Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

Ever since I came to this school members of the Parent Community have expressed their concern to me that we do not celebrate the end of Yr6 in a satisfactory fashion. Every year, the matter comes to the School Board and every year, Father Tad and I are asked what can be done to fix this situation.

This year, the Board has come up with a great celebration that has the potential to ease those concerns. This year, for the first time, an event is planned for parents and guardians to celebrate the end of their child’s years of primary schooling. The event will take place at the Sandown Hotel on 21st November at 7pm. All parents and guardians of children in Yr6 are invited, and if parents wish to take their Yr6 child to the event, which is being held in the function room, the students will have great fun with a DJ and a disco, a lolly bar and soft drink included in the very reasonable price of $15 a head. Other children in the family can also attend so parents have an opportunity to make this a wonderful night for their family.

I know that many of our parents want the children to have a ‘special evening night to celebrate the good times the children have shared at primary school and what better way to do that than with the other families who have journeyed with them. I do encourage every parent to consider attending this night and making it a great success.

St. Elizabeth’s Weekly Calendar ...

| Monday, 20 October | No School Assembly  
|                    | Yr3 & Yr4 - Melbourne City Walk Excursion  
|                    | Yr5 & Yr6 - ACMI Excursion  
| Tuesday, 21 October | 5/6KK - Reconciliation, 11.30am  
|                    | Ed Board Meeting, 6pm  
| Wednesday, 22 October | Yr5 - Social Justice Information Evening, 7pm  
| Thursday, 23 October | Yr6 - Lysterfield Confirmation Reflection Day  
| Friday, 24 October | Yr3 & Yr4 - Tennis Lessons  
| Saturday, 25 October | St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 6.30pm  
| Sunday, 26 October | St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm  
| **UPCOMING EVENTS:** Monday, 27 October  
| Monday, 3 November  
| Tuesday, 4 November | Picnic Sports Day - parents/carers welcome  
|                    | School Closure Day  
|                    | Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup  

111 Bakers Road, Dandenong Nth, Vic. 3175  
Tel: (03) 9795 5258  
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www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au  
admin@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au  
Parish Priest: Rev. Tadeusz Ziolkowski SC  
School Principal: Mrs Christine Ash
The Parish also celebrates the Yr6 students’ transition to secondary college. On the last Sunday of the school year, Father Tad leads us all in a very moving ‘Transition Mass’ at which we reflect on the years of being together and we present folders to the students. Families who are leaving the school community because this is their youngest child are also recognised. We do not call it a Graduation Mass because that is kept for leaving Secondary School or finishing university.

I am very saddened each year that parents do not always value the Transition Mass and make sure that they and their children are able to attend. Last year we had less than 80% of the children from Yr6 attend that celebration. We are a Catholic School and we are only here as a school because the Parish community built this school over 30 years ago. It is Father Tad’s wish that the Parish bless the students as they move on to secondary school, and that is why the celebration is held on a Sunday. I know that it is sometimes difficult for staff and school families to keep that evening free as many families and workplaces etc also arrange Christmas celebrations on that weekend. However, I can see Father Tad’s point of view and as our Parish Priest, he has every right to ask that we come together at the Sunday evening Mass as part of the Parish Community.

The children also have many activities planned for them at school as they move towards the end of the year. The staff plan a wonderful beach excursion for them at Edithvale Life Saving Club. This is a terrific opportunity to learn some water safety as well as have a fish and chip lunch and lots of fun.

The last day sees the Yr6 students have a very special lunch, usually pizza or chicken and chips and a sweet treat. They also have a disco with lively DJ’s and a chance to dance with their teachers!

I am very grateful to the staff who organise all these events as well as help the children move through a very anxious as well as exciting time in their lives. Without doubt, some of our children are quite a challenge as they struggle with questions behind their outwardly brave face.

Will I know what to do at the new school?
Will I make friends?
Will my old friends abandon me?
Will I manage the learning?
Will older children bully me?
Will I be able to get there on public transport?
Is the work going to be too hard?

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CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING - Solidarity
Everyone belongs to one human family, regardless of their national, religious, ethnic, economic, political and ideological differences. Everyone has an obligation to promote the rights and development of all peoples across communities, nations, and the world, irrespective of national boundaries. We need to express unity by reaching out to those who are most marginalised in our world. We need to have a willingness to give oneself for the good of one’s neighbour, beyond any individual or particular interest.

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION AT ST. ELIZABETH’S PRIMARY

Operation Christmas Child
Boxes filled with toys, clothing, colouring books, pens, pencils, toothbrushes and more were packed by one of our wonderful school mothers. A huge thank you to Kelly Athanasopoulos who gave up her time to pack all the donations provided by the generous families of St Elizabeth’s. The shoe boxes will be sent around the world to children who are in need.

A huge thank you to all the families who donated money, goods and sent shoeboxes. What a wonderful school community all working together.

Nursing Home Visit
On Monday I had the pleasure to walk down with some of our students Elli, Neha and Kim, to the Regis Nursing Home. The girls played an energetic game of ‘Balloon Tap’ with the residents. There were a lot of balloons flying around, lots of laughter and many residents asking if they could join into the game. Everyone was welcome! The girls shared stories about their families and what they did on the weekend with the residents. The residents loved listening to their stories and shared their stories with the girls. Some of the residents are going to find photos of their families to show the students next time they come.

Yr5 Social Justice Information Evening
Next Wednesday 22nd October 2014 at 7.00-8.00pm in the PAC we have a special ‘Social Justice Information Evening’ for our Yr5 children and their parents. What do ‘Catholic Social Justice Teachings’ mean for us today? As people of faith we are all called to live our faith out in action. As Christians this is a call to follow Jesus and make this world a better place. It is an expectation that all Yr5 families attend and it will be most helpful for the students preparing to make Confirmation the following year.

Mark Clark is a dynamic and passionate presenter who works with young people in an engaging and interactive manner. He works for the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council where he helps both parents and students to come to a better understanding of Social Justice.

CLASS LITURGIES
Friday 7th November: Yr5 & Yr6 Learning Community will prepare and lead the 9.15am Mass.
Sunday 9th November: Confirmation Mass 11.00am.
Friday 14th November: Foundation, Yr1 & Yr2 Learning Communities will prepare and lead the 9.15am Mass.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION
"Meditation is the work of the Holy Spirit who prays within us." Meditation is a prayer of silence and listening, the place where direct contact with Christ can occur, once the constant activity of the mind has been stilled. Christian Meditation is a peaceful quiet way to pray allowing the children and staff a time to stop everything that we are doing and have time with God. Everyone in the school meditates straight after recess.

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.

Lysterfield Reflection Day next Thursday 23rd October
Yr6 students are to wear comfortable casual clothes. They need to bring their own snack and lunch in a small back pack.

God Bless,

Maria Popowycz / Religious Education Leader
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

EVENTS & FORMS DUE DATE

Lysterfield Reflection Day Permission form and payment. Was due Friday 12 September –Please return ASAP
Confirmation student activity packs to be handed in. Wednesday 15th October
Confirmation Banners (optional). Friday 24th October or earlier
“Parent letter” to your Confirmation child. Friday 24th October or earlier
LYSTERFIELD REFLECTION DAY Thursday 23rd October
Bishop Elliott’s School visit Thursday 6th November
Family & individual Confirmation photos. SUNDAY 9th November 11.00am-12.15pm
Group Confirmation photo. SUNDAY 9th November. Arrive 12.30pm, Photo 12.45 sharp.
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY SUNDAY 9th November 1.00 pm
Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as holding their school in high regard.

If you want the best outcomes for your child then it’s important that you become involved in as many aspects of your child’s education as practical.

The involvement of parents helps break down the mystique about school that can exist for some children. Their chances of success are better when they see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parents’ views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Parental involvement takes energy.

St Elizabeth’s school, like many other schools, offers parent learning community helpers’ jobs such as hearing children read, taking small groups in elective activities and assisting children when writing stories.

Unfortunately, finding parents who are willing to take part in these activities is increasingly difficult. Many parents find themselves worn out from working too hard or being involved in a variety of activities. They find themselves with no energy left to be involved in their child’s school.

Make sure your children are school ready every day.

Participating as a parent can be much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple things you can do at home that will assist teachers to maximise the learning of your child.

These include talking with your child about their day, hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure your children go off to school happy, healthy and having had plenty of sleep.

Here are some more ideas to help you participate in your child’s education in positive ways:

- **Find out** what your school is trying to achieve for your school and show your support for its aims. Discover what sets your child’s school apart from others.

- **Direct** conversations through the **correct channels** such as your child’s teacher, the principal or the school education board.

- Become an **advocate** for your child’s school; and promote its positive features throughout the wider community. Encourage your child to take **pride** in their school through your example.

- **Attend** school activities such as sports events, cross arts, and celebrations.

- **Consult** your child’s teacher about practical ways that you can assist both at home and at school.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven contributor to student success. One practical way to assist your child as a learner is to become actively involved in his/her school life.

parentingideas.com.au

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
Jesus was a leader. He taught people about God and brought them closer to Him.

St Mary of the Cross was also a leader. Our prayer table in the school foyer currently has a display of a quote from St Mary of the Cross, “Never see a need without doing something about it.”

These are just two of the role models available to us as people of faith.

We are about to begin a leadership program with our Yr5 students as they prepare to become the Yr6 leaders of our school in 2015. Over the past few years the leadership opportunities for our Yr6 students has increased as the need has been observed. This year we have had leadership positions for:

- School Captains
- Altar Server Captains
- Radio Captains
- Mini Vinnies Captains
- House Captains
- Tech Angel Captains
- Sustainability Captains
- Wellbeing Captains

For 2015, we are looking at expanding the opportunities for leadership available to our Yr6 students. The school recognises that all our Yr6 students are leaders. So in class meetings this week the 5/6 students have been discussing what needs they see for further leadership opportunities throughout the school. Some of the opportunities suggested by students include:

- Spirituality
- Bins
- Choir
- Music
- Table Tennis
- Duty Vests
- Friendship
- LOTE
- Library
- iPads on you

Another area the students have been discussing is whether our Captains should be elected on the basis of gender or whether it should be the best students for the job. There have certainly been some strong views for both sides of this issue.

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
I am very organized and I have all my things in order, ready for learning.

I am persistent in my work.
I demonstrate good attitude and never give up.
I love challenges!

I am a good friend and I respect everyone in my community.

ANDREW P.
Dear Families

A big reminder that our annual St. Elizabeth's Picnic Sports Day will be held on Monday 27th October. All of our families are invited to come along and join in on the atmosphere of the day. As it is a Picnic Sports Day, we would love to have you join us for a picnic lunch on the oval.

The key times are as follows:

- **12.10 pm** Opening Ceremony
- **1.30 pm** Picnic lunch
- **3 pm** Presentations

Our students will be trying their best all day to earn points for their houses by winning races, showing good sportsmanship, cheering their loudest and wearing their team colours.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew

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**School News ...**

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**Students leaving St. Elizabeth’s at the end of 2014**

Could any families, who are planning on leaving St. Elizabeth’s School at the end of the year, please notify Lisa in the School office on 9795 5258. This will enable us to accurately plan for next year’s classes.

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**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

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**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

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111 Bakers Road, Dandenong Nth, Vic. 3175     Tel: (03) 9795 5258     Fax: (03) 9790 0933
www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au     admin@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Parish Priest : Rev. Tadeusz Ziolkowski SC     School Principal : Mrs Christine Ash
Help Needed in School TuckShop

We are in desperate need of help in the tuckshop on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Are you able to help?

If you can spare a few hours, please complete the form below and send it back to the school office.

Tuckshop Helper form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and contact number.</th>
<th>Please tick</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents and Friends News

The next Parents and Friends meeting is on Monday 10th November at 2:20pm in The Nook.

It would be lovely to see many new faces, come along and meet the existing committee, enjoy a cuppa, and if you’d like to, have a say in how the Parents and Friends group raise money and/or organise social events for Parents.

Please do not think that because you come you will be given a job or a role to play (unless you would like one). There are only a few meeting left for this year.

Early in 2015 the Parents and Friends Association will be holding their AGM.

Book Club

Please note that Book Club orders are due by Friday 24 October.

No late orders can be accepted.

Parking Hazard on Monday 20 October

Parents please note there will be 5 buses out the front of St. Elizabeth’s on Monday morning for Yr3, Yr4, Yr5 and Yr6 excursion. Please allow enough time to drop your children off on time.
### Contact Details ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before School Care</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Permanent:</strong> $12.00 / Casual: $13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.00am to 8.55am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>After School Care:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Permanent:</strong> $13.50 / Casual: $14.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<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></td>
<td>Per Day: $45.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday. (No vacation care available in January.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Late Pick Up Fees:</strong> Per minute</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>20 October 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Beaded bracelets or necklace making.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Animal masks.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Paper fans.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Picture frames.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>PlayStation or movie.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you need care on Monday 3 November please contact Shereen at St. Mary’s Primary School on 0422 803 717.