Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and other Parishioners,

There is no easy way to tell you that school fees are going to have to rise! I hope that you all received the letter this week explaining the need for fees to rise in 2015 and for the fee structure to change in 2016.

I know that I don’t have to explain to you that over the years we have tried very hard to keep our school fees low and indeed, even with the rise, we have one of the lowest Family Fees in this area. You can ring any Catholic School in the area and compare our fees and it will be favourable.

The time has come to increase our Family Fee in order to maintain our current level of resourcing for the learning and teaching needs of our students.

- In 2015 the Family Fee will rise by 5% from $885 to $930.
- The Incursion/Excursion levy will rise from $60 to $70

UPCOMING EVENTS:
Monday, 6 October
Term 4 Begins
The following fees will stay the same:

- Working Bee $60
- Technology Levy $60
- Resource Levy $150

Under the new funding arrangements, the Government expects Catholic schools to collect fees on an individual student basis. That means, if we say our school fees are $930 in 2015, they expect that we will collect $930 from every student. As you know, we have always tried to make life easier for families, and we have tried to stay with a very reasonable family fee. School families with more than one child are currently not paying any more money than a family with one child. In 2016 we will change this so that the fee structure is still manageable for families, but is also closer to the figure that the Government bases its grant allocations on.

To be fair, the one child family at St Elizabeth’s has been carrying a great deal of the cost of running the school through the current family fee structure, and so it will be more just to spread that load more evenly.

If you compare our new cost schedule for 2015 you will see that we are still trying our best to keep our fees as low as possible. We can do that whilst you are ALL paying your share of the fees. Many thanks to everyone that honours that commitment to keep up with payment of school fees. We have a very good record of families who pay their fees.

In years gone by, before my time at St Elizabeth’s, our school community decided to build the Performing Arts Centre. The school borrowed $750,000 to build it. At the time the Parish Levy was $261 a year but the school increased its Capital levy to pay off the loan for the Performing Arts Centre and Fr Tad agreed to lower the Parish Levy whilst the loan was being paid back. This was a very generous offer, and although some of you might not have been aware of this at the time, the Parish has done without significant funding so that we could enjoy the Performing Arts Centre. The Parish deserves our gratitude.

The loan for the PAC will be repaid by the end of the 2014 year and so the Parish levy needs to be put back to its former level. Fr Tad has agreed to set the 2015 Parish Levy at $250 a year. This is a rise of $5 a week. Those of you who already support the Parish though the Planned Giving envelopes will not have to pay the Parish Levy.

Unfortunately, we cannot lower the Capital Levy of $200 as we are now committed to refurbishing the Nook and Foundation rooms. This will require us to take out a new loan and I have just applied for a grant of $250,000 to start this project.

Given the high cost of building and refurbishment, I thank God for the BER Project. We would never have managed to develop our environment in the way that we have if we had not had that financial investment in our system!

If you are experiencing difficulties with fee payments please come in and talk to us before the situation gets out of hand. We know that times can get tough and we will support you as best we can.

Christine Ash
The Principal
Taking time for prayer is what we do as Catholics in our homes, schools and parishes. It is how we talk, ask, thank, praise, listen to and build our relationship with God. This week I have a prayer litany inviting our Lord Jesus to come to us. The children have been using ‘Maranatha’, ‘Come Lord Jesus’ as part of their meditation mantra in their classrooms. As a school, we will be participating in ‘Prayerful Meditation’ regularly. I invite you to pray together as a family.

CLASS LITURGIES

Sunday 14th September:
Yr5 & Yr6 Learning Community will be Hosting Mass at 10:30am

It is an expectation that all families in Yr5 & Yr6 attend the hosting Mass this Sunday.

Sunday’s Hosting Mass is an important part of preparation for our Confirmation candidates. They are preparing to receive this very important sacrament and Mass attendance is part of that preparation. I remind families that your child with your support, has chosen to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is your responsibility as parents to provide continued support to help them prepare. Without your help the students cannot get to this Sunday’s or any Sunday’s Masses. We all lead very busy lives and are all tired but we need to make time to share Eucharist together.

We look forward to seeing our Yr5 & Yr6 families this Sunday to celebrate Mass with our parishioners, the student’s teachers, our Deputy Mrs. Perazzo, our Principal Mrs. Ash and myself.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS

Confirmation

There are many dates to remember in preparation for Confirmation. A reminder that the following forms and items are due. Keep checking for any new dates I will be adding as we get closer to Confirmation day.

It is important to attend Mass regularly as part of Confirmation preparation. Thank you to the many families who have been regularly participating at the Mass here at St Elizabeth’s. Remember there is a sign-in sheet at the back of the church.

Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus

Let the day come, Lord, when our hearts will find your mercy.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

Let the day come, Lord, when our emptiness will find your riches.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

Let the day come, Lord, when our path will find the way to you.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

Let the day come, Lord, when our tears will find your smile.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

Let the day come, Lord, when our joy will find your heaven.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

Let the day come, Lord, when our Church will find your Kingdom.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

May you be praised, O God, for that day when our eyes will find your face!
Throughout our lives you have not ceased to go before us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our brother. 
Amen. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

Maria Popowycz / Catholic Identity Coordinator
popoma@sedandenongnths.catholic.edu

EVENTS & FORMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation Levy $25 for Lysterfield Reflection day, certificates, medals and classroom resources. To be paid to school office.</td>
<td>Was due 15th August - Friendly reminder to pay ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other Yr6 students $15 Levy for Lysterfield Reflection day and classroom resources. To be paid to school office.</td>
<td>Was due 15th August - Friendly reminder to pay ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacrament Enrolment forms (Purple form)</td>
<td>These forms are due now. They are very important and need to be returned to school ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Profiles for parishioners” permission form (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 29th August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Profiles for parishioners (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 5th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profiles for church display (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 5th September or earlier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lysterfield Reflection Day Permission form and payment</td>
<td>Was due Friday 12 September - Please return ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation student activity packs</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation Banners (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 24th October or earlier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Parent letter” to your Confirmation child</td>
<td>Friday 24th October or earlier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYSTERVERFIELD REFLECTION DAY</td>
<td>Thursday 23rd October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop Elliott’s School Visit</td>
<td>Thursday 6th November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family &amp; Individual Confirmation Photos</td>
<td>SUNDAY 9th November 11.00am-12.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Confirmation Photo</td>
<td>SUNDAY 9th November. Arrive 12.30pm, Photo 12.45 sharp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONFIRMATION SUNDAY</td>
<td>SUNDAY 9th November 1.00 pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The first habit from Stephen Covey’s wonderful book “The 7 habits of highly effective people” states that we should start every project or undertaking with the end in mind.

This principle holds true for any activity whether it’s planting your vegie patch; renovating a house or raising children. When you know what you are trying to achieve then choosing the right strategies becomes easy.

The end game or goal for parents and teachers is **Redundancy**. Yep, you read it right. Your job is to make yourself redundant as an adult from the children you raise and teach at the earliest possible age. It always has been and always should be.

When redundancy is your aim most of your time, effort and energy will go into promoting independence. You’ll stop doing things for kids and start giving them opportunities to do things themselves. You’ll spend most of your active parenting and teaching time teaching, explaining and prodding your child toward independence.

**Independence leads to the 4 C’s**

When independence becomes your priority then suddenly you’ve found a pathway to the development of other positive qualities and traits in your children including the key four - confidence, competence, creativity and character. Here’s how:

- **Confidence** comes from facing your fears and doing things for yourself.
- **Competence** comes from the opportunity to develop self-mastery that independence offers.
- **Creativity** is developed when kids solve problems themselves as opposed to someone solving them on their behalf, or worse, keeping kids safe. It’s amazing how resourceful kids can be when they are given the chance to resolve their own problems.
- **Character**, which is essential for success, is forged under hardship and is needed if kids are to live a sturdy life. Kids need to be exposed to disappointment, failure and conflict if character strengths such as grit and perseverance are too be forged.

**Independence takes many forms**

Adults are the gatekeepers for children’s independence, and of course, independence takes many guises.

On a basic level it’s about developing children’s autonomy. Without realising it, many adults make choices on their children’s behalf. Kids build self-confidence when they do things for themselves, and make their own decisions.

Independence is built when children spend time in unpredictable circumstances and environments such as the bush, and also have the opportunity to navigate their neighbourhoods on their own. There maybe some risk involved but that is where the learning lay. Eliminate the risk and you eliminate the learning.

Allowing kids to follow their own impulses even if they are different to yours is the key to gaining independence. This may mean that children choose healthy interests and pursuits that adults are unfamiliar with, or even swim against the tide of their parents’ wishes.

Allowing kids to take responsibility and own their own problems builds confidence and competence. Start by expecting kids to help out at home and at school. Look for ways to develop self-help skills and don’t take their problems on as your problems.

**Create junior versions of independence**

It can be scary and also difficult developing independence in one big step. So smart adults intuitively develop junior versions of independence by breaking up big activities into digestible bits. Want your three year old to make the bed? Then start by arranging the teddies and the pillows (a junior version of making the bed) and let them work their way up from there. Similarly, want your five year old to walk to school yet it’s currently out of his skillset? Then accompany him most of the way and let him walk the last 200 metres to school on his own. That’s a junior version of walking to school.

In all the noise and commotion about raising kids today it’s easy to forget that the job description for parents hasn’t changed since the dawn of time. Love them, bond with them, teach them and spend time with them. But also work like mad to develop their real independence so they become capable of handling what life will throw their way.

Nan Perazzo  
Wellbeing Coordinator
Managing offensive or illegal content online

The internet contains a wealth of useful information which can be quickly located through a search engine to complete school tasks, entertain and organise day to day activities.

Offensive or illegal content online can be found by accident or may be sought out. Offensive or illegal content can include extremely violent material, sexually explicit videos and images, racist views and criminal or unsafe behaviour.

The following actions will help you and your child manage a situation where they encounter offensive or illegal content.

- **Report the content** to the site administrator or the ACMA.
  (http://www.acma.gov.au/hotline)
- **Encourage your child to talk** to a trusted adult.
- **Use a filter** to block offensive adult material and update your software regularly.
- **Know how to escape.** Turn the device or screen off.
  For young children, install the Hector’s World safety button.

If your child or someone you know wants to talk about something that has upset them or made them feel uncomfortable, visit the **Cybersmart Online Helpline**

cybersmart.gov.au

**Glossary:**

**Filter**

Filters manage access to online content. A filter can restrict times when the internet can be accessed and also restrict what is viewed and downloaded based on certain key words or types of content. Some filters can also be instructed to specifically block information from being displayed. Types of filters range from those on home computers to filters used by a school on its server.

A full cybersafety glossary may be found at www.cybersmart.gov.au/glossary.aspx

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Next Wednesday 17th September is Information and Registration Day for the Milo In2Cricket program that will run throughout Term 4. In2Cricket is an entry level cricket program that introduces kids to a fun way for girls and boys to develop fundamental movement skills, learn about teamwork and get involved in the local community.

The program will run for an hour every Wednesday afternoon in Term 4 starting at 3.30 p.m. The cost per player is $70.00 and is to be paid online. We will be able to help you on Wednesday to register, or go to www.in2cricket.com.au

Included in the price is a participation pack that has a back pack, a bat, a ball, a t-shirt, a hat and a drink bottle.

As part of the program we are also looking for parents to help us run the sessions. It is a fun way to be involved with your child and your help value adds to our program. See you at Info and Rego Day!

Information and Registration Day Details:
Where: Performing Arts Centre
When: Wednesday 17th September at 3.15 p.m.
Costs: $70 to be paid online.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
**School News ...cont**

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**St. Elizabeth’s Primary School**

**Market Night**

**Friday 17th October**

7pm to 9:30pm

Undercover in the Performing Arts Centre

Information at www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Stallholders welcome.

111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North.

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**Lick A Prize: One Pager for Reps and Retailers**

There are two types of sticks in this year’s Lick-A-Prize promotion – only the first stick entitles consumers to claim a free Paddle Pop from participating retailers. If users enter this code on the website (www.paddlepop.com.au or www.paddlepop.co.nz) they will see a pop-up message that they’ve won a free Paddle Pop and can collect in-store.

1. PADDLEPOP.COM.AU  CHYUQ42  YOU’VE WON A PADDLE POP!

The second type of stick does not entitle consumers to a free Paddle Pop – instead, consumers can go to the website (www.paddlepop.com.au or www.paddlepop.co.nz) and input the code to win either a tangible prize (iPad, Magic Book etc) or a digital prize (unlock a game or episode, or win coins to unlock upgrades in the games).

2. PADDLEPOP.COM.AU  CHYUQ42  YOU ARE A WINNER!

*Please note these codes are the same for example purposes only and the blue lines do not appear on the actual sticks.*
**School Banking Day Reminder**

Don’t forget that **THURSDAY** is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

Each week we have approximately 70 students who participate in School Banking even though we have over 150 students registered.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Remember our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

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**Lost Property - Wrist Watch**

A wrist watch has been handed in during term 3. No-one, so far, has come to collect it. If this is your watch, please come and see Lisa and let me know what colour the watch is so I can prove that it is yours.

Again we have another basket full of lost property clothes. Could we ask all families to please check the lost property basket next to Mrs. Perazzo’s office and claim any of your lost clothing.

Any garments left after term break will be given to St Vincent de Pauls.

Thank You

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**Father’s Day Raffle**

Congratulations to Perry S. in winning the Father’s Day Raffle. I’m sure dad loved his hamper full of gifts. The winning ticket was Blue A52
Parents of 2014 Foundation children are invited to:

come along to an afternoon tea.

Monday October 13th
2:15pm in The Nook.

For catering purposes, please complete and return this slip to school no later than Wednesday 8th October.

I / We ____________________________________________________________

will be attending the Afternoon tea on Monday

October 13th 2:15pm in The Nook.
School News cont ...

TAKING THE FINAL WICKET

Find out how you can create your own cricket moment at PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU

Summer in Australia means cricket. And cricket is a fun way for girls and boys to develop fundamental movement skills, learn about teamwork and get involved in the local community.

SIGN UP WITH St Elizabeth’s Primary School
CALL 9795 5258
For more information, visit playcricket.com.au
Community News ...

LEAVE NOTHING UNDARED FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

OPEN DAY
MAZENOD COLLEGE

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 14TH
9.30 AM–12.30 PM

ARRIVE ANYTIME FROM 9:30 AM,
LAST TOUR COMMENCES AT 11:15 AM.
TOURS WILL RUN FOR APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR.

For more information please contact the College on (03) 9560 0911 or visit www.mazenod.vic.edu.au

Trivia Night
Nazareth College Parent’s Association

Friday 10th October 2014

6.30pm for a 7.00pm start

Café Naz
Nazareth College, Manning Drive
Noble Park North Vic 3174

Dress: Smart Casual

Tea / Coffee & Sweets provided
B.Y.O. Nibbles / Drinks /Glass

Cost: $15.00 pp
Book a table of 8 or
Individual tickets
Cash Only

Bring along your friends, knowledge & a sense of fun

Bookings Essential @Email: nazarethparentsassociation@gmail.com
OR  Contact Serena on 0407 802 810
**Dandenong Little Athletics Centre**

Interested in Little Athletics. We are offering a two week trial period for new athletes.

The season commences 4th October - Saturday mornings 8.45 am Robert Booth Reserve, Clow Street, Dandenong.

For further information contact Peter Craig 0417 744 992

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**Greater Dandenong Children’s Festival**

Children’s Festival

A two week (Term 3 school holidays: 20 September-5 October) festival of workshops, performances, exhibitions, events, movies and activities.

**Little Day Out**

Sunday 28 September, 11am-4pm
Ross Reserve, Noble Park

A carnival of fun with active rides, live acts, roving performances, interactive family workshops, children’s activities, dance clinics, storytelling and puppetry, food and market stalls, and more. A day for big and little imaginations to run wild with fun and games, magic, discovery, music, learning, games, sports, and play!

**Spring into Safety 2014 and Lego Movie**

Thursday 25 September, 10am - 2pm
Dandenong Civic Square, 225 Lonsdale Street Dandenong

A children’s safety event aimed at promoting and creating awareness for children and family within the community.

If you have any questions, please contact Sabrina Bonne on 8571 5209 or email events@cgd.vic.gov.au
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26th September</td>
<td>Grand Final Footy Fever - Come dressed in your footy team colours. Make your own footy banners and streamers and then play a game of footy (non-contact) and football.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24th September</td>
<td>Sports Day - Participate in outdoor relay, indoor cricket, long jump, indoor hockey and mini-buoy. Create: Cheerleader pom-poms, Winners medal, Relay balloons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 23rd September</td>
<td>Scarecrow Fun - Activities include: Paper cup wind chimes, coloured bird feeders, butterfly window hanging and pop corn. Create: Jars with goldfish, butterfly wind chimes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 22nd September</td>
<td>Build &amp; Create It - Sandcastle, Card building, Straw construction, group activity, create a city using mixed media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29th September</td>
<td>Science &amp; Discovery - Take part in the following experiments: Sink or float orange, energy transfer, invisible ink activity, create optical illusions, try the magic turning coin experiment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 2nd October</td>
<td>Kids in the Kitchen - Participate in making: Fruit skewers with yogurt dip, cheese and tomato sauce, pasta salad, mini cheese and tomato pizza. Set up the room as a restaurant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 3rd October</td>
<td>Goodbye to the Holidays - Come dressed up in your best party outfit. BYO CD’s and electronic games for music, face painting, glittering nail art, BYO prepackage food to share. Play a variety of party games.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Contact Details ...

Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program
111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North
Ph: 0422 803 709 / 0426 282 721

**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 803 709 or 0426 282 721 during session times.

### Weekly Activities ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning:</strong></td>
<td>Monday 15th September, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Shaving Cream Art</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Fancy Flowers with Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Chalk Drawing, Tracing</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Collage, Origami, Paper Planes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>Party Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>