Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and other Parishioners,

On Wednesday we had the Renewal of Baptism Promises Celebration for our Yr2 students. As usual, it was a very joyous occasion and the part I always love is when parents share their memories of that day with their children. Most of our children are babies when they are baptised and of course, they have no memory of what actually happened. I love to see the face of parents light up when they share the memory. Sharing a memory that is all about welcoming and accepting this new member of the family into the wider family of the extended family community and the Parish Community and ultimately the universal church community. I am sure other Faith traditions also have their own unique ways of celebrating the arrival of a new child into a family.

I love to watch the children hearing stories about themselves, they ask all sorts of questions wanting to know every little detail.
They soak up your memories of this special welcome. They want to know who was there, what was done, what happened next. They want to understand and absorb that sense of love that surrounded their arrival into this family.

Every little person brings such hope into the world.

Every little person has the potential to contribute to making our world a better place. Unfortunately, not every child is nurtured in such a way that this potential flourishes, but then, no-one teaches us how to be parents! It is such a huge task. There are no manuals, there is no such thing as perfect advice, no tried and true recipes for success and every child is different. What works for one child does not necessarily work for the next one.

We set out as young parents with such innocence! Over the years we gain skills, understanding and we learn to accept the wonderful times as well as the difficult times. We change our dreams from the impossible to the doable and through it all we learn to really love these beautiful children for who they are, not who we want them to be.

We continually move with the children, growing in understanding of their personalities, their skills, their talents, their strengths and their challenges. As parents we strive to always put their needs first and foremost in our hearts and minds and it’s not always easy. Sometimes we have to be the tough parent, sometimes we have to say No, sometimes we have to provide consequences for inappropriate actions and sometimes we have to disappoint them.

On the positive side, it’s a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the deep relationship we create as parent and child, to acknowledge achievements along their path of development, to wonder at their ideas, actions, thoughts and works.

Being a parent is the best job in the world, and some days it’s the most difficult job. We do not all have children who make choices that we approve of, they do not always make us proud. However, we can all go back to those special moments of joy that are ours to keep and treasure, ours to enjoy.

We can and should remember the times when they surprised and delighted us, loved and shared with us. Bringing them to Baptism, or your own Faith celebration of Welcome, is one of those blessed occasions.

Christine Ash
The Principal
“All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.”


This Sunday’s gospel is the “Feeding of the Five Thousand”. Before Jesus meets up with the crowd, he is actually trying to get away and be by himself, because he has just heard about the death of John the Baptist. He wanted to get away and spend some quiet time but as soon as his boat reaches the shore, thousands of people are waiting there for him.

Despite Jesus’ own needs and wanting to be alone when he was feeling sad, he gives way to his own needs to attend to the needs of the people. Jesus saw that the people wanted to talk to him and so he stayed with them. Then, he not only healed the sick, but he fed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish and made sure that they did not go away hungry.

This is Jesus the Son of God at work. Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist and that kind of food will give us the strength we need to be his followers, and will also gain for us eternal life.

Jesus nourishes us every day. He offers purpose to a world and he provides direction. We are nourished by God through the work we do for each other, through the simple things of life, visiting the sick, comforting the grieving, caring for a child and providing help to the elderly or volunteering to do work in your local or world community. If we look around, we will be astounded at how ordinary actions can satisfy our hunger and the hunger of others.

RECOLLECTION 

Jesus proclaims, ‘While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’ (John 9:5). He also tells his disciples, ‘You are the light of the world.’ (Matthew 5:14).

Injustice can be overcome when we respond to Jesus’ call to be the flame and be the light of the world. By being ‘the Flame’ we can overcome violence, despair, apathy and injustice.

CLASS LITURGIES

Friday, 8th August: Feast of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop)
Whole School Mass at 9:15am

Friday, 15th August: Feast of the Assumption
Whole School Mass at 9:15am

SACRAMENTAL NEWS

Confirmation

A reminder regarding the Confirmation Parent Information night on: Wednesday 20th August at 7:00pm at St Elizabeth’s Church. This night is vital for all parents and children to attend.

All candidates have received their take-home Activity pack earlier last term. These packs are due back to me by Wednesday 15th October (Term 4/Week 2). There is also the expectation that the candidates attend Mass regularly and write their name on the ‘Sign in Sheets’ at the back of the church.

The Confirmation levy of $25.00 (cash only) can be paid through the school office by Friday 15th August, Lisa will 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.

All other non-Catholic Yr6 students pay a levy of $15 through the school office (by 15th August), Lisa will issue you with a receipt. The levy covers: Lysterfield Reflection day, bus hire and classroom resources.

Keep Smiling.

God Bless!

Maria Popowycz
Catholic Identity Coordinator
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
TAKING RESPONSIBILITY - THE MARK OF LEADERSHIP!

Michael Grose

Personal responsibility is the mark of true leadership. However shirking responsibility or shifting the blame to others is a national sport in many western countries.

"It's not my fault" can be heard in court rooms, political rallies and in sporting tribunals everywhere as blame for a transgression is shifted away from the individual and placed on a scapegoat. It is little wonder that many children are experts at shirking personal responsibility.

Lack of personal responsibility is shown when children find excuses or blame others for their misbehaviour. It is shown when siblings are blamed for starting fights, parents for children's school lateness and classmates for misbehaving at school. Anything or anyone but themselves is to blame! "It's not my turn" is another way of shirking responsibility.

Most parents want their children to be responsible for their actions. Taking responsibility means that a child sees a problem and fixes it. A child who takes responsibility helps out regardless of how many times they have helped before or who causes a situation.

When a child complains that the toilet roll is empty then he or she can be invited to take responsibility for it. Similarly, if the bread bin is empty, the fire is out or the living room floor is a mess then the message could be that they should ‘do something’ about these situations. When a child is late for school, forgets to hand in homework or deliberately hurts a classmate even though some teasing occurred then he or she needs to shoulder the blame and take responsibility for their actions.

Sounds tough but this is the approach to take if we are to promote a true sense of responsibility, initiative and accountability.

In families some children become adept at ducking their responsibilities. It is smart management to share the load using rosters and other organisational strategies.

But in the myriad of informal situations around the house where someone needs to take responsibility then it is helpful to take the “don’t tell me, please fix it” approach.

Next time a child responds to your request for help with that classic line “but it’s not my turn” look them straight in the eye and say, “You know, you may be right but isn’t it lucky that you are so willing to help” and simply walk away. No buts, no arguments.

To promote personal responsibility in your child:

1. Help them identify BUT NUTS and BLAME GAMERS.
   - BUT NUTS look for excuses such as tiredness, moods or other people when things go wrong. “BUT I am too tired to help.”
   - BLAME GAMERS blame others when things go wrong. “It’s not my fault. Sarah started it.”

2. Make sure they have some jobs at home so that others rely on them.

3. Use a roster for jobs and place responsibility on children to do tasks without being reminded.

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
Learning and Teaching …

Trolling online – what it is and how to support your child

Trolling is when a user intentionally causes distress, anger and argument in an online public forum for the purpose of disturbing other users.

Your children may experience trolling on social networking sites, online gaming, chat rooms or blogs.

Individuals who partake in trolling seek an emotional response from others, whether with malicious or humorous intent. Responding to trolling comments can result in the activity escalating.

Children can protect themselves by taking the following action:

- **Ignoring the troll**—responding to nasty, immature and offensive comments only gives trolls the attention they want.
- **Blocking the troll**—taking away their power. If they pop up under a different name block them again.
- **Reporting trolls**—reporting to site administrators. If they pop up under a different name, report them to site administrators again. If you feel your safety is being threatened, contact the police for further advice. You may consider not using the site until the issue is resolved or the troll has become bored.
- **Talking with friends and family**—if a troll has upset your child, it helps to talk about it with friends and family. You or your child may visit the Cybersmart Online Helpline (www.cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx) or call Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800.
- **Protecting friends from trolls**—if trolls are upsetting your child’s friend tell them to Ignore, Block, Report. Tell their family and other friends and encourage them to seek support.

www.cybersmart.gov.au

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Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader

gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

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Get cyberstarted
This week permission forms for the upcoming Intra-School Athletics Carnival were sent home with all of our Yr3 to Yr6 students. The Carnival will be held on Thursday 14 August at Ross Reserve, Noble Park. It will be an all day event and parents, guardians and extended families are encouraged to come along and add to the atmosphere of the day.

All of the students will participate in a minimum of 7 events for their school house. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours on the day.

The Springvale Little Athletics Club will have their full canteen open on the day. I ask you to limit the amount of money your child brings to the carnival. Last year we had individual children spending $10 or more on lollies - so much for a healthy day of athletics! These were only isolated incidents, so we are happy to have the canteen open to our students again, we just ask you for some restraint on how much your child takes on the day.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew

Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a cuppa at the next Parents and Friends meeting which is on Monday 11th August at 2:20pm in The Nook.

Fathers Day is just around the corner. The Fathers Day stall is on Thursday 4th September, a price list will be in next weeks’ newsletter. A display of products will also be in the school foyer early next week.

Please keep an eye out in your child’s school bag for the Fathers Day Raffle Tickets which will be sent home shortly.

Market Night is Friday 17th October, please mark it in your calendars.

Would you like a stall? There is information and an application form on the front page of the school website. Reminder you can chat to any of the Parents and Friends members, Pina Martino, Paula Manago, Sue Hatley-Smith, Kellie Andrikopoulos, Samanatha Pirotta, or see Trixie in The Nook.

All books need to be entered onto the Challenge by Monday 1st September so that they can be verified before I go on leave for the last two weeks of this term.

Please either come and see Trixie or email her on marttr@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au if you would like a list of the books your child has borrowed for the year.

Reminder:
The Nook is open for parents, grandparents and carers Monday to Thursday.

Anniversary News ...
School News cont …

**Guitar Lessons - St. Elizabeth’s**

- Small group lessons for 30 minutes during school hours.
- Chords, notes, tabs and strum & sing along style.
- $16.50 per lesson (group of 3).
- Enrolment forms at school office or contact Choon Mobile: 043 1616 364, After Hours: 03 9758 0731 or email: choonbaelim@yahoo.com

**Piano/Keyboard Lessons - A Musical Journey!**

- Keyboard/Piano and music theory lessons conducted with a focus to promote general musicianship skills and artistic growth through creative and fun teaching methods and apps to make the learning more exciting. Great opportunity to experience music through the keyboard!

For further details please contact Pik Mobile 0450561878 or email pikfoong@yahoo.com.

**School Banking Day Reminder.**

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

**Buddy Play Mates Shed**

We would appreciate any donations of dolls in good condition, tea sets, dolls clothes and blankets etc.

We also need small matchbox cars in good condition and a totem tennis set if anyone has one not being used.

We can’t accept any broken toys, as they are not safe for children to use.

Any good quality toys that your children have grown out of will be appreciated.

Thank you for your help and assistance with this cause.

**Furniture for Sale**

We have a few excess tables, would you like one?

They are the same as the tables used in Learning Link 4 - they can be used as a large table or pulled apart. Come and see Stan or Trixie.

All we are asking for is a gold coin donation.
School News cont ...

**Billy Is A Dragon and Saurus Street author Nick Falk and Tony Flowers**

We are very fortunate to have Nick Falk and Tony Flowers come and chat to our Yr1 and Yr2 students about being the author and an illustrator of *Billy is a Dragon* and *Saurus Street* series on **Tuesday 5th August**.

Parents are more than welcome to come along to the presentation at 2:15pm.

Books will be available for sale $13 each

Nick and Tony are happy to autograph the books.

- Billy is a Dragon1. First Bite;
- Billy is a Dragon 2. Werewolves Beware;
- Billy is a Dragon 3. Shadow Shifter;
- Billy is a Dragon 4. Eaten Alive!
- Saurus Street 1. Tyrannosaurus in the veggie patch;
- Saurus Street 2. A Pterodactyl stole my homework;
- Saurus Street 3. The very naught Velociraptor;
- Saurus Street 4. An Allosaurus ate my uncle;
- Saurus Street 5. A Plesiosaur broke my bathtub;
- Saurus Street 6. A Diplodocus trampled my tepee.

Community News ...

**Dandenong Mobile Unit**

Dandenong Mobile Unit, St. Mary’s Community Centre, 20-24 New Street, Dandenong are asking for blood donations on Wednesday 13 August 1.30-7.30pm, Thursday 14 August 2-7.30pm and Friday 15 August 9.30-3.30pm.

Appointments are essential and new donors welcome. To book an appointment please call 131495.

**Nazareth Male Uniform For Sale**

Nazareth College summer uniform
Nazareth College winter uniform

These clothes are near new, only been worn for 6-7 months. Please contact Mali on mali.karavita@yahoo.com.au if you are interested in purchasing these clothes.
WIN FREE TICKETS TO SEE

Nazareth College’s Production of

‘The Wiz’

Drum Theatre, Dandenong
14 – 16 August, 2014
7.30pm

Nazareth College is offering one lucky family the opportunity to join the excitement of Opening Night at ‘The Wiz’.

Performed at the Drum Theatre, Dandenong, this is an ideal show for families. The winner will receive four (4) tickets for the performance on Thursday 14 August at 7.30pm

Simply fill in your details below and place them in the Competition entry box located in your child’s school office.

For all enquiries about tickets please contact Nazareth College on 9795 8100.

We would you like to win four free tickets to see ‘The Wiz’ on Thursday 14 August 2014 at 7.30pm in the Drum Theatre, Dandenong.

Family Name : ______________________________________________________

Telephone: ______________________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________________________

The winning family will be notified on Monday 11 August 2014
### 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 ...

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<td>Monday 4th August, 2014</td>
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<td>Foam Weaving Magnets</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Bookmarks / Foam Door Hangers</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Making a Hanging Bird</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Sand Art Shapes</td>
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