Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

My job as School Principal is full of different responsibilities, curriculum planning, professional learning for teachers, managing personnel, caring for school buildings and so on, but the most important part of my job is keeping everyone safe. To help me do that, I recently employed a company called EMQ to come in to the school and review and update our emergency plans. Wherever you go in our school, you should be able to see a brightly coloured poster on the wall with a great deal of information on it about what to do if an alarm is sounded and where to go in case of an evacuation. When you come in to the school next time, please check out the information on the poster.

On Wednesday we had an emergency practice as we do every semester. If you are on the grounds and we do have a practice, you will not know it is a practice until it is all over. It is therefore, very important that you follow the instructions as the students and staff do. In an evacuation, you will hear the ‘whoop whoop’ of an alarm and there may be instructions to listen to after the siren. Like the children, all adults on the grounds will be evacuated to the oval area. Please do not go to your children in an evacuation. Stay with other visitors. This helps the teacher who has instructions on how to manage the class in an emergency. Having parents trying to talk to their child or children will put those plans at risk. Teachers are focused on making sure that every child is counted and that every child stays where they are supposed to be until the area is declared as safe. If teachers have to navigate past parents, and parents are moving children, then the situation becomes a nightmare to manage.

If you are on the grounds, and you hear the repeated ringing of the school bell, that is the sign that a lockdown is in process. Stay inside the building and if possible report to the office and wait there. If you are on the yard, go to your nearest entry to the school. It is important to do this as quickly as possible. Once the doors are locked you may not be able to enter if the Warden on the door does not know you. You could be mistaken for the intruder we are trying to keep out. Do not distract any of the Wardens from their jobs. Both the Chief Warden and the Communication Warden wear white hats and other Wardens wear red hats. All will be extremely focused on the task they have to do. It is also important that you follow any instructions given to you without question. Remember, you do not know if the threat is real or not until after the procedure has been completed.

If you are not on the grounds but sitting in your cars waiting to pick up after school, please stay there. It isn’t any help to us if we have to manage extra people on the site. So, please make sure you have a look at the poster, talk to the children about staying calm and we will all keep safe!

Christine Ash
Principal

This printed version is condensed. To view full version please go to the school’s website www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Should you wish to continue receiving a hard copy of our newsletter, please contact the school office. If you do not receive an email notification of our newsletter, please confirm your email address with the school office.
God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

Luke 18:9-14

Gospel Summary
From time to time our children live in a “me first world,” but Jesus wasn’t too impressed with the self-centeredness of the Pharisee in this week’s Gospel. The Pharisee was quite certain that he was a good and righteous man—better than most. For sure, he was better than the tax collector. But as Jesus often did in his teachings, he turned society’s ideas upside down. It was really the humble tax collector recognizing his own sinfulness that Jesus said would be exalted.

Reflection for Parents
Parents are very important in the lives of their children, but do you allow them to see yourselves walking humbly with God? Do you allow them to see yourselves on your knees and hear you admit your weaknesses to God? Consider how you might represent the tax collector to your children. How might they see you like this Pharisee?

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family
Prayer is an important part of this week’s scripture. During the week, together with your child(ren), create a prayer space in your home. Allow them to place objects they find appropriate such as candles, the Bible, pictures, fabric, figures and other items. Use the space together every day.

Keep the faith!

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

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:

Class Liturgies:

Friday 1st November:
All Saints Day - whole school mass 9:15am.

Friday 8th November:
Foundation Learning Community will prepare and lead the 9.15am Mass.

Confirmation:
A reminder that the following forms and items are due:

1. Profiles for Church display are due by Friday 25th October or earlier.
2. Banners are due by Wednesday 30th October or earlier.
3. Parent letter to Confirmation Candidates are due by Friday 1st November or earlier.
4. Bishop Elliott’s visit, Wednesday 6th November at 10.15am. Please note the time!

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
Sports Teacher

PICNIC SPORTS DAY

Many thanks to the many parents who cheered and added to the fun of the day, the teachers and teacher aides who made the day run so smoothly and Sue and Andrew for helping with the set-up, pack-up and the running of the games station. A big thank you also to the Sport Captains who helped set-up and kept their team’s spirits up all day long and the Yr5 and Yr6 students for being such terrific role models of sportsmanship to our younger students. And finally all of the students for your efforts and your positive attitude that made our day such a success!
EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

Eliminating I Can’t Do It
In order to combat an ‘I Can’t Do It’ form of negative, pessimistic thinking, parents and teachers should explain to the young person that he/she has a choice in how to think about things that have happened and about things in the future. It should be explained that when something bad happens to the young person, the young person can think negative thoughts or positive thoughts.

Eliminating I Can’t Be Bothered
The key explanation that parents and teachers should offer to a young person who holds an ‘I Can’t Be Bothered’ negative type of thinking is that, while it may seem that things in life, including schoolwork, should be fun and exciting, the reality is that life consists of things to do that differ in terms of degree of excitement and fun. It should be indicated that while it is preferable that the young person’s life be filled with only fun and exciting things and not contain both excitement and drudgery, the young person needs to know that while it is natural to try to avoid the drudgery of homework/chores and other activities, the more he/she avoids those things that may be boring or uninteresting, the greater the chance the young person has of not achieving his/her potential.

Eliminating Being Intolerant of Others
There are several points that parents and teachers will want to communicate to help a young person who has a tendency to blame, condemn, and put down people he/she perceives as having done the wrong thing or who are different. The first point to be made is that all people from time to time will act unfairly and inconsiderately of others, including friends and family. It is human nature.

The second point to be reinforced is that while it is undesirable for people to behave in this way, it is important not to view the person who is doing the wrong thing as totally bad. When we view people who do the wrong thing as totally hopeless, we tend to get overly angry with them. This is especially true if we believe that people who do the wrong thing deserve retaliation and ‘pay back’.

A third and related point is that in life we will meet people who are different from us and share different beliefs, values and customs. In order for us to live in a safe and secure world without violence, it is important that when we notice people who seem different from us and who may demonstrate values, ways of relating, and even dress that we do not like that we do not judge their overall value as people on the basis of aspects of their behavior or appearance we do not like.

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
Learning and Teaching Leader

Rebecca Gage
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Investigations F-2

WHY?
To promote a sense of wonder, exploration, investigation and interest in a rich range of materials, resources and opportunities for each child to engage with.

SENSORY PLAY
Provides fine motor skill development allowing children to grasp objects, manipulate materials and improve hand eye coordination.

CONSTRUCTION
Allows opportunities to develop, plan and represent ideas, and design, reflect, map out, construct and complete their designs. Examples include wooden blocks, foam blocks and Lego.

SPECIAL INTEREST
Allows for the areas to be personalised based on the interests of children in the community. This increases student engagement.

DRAMATIC PLAY
Promotes children talking and listening to each other. Examples include airport, day care or puppet theatre.

COLLAGE AREA
Provides rich opportunities for a never ending range of creativity, projects, experimentation with materials.
YOUTH LEADERSHIP VICTORIA PRESENTS - ST ELIZABETH'S OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM

Weekly Activities ...

Beginning: Monday 4 November, 2013

Monday Childcare will be running at St. Mary’s Primary School, Dandenong

Tuesday Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup

Wednesday Paper Craft Day: Tissue Honeycomb, Trees & Topiary, Origami Volleyball, Cricket

Thursday Making Salt Dough, Tracing With Templates, Stenciled Snap Cards, Soccer, Fruit Salad Game

Friday Free Play, Fruit Platter for Afternoon Tea, Smartie Bingo

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: 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.

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