GRADE 5/6 CAMP

5/6 camp 27th of July- 29th of July (Monday was Jack’s birthday and we all got donuts – yummy!).

On Monday the 5/6 unit left for camp. We caught a bus to the train station and then got on a train to Melbourne. When we got to Southern Cross station we then walked down to CYC and dropped our bags off. We then left for the IMAX theatre and we watched a movie about the human body and the science behind how a baby gets made then we went to Melbourne museum and saw the Dinosaur, marine and other animal galleries. Then after we went to Lygon St pizza and it was delicious. After all that we went back to CYC and checked in. The rooms were amazing, for tea we had parma and chips w/veggies. We left for the Eureka Tower and we went all the way up to the 88th floor. We went home and went to bed.

On Tuesday we had breakfast at 7.30 and we had bacon and eggs, it was yum. We left to catch a train to Spotswood when we got off the train we then walked down to Scienworks and we went to ‘Think Ahead’ and ‘Sportsworks’, we left and went back to CYC and ate lunch, we had rolls. Then we went to the MCG and got a tour. After we went to the sports museum and had heaps of fun with the interactive games. We then headed back to CYC and had tea. It was cottage pie. Then we went back to our common room and watched Journey 2: the mysterious island.

On Wednesday we got up and packed then went down to breakfast and we had pancakes with whipped cream and maple syrup. Then we left CYC and went to Galactic Circus, and then we got on the train and went to Shepparton where we got on a bus and headed to Nathalia.

By Nikita, Jack and Jasmine.
Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the sign he had performed by healing the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?” He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

Philip answered him; “It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!”

Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?”

Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.” So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

Reflection:  You've Got the Bread!

Matt was pretty nervous, but I knew he had it in him.

He was a high school student going with me to another school to give a talk about a program to help disadvantaged families through Vinnies. Our school had joined the program. Matt had a passion for helping disadvantaged people that I knew would inspire the other school's teachers and parents to join the program too.

He reminded me of the young guy in this week's Gospel. Jesus and his disciples are with a huge crowd. Jesus wants to feed them, but his disciples are a bit clueless about how to do it. Then a boy comes forward, possibly inspired by the Lord’s teaching, and offers his own food.

You know the rest. Jesus takes the boy’s offering, multiplies the loaves and everyone eats.

Too often older people treat young people as if they’re too young to have good ideas. And, unfortunately, too often young people don’t trust their own ideas or lack the self-confidence to voice them. As a result, I think we lose good youthful ideas for living the Gospel and changing the world.

Our church needs your “bread,” your wisdom. Our church ministries are poorer without young people’s ideas and enthusiasm. Our world comes closer to God’s Kingdom each time a young person speaks up and says, “I think we should …” So speak up. Don’t back down if people treat you like you are too young. Sure, listen to everyone, avoid stubbornness, and let other people help shape your ideas. But the Spirit is aching to speak through you.

Remember Matt? Jesus is still using young people’s gifts to feed the world.

When have you backed down from sharing your opinion because you thought you were too young?
The Action Response


Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis

I had the privilege of attending the grade 5/6 Urban Camp in Melbourne this week and I can honestly say it was the best camp I have attended. The students were outstanding not only in their behavior and attitude, but more importantly in their willingness to have a go and the respect they presented for each other, their teachers, parent supervisors, camp staff and the many excursion guides along the way. I was extremely proud to be able to call myself their principal when visiting places or when introducing our school to people. There were many highlights and these will be shared through the student’s recounts and stories we will endeavor to publish in the weeks to come.

I would sincerely like to thank Jim Brereton and Robyn Myers for being able to assist on camp as parent supervisors and to Tam Perry, Fiona Baker and Brodie Ross as our supervising teachers. Together they made a wonderful team and added to the great enjoyment we all experienced, with a special mention to Brodie for his patience and coordination of camp activities. Nothing was a hassle and everything ran smoothly even when we thought we wouldn’t get to some places on time! As I mentioned to the students before we left for camp, the experiences we share when attending school events like camps and excursions, usually become the best memories we have of school. Our time in Melbourne certainly attests to this and I thank all those involved for making it happen.

Lightening Premiership
Best wishes to our senior Footballers and Netballers as they head to Yarrawonga to compete in the Lightening Premiership today. It certainly has been a big week for our 5/6’s!

Reports and Goal Setting Sheets
Please remember to return to school your child’s school report goal setting sheets. These are important documents for our teachers to focus on for our students for the remainder of the year. Please feel free to discuss any aspect of the report or goals you have set with your child’s teacher.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Chris Summers

2014 Annual Report to the Community

Hard copies of our Annual Report 2014 are now available at the office or is online on our school website. http://www.sfnathalia.catholic.edu.au/

Quote of the week

It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed.

~ Napoleon Hill

Important Dates on the horizon:
13th August ~ Whole School review
Aug 24th ~ 28th Bookweek
Aug 27th Book Week Parade
1st Sept Board Mtg
4th Father’s Day Celebrations
9th Sept Funded PSG’s
Tips for Parents: Your Role in School Success

Studies show that a child’s academic achievement is directly influenced by their parents’ involvement in their education. Learn how you can bolster your student for success in these Tips for Parents.

A Teacher’s Expectation of Parents

Students, teachers, and parents all share responsibility in the education of a child. As a parent, here’s a minimum level of involvement most teachers expect:

- Help your student by developing a routine or specific time for homework where you are available to help or listen if needed. You are vital to their success.
- Ensure your child is at school, on time, every day possible. Arrange for vacations, trips, etc. during days off school.
- Make sure your child eats a healthy breakfast each morning so they can function in class.
- Make sure your student is getting adequate sleep at night to support their growing body and mind.
- Be a positive role model in your child’s eyes who shows interest in reading and learning new things.
- Notify the teacher of any concerns or questions you have regarding their learning or treatment in school.

Tips for Parents: Questions to Ask Your Child about Their Day

Get a sense of your child’s life at school by asking questions that elicit more than a one-word response. Try one of these conversation starters:

- Tell me about the best part of your day.
- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
- Did any of your classmates do anything funny? Tell me about what you read in class.
- Who did you play with/hang out with today? What did you do? Do you think _________(insert subject here) is too hard?
- What’s the biggest difference between this year and last year?
- What rules are different at school than at home? Do you think they’re fair?
- Who did you sit with at lunch?
- Can you show me something you learned or did today?

The Do’s and Don’t of Homework

Follow these Do’s and Don’ts of homework with your kids to make the most of their learning time at home:
Our School News

Do:

• Provide quiet study time in a well-lit place.
• Be available to encourage, praise, advise, and supervise.
• Monitor your child’s understanding of concepts and skills.
• Check work for accuracy, neatness, and completeness.
• Provide related home-learning experiences to reinforce concepts learned at school.
• Cooperate with and be supportive of the child’s teacher.
• Help your child make education a top priority during his/her school years. Show by example that learning can be exciting and fulfilling.

Don’t:

• Do the child’s homework for him/her.
• Make excuses or allow the child to make excuses for incomplete or sloppy work.
• Change, criticize, or belittle a teacher’s assignments. If there’s a problem, talk to the teacher.
• Allow the child to skip an assignment he/she doesn’t like.
• Fill the child’s life with so many non-school activities there is no time left for homework or play. Relieve the child of responsibility for getting homework back to school on time.

A Winning Team

Team with your child and your child’s teacher to work together for your child’s academic success. It’s a winning team.

New App for Parents!!

Want to find out more about what your child is learning at school in each subject at each year level?
The development of the new “School Mate” app contains information on what students learn in the curriculum at every year level from Prep to Year 10. Based on the AusVELS, there are hints on how parents can engage with their children’s learning, suggested activities and outings, and additional resources worth investigating.

Parents Victoria, along with a number of other organisations, worked with the Department of Education and Training on the information included in SchoolMate and are pleased to see the app is now available to download free in the App Store and Google Play.

The app can be personalised with your children’s information, school and year level.

Gail McHardy, Executive Officer of Parents Victoria said at the launch a few weeks ago:
“Communicating and supporting Victorian families with Prep to Yr 10 school aged children about the Australian Curriculum (AusVELS) is a great initiative by the Department of Education and Training. This free App allows families to view with ease the various levels of subject learning at school from their own personal smart phone device in their own time. SchoolMate provides families with “at home” ideas, suggested activities, books and other Apps and also welcomes feedback from parents/students for the future. Now this is what we call Parental Engagement!”
For more information on “School Mate” click on the link: School Mate.
Or Click on the following information: School Mate Information Package

This week, our Positive Behaviour Blitz is Kindness.
Kindness is a value which we would like others to show to us, and which we should show to others. It is a basic act, which should be instinctive to human nature. Kindness is about being helpful, friendly and considerate. It may be shown in any number of ways from one small, insignificant act to large obvious overtures. It is an act whose only reward should be in the giving, expecting nothing in return.

Lions Club Junior Public Speaking

We wish Ella Bryant and Nikita Pawlowicz all the best in the Regional final of the Junior Public Speaking this coming Sunday, 2 August 2015. Nikita was runner up to Jack Myers at the local final, however, Jack is unable to attend the final this weekend so Nikita has kindly stepped in and will represent Nathalia in the Grade 5/6 section. Ella Bryan will be competing in the Grade 3/4 section. Good luck girls!
GRADE 1/2N INVESTIGATIONS

In Investigations last week, our Grade 1/2N students’ goal was to recycle materials and make something new. Who could have thought that something so gorgeous could be made from an empty photocopying paper box, foam, a brown paper bag, string and bottle tops. Congratulations to Lauren Cobbledick – what a wonderful example of what our students can do.

ALL SCHOOL REVIEW

On 13 August 2015 our school is undertaking a full school review including the Victoria Registration Qualification Authority (‘VQRA’) component. There will be panel members reviewing our school regarding our Catholic Identity and how we are performing as a school. We welcome our panel; Julie Cobbledick, Senior Catholic Education Consultant Western Deanery (Panel Chair), Jasmine Ryan, Principal from Pyramid Hill and Lisa Wagner, School Board Chair from Tatura.

St Francis Community Group News

BOOK PARADE HOT DOG LUNCH

We are looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve the hot dog lunch on Thursday, 27 August 2015 as part of our Book Week celebrations. The hot dog lunch is an St Francis Community Group fundraiser. Sheree Spiteri has kindly put up her hand to help on this day, however, we will need more than one helper. Please contact Lonky at the front office if you can assist.

NATHALIA SHOW DAY

We have been approached by the Nathalia Agricultural Society to run the hot food at the Nathalia Show. This would be a big undertaking for the School Community Group however, it does offer a huge opportunity for us to raise significant funds for our school. We would need a big team who would be willing to work in the kitchen at the Recreation Reserve on a roster basis throughout the day. We assume that we would be selling hot chips, pies, sausage rolls, hamburgers, salad rolls and the like. We would love to hear from any families who would be willing to assist. We need to let the Agriculture Society know within two weeks whether we are prepared to do this. Please telephone Lonky at the front office if you are interested in helping. The Nathalia Show is normally held on the first Saturday in October however we are awaiting confirmation of the date.
SCHOOL FOOTY RESULTS

Grade 5/6 -
Nathalia 43 to Gowrie Street 79

Goal Kickers -
Billy Brinsdon - 3, Kaleb Kopsidas -1,
Brooklyn - 1, Jaron - 1

Best On -
Will Sheehan, Kaleb Kopsidas, Billy Brinsdon,
Ryan Bell, Charlie Dietrich, Darcy Backway

Grade 3/4 -
Nathalia 6 to Orrvale 53

Goal Kickers -
Brandon Orton 1

Best on -
Brady Walpole, Jack Hutchins, Ewan Congues, Ned Frostick, Brandon Orton, Ned Bramwell

Well done to all participants.