Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

Wakakirri is a national competition designed to give primary school children the opportunity to tell a story in dance, drama and movement. We entered the competition this year due to the enthusiasm and drive of 6 staff members. Ms Hollie Zachariasson leads the team of Ms Jessica Connolly, Ms Louisa Chalk, Ms Tania Ladson, Ms Jenny Fenton and Ms Sue Hatley-Smith.

Our student team was composed of 75 children from Years 3 to 6 and they gave up their free time after school as well as holiday time to practise and create a story that would be worth telling to the nation. (By the way, the teachers also gave up their time as well. They don’t get anything extra except joy, experience and satisfaction when they take on these challenges!)

For those of you who did not have children participating in Wakakirri, let me paint a picture of what happened on Monday night this week. Our children told, without words, the true story of a young girl whose good life was blown apart when her dad lost his job and the family became homeless. Through her parents encouragement and her own courage this young girl continued her education, battling teasing and the horrors of poverty to do so. She eventually graduated with a
degree in Law and went on to buy her own home giving the story a wonderful ending.

Our children presented this story in a very well choreographed production that was energetic, sympathetic and enthusiastic. The story was complex with layers of smaller stories woven into the larger production and the costumes, props and the music were well matched to the storyline.

After each story, several children are chosen to be interviewed by the compere on questions about the story, the sustainability of the costumes and props and then on anyone that the team wanted to thank or acknowledge. Those speakers were then judged for the Public Speaking Award. It was with great delight that we found that we had won this award. As a Principal, it is always my dream that our team will win this Award. It requires speakers with confidence and courage to take out the Public Speaking Award. We may get to the next level of performance, and I think that we have a really good chance this year, but often it will depend on the quality of the script which the teachers have created. However, the confidence and courage required to stand on stage at a very big theatre and not only give a small prepared response, but also to ad lib answers with confidence and entertaining responses with a professional compere was purely the result of the children’s efforts. So well done to Alexander M, Helen and Kristy for what was a very entertaining session after a wonderful performance by their teammates.

Other schools took out Team Work Awards and Prop Management Awards and we congratulate our fellow performers, but to be honest, our teachers said that our Wakakirri team could also have won those too! Their behaviour at the rehearsal, which requires them to say in a small area in a large room at the back of the Frankston Arts centre from 11am until 9:00pm when they performed was magnificent!

So many thanks to everyone involved. Thanks to children and staff, especially Ms Hollie Zachariassen who drove the whole idea and I want to make special mention of Ms Zachariassen’s husband Scott, who did all the transporting of props and scenery which was a wonderful help to the crew. Thanks to the staff who made props and organised tickets, thanks to the staff back at school who covered classes so teachers could go with the team to Frankston on the day of performance and thanks to all the families who came on the night to support St Elizabeth’s Team. Good luck to everyone as we wait to hear if we have been judged good enough to go through to the next stage which would involve a performance at Hamer Hall in the Victorian Arts centre in front of a thousand people or more.

CAMPS, SPORT AND EXCURSION MONEY
APPLY NOW!

Did you know that if you have a Health Care Card, you can get $125 to help you pay for the Excursion Levy and Sports Programs and Camp costs for every child in the family at Primary School?

The Victorian Government has extended the deadline so you can get the form in for this support. The money goes to the school to pay up to $125 towards each of your children’s expenses in sports, camps and excursions.

If you have a Health Care card, you can pay all the Excursion Levy and have money left to pay for either the Swimming program or Tennis or Camp.

Please ask Lisa for the form or print it off our Website at www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au under the heading “Community” - “(CSEF) Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund” - “CSEF Application Form”. **The form must be in by the 18th of September 2015**

Christine Ash / The Principal
FEAST DAY OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS (MACKILLOP) PATRON SAINT OF AUSTRALIA

Mary MacKillop was born in 1842 in (Fitzroy) Melbourne (Australia). On 8 August 1909 she died, having suffered a disabbling stroke in 1902. Inspired by a meeting with Fr. Julian Tenison-Woods, Mary MacKillop at the age of 25 took her vows and the religious name, “Mary of the Cross”. In doing so, she founded the congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph. Soon after taking her religious vows, Mary MacKillop began schools. Within 5 years of taking her vows and founding the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Mary had established over 30 schools, in South Australia and over 100 women had joined the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Mary MacKillop was very conscious of the plight of the poor and needy. She worked with families that lived in isolated areas of Australia. As a result, Mary MacKillop pioneered a new form of religious life in Australia and commenced a “system” of “Josephite” schools that would provide education, especially for the children of the poor. In 1873, Pope Pius IX gave Papal approval for the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Even today, many Australians can say that they too have felt the impact of the enormous work started by St. Mary of the Cross (MacKillop), having been educated or cared for, by the Sisters of Saint Joseph. She was noted for her trust in the providence of God and miracles of healing have been attributed to her. She was declared a Saint by Pope Benedict XVI on the 17th October 2010.

Like Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross, each of us has been called to follow Christ, the Son of God, who came to show us the way to lead our lives. He has sent us the Holy Spirit so that we can share in his divine life here and now, and we live out that life by trying to love God and our neighbour. God called these people, like Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross, to real lives, what is he calling you to?

Dear Lord,

O God, source of all goodness, who have shown us in Saint Mary a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross, teach us, we pray, by her example to live the gospel in changing times and to respect and defend the human dignity of all in our land. Through our Lord.

Amen
Religious Education News cont ...

SCHOOL & CLASS LITURGIES:
We welcome all families and parishioners to attend school Masses with us.

**Saturday 8 August:**
MacKillop (Red House) Hosting Mass at 6.30pm. ‘Feast of St Mary of the Cross’.

**Friday 14 August:**
Yr 5 & Yr 6 Learning Community Mass at 9.15am.

**Friday 28 August:**
Yr 3 & Yr 4 Learning Community Mass at 9.15am.

**Saturday 5 September:**
Chisolm (Gold House) Hosting Mass at 6.30pm.

**Friday 11 September:**
Foundation, Yr 1 & Yr 2 Learning Community Mass at 9.15am.

‘MACKILLOP-RED’ HOSTING MASS

FOR STUDENTS FROM FOUNDATION TO YR 6 IN ‘MACKILLOP-RED’ SPORTS HOUSE, Saturday 8th August 2015 at 6.30pm.

The first ‘MacKillop-Red Sports House’ Mass is this Saturday!

All students from St Elizabeth’s School who are in MacKillop Red Sports House will be involved in the hosting of the Saturday Parish Mass. The children will be invited to lead the Entrance Procession with Fr. Tad. They will be responsible for bringing up of the Gifts and leading us in the Prayers of Intercession. Students are encouraged to wear something RED to show they all belong to MacKillop Red House.

It will give the children another opportunity to gather and celebrate with their friends in the parish community. The children will need to be at the back of the church by 6.20pm to meet with the teachers and get ready for the Entrance Procession.

We expect that all MacKillop Red House families, will be able to be part of this special Hosting Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:

**Confirmation**

A reminder regarding the Confirmation Parent Information night on **Wednesday 19th August** at 7.00pm in the Church. This night is vital for all parents and children to attend.

All candidates have received their take-home Activity pack earlier last term. These packs are due back to me by **Wednesday 19th October (Term 4 – Week 6)**. There is also the expectation that the candidates attend Mass regularly and write their name on the ‘Sign-In Sheets’ at the back of the church.

**YR 2 RENEWAL OF BAPTISM EVENING**

On Wednesday this week, we had a special ‘Renewal of Baptism Prayer Celebration’ evening for our Yr 2 children and their parents. This was an opportunity for our Yr 2 families to spend some special time together in prayer centred on renewal of Baptism. It is also an opportunity to remind yourselves of the promises you made for your children at Baptism. We had many families who came together in a special and spiritual evening. I would like to thank all the families and staff who came to make it such a special evening.

God Bless.
Maria Popowycz
Religious Education Leader
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Caring and commitment are the basis of strong family relationships. This means making the wellbeing of family members a first priority and offering support when needed. Some families seem to pull together easily, while for others it takes greater effort. To build strong family relationships, start by identifying the strengths you do have and appreciating them. Paying attention to the things that work well and building on them will help to strengthen your relationships. The following suggestions may be useful reminders.

There are lots of ways to show you care even in busy families:

**Tune In**
One way to show you care is by listening to what other family members have to say with interest and enthusiasm. Other ideas include doing things for one another, helping (without complaining!), celebrating birthdays and achievements and taking the time to understand how other family members are feeling. Hugs are another favourite. Have fun together, spend time doing things you enjoy. Doing simple things that allow you to relax and play together is very important for building positive feelings and connections amongst family members. Playing games or sports, going to the park, having picnics, visiting with friends or just relaxing together are examples of family activities that help to build relationships.

**Family Rituals**
Family rituals can help to build a sense of connection and belonging. These may include family celebrations that happen once a year, as well as everyday activities like bedtime stories, morning cuddles or cooking a special meal together once a week. Having family rituals and routines that you enjoy together helps to create strong family bonds.

**Make Time To Talk**
Regular time for talking and listening to one another helps families to plan and set priorities, strengthen relationships and build mutual understanding. Taking a few minutes to talk with children after school or before bedtime, and making time for adults to ‘check in’ with each other, is important for building connections and cooperation. Family discussions are often very helpful ways of resolving conflicts and maintaining positive relationships. Make sure that everyone gets a turn to share feelings and thoughts and contribute to finding solutions that can work for the whole family.

**Share Values**
Sharing common values strengthens belonging and helps families work together when challenges arise. Discuss your beliefs and values or tell stories about your own family and cultural history. Demonstrate through your behaviour values like respect, care, compassion and responsibility. Remember that children are influenced by what you do even more than by what you say.

**Appreciate Differences**
Family togetherness doesn’t mean everybody has to be the same or always do the same things. It helps to appreciate that everyone is different, and to value and respect each family member’s unique needs, wants and talents. Avoiding negative comparisons, and affirming what each individual has to offer, creates strong family bonds.

**Share The Load**
Family life can get out of balance when one person feels they have the burden of responsibilities, or when one person makes all the decisions. Supporting each other includes sharing the chores and making sure that everyone gets to have a say in the decisions that affect them.

**Get Support**
Family life has many challenges as well as rewards. Getting support when you need it - from extended family, friends, or professionals - is important for managing the challenges. Professional counselling is a particularly valuable strategy for helping many families who experience relationship problems.

Nan Perazzo
Wellbeing Coordinator
Trying to get your head around the issue of cyberbullying and how it impacts you and your children?

Leading Child and Adolescent Psychologist, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, provides answers to all the questions you might have about protecting your children and supporting them if they are affected by cyberbullying.


The Office of the Children’s e-Safety Commissioner provides many helpful resources for parents to increase their understanding of cybersafety and the issues they need to be aware of. By visiting the links above or scanning the QR code, you will be taken to a website with:

- two videos:
  - An animated introduction to cyberbullying, its impact on children and how parents can help reduce the impact of cyberbullying.
  - Parent and presenter Sharon Hunter explains the basics about cyberbullying and how parents can help protect their children from the harm it can cause.

- Frequently Asked Questions with video answers from Dr Michael Carr-Gregg.

Rebecca Gage
Learning and Teaching Leader
gagere@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Numeracy & Number Intervention …

Safeway 'Stars' Dominoes

Early this year, Safeway had a promotion where children could collect Dominoes about movie characters. If you have any leftover dominoes or your children are no longer interested in them, please feel free to donate them to St. Elizabeth’s so we can use them in the Nook.

The picture below shows what they look like.

Many Thanks.

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

**Division Grand Finals**
Last week, our school's girl's netball and girl's soccer teams won their respective Greater Dandenong Division Grand Finals. They will now go on to represent the Division at the next level, the Southern Metro regional Finals. Unfortunately our boy's t-ball team were runners-up, but it was a stellar effort to get as far as they did.

Well done to the athletes, parents and teachers involved. And good luck at Regionals!

**St. Elizabeth’s Netball Club**
Our local netball club, that originates from our school - but is open to all, played in an under 13 Grand Final at Dandenong and District Netball Association last Saturday. They suffered a narrow loss and will be hungry to take the next step in their next season.

The team was featured in the local Dandenong Leader newspaper this week. We thank them for letting us use this great photo of Joyce.

**St. Elizabeth’s Athletics Carnival**
Finally, our Yr 3, Yr 4, Yr 5 and Yr 6 students will be competing in the St. E’s Athletics Carnival at Ross Reserve, Noble Park on Monday the 17th of August. It is an all-day event and I am looking for any parents that can help out on the day. It doesn't have to be for the entire day. We start setting up at 8.30am and we pack things away from 2.00pm till 3.00pm. Any length of time donated will be put to good use. If you can help, please email me on dandrew@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

House colour sports tops are now available for purchase at the uniform shop.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew
ST. ELIZABETH’S ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

AT THE DOOR
There is no cost to get in for spectators. We love you to come down and help cheer on the athletes!

COSTS
The cost per child will be approx. $7.00 to cover bus, venue and equipment hire. More details to come

PERMISSION
Permission (via care Monkey) and money needs to be returned by Thursday 13th August

WHEN
Monday 17th August
10 am - 2.30 pm

WHERE
Springvale Little Athletics Centre
Ross Reserve
Memorial Drive, Noble Park

FEATURING • Shot Put • Sprints • High Jump • Discus • Long Jump • Relays • Team Chants • the 800m and more....

KEEN TO HELP OUT?
Contact Dean Andrew on
Earn and Learn

Do you have any Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers?
Send them along to school and we will put them on the sticker sheets for you.
The more we collect the greater our selection of free resources for the school.

Thank you for your support.

Book borrowing for parents.

As you know I encourage all our parents to be borrowers of our library and are happy to see you Mondays through to Thursdays.

If you would like to borrow books for your children not only for during this term but also over the holidays, please come and see me this coming week — Monday 10th to Thursday 13th August. I know that the holidays are quite a few weeks away, but I will be on leave from Thursday evening, returning first day 4th term.

Thank you
Trixie Martin.

Parents and Friends

Monday 10th August is the next Parents and Friends meeting, in The Nook 2:20pm.

During this meeting discussions will be focused on supporting the 3 / 4 Cross Arts night, Fathers Day Stall and the possibility of a Trivia Night.

We invite all parents, carers, grandparents with or without toddlers to come along and give us our input and feedback.

Looking forward to seeing you.
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: 0431 616 364, After Hours: 03 9758 0731 or email: choonblim@yahoo.com.au

CSEF (CAMPS, SPORT AND EXCURSION FUND) MONEY - APPLY NOW!

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The form must be in by the 18th of September 2015

Parish Priest : Rev. Tadeusz Ziolkowski SC
School Principal : Mrs Christine Ash
Community News ... 

Nazareth College Parents’ Association

Dinner & Trivia Night

WHEN:  Saturday 8th August

WHERE:  Café Naz Nazareth College

START:  6.30pm

Only  $30 for Trivia & Dinner! Cash Only

Bookings Essential—Book now for your chance to win in the Early Bird Draw!

Contact - Jerome Ph: 0435 965 077
            Helene Ph: 0409 561 016

BYO…. Alcohol & glasses

Soft Drinks Provided

Tables of 8

Individually tickets available

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
## Contact Details ...

| St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program  
| 111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North  
| 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 ...

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<th>Beginning:</th>
<th>Monday 10 August 2015</th>
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**Monday**  
Sewing Collages, Cross Stitch

**Tuesday**  
Felt Bracelet, Yarn Balls

**Wednesday**  
Felt Pictures, Bookmarks

**Thursday**  
Puppet Making and work together to put on a puppet show

**Friday**  
Movie with popcorn

**Breakfast** is provided to all the children who attend the before school care sessions at St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care on Mondays through to Fridays.