Prayer Space

Pope Francis

A Prayer from his Environmental Encyclical

A Prayer for our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
And in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
That we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
As brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,
So precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
That we may protect the world and not prey on it,
That we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts
Of those who look only for gain.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
To be filled with awe and contemplation,
To recognize that we are profoundly united
With every creature
As we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
For justice, love and peace.
Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis,

It is hard to believe we are at the halfway point of the year. It has been an incredibly busy term and like first term, there have been many highlights. As I have mentioned before I am very grateful for the hospitality and kindness bestowed from all levels across our community, and in reflection of the term we have had, there is much to celebrate and plenty to look forward to for the rest of the year.

Student Progress Reports
As I have been reading through reports in recent days, it has been wonderful to see all students have actively embraced all aspects of their learning and in doing so have enriched our school community here at St Francis. It has been particularly pleasing to read many of the students learning goals for next semester, and I ask all families to support and encourage their children to achieve these goals and continue to be the best they can be. I am very proud of our students for the progress they have made and commend all of our staff on the hard work and commitment they have demonstrated to help our students be successful in all areas of school life.

Bus Incidents ~ a matter of concern!!
Over the past few weeks there have been an increased number of reported incidents regarding students travelling on buses to and from school. Some of these incidents are concerning students from St Francis. This is very disappointing and is not accepted. Like at school, all students have the right to feel safe when travelling on buses.

We are attaching a ‘Conditions of Travel’ / ‘Code of Conduct’ form that states clearly student expectations. All schools in the Nathalia Learning Community are committed to providing a safe means of travel for our students and inappropriate, unsafe behaviour will not be tolerated.

** Automatic suspension of bus travel will be issued to students who choose to behave inappropriately or in contrast to conditions of safe travel **

Bus drivers have been issued with ‘Notice of concern – behaviour on buses’ incident forms as established by the Department of Education. These incident forms will be sent home to families of students who are in breach of the code of conduct.

Please take the time to read the attached code of conduct and discuss this with your children, especially if they are regular bus travellers.

Congratulations Michelle Legge ~ $3,615.65 raised for Peter McCallum Institute
Last Friday our students and teachers came to school wearing an assortment of very colourful and interesting ‘hairdos’. The fun had at school was the prelude to a very entertaining night of raffles, live entertainment, good food and especially the ‘mighty shave’ Michelle underwent in the name of charity. On behalf of our school community I would like to congratulate Michelle on her bravery and willingness to have her ‘locks’ removed and for allowing us to host her event at school. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and especially thank you to everyone who dug deep and donated money towards this very worthy cause. Every one of us has been touched by the effects of cancer in some way, shape or form and to be able to support one of the world’s leading research institutes, is a small gesture of our appreciation for the incredible work and provision they ensure to help families in their time of need. Thank you to Lonky and Paddy for generously entertaining us with their wonderful live music and to all who served food, made cuppas, sold tickets and danced up a storm. It was another great example of our community coming together.
**Closure Day - Last Monday 22\textsuperscript{nd} June**

Last Monday we had a school pupil free day. All staff had a Professional Development Day working with Kylie Smith, our Catholic Identity representative and school consultant ran a staff workshop in preparation for our Whole School review in August. Kylie shared with us a 3 Module series to determine the importance of being a Catholic School and what is our Catholic Identity. In Module One we broke open the key terms at the heart of Catholic Identity; being fully engaged, what inspires our Catholic story, our developing human potential and us. These key areas characterize what it means to be a Catholic School and shapes our Catholic Identity. As a staff we had the opportunity to discuss these in detail and began the process of re-contextualising what is our purpose as a Catholic School. In Modules 2 and 3 we explored the concepts of Crisis, Change and Story and Quality Indicators from CoSSI (Charter of Sandhurst School Improvement). These underpin the context for school improvement and our identity as a Catholic School. Our day was productive and we now have a greater sense of our Catholic identity and purpose leading into the future.

**Gr 5 and 6 School Camp**

Just a reminder that the Grade 5 & 6 school camp departs on Monday, 27 July 2015. For those families that have not yet paid the camp component of the school fees, it would be appreciated if this could be paid prior to the commencement of the school camp.

**School Board**

Thank you to our school board who met last Tuesday evening. It was a very positive and productive meeting with endorsement of several policies for school improvement and processes in place for our school review next term. Our gatherings affirm the strategic direction and development of St Francis, and as principal I am forever grateful of our boards commitment to our school. I look forward to continuing this positive relationship as we strive to make our school the best it can be.

Have a wonderfully restful and safe holiday everyone.

*Chris Summers*

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We are very proud of our Grade 3 student Ruby McIver who last week had 35cm cut off her hair. Her hair was donated to a charity that makes wigs for children with cancer and alopecia. She wanted to be able to help people and loves her short hair. We think Ruby is amazing for doing this, a lovely kind act. We also love her new hairdo!

St Francis Catholic Primary School acknowledges the Bangarang and Yorta Yorta people, the traditional custodians of the land on which our school is situated. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.
DATES AND EVENTS TO KEEP ON YOUR RADAR

French Day ~ Bastille Day July 14th

As part of our commitment to learning the French language at school we will be participating in a French day held on the first Tuesday of Term 3. All students are encouraged to wear something in the colours of Red, White or Blue or to come in character e.g.: wearing berets, moustaches, French artists, pepe le pew! Etc. Children will be participating in various French inspired activities and eating French inspired cuisine. All welcome. Further information and details will be available in the coming weeks.

Fr Chris' Birthday Celebration ~ Sunday 19th July
There will be a special birthday celebration held for Fr Chris on Sunday 19th July after 9:30am mass. Morning tea and refreshments will be shared in the Library / Gathering space at St Francis Primary School straight after Mass. Please bring a plate to share. All welcome!

Christmas in July ~ Saturday 18th July
One of our major School Fundraisers for the year is being held on Saturday 18th July. Tickets and entry is $40 per person. Gourmet finger food, entertainment and door prizes included in ticket price. BYO drinks. Venue: Brereton’s Bakery Nathalia. Please contact the school or Brereton’s Bakery for further details.

Junior Public Speaking
Our students are all working hard on the Junior Public Speaking speeches. Parents please help your children practice their speeches over the school holidays as the school heats will take place on the mornings of Wednesday, 15 July and Thursday, 16 July in the St Clare Auditorium at St Mary of the Angel's Secondary College. Families are most welcome to attend these heats.

Important Dates on the horizon:
13th July ~ School Resumes.
14th July ~ St Francis French Day.
15th & 16th July ~ St Francis Public Speaking days.
18th July ~ Christmas in July School Social Night.
19th July ~ Fr Chris’ Birthday – Happy Birthday Fr. Chris.
21st July ~ School Board Meeting.
27th, 28th & 29th July ~ Grade 5/6 Camp Melbourne.
13th August ~ Whole School review.
11th Sept ~ St Francis Trivia Night – Please note change of date.

He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.

www.bestquotes4you.com
This week, our Positive Behaviour Blitz is Honesty. Honesty is a trait desired in relationships with family and friends, with workmates and by employees. Honesty inspires trust and encourages openness. Honesty is something to be valued. It demonstrates the value we place on ourselves and our relationship with others.

**Shepparton School Football Results**

*Grade 5/6 -*
Nathalia defeated Orvale 34 to 23

The boys played a tough physical game and showed some good skills again to come away with the win. Thanks again to the 3/4’s that played up.

**Goal kickers -**
Kaleb Kopsidas 2, Billy Brinsdon 1, Gus Bramwell 1, Ryan Bell 1.

**Best on -**
Kaleb Kopsidas, Will Sheehan, Cooper Bloodworth, Ryan Bell, Gus Bramwell, Devon Maroney.

*Grade 3/4’s -*
Nathalia defeated Kialla United Power 22 to 2.

A beautiful frost greeted us this morning and when doing the walk around I thought the boys might actually freeze out there. Thankfully the sun came up and started to melt the ice. Another great game by all the boys.

**Goal kickers -**
Brodie Armstrong 1, Max Frostick 1 and Ned Frostick 1

**Best on -**
Charlie Dietrich, Oliver Sheehan, Ewan Congues, Ben Nave, Tom Dohnt and Connor Peachey.

**GOODBYE MRS BOOTH**

On Thursday, 25 June we said goodbye to Mrs Booth. All the students in Grades 3 and 4 joined together to have a farewell party for Mrs Booth. They presented Mrs Booth with a beautiful plant for her garden. There was heaps of food, streamers and loud, fabulous tunes. All the ingredients needed for a great party!
Conditions of Travel

To ensure the safety of all passengers on school buses, the following conditions apply at all times.

To ensure safe travel on school buses, students must agree to the following:

- Not to play on the road at the bus stop or try to get on the bus before it has stopped.
- Make sure you and your belongings are inside the bus at all times.
- Not throw anything from a bus window or have anything hanging out a window.
- Place bags and other belongings in the allocated storage areas.
- Get on and off the bus quietly and in an orderly manner.
- Stay in your seat while the bus is moving.
- Not distract drivers with screaming, shouting or unruly behaviour.
- When you get off the bus only cross the road when the bus has left and it is safe to do so.
- No dangerous or flammable goods are allowed on the bus, for example aerosol cans.
- Travel on the bus service allocated to you, to and from your approved bus stop only. Do not change to one that will take you to a sports or social event.
- Wear a seat belt where fitted.

To ensure students are considerate to one another and their bus driver, they must agree to:

- In the morning, arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to departure.
- Not eat, drink or smoke while on the school bus.
- In the morning, let the school and driver know if you will not be travelling home on the bus that day.
- Use a standard conversational tone and do not call out to others on board or to passing traffic or people.
- Listen to the bus driver and bus captain. They are responsible for maintaining school bus safety and also have the authority to report any misbehaviour or vandalism.
- Leave your bike in a safe and secure place if riding to the bus stop. Public Transport Victoria and the Department of Education and Training are unable to accept responsibility for the safety of your bike.

Behaving inappropriately on a school bus places the safety and wellbeing of all on board at risk.

Non-compliance with any of the above conditions may result in the following:

- The driver will stop the bus.
- The offender’s name and full details of the breach will be recorded.
- The offender will be transported to school or to their normal drop off.
- The breach will be reported to the coordinating principal.
- The coordinating principal will take disciplinary measures in accordance with the guidelines below.
- In rare and exceptional circumstances, and only as a last resort, drivers are authorised to eject passengers from a bus.

Following the report of a relevant incident, the coordinating principal may take the disciplinary action below:

- First offence – verbal warning to student.
- Second offence – written warning to parent/guardian.
- Third offence – one week suspension of student from school bus travel.
- Fourth offence – the student will not be allowed to travel on the school bus for the remainder of the year.

A serious offence that endangers other students, bus staff or property will result in immediate suspension.
**Australian History Showcase**

After a term of learning about Australian History our year five and six students yesterday shared a showcase of their learning. They have all been working hard on their own Independent Learning Projects and we were very proud of their efforts.
Beautiful artwork by Riley James – the detail in this drawing is exquisite. Well done, Riley!

**NATHALIA COMMUNITY EARLY LEARNING CENTRE**

Is available to look after your school children on Student Free Days and during the School Holidays

Enrolments are now being taken for our

**VACATION CARE PROGRAM**:

29th June - 10th July

Please Call the Centre for more information or to book your children in **5866 2088**

20 Bromley Street, Nathalia ncclc@nvf.net.au www.facebook.com/nathaliacommunityearlylearningcentre

This week in French we learned about ‘Les Zoo Animaux’ (Zoo Animals). The 5/6s had to make a book about all types of different animals to show the foundation students with French and English writing.