Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

How lovely it was to celebrate Confirmation with our Yr 6 students and their friends and families last Sunday. The children certainly impressed Bishop Peter Elliott when he came to question them. This reflects well on the effort that both home and school have given to the preparation of the candidates. There is a great joy in seeing our children moving into the beginnings of adolescence. As the Bishop said to them on Sunday, you are growing into being young Christians, leaving the dependency of childhood behind and starting to make very conscious choices about the kind of person that you want to be.

When the Bishop confers the sacrament of Confirmation on the students, he shows them by slapping their cheek, gently, that the real adult world is not an easy place. There will be difficulties ahead, life will not all be smooth sailing. However, by accepting and choosing to live with a Christian perspective, those who are confirmed are given the opportunity to recognise the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the lives and to make sure that they grow in them.

St. Elizabeth’s Weekly Calendar …

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 16 November</td>
<td>School Assembly, 8.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 17 November</td>
<td>Foundation 2016 - Parent Information Night, 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 18 November</td>
<td>Foundation 2016 - Session 4, 10-11am and 12noon-1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 19 November</td>
<td>Whole School - Casual clothes day (gold coin donation towards PAC lighting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 20 November</td>
<td>Yr 3 &amp; Yr 4 - Tennis Lessons (re-scheduled from 6/11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 21 November</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 22 November</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, 26 November: Picnic Sports Day
- Tuesday, 1 December: Ed Board, 6pm
- Wednesday, 2 December: Thank You Brunch, Transition Lunch 2016 Classes
- Wednesday, 9 December: Carols Night, 7pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)
What are these gifts?

**WISDOM**
Not just knowing things but recognising what is really important and what is unhelpful in keeping ourselves in right relationships to others and our world.

**UNDERSTANDING**
Understanding a lived awareness of how to live a life being true to our Christian faith.

**COUNSEL**
Being mentally willing to choose the right choices.

**COURAGE**
Making right choices without fear of the consequences.

**KNOWLEDGE**
Being able to see our actions informed by our Christian understandings.

**PIETY**
Taking steps to develop a relationship with God, the One who loves us whatever!

**FEAR OF THE LORD**
Recognising our fears but believing in hope. Hope that God will give us the Grace to get through any situation we find ourselves in.

Our young people were a credit to their parents and teachers on Sunday. I hope with all my heart that they will grow these gifts of the Spirit and use them to live lives as strong and true Christians.

**TRANSITION**
I am delighted to be able to alert you to a change in our plans for Transition. Father Tad has been able to move his commitments so that he can say Mass on this very special occasion. The children will now be able to share Eucharist together on Tuesday December 15th for the last time.

After this, their classmates and families will probably go different ways. If you are not Catholics yourselves, you are still encouraged to come and see your young person receive a blessing and then take part in the Presentation and enjoy the Disco. These ceremonies are for all Yr 6 students.

Every one of our Yr 6 students is expected to attend the Transition ceremony and we look forward to sharing memories and hopes with the parents/guardians of the students at supper whilst the Yr 6 enjoy their disco.

(I believe that a parent group is organising a family event to celebrate this occasion and I am sure that they will share details with you all as plans are finalised. That is not a school function and it is entirely up to you as to whether or not you participate).

I am wondering if we can also begin a tradition of the Yr 5 parents supporting the Transition students’ and their families by offering to serve tea and coffee for the supper at the Transition Celebrations and to also decorate the tables. Then, when it is their children’s time to make the transition to Secondary college they will be supported by that years Yr 5 parents.

Many schools do this and it is a very community minded way of helping each other. I will send a letter out to Yr 5 parents asking for volunteers. I would imagine that if we had 8-10 helpers, that would be great. All that needs to be done is to come and set out the food and put up some decorations before the supper and then serve tea and coffee and clear away after the event at 9pm. Please consider this opportunity to support each other!
PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS
On Sunday November 29th, there will be a cup of tea or coffee after the 8:30am and 10:30am Mass. Stay and share a chat with fellow parishioners.

There will also be 2 Advent prayer nights leading up to Christmas. These will be held on a Tuesday evening. Look in the Parish Bulletin for further information.

The 2016 St Elizabeth Debutante Ball will take place on September 17th next year so watch for news of enrolment night early next year.

Finally ...

Join Excelsis for a night of beautiful Christmas music to mark the beginning of Advent. The choir will be joined by guest artist, Megan Oldmeadow (Soprano), for this concert. All proceeds raised from this event will go to supporting the work of Excelsis, who sing for a number of Catholic parishes in Melbourne, have toured to the Philippines this year and also regularly sing for major ecumenical events.

A flyer for this event is in this week’s newsletter.

Christine Ash
Principal

THOUGHTS FROM ‘THE WAY’

CAMINO PILGRIM TRAIL
As we walked along the Way, we walked through farm lands and farmers often left produce on their walls or on tables at the farm gate. Pilgrims left some money as a donation and helped themselves to fruit and vegetables. I remember thinking after a long wet walk how delicious the raspberries were. We had just bought a little box full from a local farm stall. Another time I had an apple from a tree hanging over the path. It was warm from the sun yet crisp and tasty. Another time, I helped myself to a rich ripe plum and a fig from a selection laid out on a farm wall. After an uphill climb in blazing sunlight it tasted so good!

I reflected on how much I had paid for much fancier foods at elegant restaurants, but those foods just didn’t measure up to the simple pure taste of food straight from the farm. Sometimes the simplest things are the best.
PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.
Let us pray.

O God, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit, help us to know what is truly right and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.
Amen.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Congratulations and thank you to the newly confirmed and their families for last Sunday’s celebration. It was a joy filled and prayerful celebration shared with family and friends and led by the Most Rev. Bishop Peter Elliott.

There are many people to be thanked as there are so many who have given of their time and energy, their talents and skills to enrich the celebration of the Sacrament. I will start by thanking the parents of the Confirmed who have continually supported their children and walked with them through the time of preparation and continue to show their love and support for all that these children are seeking to do.

I thank the classroom teachers Miss Lim, Miss Koutroumanis, Miss Amunagama, Mrs Diosi and Mrs Gage for their preparation of the children. I would also like to thank Mrs Ash and the staff of St Elizabeth’s for their support and help in the many tasks that needed to be completed in preparation for the Liturgy to ensure everything was prepared.

I thank the Excelsis Choir and their musical director Tom Buchanan for providing music through their beautiful voices that enabled the joyful, prayerful participation of all. I thank our altar servers and their families, Jayce B, Jerrod B and Peter L for being willing to support our school and Parish. They all willingly gave of their time to be of service to Fr Tad and the Bishop for the ceremony.

Lastly I must say a very special thank you to Bishop Elliott and Fr Tad. The church was full to overflowing, we even had people standing in entrance ways and yet even with this crowd they called us to prayerful participation inviting us all to enter into the quiet of the occasion and to be open to the presence of the Spirit in our own lives as well as in the lives of the young candidates.

Many thanks to all who made last Sunday not only a joy filled celebration of the presence of the Spirit but also a prayerful experience of the life of the Parish community of St Elizabeth’s.

SCHOOL & CLASS LITURGIES AND KEY EVENTS

We welcome all families and parishioners to attend school Masses with us.

Friday 13th November:
Yr 3 & Yr 4 Learning Community Mass at 9.15am
Friday 27th November:
Whole School ‘ADVENT GIFT GIVING’ Mass at 9.15am
Wednesday 9th December:
Carols Night at 7pm (Picnic from 6pm)
Thursday 10th December:
Whole School ‘End of 2015’ Mass at 9.15am
Tuesday 15th December:
Yr 6 Transition Mass at 6.30pm

FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER - WHOLE SCHOOL ‘ADVENT GIFT GIVING MASS CELEBRATION’

All Levels will gather at 9.15am in the Church for Mass during which the children will be invited to place their gifts in and place them around the empty Christmas Crib. Advent will officially begin the Sunday following our ‘Gift Giving Mass’.

- We ask the Yr 5/6 students to bring if possible a gold coin that can then be used by St Vincent De Paul to prepare Christmas hampers for those families in need.
- We ask the Yr 3/4 students to bring gifts of food, special treats – lollies or BonBons to be added to the hampers. I’m sure you know those little extras that go to make Christmas special for all families.
- We ask the Foundation and Yr 1/2 students to bring a gift, it can be pre-wrapped and tagged (e.g. Boy or girl and the age the gift is intended for), to be given to those in need and to brighten up their Christmas day.

These are only suggestions. Please bring what your family can manage.

We invite you to join with us for this Mass at 9.15am on Friday 27th November 2015

God Bless,

Maria Popowycz
Religious Education Leader
Positive school communities create opportunities for families, children and staff to feel included.

What feeling included is all about ...

Children come from an endless range of different families, backgrounds, cultures and religions. They also have a variety of interests, learning styles and abilities. Despite all of these differences, everyone should feel included and welcome within their school community.

Positive school communities create opportunities for children, families and staff to feel included. They make help and support accessibility and find lots of ways to invite people to take up the support being offered. They help everyone benefit from understanding experiences and cultures that may be different to their own.

When children feel included, when they are part of a community that promotes inclusion and respect for everybody, they show more caring and compassion towards others, and they feel safer and more secure. They are also better learners and have better mental health and wellbeing. In a positive school community every face has a place, every voice is valued, and everyone has something to contribute.

School communities from around Australia chose care, compassion, respect, understanding and inclusion as important values for children to understand. These are things that children can learn about. The best learning happens when children see the adults around them putting values like these into practice. Feeling included is important for mental health, and is supported best when diversity is respected and valued.

Being included and learning to include and respect others are very important for children’s social development. Being included promotes belonging and connectedness, which are also key factors for supporting children’s mental health and wellbeing.

How parents and carers can help ...

- Get to know other families, take an interest in others’ different backgrounds as well as what you have in common.
- Set up a ‘buddy’ system where families who have been at the school for a while buddy up with new families to provide welcome and support.
- Encourage children to include and appreciate others’ cultural and individual differences.

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
Mathletics
Helping shape tomorrow’s future together.

Why practising a concept 3 times matters

At Mathletics everything we do is focused on helping students improve their maths.

We have analysed over 1.1 billion answers from students who have completed three or more curriculum activities (a curriculum activity consists of a set of 10 questions). There are over 1200 curriculum activities ranging from Adding to 10 in Kindergarten to Integration of Trigonometric Functions in Year 12.

Typically a curriculum activity takes a student about 6.5 minutes to complete and there is no possibility students can simply memorise answers as the questions are randomly generated from a very large question bank and are adaptive to students’ numeracy level.

Our analysis determined that the group average mark after three activities were completed rose by 21.1% from 78.4% to 94.9% – an astounding improvement.

The aim of practising a particular concept is for long-term knowledge retention. By only completing a concept once, a student will not have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the new information and apply the concepts to a variety of situations. Without extended processing, knowledge that students initially understand might fade and be lost over time.

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
In Mathematics, **capacity** refers to how much liquid or how many items a container can hold. As adults, we use capacity as part of our everyday lives, whether it's filling up our petrol tanks or pouring milk into a cereal bowl.

In **Foundation**, children start learning about capacity by investigating how many cupful's of water will fit in an empty jug. In Yr's 1 and 2 they start to talk about **millilitres and litres** and are shown what a litre of water looks like. They also learn that a litre of water can look different depending on the container it is put in.

In Yr 3 children start to learn about the relationship between millilitres and litres. They are taught that there are 1000ml in one litre and are given activities to do, involving measuring amounts of water in millilitres. They might be given a picture of a measuring jug where the water is shown to be halfway between the 100ml and 200ml marks and asked to say how much water is in the jug.

In Yr 4 children start to be taught about using **decimal notation to record capacity** (for example, 1.2 litres and 0.6 litres). They need to be able to work out how much water was in a measuring jug (or picture of a measuring jug) even if the scale is partially numbered. They will be asked to convert between different units of measure (for example: know that 3.4 litres is 3400ml and 700ml is 0.7 litres).

In Yr 5 children continue to **convert measures**. They will have to interpret a reading that lies between two unnumbered divisions on a scale, for example they would need to work out that this arrow is pointing at 800ml.

In Yr 6 children are expected to know how to **convert between units using decimals**, for example: they would need to change 3.69 litres to 3690 ml, or 9270ml to 9.27 litres, or 8.392 kilograms to 8392 grams. They continue to read scales to work out the capacity of certain amounts of liquid, but they start to have to make approximate measurements using their existing knowledge of capacity. They may have to **compare readings on different scales**, for example, being able to see which of these containers contains the most water.

For the measuring jug on the left, they would need to work out that each division represents 250ml, therefore there is 500ml of water in the jug. For the measuring jug on the right, they would need to work out that each division represents 200ml, therefore there is 800ml of water in the jug.

Lyn Dennett
Numeracy Leader / F-4 Number Intervention Leader
ldennett@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Hi all

Last Monday our girl's softball team competed in the South Metro Region Softball Finals. The best performed schools from the region were all vying for a spot in the State Championships.

The girls played three games in very hot conditions against very good competition. In our first game we lost to Langwarrin Primary School 11:19. Our next game was against the eventual finals winners, Hampton Primary School. They had several weekend players and a big, boisterous following. We were defeated 7:15.

This put us in the final play-off for 5th and 6th position against Dromana Primary School in which we won 12:7. It was a fitting end to a very successful year. Well done to Sue and the girls for maintaining our proud history of school softball.

Many thanks to Colette, Paul, Maria and Sue for getting the kids there and back and supporting them all the way.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
Sports Coordinator

Casual Dress Day
Friday 20th November
Gold coin donation
Raising funds towards our Stage Lighting
Parents and Friends ~ Christmas Raffle

Every year near the end of the year we have our Carols by Candlelight and our beautiful children sing Christmas Carols to us, we get to enjoy each others company and have a wonderful night.

The Parents and Friends committee would like to have a Christmas Fundraising Raffle and are asking for donations towards the Raffle.

An example of donations:~
Non-Perishable food within use-By-Date
- Christmas Fruit Cake; Christmas Pudding; Long Life Custard
- Fruit Mince Pies; Shortbread Biscuits; Christmas Lollies; Cranberry Sauce ; Apple Sauce; Savoury Biscuits; Water Crackers;
- Christmas Lolly Stockings; etc

Or Festive items like :~
- Christmas tree decorations; Bon Bons; Christmas Serviettes; Christmas table decorations; Tinsel; Christmas Tea towels; Christmas Cups, Mugs, Glasses;
- Christmas Table Cloths; etc

Christmas Donations can be left at the school office.

The Christmas Raffle will be drawn on the Carols By Candlelight night, Wednesday 9th December.

All money raised goes towards funding a stage lighting in the Performing Arts Centre

Thank you for your help.
Parents and Friends Committee.
Hallelujah: Christmas Concert

Guest artist: Megan Oldmeadow (Soprano)
8.00pm, Friday, 27 November 2015
St Mary’s Catholic Church
208 Dandenong Road, St Kilda East

General Admission: $20
Concession: $15
Children (Under 12): $10
WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE BOUTIQUE ESTATE AGENCY.

We represent a genuine hands on approach which has lead the way in local real estate services. Located on the border of Dandenong North and Mulgrave whilst covering a wide network of suburbs from Clayton right through to Berwick makes Boutique Estate Agency able to cater to a large portion of the south eastern corridor.

As the only Real Estate Agency located in Dandenong North. We are committed in supporting our local schools and businesses to ensure we maintain great relationships and provide exceptional services throughout the area.

As part of this commitment we are happy to contribute $500 to St Elizabeth’s Parish School for every time a property is SOLD or PURCHASED by a family member of a student of the school.

It’s our way of saying thank you for supporting your local businesses.

YOUR LOCAL AGENTS

SHOP 12/46 OUTLOOK DRIVE DANDENONG NORTH
ABN: 36 600 561 019 | PHONE: 03 9795 8889 | FAX: 03 9795 8869

www.boutiqueestate.com.au
St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Details ...</th>
<th>Weekly Activities ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program 111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North Ph: 0422 803 709</td>
<td>Beginning: Monday 16th November 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before School Care</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent: $12.00 / Casual: $13.00</td>
<td>Shaving Cream Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00am to 8.55am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>After School Care:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Permanent: $13.50 / Casual: $14.50</td>
<td>Scooby &amp; Loom Bands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.15pm to 6.15pm Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vacation Care / Pupil Free Days:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Day: $45.00</td>
<td>Pipe Cleaner Creations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday. (No vacation care available in January.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Late Pick Up Fees: Per minute:</strong> $1.00</td>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For enquiries or further information, please contact Elarine on 0422 803 709 during session times.</td>
<td>Colouring in Patterns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>Chalk Drawings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Breakfast** is provided on Monday through to Friday for all the children who attend the before school care sessions at St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care.