Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

This week we welcomed new and old families to our 2016 Foundation Parent’s Information Night and we also met the 2016 Foundation children for the last time this year. Next year they will start school and become part of our community for their primary years of schooling. I really enjoy seeing the look of anticipation on the faces of the children. There were days in the distant past where many children coming to school for the Orientation session would look distressed. Not so these days, the children have come so often that they are really enthusiastic about coming to school.

They have a real sense of familiarity with the school setting and they look forward to not only seeing their friends from Kinder but also their teachers and even their Principal!

I am delighted to announce that Ms Grace Accetta will be joining us next year as a partner to Ms Jessica Connolly who will once again be teaching the Foundation students. Grace comes to us with excellent references.
from Yarraman Oaks Primary School in Dandenong. Grace has taught at both Catholic and Government schools and is very excited about teaching here next year. The children are learning to say her name, it sounds like ‘archeta’.

We have also recently employed another teacher to join our staff. Her name is Gabrielle Catania. Gabrielle is a Graduate from Monash University where she studied for a Bachelor of Education which prepared her to teach from Foundation to Year 10. Gabrielle is passionate about Social Justice and often volunteers for youth leadership activities and also enjoys working in the St Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen in Dandenong.

The Leadership team and I are still working on staffing and that will be available to you as soon as I get it completed. We have advertised for a Performing Arts teacher to cover Ms Hollie Zacharriesen’s parental leave and I am also looking for a LOTE Chinese Mandarin Teacher as Ms Julia Guan is leaving us to take up a position as Coordinator of the Chinese International Student’s Program at Nazareth College. We congratulate Julia on this appointment.

This week we also finalised the discussions and planning that goes into creating Home Groups and Communities across the various levels. This is a very demanding task and we started several weeks ago by asking children to give us a list of five people that they get on with as friends. Friendship is very important, not only to children but also to adults! We all like to have the security of at least one person who we makes us feel good about ourselves when we move to a new place. Our staff take great care to ensure that, as we create balanced home groups and communities, the children’s wishes to be with someone special to them is our first criteria.

We also have to make sure that we have home groups that are as balanced with the number of girls and boys as we can make them. That is not as easy as it looks either and in some year levels we will certainly have more boys in each home group than girls, but that is beyond our control! We also look at the needs of the children in each group so that we have no one class that is too high in special needs or unbalanced in terms of academic performance.

Staff devote a great deal of time to this planning. The openness of our structure ensures all children have opportunities for social connections across the school but there is a real sense of security moving into a home group with a chosen companion. I am sure that you will agree, that it is good that both children and staff have input into the construction of the learning groups for the next 12 months!

Christine Ash
Principal
THOUGHTS FROM ‘THE WAY’

CAMINO PILGRIM TRAIL

As we walked along the Way to Santiago de Compostella, we enjoyed the beauty of God’s creation. Fruits and flowers, birds and bees and gentle breezes and the perfume of flowers. When we arrived at Santiago we were dazzled by a different kind of creation. We marvelled at the wonderful ways people through the years have created art to express their faith and devotion.

Think of the great pieces of music written for Masses, think of the sculpture and paintings commissioned for churches across the world. The church is often criticised for its treasure trove of art works which would be priceless, but you have to admit that the church has also been a vigilant curator of art. Who would have stored them so carefully and so publically so that we could all enjoy them if it wasn’t for the churches?
Many struggle to see God when faced with natural disaster or the cruelty of other human beings. But God is always there in the hands of those who offer help and support, whether offered by those of faith or no faith, for all love has its source in Christ.

Lord,

We pray for all whose lives have been touched by tragedy, whether by accident or a deliberate act.
For those who mourn, immerse them in your love and lead them through this darkness into your arms, and light.
For those who comfort, be in both the words they use and all that’s left unspoken; fill each heart with love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, whose own suffering brought us life, here and for eternity.
Amen

SCHOOL & CLASS LITURGIES AND KEY EVENTS

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

**Friday 27th November:**
Whole School ‘ADVENT GIFT GIVING’ Mass at 9.15am

**Wed 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
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Religious Education News cont …

PLEASE SUPPORT MATUTINAO MOVIE FUNDRAISER NIGHT
CLOSING DATE FOR TICKET BOOKINGS EXTENDED TO MONDAY NOV 23

Fundraiser Movie Night

Come see me in my new movie SPECTRE and help raise funds for St Elizabeth’s friendship school in the Philippines - Matutinao.
Hope you enjoy the movie!

Everyone Welcome
Invite family & friends for a fun night out!

$18 per ticket

Wednesday
Nov 25
6:30 pm

Bookings are essential with payment by
Mon Nov 23rd at St Elizabeth’s school office

Or at - http://www.trybooking.com/JRZN
Location: Waverley Cinemas at Pinewood Shopping Centre Blackburn Rd, Mt Waverley

All tickets are a great price of $18
Spectre is rated M

All proceeds will go towards supporting our friendship school Matutinao in the Philippines

God Bless,

Maria Popowycz
Religious Education Leader
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Everyone experiences anger. It is a normal reaction to frustration, stress or disappointment. It can occur in children as young as three or four months old. Anger can be quite noticeable in toddlers who often express it through tantrums and other aggressive actions. However, as they grow and develop, most children learn how to deal with some of the frustrations of everyday life. They also learn how to express their anger in acceptable ways. Some anger can be helpful. For example, when expressed effectively, anger can help tell someone else, “Stop. I don’t like that.” Anger can also motivate us to overcome problems and achieve goals. Whether children’s anger is positive or negative depends on how effectively it is managed and whether it can be directed towards positive goals.

When children lack skills for managing anger it can lead to aggressive behaviour. Usually, it is the aggressive action that follows anger that most concerns parents, carers and school staff. Learning to manage anger involves developing social and emotional skills for calming down and having ways to express angry feelings assertively. This means learning to use words rather than aggressive actions to communicate feelings. Parents, carers and school staff have an important role in helping children learn to manage anger effectively.

**Differences in children’s use of anger.**

Before they start school, most young children have learned that getting aggressive when angry is not considered appropriate behaviour. They may have also learned some strategies for managing anger, for example, counting to 10, explaining what they are annoyed about, or asking an adult for help to resolve a problem. These are positive coping strategies that help children manage their angry feelings and build skills for effective relationships.

Some children try to manage angry feelings by avoiding the situation or person that has led them to be angry. Children who use this kind of strategy very often do not build effective skills for relating to others, which can cause them problems in later years. Some other children seem to have few strategies for managing anger and so may continue to act aggressively and impulsively. Children with anger problems are often rejected by other children because of their difficult behaviour. Feeling rejected, they may think others are being mean to them and become angrier. This may start a pattern of thinking that leads them to respond with aggressive behaviour even where no intention to hurt is present. For example, they may get angry when somebody bumps into them and react aggressively without stopping to think that it may have been an accident.

The different ways that children manage anger are influenced by a combination of personal characteristics, how much stress the child and family are under and opportunities available at home and school for learning how to cope with feelings. From early childhood, some children seem to react more to frustration and take longer to return to a calm state. These children may need extra assistance to learn skills for controlling anger. Some children don’t learn how to manage anger because being angry is not okay in their families. They don’t get the chance to practise positive ways of managing anger or telling others when they are angry. Children can also learn aggression through the examples of others. When the adults responsible for children’s care get angry quickly and often, or when they use reactive, harsh and inconsistent discipline, children are more likely to behave aggressively themselves. Research indicates that physical aggression in children is most common at the age of two. As skills for language and thinking develop, aggressive behaviour is reduced. However, for some primary school children aggression remains at a high level. These children may benefit from professional help to learn to control aggression and stop behaviour problems becoming worse.

**Kids Matter / Families Matter**

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
21st Century Education

This week at our 2016 Foundation Information Night I shared a video with parents. This video has statistics about the way our world is changing. Did you know that today the English language has 5 times the amount of words available to Shakespeare when he was writing in the 1500s?

You can access the video at [https://goo.gl/JwxYrh](https://goo.gl/JwxYrh) or by scanning

The clip moves quite quickly however there are 17 words that describe the skills that all students will need to develop to be successful throughout their lives: They are:

- global mindedness
- grit
- problem solving
- empathy
- leadership
- problem identification
- responsibility
- innovation
- exploration
- adaptability
- cultural awareness
- initiative
- collaboration
- communication
- civic engagement

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Early this year, Safeway had an in-store promotion where children collected Dominoes about movie characters. If you have any leftover dominoes or your children are no longer interested in them, we can certainly use them in the Nook during lunchtimes.

The picture below shows what they look like.

They can be handed into The Office or to Mrs Dennett.

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

Next Thursday all of our students will be competing in the annual St. Elizabeth's Picnic Sports Day. It has always been a fun day for kids to dress up in their team colours and cheer along their classmates. There will be sprints, relays, kanga sack races, a buddy race and other events. Points are tallied throughout the day and an eventual winner will be announced at the conclusion of the day. Whilst their will be winners and losers throughout the day, the emphasis is on participation, having a go and having fun.

The "Chant-Off" event is a new inclusion and lets our house captains lead their teams in to a raucous war-cry letting everyone know how good their team is. Points are awarded for creativity and sheer volume!

Here is hoping the weather gods are kind to us on Thursday the 24th of November.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
Sports Coordinator

Parents and Friends

On Wednesday 9th December we have our Carols by Candlelight where 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.

Christmas Donations can be sent along to the school office.

The Christmas Raffle will be drawn on the Carols By Candlelight night.
ST. ELIZABETH’S
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT NIGHT

An invitation is extended to all our families and our parish community:

**Carols by Candlelight**

**Wednesday, 9th December, 2015**

If the weather is fine, we hope lots of families will bring a picnic tea to enjoy on the oval (between 6pm and 7pm). Please bring your own chairs, blankets, plates and glasses etc.

The Nativity Scene in the Church Foyer will be open for families to enjoy.

Carols will be held in the Performing Art Centre regardless of the weather conditions.

**NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED INSIDE.**

As we have had poor weather in recent years, we have decided to present both the Christmas Story and the novelty songs from the stage.

There will be chairs available for the elderly at the back.

Parents and guardians are asked to bring blankets, cushions or pillows to sit on the floor. Unfortunately we cannot get everyone in and seated on chairs.

At 7pm the Foundation children will sing the Christmas Story followed by the drawing of the Christmas Raffle. Raffle tickets will be on sale up until 7pm.

Following this each community in turn will sing a novelty song.

Please join in with the final song - ‘We Wish You A Merry Christmas’.

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**Glow Stix Order Form**

This year we will be offering all our families the opportunity to purchase Glow Stix to bring to our Carols Night. The cost of a Glow Stix is $2.50 each. Glow Stix can be ordered prior to the event and will be given to the children to take home or for sale on the night up until 7pm. If you would like to purchase a Glow Stix prior to Carols, please complete and return the order form below in an envelope marked “Glow Stix” with your child’s name, class and correct money to Lisa at the front desk by Monday 7 December. Eftpos is not available as a payment option.

Child’s Name: ____________________________________________

Class: ____________________________________________

Number of glow stix required ($2.50 each): __________

Total Amount: $ _________
Lost property and Second-hand Uniforms

Are you missing some part of your child’s school uniform? Come and have a look at the lost property.

Could you do with another school jacket, jumper, track pants, shorts, or school dress?

We have a large number of second-hand uniforms for the taking! (no cost)

Please come and see if we have what you need.

Trixie
The Nook.

News from The Nook

Dear Parents, Guardians and Grandparents.

Please be aware that all library books need to be returned by Monday 7th December. The Christmas holiday period is the only time we ask for all books to be returned.

As you are aware, we are waiting to be told when the renovations will take place, and because of this, there is a large number of books in the classrooms for your child to read during this time.

Once we are open in 2016, I would encourage all parents, grandparents and guardians to become members of our library, so that along with your children you will be able to enjoy our library books at home.

Thank you
Trixie Martin
marttr@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Community News ...

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

www.excelsis.org.au
GREAT NEWS FROM NAZARETH COLLEGE!

Due to increased demand, Nazareth College is pleased to announce that we are adding an additional stream of classes to accommodate increased applications for Year 7 2016. Enrolments at all year levels for 2016 are welcomed.

Please contact the College Registrar on 9795-8100 for more information.

Nazareth College SEEKING HOME STAY FAMILIES

Home Stay families are required for:
• - Short term Japanese students. 12 days in March 2016
• - For long term International student accommodation.

For further information including application form and details of payment, please contact the College Registrar on 9795-8100.
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**

### Contact Details...

| St Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program | Weekly Activities ...
| 111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North | Beginning: Monday 23rd November 2015 |
| Ph: 0422 803 709 | |

**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 during session times.

### Weekly Activities...

- **Monday**
  Design your own jumbo ties

- **Tuesday**
  Cardboard flags

- **Wednesday**
  Make your own calendar pocket chart

- **Thursday**
  Make fun animal faces

- **Friday**
  Farm animals / Sea animals paper shapes

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**Dear Parents.**

As you would be aware, the last day of school is the 16th of December. There will be a program offered by Youth Leadership Victoria as a part of our after school program on the following days: 17th, 18th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd of December. Please choose your day/s carefully as the centre will only be open if we have a minimum of 10 children.

Please contact Elarine on 0422 803 709 if you wish to book in your child/ren or to discuss further.

**NOTE:** St. Mary’s Primary School in Dandenong will be running the 5 days as well. If we cannot make 10 children, the option is St. Mary’s vacation care.