Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

Are you uncomfortable with some of the changes that you see in the area of education? If you answer YES, you are not alone. Many people are finding the technological revolution in education difficult. They do not trust technology to support learning. They feel they are losing control over the way children learn and they feel they cannot keep up with all the changes that are happening. All this makes many of us want to go back to the past. We want to go back to what we were comfortable with and we think that what worked in the past should be good enough for students today. If students do what we used to do, then we will feel that we have things under control!

It is not just parents that feel that way, many teachers do too.

In the Australian on Wednesday, Natasha Bita wrote an article on the future of NAPLAN testing. In 2017 it has been proposed that computers would be marking the students writing pieces!

I don’t just mean checking the spelling and structure, but a whole lot more as well. Imagine that! The Australian Curriculum and Assessment Authority, the professionals responsible for checking all our Yr3, Yr5, Yr7 and Yr9 students’ work is going to trust a computer to grade essays!

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**St. Elizabeth’s Weekly Calendar …**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, 4 May</th>
<th>School Assembly (1/2KL YCDI “Resiliency” presentation - 8.45am</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 5 May</td>
<td>3/4SO - Reconciliation - 11.40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 6 May</td>
<td>Yr5 &amp; Yr6 - Winter Inter School Sports –v– Noble Park PS (away)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 7 May</td>
<td>Mothers Day Stall - 9.15am-1.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 7 May</td>
<td>Yr3 &amp; Yr4 - Jelly Beans Recorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 7 May</td>
<td>3/4DL - Reconciliation - 11.40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 8 May</td>
<td>Yr5 &amp; Yr6 - Community Mass - 9.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 8 May</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day cupcake celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 8 May</td>
<td>1/2KL - Radio Assembly (YCDI “Resiliency” presentation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 9 May</td>
<td>Yr3 - First Eucharist - 6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 9 May</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10 May</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10 May</td>
<td>Yr3 - First Eucharist - 10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10 May</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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
In 2017, it’s entirely possible that computers would be actually assessing a piece of writing and checking that it meets the problem that was set, checking if it meets the needs of a particular audience, asking and judging if the piece of writing is going to inform or entertain, describe or give instructions, persuade or instruct! Presumably, the computer would also be able to judge the images and ideas described by each student, decide if the words used are appropriate, check that the tone of the piece is right, decide if the reader can get an idea of the ‘voice’ of the writer and replace the current markers who are all educators!

Am I concerned? Will I demand that ACARA stops this move to computer assessment? I feel more secure knowing that teachers mark every piece now. I trust the judgement of teachers. Can I judge the effectiveness of a computer program? Teacher unions are challenging ACARA and claiming that the move is ‘outrageous’. Where does that place me as a contemporary educator?

Well, at one time, I didn’t think I would plan a trip overseas by myself, I thought that I would always need a travel agent.

At one time in my life, I thought I would always need to get recipes from a cookbook, now I use my iPad.

At one time in my life, I would never have considered replacing personal overseas visits and mail with an electronic device sending a message or even connecting me to my overseas family in real time through my phone.

At one time in my life, I would never have believed that I could do my banking and pay my bills sitting in my lounge room in front of the television.

I never would have believed that children could do their homework on their e-learning device with more enthusiasm and better results than sitting at the kitchen bench with paper and pencil putting missing words into sentences.

At this week’s School Education Board meeting, concern was raised by some parents that they wanted the children to go back to old styled homework and they want more of it to prepare them to meet Secondary Schools’ homework loads.

The world of our students in the future is a largely unknown scenario. What we could not imagine happening now will be the same for them. They will also have to cope with rapidly changing realities. I can’t stop you from preparing your children for the future by teaching them the way you learnt in the past but it’s no way to educate a generation of students. I have a responsibility to prepare the students for their future using today’s tools.

Homework is changing, our Victorian Government has informed schools that research shows no significant advantage for students who do homework over students who don’t. They do recognise that homework sets up good organisational and time management skills and give very clear guidelines to schools about the time that should be spent on homework. We meet those guidelines at St Elizabeth’s. The question for parents is whether the Secondary Colleges are meeting theirs!
Here are the Department of Education Guidelines for your information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Homework...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Foundation - Yr4 | • should not be seen as a chore,  
• enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials,  
• will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings,  
• will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during vacations. |
| Yr5 - Yr9 | • should include daily independent reading,  
• should be coordinated across subjects in secondary schools to avoid unreasonable workloads for students,  
• may extend class work, projects and assignments, essays and research,  
• will generally range from:  
  1. 30 to 45 minutes a day at Yr5.  
  2. 45 to 90 minutes a day in Yr9. |
| Yr10 - Yr12 | • will generally increase, and require from 1–3 hours per weeknight with up to 6 hours on weekends during peak VCE periods. |

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS

I thought it might be useful to share the Code of Conduct that we stand by at St Elizabeth’s. We use this Code for all sports events but as we have just started the Interschool Winter Season, it’s timely to share it with parents and guardians so that we are all on the same page.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Know the rules.
2. Play by the rules.
3. Abide by decisions, without argument or bad temper.
4. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately fouling or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted.
5. Participate fairly and safely. Ensure that at all times your behaviour is fair.
6. Be a patient and enthusiastic supporter of fellow players. Encourage, don’t berate.
7. Applaud all good play, by your own team and opponents.
8. Respect and acknowledge the contribution of those who create the opportunity for you to play including volunteers.
9. Throwing/damaging equipment is not permitted, respect your team’s equipment.
10. Enjoy yourself out there!

Christine Ash
The Principal
I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.”

Jn 15:1-8

Let me tell you about a school student who quit football because he lacked confidence and didn’t have friends on the team. He later regretted it. But it was too hard for him, with all his self-doubts, to practice each day.

Confidence and friendship. Both can be tough to find. Many young people struggle to connect with peers who will accept them as they are. Many also struggle to be confident in who they are.

This week’s Gospel hits home on both points. Even though all of us can feel alone and insecure, it reminds us that in some mystical but real way, we are always connected to Jesus. And though that connection, we can discover and develop our talents for changing the world. We also can use that connection to call for help when we feel disconnected and lonely.

We’ve all struggled with confidence and loneliness at some stage. But during those tough times remember, you’re firmly connected to the Saviour of the world. Like any relationship, the more you hang out with Jesus, the stronger the connection becomes. So hang out with him by involving yourself in Mass, prayer and friendships. You’ll feel the connection growing. And the more you strengthen that connection, the easier it will be to find the friends and the confidence you’ve hoped for. Get rid of the old self, make way for the new.

Who do you know that is lonely? What could you do to ease their loneliness?

Keep smiling!
Maria Popowycz
Religious Education Leader
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:

First Communion
The last two Wednesday nights we had the absolute pleasure of hosting the Family Activity and Liturgy Preparation evenings. There was a great sense of togetherness and many shared family stories. It certainly made everyone think about their family and how they come together. Thank you to the families who came and shared family stories and helped their children prepare for the Sacrament of Eucharist.

First Communion Reminders
May I remind those families with children celebrating their First Communion of the Sacramental levy of $25.00 cash that does need to be paid through the office.

Families whose children are not receiving their First Communion will need to pay $5.00 towards the whole level Eucharist Activity Day.

Family Posters are optional for families. If you have completed one, please ensure it is returned to school by Monday 4 May so I am able to put them up in the church.

Confirmation Candidates
Commitment weekend - Feast of Pentecost: weekend of 23 and 24 May. We ask the candidates to attend the Sunday 10.30am Mass to formally enroll themselves in their on-going program. If you are unable to attend on Sunday then attend any of the Masses at St Elizabeth’s Parish in the Pentecost weekend. A reminder there is a Mass attendance sheet at the back of the church for Confirmation Candidates.

Thank you to the many First Communion and Confirmation candidates with their families who are continuing their commitment to regularly attend Mass here within this parish community. It is an expectation that all families attend Mass regularly as part of their children’s preparation to receive sacraments.
**When Great Minds Don’t Think Alike**

Information session for parents of children with learning difficulties including Dyslexia, Auditory Processing Disorder, ADHD, Neuro Developmental Delay, Sensory Integration Issues, Language Disorder, Dyspraxia and Asperger / Autism related learning difficulties presented by Nadine Shome from ReMinds

**Monday 25th May, 7pm**
Mount Waverly Library 41 Miller Crescent

Bookings essential:
Phone: 9807 5022
Email: eventbookings@monlib.vic.gov.au
Free Program

**GIRL GUIDES**

Girl Guides Victoria offers quality programs for girls’ aged 5–17 promoting citizenship, volunteerism, social awareness and self-reliance. Girl Guides learn by doing. Girl Guides meet regularly, usually once a week for roughly 1.5 hours in a group called a Guide Unit made up of girls of similar ages who work together in small groups called a patrol.

The Girl Guide Unit is run by a team of volunteer women called guide leaders. Guide leaders are trustworthy, skilled and dedicated women who give time to mentor, challenge and support each Girl Guide. Each Guide Leader holds special checks to be allowed to work with children e.g. Victorian Police Check and in addition these volunteers complete a specialised training program where they learn all the skills required include First Aid and CPR.

Welcome to Local Girl Guide Unit.

- Springvale Fairy Guide Unit for girls Foundation–Yr3. The Springvale Fairy Guide Unit meets each Wednesday from 4.30–6pm at their Guide Hall, 55 Royal Avenue, Springvale.
- Girl Guides for girls in Yr4 – Yr6 Wednesday 7–8.30pm at Guide Hall, 55 Royal Avenue, Springvale.

**Tuning Into Kids Parent / Grandparent Training Program for Families in Casey, Cardinia and Greater Dandenong**

Parenting Program runs once a week during school terms and provides 7 weeks of exploring parenting together in a group.

**Learn How To:**

- Tune into your child’s emotions.
- Understand your children’s emotional experiences.
- Manage tricky moments.
- Create opportunity to connect with your children.

Hallam Community Learning Centre
56 Kays Avenue, Hallam
Phone 9703 1688
Melways 91 C11

9.15am–11.45am Wednesday 29 April / Wednesday 6 May / Wednesday 13 May / Wednesday 20 / Wednesday 27 May / Wednesday 3 June / Wednesday 10 June.

Cost $5.00 per session. Child Care available.

Registration is essential – Call Ann Maree 8558 9041 to register.

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
A huge thank you to the 25 parents that took the time to answer our survey about the newsletter. It’s not too late if you’d still like to contribute: [http://goo.gl/ivNsiW](http://goo.gl/ivNsiW)

Here are the results so far for the first 3 questions:

### How often do you read the newsletter?

- Every week: 18 (75%)
- Every 2-3 weeks: 5 (20.8%)
- Once a month: 1 (4.2%)
- Less often: 0 (0%)

### When do you read the newsletter?

- When I receive an email that it is available: 13 (54.2%)
- At night: 9 (37.5%)
- On the weekend: 4 (16.7%)
- Other: 3 (12.5%)

### Which articles do you read?

- Principal’s Message: 19 (76%)
- St Elizabeth’s Weekly Calendar: 22 (88%)
- Religious Education News: 15 (60%)
- Student Wellbeing News: 18 (72%)
- Learning and Teaching: 18 (72%)
- Sport News: 15 (60%)
- School News: 17 (68%)
- Parents and Friends: 15 (60%)
- Parish News: 13 (52%)
- Community News: 13 (52%)
- Out of School Hours Care Program: 5 (20%)
- Other: 3 (12%)

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Children need to develop strong images in their minds about shapes and objects and the way they can be changed, put together or pulled apart. We also need to help children develop the language they need to describe shapes and objects.

**How do children learn about spatial ideas?**

Initially, children will learn about objects and the space around them by experimenting and playing. Young children enjoy building towers or discovering which blocks will stack or roll. While it is not until much later that children will learn the names of three-dimensional objects, we should encourage children to think and talk about the parts that make up the object. Through early experiences, children will learn the names of simple 2-dimensional shapes, such as triangle or circle. We need to show children shapes in different positions and sizes to help build their mental images of shapes. Drawing and making shapes are key ways in which children can develop these ideas.

**What can you do at home?**

- Read books to your child and talk about the shapes you can see within the pictures. The roof on the house is a triangle.
- Look for objects inside or outside the house that are shaped like a circle, triangle, rectangle or square. Look for different sized shapes and shapes in different positions.
- Involve your child in craft activities such as making your own gift wrapping by printing painted shapes onto paper using corks, empty cotton reels or sponges.
- Fold paper to make a hat or boat and talk about the shapes made as you fold the paper.
- Play I Spy games and describe things by size and shape. I spy with my little eye something that is big and shaped like a square.
- Use boxes and containers of different sizes to play “stacking” games.
- Make biscuits using cookie cutters or make pretend biscuits from modelling dough. Talk about the shape of each biscuit.

Curriculum K–12 Directorate, NSW Department of Education and Training

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

Last week our Yr5 & Yr6 students played our first round of the Winter Inter school sports season. We played away at Westall Primary School. This will be a 9 round season with games played most Thursday mornings throughout Term 2. In a perfect world we would like to take all of our teams every week, but the reality is that schools are all different sizes. The first two rounds have meant our girl's soccer and rugby tag have not been able to play. They have been practicing back here at school and are "chomping at the bit" to play against the bigger schools.

This week I went through a "Player's Code of Conduct" with all of our Yr5 & Yr6 students to reaffirm our expectations of them when they are representing our school in this competition. For the great majority of time our students play in the correct spirit, but for others they need to be reminded that this is a school sport and weekend players play against players of little or no experience in a competitive game.

This program allows our students the opportunity at being gracious in victory, as well as in defeat. In school sports, often scores are a blow-out and our teachers are there to ensure the focus is on the participation for every player that takes the field. There are many wins in inter school sports, and more often than not, they are not found on a scoreboard.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
Sports Coordinator

INTER SCHOOL SPORT NEWS

On Thursday the two netball teams played against Westall Primary School. The “B” team won and the score was 8 to 4. The “A” team won and the score was 19 to 2! Everyone played an awesome game! Well done girls. :)

Zoe Adamopoulos
CAREMONKEY NEWS AND UPDATES:

We have now been advised by CareMonkey that you can now access your CareMonkey profile and permission forms with ease by using the CareMonkey App. Please download the CareMonkey App via the App Store or Google Play and create and edit care profiles for your whole family and respond to permission requests. If you have any problems and queries please contact Lisa on 9795 5258. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Keep track of your family’s emergency contacts and medical details.
Share with people you trust to care for your family.
Download it today via the App Store or Google Play

With the new App you can:

- Create and edit care profiles for your whole family
- Respond to permission requests and electronic forms (for care profiles shared with schools, clubs or other groups)
- Sign in with a secure PIN code or fingerprint (no more emails and passwords!)
- Just click the green "Share" button and trusted carers such as grandparents, babysitters and friends will know how to contact you and know what to do in an emergency

Your family is safer when you share care profiles with people you trust.

Read what Karlie Jackett-Simpson had to say after her son was knocked unconscious on a school excursion last December.

"Because the teacher had my phone number in the CareMonkey App on her smartphone, she was talking to me seconds after the incident occurred. As shattering and frightening as it was, it meant I was part of what was unfolding and knew what they were doing with my son. Because our medical information was up to date, it also meant that by the time I got to hospital I could focus on Lachlan rather than getting stressed about insurance questions and medical details etc." Read more

If you have any questions about the App please contact us at support@caremonkey.com

Download the App today via the App Store or Google Play

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
**Victorian Premier Reading Challenge**

Congratulations to our first students, Thirdana and Austin for completing the Victorian Premier Reading Challenge. We currently have 210 students enrolled in the challenge, which is amazing. The challenge runs until early September, so please don’t panic. In last weeks newsletter there is an article “Victorian Premier Reading Challenge … “How to enter a book”, which should be of help to those not sure what to do.

Please come and see me Monday to Thursday should you have any queries.

Trixie Martin

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**Parents and Friends**

Families have the opportunity to purchase a fundraising booklet which has great savings ranging from AFL tickets, 2 for the price of 1, Village Cinema tickets, 2 for the price of 1 and many more fabulous savings.

Each booklet costs $20.00. If you are interested in purchasing a booklet please let Trixie or Lisa know so we can order them.

There is a Booklet on display at the school office for you to have a look at.

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**Parish Dinner Dance.**

The Parish Dinner Dance is on Saturday 20 June, being held in the Performing Arts Centre.

Band : Next Generation

Banquet Dinner: by Royal Regale.

BYO Drinks.

Dress: Smart Casual

Tickets : Adults $40 Children under 12 $25.00

Tickets available from Trixie or after weekend Masses.
## Mothers Day Stall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coaster</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flower Magnets</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confetti Soap</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lanyard</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Mark Ring</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tote Bag</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head Massager</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Fizz Balls</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lipstick Pen</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scented Candle</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Dance Light</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memo Holder</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soap Trio Gift Set</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magnetic Shopping List</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assorted key Rings</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cosmetic Bag</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bling Mirror</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stylis Pen</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notebook with Pen</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mum Glitter Globe</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bathtub set</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinket Box</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Necklace</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scented Candle (Family/Love)</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organiser</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pen and Keyring Set</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bling Pen</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owl Mug and Coaster</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luxury Body Pack</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fragrant Reed Diffuser</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selfie Stick</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watch</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Contact Details ...

St. 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 ...

**Beginning:** Monday 4 May 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Make paper plate roses, paper bead colour necklaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Handprint flowers, pop-up paper flowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Flower petal coupons, tissue paper flowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Make a Mothers’ Day poster and a certificate to give mum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Roses colouring sheets</td>
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</tbody>
</table>