, EMPOWER, MAKE THE COMPUTER SAFE** and **SUPERVISE**.

The four work together towards positive and safe online use. The aim is not only to protect children, but also to help them learn to make good decisions.

**Educate** - an essential part of keeping children safe is making them aware of risks, and talking to them about how to avoid potential problems. Visit the Cybersmart website for Internet safety information and educational programs suitable for children’s use.

**Empower** - encouraging and supporting children is a positive step towards making them feel confident in their Internet use. Children need to know they can make the right choices. They also need to know they can talk to a parent if something happens online that makes them feel uncomfortable, without being afraid that they’re automatically going to get into trouble.

**Make the computer safe** - one of the most practical ways to help children stay safe online is to set up the home computer with an Internet content filter and other security software. Some apps available for the iPad that will allow you to set content filters are: Mobicip Safe Browser With Parental Control, K9 Web Protection Browser or McGruff SafeGuard Browser. These are all available in the App Store.

**Supervise** - children may behave differently online, to in person, so it’s important to be involved. By placing the computer in a family area, supervision becomes easier. If issues arise, address them quickly and know who to report them to. Many social networking, virtual networks and gaming sites have reporting facilities available.

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Parents and Friends MARKET NIGHT 18th October 2013

Would you like a stall for our Market Night, or do you know someone who would.

The application form and information is on our website.

Should you have any questions, please see a Parents and Friends member, Trixie in the LRC or email community@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Parents and Friends.

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

22nd July ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom, 26th August ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom,
16th September ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom, 14th October ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom,
11th November ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom, AGM 9th December ~ 2:15pm in the Staffroom

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

Monday morning cuppa.

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

Family Fun Night - Saturday 31st August in the PAC.

Unlimited Hoppers (crepe like) served with Chicken / Beef Curry and Sambols.
A night of food, games and music with the band “Millenniumtrio” playing.
http://www.millenniumtrio.com

Are you interested in coming along to the Parish Family Fun Night?

Tickets are available after weekend masses or via Trixie in the LRC.
Cost - Adults $15.00 / Children $10.00
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA 2nd instalment. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August. The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as: uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:
- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013, the annual EMA amount is - $200 for prep students / $150 for students in years 1 – 6.

If you have received the EMA 1st instalment and there is no change to your financial situation, you should receive your payment around August.

If you have received the EMA 1st instalment, and your financial situation has changed, could you please contact Lisa in the school office and discuss further.

MENTAL ARITHMETIC WITH ABACUS PROGRAM

An amazing program is now available to interested parents with children from Prep to Year 6 where students can learn mental and manual arithmetic with abacus. Abacus is a “Whole Brain Development” program with a proven concept that can improve arithmetic skills and also enhances the mental abilities like concentration, observation, visualization, imagination and memory.

Tuition Fees: $16.00 per session (1 hour per session)
Abacus set plus 2 exercise books: $30
Venue: Ferntree Gully
Time: After School Hours and Saturday

Please contact Choon Lim at GCM Abacus Methods:
Mobile: 0431 616 364   After hours: 03-97580731
Email: choonbaelim@yahoo.com

Learn Guitar at St Elizabeth's

- Small group lessons for 30 minutes during school hours
- $16.50 per lesson (group of 3)
- Enrolment forms at school office or contact Choon

Mobile: 043 1616 364
After hours: 03 9758 0731
Email: choonbaelim@yahoo.com

Learn the Piano “Free Trial Lesson”

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

Keyboard Kids Music School would like to offer our child the opportunity to learn the piano. We offer the opportunity for regular recital performances and encourage students to strive towards completing AMEB examinations. Lessons are held during school time and also after school hours. Learning to play a musical instrument has been shown to have great benefits for a child’s development. It boosts a child’s self-esteem and confidence and allows the child to connect with their inner soul.

COST: Private lessons 30 min - $38

Please email keyboardkids@bigpond.com for an enrolment form or call Shelley for more information on 0417 390 489.
ST ELIZABETH'S PARISH SCHOOL

WICKED WINTER SPORTS!
DON'T MISS OUT THIS WINTER! Wicked Winter Sports allows your child to play a range of dynamic and active sports over the 9 week program; these include footy, soccer, basketball, hockey, nethall & crazy games! This multi-sport program will not only provide an essential base for your child's motor skills, but will also help build confidence and co-ordination, all in an enjoyable environment.

TEAM PLAYER OF THE DAY TROPHY AWARDED EACH SESSION

WHEN: MONDAYS
COMMENCING: 22/07/13 – 16/09/13
PERIOD: 9 WEEKS
TIME: 3.25pm – 4.25pm
YEAR LEVELS: P – 4

COST: $10 per week ($90 in total based on 9 x $10 sessions)
VENUE: St Elizabeth's Parish School

KELLY SPORTS IS A REGISTERED CHILD CARE PROVIDER

To enrol, please visit www.kellysports.com.au/zone/berwick or fill out the below enrolment form & send with a cheque or credit card details to: PO BOX 2055, Fountain Gate VIC 3995, or scan to: darren@kellysports.com.au or fax to 8786 8771. Internet Direct credit available BSB: 069-214 Acct No: 15-895-2563 Acct Name: Kelly Sports Berwick

ENROLMENT FORM

School: St Elizabeth's
Year Level:
Name: ____________________________
Room No: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Post Code: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________ Mobile/Work: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________ Medical Conditions: ____________________________

At the completion of after school clinics, does your child? □ Go to after care □ Get collected

Parents' consent: I hereby authorise Kelly Sports to act on my behalf should my child require medical attention, and release Kelly Sports Berwick from any liability for injury incurred by my child at Kelly Sports programmes.

Parent/Caregiver name: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________

Amount Paid: $ ____________________________ Credit card payment: □ Direct Credit payment: □ Cheque payment: □

Card Number: ____________________________ Expiry Date: □□/□□

**Weekly Activities**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Wool &amp; Felt Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>40-40, Marble Game</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>String Paint, Sparkling Effects, Footy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Shaving Cream Art, Paper Play Tennis, Magnetic Darts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Paint / Decorate your salt dough model, Spoon Card Games</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Decorative Sponging, Knockout, Tunnel Ball</td>
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**Contact Details**

St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program  
111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North  
Ph: 0422 803 789 / 0402 133 225

**Weekly Activities Beginning:**  
Monday 22nd July, 2013

**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 Elarime on 0422 803 789 or 0402 133 225 during session times.