Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and other Parishioners,

Last night the School Education Board approved the plans we have in place to refurbish the Foundation Community Space and our new Library space, the Nook. I have put the plans in the foyer of the school and also on the Noticeboard on the wall near the Church. The school will now apply for a grant to assist us with costs, but if we are unsuccessful, we will try to manage the project financially on our own. Both the Nook and the Foundation Community Spaces need work to bring them up to the same level of purposeful design as the rest of the school.

What do we propose to do? We know from research that today’s children like to learn in spaces that are comfortable and cozy. They like their school to look more like their home than an organisational structure. So the Nook will have the feel of a family home but combined with the sorts of things that you have to have in a library too. So, for example, there will be a bench for book returns, but it will also double as a bookcase with books displayed on the front of it.

There will also be a small office for Trixie where she can go to do work that requires a degree of privacy or peace! In the area where Trixie is currently keeping her desk, there will be a mini amphitheatre, a set of steps which will have a storage space built in behind it. There is always a lot of messy stuff in a library, contact, equipment, glues, tapes, books to be mended and books waiting to be entered on to the system etc. Behind the steps of this story-telling stairway, we can hide a fair bit of stuff!

Next to the steps will be a small kitchen, a place where visitors and parents can come and make a cup of coffee whilst they bring their pre-schoolers in to borrow a book, or while they wait for Auskick to finish or whilst they enjoy a P and F meeting.

St. Elizabeth’s Weekly Calendar ...

| Monday, 25 August | School Assembly - 8.45-9am  
Foundation, 2015 - Orientation Session 1 - 2.15-3pm  
P&F Meeting - 2.20pm, Nook |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, 26 August | 3/4HP - Reconciliation, Church, 11.30am  
Yr5 & Yr6 - Incursion - Andrew W. (Confirmation Talk) |
| Wednesday, 27 August | 3/4SO - Reconciliation, Church, 11.30am |
| Thursday, 28 August | Yr3 & Yr4 - Mass, 9.15am  
Yr1 & Yr2 - Incursion, Royal Flying Doctors |
| Friday, 29 August | St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 10.30am  
St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 5.30pm |
| Saturday, 30 August | St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 6.30pm |
| Sunday, 31 August | St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm |
| UPCOMING EVENTS: | Fathers’ Day Stall  
Pancake Breakfast - Special men in our lives  
Working Bee No. 3 - 9.30-11am |
| Monday, 1 September | Friday, 5 September  
Saturday, 13 September |
Diagonally opposite that will be the returns desk, roughly where the red tables are at the moment. Either side of the entry way into the corridor we will have book display shelving.

All the picture story books will be kept in open boxes so that children will be able to flip through the books looking at the full front cover and not just seeing the spine of the book. Randomly scattered mobile boxes will also display some of the non-fiction and reference books. The bulk of those resources though will be shelved along the western wall. We have added a small wall at the doorway to stop a raging wind coming in from the oval and blowing everything away, especially any displays on the west and south walls. The entire area will also be re-carpeted and furniture will be colourful and modular.

Moving on to the Foundation area; we have already emptied the radio station and it is now installed in the TV studio. This is a better place for Yr5 and Yr6 students, as it will be handy to their own learning community. The old radio room will become a storeroom for Foundation’s Developmental Play materials. The area where the old library bench is will become a wet area with vinyl floor coverings and sinks. There would be a wall built between the storeroom of library books where Ms Dennett and the teacher assistants often work and the Foundation wet area.

The biggest expense will be creating a large covered play area outside of the Foundation Community Room. This will enable the Foundation students to have creative play and construction activities, as well as physical activities under cover, regardless of the weather.

If money stretches that far, we will also put a veranda outside the Nook library and place tables and chairs there permanently. This will also create an outdoor learning space for all students, but will give parents and others collecting children a sheltered place to wait for them.

Altogether, this project will cost about $250000. We have asked Greg Strickland of Brand Architects to handle the design for us. Greg managed the BER project for us a couple of years ago and we have great trust in his work.

If you have any comments and suggestions that you think we should consider, please contact me at school, all ideas will be taken into consideration.
(principal@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au)

SCHOOL FEES
We have tried very hard to keep our fees reasonable over the last few years but as the Government’s Gonski Funding to schools is now starting to impact on us, it is becoming clearer that Catholic Schools are going to have to manage their fee collection more effectively to ensure that what the Government expects us to collect is closer to what we actually collect.

The Federal and State Government financial support for our students is based on parents paying the same school fees for each child. In Catholic Schools, because we value the concept of ‘family’ we have in most cases made it much cheaper to have two or more children at the school. The expected school fees coming in to the school are much lower per student when you have two or more children enrolled at school within a family fee.

However, the government is expecting that we will collect the same amount of money for each student regardless of how many children in the family are at that school. They are using this as their basis to work out how much funding they will give each school. So if, for example, they see school fees of $1,500, they work that out as $1,500 per student coming into the school. If in fact the school offers a family fee of $1,500, then the school is not collecting from parents what the Government thinks they are collecting. If you have a family fee structure maybe 40% of the students are only paying $750 each and 20% are paying $500 each. That leaves a big gap between what is actually being collected and what the government thinks you are collecting in school fees. The Government is not willing to change its position on this!

This situation will begin to create a financial gap which schools will have to find a way to manage.

There will have to be a discussion about all this in the future but for now, you will understand that school fees will have to rise next year. We will try to keep it reasonable.

In the meantime, if you have not yet paid your fees in full for this year, please do so before the end of the term. At the very least, we need everyone who already has the advantage of fairly low fees to pay their fair share.

NEW PLAYGROUND - SHADE SAILS PROGRESS

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Also at the Board Meeting last night the girls winter uniform was changed to include the lighter of the 2 kilts that has been displayed in the foyer. The cost is around $50 and I am sure the Uniform Shop will give you more information about how to order as soon as possible. The kilt can be worn with navy blue tights or socks (Royal Blue and available from the School Shop). The school polo shirt currently on the Uniform list can be worn under the kilt.

Christine Ash / The Principal

111 Bakers Road, Dandenong Nth, Vic. 3175
www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Parish Priest : Rev. Tadeusz Ziołkowski SC
Tel: (03) 9795 5258 Fax: (03) 9790 0933
admin@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
School Principal : Mrs Christine Ash
Principle's Message  

"You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church."
Mt 16:13-20

In this Sunday’s Gospel Jesus asks the disciples what people are saying about him. Who do they think he is? He wants to find out how his words and actions are being understood, so preparing the disciples for their own understanding of him. The answers given are all religious figures who have already died. The people seem to believe that Jesus is a prophetic figure come back from the dead.

One of the disciples, Simon Peter proclaims that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus insists that the only reason Peter knew this was that Jesus’ identity had been revealed to him by God. After this Jesus announces that his church will be founded on Peter.

What does it mean for us today? If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer?

Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were - good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter’s failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God’s grace in our lives.

CLASS LITURGIES

Thank you to the staff and Yr1 and Yr2 families who came last Sunday to celebrate Mass together as a community. Celebrating Mass together brings us closer as a St. Elizabeth’s parish community.

Friday 29th August: Yr3 and Yr4 Learning Community will prepare and lead the 9.15am Mass.

Friday 5th September: Yr1 and Yr2 Learning Community will prepare and lead the 9.15am Mass.

Sunday 29th September: Yr5 and Yr6 Learning Community will be Hosting Mass at 10:30am

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.

God Bless,

Maria Popowycz
Catholic Identity Coordinator
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENTS &amp; FORMS</th>
<th>Due date</th>
<th>Reminder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation Levy $25 for Lysterfield Reflection day, certificates, medals and classroom resources. To be paid to school office.</td>
<td>Was due 15th August</td>
<td>Friendly reminder</td>
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<tr>
<td>All other year 6 students $15 Levy for Lysterfield Reflection day and classroom resources. To be paid to school office.</td>
<td>Was due 15th August</td>
<td>Friendly reminder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament Enrolment forms</td>
<td>Friday 29 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Profiles for parishioners&quot; permission form (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 29 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Profiles for parishioners (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 5th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profiles for church display (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 5th September or earlier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lysterfield Reflection day Permission form</td>
<td>Friday 12 September</td>
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<td>Confirmation student activity packs</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation Banners (optional)</td>
<td>Friday 24th October or earlier</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Parent letter” to your Confirmation child</td>
<td>Friday 24th October or earlier</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LYSTERFIELD REFLECTION DAY</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 23rd October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop Elliott’s School Visit</td>
<td>Thursday 6th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family &amp; Individual Confirmation Photos</td>
<td>SUNDAY 9th November 11.00am-12.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Confirmation Photo</td>
<td>SUNDAY 9th November. Arrive 12.30pm, Photo 12.45 sharp.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CONFIRMATION SUNDAY</strong></td>
<td>SUNDAY 9th November 1.00 pm</td>
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HELPING CHILDREN LEAPFROG THEIR DIFFICULTIES
Parenting Ideas - Michael Grose

‘A parent’s attitude to their child’s difficulties will determine how successfully they meet and overcome many of their obstacles and hurdles.

Whether it is going to school for the first time, making new friends, going on school camp, moving on to secondary school, children often experience difficulties that they need to overcome.

When children overcome problems and deal with unpleasant situations they learn they are capable, which is the basis of self-esteem and confidence.

Children’s resilience is fostered when they overcome problems and manage unpleasant social situations such as teasing, or going into new situations. Protecting kids from challenging experiences robs them of chances to learn, develop and grow.

Resilient kids look back and draw on skills and understandings they have developed in the past to help them deal with the present challenges.

Five great parenting ideas to help your kids leapfrog their difficulties

Frame the problem as a challenge:
Kids take their cues from their parents so the frame of a ‘challenge’ gives kids something to rise to rather than be overwhelmed by.

Coach kids to do well:
Talk kids through their challenges, give them ideas to cope and manage. Consider rehearsing some skills or language they may need.

Show confidence they will succeed:
Children generally meet their parents’ expectations so make sure your expectations are realistic, positive and supportive of their feelings.

Give kids a chance:
Allow kids to approach challenges in their own way without constantly checking on them. Your nervousness is definitely catching.

Celebrate their success:
Even if they were partially successful, such as they went to school camp for two out of the three days, then encourage their efforts. They’ve got a building block for the next time.

The attitude and approach of parents and teachers will determine how successfully children and young people meet and overcome many of the hurdles they encounter. That attitude needs to be courageous, sensitive and hopeful that your child will meet, and overcome with assistance, all the challenges they encounter.

PLEASE DON’T FORGET
We are currently collecting Activity Books, Colouring Books, Coloured Pencils and Textas to send to our Friendship School in the Philippines and to the Dandenong Tutoring Club.

A BIG THANK YOU IF YOU HAVE ALREADY DONATED.

Nan Perazzo / Wellbeing Coordinator
Has your child told you that they have a Mathletics account? We are in the middle of a free 2 week trial of Mathletics. Mathletics promote themselves as “… the world’s leading online numeracy resource, helping students to love learning and achieve greater results through engaging content that perfectly matches their school curriculum.”

The purpose of the trial is for us to evaluate Mathletics compared to the free resources we already have access to. The main resources that various teachers are using include:

http://www.studyladder.com.au This is free during school hours and limited to 3 activities per day after 3pm. Study Ladder provides resources for English, Mathematics, Science, Health, Citizenship, Art and Music.

http://www.zoowhiz.com Like Study Ladder, the free ZooWhiz accounts provide unlimited access during school hours and limited at home. For 2014 our school has received a free upgrade which provides more detailed reports for teachers on how your child is progressing as well as providing unlimited access at home. Zoo Whiz provides resources for English and Mathematics.

https://www.khanacademy.org This is provided by a not-for-profit organisation that believes in a free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere. Khan Academy provides resources for Mathematics, Economics, Science, Art History and Computer Programming.

Our aim is to find the best resource to support learning for every student working at their own level. If you have any feedback on any of the resources we are using, please feel free to email me.

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
22 August 2014

Dear Parents,

St. Elizabeth's Parish Primary School Working Bee No. 3 will be held on **Saturday 13 September at 9.30-11am**.

If you are able to spare some time on Saturday 13 September, 2014 - we need you! Our third Working Bee for the year involves; general tidy up, sweeping pathways, cleaning drains, tidying up garden beds and trimming trees, as well as some cleaning tasks. A full attendance at this Working Bee or one in Term 1, Term 2 or Term 4 sees your Working Bee Levy of $60 credited to your account.

Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

OH&S - please make sure you wear appropriate clothing: sunscreen (when appropriate), shoes that completely cover your feet, a hat and gloves.

You can now register family members attending this Working Bee via our website [www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au). Under the heading “Recent News”, you will see information on “Working Bee No. 3”. Please click on the word “Read More” and then “here”.

Once you have entered the School Event Code of ATZHS, follow the prompts:

When you are happy with these details, click “Finish”. **Bookings close on Wednesday 10 September at 4pm**. Any family who has not booked by Wednesday 10 September will have to wait for the next working bee.

Your booking will be emailed to you automatically. Remember to check your Junk Mail folder.

Parents who do not have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or a smart phone, bookings can be made by ringing Lisa at the School office on 9795 5258 or sending a note to school stating the number of family members wishing to attending this Working Bee.

Parents are able to cancel or change their bookings any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the school website and using the event code as explained above. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to cancel or change their booking after the closing date will need to contact Lisa at the School office directly on 9795 5258.

Yours faithfully

*Christine Ash  
Principal*
Our ‘You Can Do It’ person in 2BH is Leo N.

He is our ‘You Can Do It’ star because he always tries his hardest in his learning and he is a kind and caring classmate.

Well done Leo!
Sport News ...

Last week was a big week in our sport's calendar with multiple events being played.

On Tuesday our boy’s t-ball team travelled to Mornington to compete in the South Metro Regional T-ball Finals. They came up against teams from big schools with regular weekend players and held their own amongst tough competition. Thank you to Sue and Andrew for your time and allowing our students the opportunity to participate.

Our girl’s netball team travelled to Pakenham to compete in the South Metro Regional Netball finals. Thank you to Melinda, Colette, Cate and Hollie for the giving of their time to make the day a special day for our team.

Although neither team will go on to the State Championships from here, rest assured in the knowledge that you were amongst the best of over 300 primary schools from Sorrento to Wonthaggi to Sandringham which the Regional finals represent.

On Wednesday afternoon we held the last of our Auskick and NetSetGo! clinics. We had over 40 students participate in these weekly clinics for 15 weeks and it was very rewarding to see all of the children improve their skills over the journey. Many thanks to the volunteers that assisted throughout terms 2 and 3.

Finally, on Thursday we held our Intra-School Athletics Carnival at Ross Reserve in Noble Park. All of our Yr3, Yr4, Yr5 and Yr6's competed in athletic disciplines such as hurdles, discus and high jump. Blue house were the eventual winners, and I would like to thank all of the House Captains for their efforts of organising relay teams, leading the chants and keeping our athletes on task.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew

School News ...

**Parents and Friends News**

Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a cuppa at the next Parents and Friends meeting which is on **Monday 25th August at 2:20pm** in The Nook (library).

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE** - The **Fathers Day** stall is on **Monday 1st September**. There is a display in the school office foyer. The price list is in this newsletter. Fathers Day Raffle Tickets have been sent home, if you haven’t seen them, please check your child’s school bag. Raffle tickets are also available from the school office.

**News from the Nook**

**Premier Reading Challenge reminder:**

All books need to be entered onto the Challenge by Wednesday 3rd 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.
School News cont ...

St. Elizabeth’s Primary School

Market Night
Friday 17th October
7pm to 9:30pm
Undercover in the Performing Arts Centre
Information at www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Stallholders welcome.

111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North.

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.

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 Ziołkowski SC    School Principal : Mrs Christine Ash
School Banking Day Reminder.

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

Each week we have approximately 70 students who participate in School Banking even though we have over 150 students registered.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Remember our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

If you have misplaced your deposit book or have lost tokens, please leave a note for me with the Office and it will be replaced on Thursday.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program.

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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 17 September 1.30-7.30pm, Thursday 18 September 2-7.30pm and Friday 19 September 9.30-3.30pm.

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

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**Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College, Bentleigh - Open Day**

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE BENTLEIGH

**OPEN DAY**
Thursday 4 September
1pm – 5pm

Everyone Welcome!

111 Jasper Road
Bentleigh Vic 3204 P: 8520 9200
### 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**
Permanant: $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 ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning</strong></td>
<td>Monday 25th August, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Necklace &amp; Bracelet Making</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Bookmark &amp; Picture Frame</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Collage, Origami, Paper Plans</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Paper Crafts Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>Sport Day</td>
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