Dear St. Elizabeth’s Community,

Our thoughts will be with Maria Popowycz and Dean Andrew this week as they visit schools on the island of Cebu in the Philippines. Their itinerary takes them to our own sister school in Matutinao but also the schools close by which are sister schools to other Victorian catholic schools. In Cebu itself they will visit sites where Kadasig works with the poorest of people like the families who live on the rubbish dump which is known as White City. Please keep Maria and Dean in your prayers. We pray that their trip bears fruit in our work with Kadasig and the school in Matutinao and that they both come home safe and well.

**Lane Clark’s Visit**

This week we had Lane Clark working with staff on Tuesday and Wednesday. Lane is a world renowned educator and has been our critical friend for the last nine years. We use many of her approaches in our teaching. This year she has been working on 2 processes with us, a ThinkItsGreat tool for promoting analytical thinking and AuthorThink which is a writing process.

Lane has recently been working with the Queensland Government’s Education department to develop thinking skills programs for Queensland students.

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**St. Elizabeth’s Fortnightly Calendar:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday 6 March</th>
<th>Monday 7 March</th>
<th>Tuesday 8 March</th>
<th>Wednesday 9 March</th>
<th>Thursday 10 March</th>
<th>Friday 11 March</th>
<th>Saturday 12 March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm</td>
<td>World Day of Prayer School Assembly, 8.45am</td>
<td>International Women’s Day Education Board</td>
<td>Nazareth VCAL students begin helping us</td>
<td>Interschool Sports @ Westall PS</td>
<td>3 / 4 Community Mass 9:15am</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcoming and Commissioning Mass followed by picnic on oval</td>
<td>Community Dinner … refer CareMonkey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7pm Stations of the Cross in the Church</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday 13 March</th>
<th>Monday 14 March</th>
<th>Tuesday 15 March</th>
<th>Wednesday 16 March</th>
<th>Thursday 17 March</th>
<th>Friday 18 March</th>
<th>Saturday 5 March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm</td>
<td>No School. Public holiday ~ Labour Day</td>
<td>School Tour 6:30pm Foundation Prayer in P.J’s</td>
<td>Nazareth VCAL students St Patricks Day Mass @ St Patricks Cathedral School Captains attending</td>
<td>National Day of Action Against Bullying</td>
<td>National Day of Action Against Bullying</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass - Nagle House Mass 6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Education Week Begins</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Feast St Joseph</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Canteen
Since the Tiqbiz notice went out to the community indicating the lack of volunteers to run the Tuckshop, several parents have expressed interest in running it. However, it might help to know about the background of the canteen. When we did have the Tuckshop outsourced several years ago, the manager found it very hard to make a profit from orders except on Fridays. That is the reason why we had no Tuckshop for a few years before Ms Sue Hatley-Smith and other generous volunteers offered to run it as a fundraiser for the school. Running it once a week on Wednesdays provided a small profit that went towards the school’s fund-raising efforts.

We are open to expressions of interest from any St Elizabeth School parents to operate the school canteen from Term 2, 2016 for a period of 3 School Terms, with an option to renew for another year based on performance evaluation. However, it would have to be run as an independent organisation. This is part of the difficulty because we have found one person cannot serve all the children by themselves and under previous managers, there was not enough money to employ help.

Under this model, the school canteen would be operated by a provider independent of the school. The provider would be required to have their own Public Liability Insurance, Food Safety Training and Working with Children Checks and to pay for registration with the Dandenong Council Health Department.

The school canteen could operate anywhere from 1-5 days a week in its efforts to provide daily lunch orders and counter sales during school hours. All menus would need to be within the guidelines of Nutrition Australia and in accordance with the Healthy Kids Association School Canteen Buyers Guide 2016. There are approximately 340 students at the school. The canteen would only be available for use during school hours.

If you are interested, you need to get information about an expression of interest in running the canteen and return it to me by March 18th 2016.

Another alternative to running the canteen as a business is using a web based program called Classroom Cuisine. This is an online site that lets parents order lunches for their children on their smart phone, tablet or computer. You log on to Classroom Cuisine and select the meals you want from their menus and then the meal is delivered to the school. A 2 course meal costs $7.95 and there is a three course meal option available for $9.65. Orders can be placed on the same day as you want the children to get the meal and you pay by Master Card or Visa credit card. Other local schools are using this option and it appears to be going well. Orders can be cancelled up to 9:30am on the day the order is due. After spending $96.50, parents get a 10% credit voucher to use against the next transaction. Lunches are delivered daily in ice-cold tubs for safety. Go online and check it out and let me know what you think! I do want to hear from you about this as an option. This is the website for you to investigate www.classroomcuisine.com.au and you can let me know what you think at principal@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

In the meantime, I am very grateful to the Mums who are coming in to sell icy-poles.

Parish Office and Parish Levies
Cheryl has now returned from her holiday and can take your payments of the Parish Levy which is a compulsory part of our School Fees. Her office is open Tuesday to Friday from 9 till 3pm. If you
cannot make it to her office, Lisa can process it for you here and then send it down to Cheryl. Either way, it is important for every family to share the load in paying for our Parish responsibilities.

School Office News

Please check your child’s school bag for the Fee Statements that have been sent home.

Religious Education News

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Works of Mercy - The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are actions we can perform that extend God’s compassion and mercy to those in need. When we practise of the works of mercy is a sure sign of the Spirit of the risen Lord in our lives.

The Corporal Works of Mercy are these kinds of acts by which we help our neighbours with their material and physical needs.

Feed the hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Shelter the homeless
Visit the sick
Visit the imprisoned
Bury the dead

Change begins with ‘me’ in the ordinary actions of life.

What can you do to show works of corporal mercy in the life of the needy?

School Liturgies and Celebrations:

All families are invited and very welcome to come to all liturgies!

Sunday 6th March: School Welcome Mass and family picnic.

Friday 11th March: Year 3 & 4 learning community will prepare and lead the 9:15am mass.

Tuesday 17th March: St Patrick’s Day Mass – School Captains to attend St Patrick’s Cathedral

Friday 18th March: Year 3 & 4 learning community will prepare and lead the 9:15am mass.

Saturday 19th March: Nagle – Blue Hosting Mass All students in Nagle House will be hosting Mass 6.30pm

MATUTINAO FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL VISIT IN THE PHILIPPINES

Mr Andrew and I left on Friday the 26th Feb, early in the morning to catch our flight to the Philippines. We were very excited and looking forward to visit our friendship school Matutinao Elementary.
Before we left we packed as much as we could into our suitcases with all the generous donations from our school families and staff.

We have also had wonderful donations from our school supplier ‘School Biz’ who generously donated everything a student needs to learn at school. E.g. books, pencils, rulers, sharpeners, art pencils and more.

Even a local Dandenong Market stall holder, Taskin, donated two bags full of Australiana pencil cases, pencils, caps, socks and many more gifts for the students at Matutinao Elementary.

A huge thank you to all who have donated and god bless you.

DONATIONS FOR MATUTINAO – We are continuing look for donations to help our Matutinao families stay clean. You may have many of these items at home already. For example: tooth brush, toothpaste, soap, hand towel, face washer, comb, hair brush, shavers for the men, deodorant, etc. Please bring all donations to the school office. We will send all new donations to the Philippines by mail.

‘Project Compassion’- Caritas Australia campaign

Lent It is a time when we make a special effort in three areas: prayer, fasting and alms-giving. Project Compassion is our traditional focus for the giving of alms. I encourage you to support this Caritas Australia campaign. When you support ‘Project Compassion’ this Lent you help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity for vulnerable communities around the world.

If you would like a ‘Project Compassion box’ it can be collected from the school office, the foyer of the church or donate directly at http://www.caritas.org.au/

SCHOOL WELCOME, STAFF COMMISSIONING MASS & PARISH PICNIC: Sunday 6th March 2016, 1030am

The staff of St Elizabeth’s will be formally commissioned by Fr. Tad for our ongoing work in Catholic Education. This commissioning will be linked into the 10.30am parish mass and we invite all the school community to join with us for this mass. We will present our Vision Statement that we believe is reflective and inclusive of all who are part of the school community; the children, the teachers, with the many families, and the wider parish community. We believe this statement reflects the many and varied partnerships that we share here at St Elizabeth’s. We also take this opportunity to welcome those families, who are new to the community, especially children in their first year of schooling.

After mass bring your picnic rug, yummy picnic and enjoy relaxing on our school oval. Get to know your school and parish community. We are looking forward to a spending a wonderful Sunday together.
HOSTING MASSES for 2016:
Nagle-Blue: Saturday 19th March, 6.30pm
Polding-Green: Saturday 4th June, 6.30pm
MacKillop-Red: Saturday 6th August, 6.30pm
Chisolm-Gold: Saturday 3rd September, 6.30pm

Our school hosting masses will be held on Saturday evenings 6.30pm. We have chosen a Saturday night mass to make it more convenient for families to attend. This will be one of the ways that we will be building team spirit in each of the house colours. Team spirit is built through a variety of ways and gathering together to pray is one of them. There will be 4 hosting masses, one for each of our sport team colours. Children from the same family will all be in only one house colour. We are looking forward to seeing each of the house teams from Foundation to Year 6 gather together to celebrate liturgy together.

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

Student Wellbeing News

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS – KIDS MATTER

Managing family relationships so that everyone's most important needs get met can be hard work. All families have times when tempers get frayed, feelings get hurt and misunderstandings occur. Maintaining positive connections when these things happen requires good communication and creative management. Effective communication means that everyone has a say and is listened to. This can be a challenge in busy families. Pressure to get things done can mean there seems to be little ‘quality time’ for talking and listening to each other. Whether or not time is a problem, negative styles of communication often undermine relationships. This occurs, for example, when family members speak to each other disrespectfully or use put-downs. Building positive family relationships does not mean having no conflict. Dealing with conflicts positively, as well as making time to relax and do fun things together, help to strengthen family relationships.

Set the tone for positive communication

Research on communication in families shows the importance of parents and carers communicating warmth and caring and also setting clear expectations for children’s behaviour. Making time for family members, communicating effectively and supporting each other are important ways of strengthening families and building positive relationships. Parents and carers can set a positive tone for communication through their own example. The way you listen, and the attention and importance you give to what family members say, is as important as what you say to them and how you say it. This may not always be easy, especially when you are tired or busy and have to deal with complaining or conflict. However, listening and acknowledging others’ feelings and wants helps to reduce conflict and improves communication.

Working together as a family
Discussing things as a family is often very helpful for dealing with concerns and negotiating solutions to conflicts before they get bigger.

- Talking together provides an opportunity to clarify roles and expectations.
- Be sure to talk about what is working well in family relationships and not just the difficulties.
- Build trust in family discussions by respecting and listening to everyone’s views without judging or putting them down.
- Encourage children as well as adults to hear and understand each other’s views and needs.

Discussing things as a family can encourage children as well as adults to solve problems creatively. For example, once he understands that Tina just wants him to play with her, 12-year-old Luke might negotiate to spend a half-hour playing with her after dinner in exchange for her giving him uninterrupted time to get on with his homework. Having a chance to express needs in positive ways encourages healthy communication, support and cooperation.

Listening and talking
It is easier for others to listen and accept your point of view when the way you say it communicates respect and care. For example, Robert could say to Luke, “I know you had to get your science project done but I still want you to say ‘hello’ when I come home.” This shows that Robert understands Luke’s position, and wants Luke to understand his. Small things, like saying, “How was your day?” and really listening to the answer, make a difference to the quality of communication in families. Saying sorry when you make a mistake or hurt someone’s feelings is also really important.

Learning and Teaching News

Teacher Learning

Our School Closure Day on Friday February 19th was spent investigating parts of the new Victorian Curriculum which we will be expected to use from the start of 2017. Teachers have been familiarising themselves with this throughout the year in their planning of the Learning Areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Health and Physical Education, The Humanities (Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography, History) and The Arts.

We spent the day investigating what are known as Capabilities. These four areas are called Critical and Creative Thinking; Ethical Capability; Intercultural Capability; and Personal and Social Capability. Each of the Capabilities describes particular knowledge and skills that students should be developing in all Learning Areas. By using the knowledge and understanding developed on the Closure Day, teachers will be well placed to implement the new curriculum next year.

Chromebooks

Students in Years 3-5 have been learning many of the skills necessary to use their Chromebooks independently. When students are able to demonstrate to their teacher that they have all of the required skills and knowledge, they earn their Chromebook licence and the privilege of being able to take the Chromebook home each night. It’s been great to see the excitement of student who
have earned their licence as they come down to show me their protective case for transport and to receive their charger cord.

**Cybersafety**

The Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner sent out a newsletter recently that included a link to an article on Huffington Post titled “The 12 Apps That Every Parent Of A Teen Should Know About”. I’ve included the link here if you would like to read it. The 12 Apps are: Audio Manager, Calculator%, Vaulty, Snapchat, Burn Note, Line, Omegle, Tinder, Blendr, Kik, Yik Yak and Ask.fm. I would also add ooVoo to this list.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/entry/the-12-apps-that-every-parent-of-a-teen-should-know-about_us_56c34e49e4b0c3c55052a6ba?section=australi](http://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/entry/the-12-apps-that-every-parent-of-a-teen-should-know-about_us_56c34e49e4b0c3c55052a6ba?section=australi)

A reminder that students will be bringing home the page of the Student ICT Acceptable Use Agreement that needs to be signed by both the student and a parent and returned to school ASAP. The whole document can be accessed on the school’s website under Learning and Teaching / Policies or by clicking:


Rebecca Gage
Deputy Principal: Learning and Teaching
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

**Numeracy & Number Intervention**

**Number Words and Numerals are important!**

Learning about the names of numbers (number words) and their sequence along with the symbols for numbers (numerals) is very important in providing a basis for the development of ‘early arithmetical strategies’ in children, as they form the first strategies children use in addition and subtraction situations.

One of the first experiences children have with numbers is “counting”. Counting starts as learning a pattern of words, just like a nursery rhyme. As children’s counting develops, they begin to relate the words to a quantity or number of things.

Children learn the pattern of counting words by repetition. Initially, this pattern may have gaps where the child leaves out a number in the sequence, or the child may invent numbers. It is common to hear a child say twenty-ten after counting to twenty-nine. However, remembering the words for each number in the correct order is only part of the process of counting. To “count” children need to match saying the number words with the correct number of “things”. Children should be given lots of opportunities to practise and explore counting groups as well as making groups. Children also need to recognise and name numbers.
What can you do at home?

- Count with your child the number of buttons as you do up a cardigan or shirt.
- Count the number of steps from the front door to the letterbox.
- Count the number of eggs in a carton, and again after some have been removed.
- Count the number of times you and your child can throw a ball to each other without dropping it.
- Read and talk about stories and rhymes that use numbers.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes that include numbers such as Five Little Ducks.
- Have your child count as far as he or she is able to and then encourage your child to join you while you continue counting.
- Ask your child to start counting from a number other than one. This will help them when they need to add two groups together and can start counting from the larger group.
- Ask your child to tell you the number before or after a number. How old will you be next year? How old were you last year?
- Play games such as Dominoes, Snakes and ladders, card games or board games involving a die with dot patterns. This will help your child to recognise patterns and count. Change the die to one showing numbers to help your child read and recognise numbers.
- Look at and say the numbers on license plates and road signs.
- Help your child to remember your phone number and to press the correct buttons on the phone.

Parents Count Too English Curriculum K–12 Directorate, NSW Department of Education and Training

**St Elizabeth’s Community/ Fundraising Group / Parents and Friends**

Did you know that we invite everyone to come along and enjoy a chat and a cuppa after Monday morning assemblies? It is held in The Nook and is open to all. We would love to see you there.

Thank you to all who have taken a box of chocolates to sell. We have had a great response to this fundraiser. Reminder $50.00 per box is due back on Friday 18th March (Envelope provided in each box).

Easter is fast approaching and we would like to hold an Easter raffle. We are asking for donations towards the raffle e.g. Easter Eggs, Easter Bunnies. Donations can be left with your child’s teacher or at the school office.
Community Sport News.

Waverley Park Hawks Junior Football Club.
Columbia Park and Lum Reserve, Wheelers Hill.

Are you a girl aged 7 to 15 who loves her football? Why not get involved with a local junior club? Come and join the 2016 Waverley Park Hawks Girls’ teams!

- The club will be fielding girls teams in the SMJFL at Under 9, Under 12 and Under 15 age groups in 2016.
- All matches played on Sundays.
- U9 teams play with modified rules designed to encourage participation and player development.
- U12 and U15 teams play under normal AFL junior rules.
- Players of all age groups receive Coaches Awards throughout the season.
- All our coaches are AFL Level 1 Accredited.
- Accredited First Aid officers attend all matches.
- Each Sunday night we conduct weekly presentations to players, including game day reflections and social activities.
- Affiliate club of the Hawthorn Football Club and member club of the South Metro Junior Football League (SMJFL).

Training is on Thursday nights commencing in March
First game – Sunday 17 April 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.wphawks.org.au
girlsfootball@wphawks.org.au

GIRLS COORDINATOR
Scott Adams 0417 316 894

REGISTRAR:
Anthony Frelich 0429 080 086
Waverley Victory FC is looking for players

**U10/ 12yr Girls** training Tue & Thu 5.30-6.30pm

**U14yr Girls & U13yr Boys** training Tue & Thu 6.30-8.00pm

**Games** Sunday Mornings

Contact Darren 0403 258 441  secretary@waverleyvictory.com.au  waverleyvictory.com.au

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**LYNDALE UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB**

WANT TO PLAY SOCCER? WELL WHY NOT COME DOWN TO LYNDALE UNITED FC?

NEW JUNIORS SEASON KICKING OFF MARCH 2016

*(All ages welcome U6-U15 boys and girls)*

First training session to be held on Tuesday 1st March (5:30 to 6:30pm)

Further details regarding training schedule and registration will be provided on the night.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THOSE RETURNING BACK FROM LAST YEAR AND NEW FACES!!!

For further information please feel free to drop us an e-mail @ info@lyndaleunitedfc.com

Or visit our official website www.lyndaleunitedfc.com
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

111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North
Ph. 0422 803 709

Before School Care
Permanent: $13.50 v/Casual $16.00
7:00am to 8:55am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian Public Holidays.

After School Care
Permanent: $14.50 /Casual $17.00
7:00am to 8:55am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian Public Holidays.

Vacation Care / Pupil Free Days
Per Day: $50.00
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.

Fortnightly Activities ....
Beginning Monday 7\textsuperscript{th} March 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Scrunch Art blackline masters, Postcards with doilies, Weird pompom animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Mosaic squares, Envelopes with doilies, Easter rabbit door hangers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Colour diffusing painting. Mystery painting. Easter rabbit paper chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Folding face masks, Making flowers using patty pans, Easter rabbit puppets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Cardboard 3D hearts, Doll making</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dear Parents,

School Holidays begin on 25\textsuperscript{th} March and Vacation Care is open to all children from the 29\textsuperscript{th} March.

If you need care, please contact Elarine or Anita on 0422 803 709