Week 3
TERM 4, 2015
St Francis School
Educating The Whole Child For Today and Tomorrow.
A school community that recognises learning is natural, creative and ongoing

Key Dates

November:
2nd Bishops holiday – School closure
3rd Melb Cup holiday – School closure
9th St Francis Community Group Meeting
10th 3.30 pm Library
17th Jump Start
17th Jump Start Reconciliation
20th Prep/Gr 1/Gr2 Excursion
23rd School Closure – Staff PD
24th J Open Doors Fundraiser
24th Jump Start School Board meeting
26th Grade 2 Sleepover
26th 27th Gr3/4 camp
27th Strawberry Festival

December:
1st Jump Start
2nd GV Festival of the Sacred
8th Orientation Day & Information Session for Parents
10th School Christmas Carols/Concert
11th Nathalia Community Carols by Candlelight
16th End of Year Christmas Mass & Graduation
17th Students last day of school.
18th Staff last day.

Prayer of the week

Reflecting on All Saints and All Souls

Leader: Let us gather to remember all those through whose lives we have experienced the love of God.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On the feast of All Saints, we are asked to reflect on the lives of the saints. We can often think of saints as perfect people, but their greatest witness is how they coped with the ordinary difficulties of their life, and how they courageously showed the love of God to others.

We also remember and pray for all those who have died on the feast of All Souls. Some of these people may only be known to God. Others are people whose love, sacrifice and fidelity we have seen for ourselves and who have inspired us. They saw God in this world and are now fully alive to him in the next.

Together we pray:

Lord God, we remember with love all those who have died... (Pause for silent reflection)

We ask the support of all your saints who by their persistence and example have shown us how to live and love in Your ways. Give us strength to cope with the daily routines that wear us down. Help us to act as your witnesses when we respond to each other with love, not with impatience, carelessness, rudeness or fear. In your love, we can find our way forward into your promised heaven.

We ask this together through Christ our Lord, Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

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Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis,

Today we celebrated Children’s Week with a Nathalia Community Sausage Sizzle. Many of our families and members of the wider Community enjoyed a sausage in bread and some took the opportunity to look around our beautiful school. Thank you to Tam Perry for initiating our involvement in Children’s Week and for the Moira Shire donating money towards hosting our BBQ.

The purpose of Children’s Week is to recognise the rights and accountabilities of children. Children’s Week is a national program recognising the talents, skills, achievements and rights of young people. It is based on the articles expressed in the United Nations Convention on the Right of the Child, highlighting play, wellbeing and protection.

**The Walker Learning Approach**

St Francis Catholic Primary School prides itself on developing the whole child and as I expressed in last week’s newsletter, we have adopted a ‘multi-faceted’ approach to our Teaching and Learning practices, which aim to give students richness, engagement and personalised learning opportunities. AusVELS provides us the curriculum and prescribed standards of achievement of which we rigorously follow, assess and report student progress. The Walker Learning approach provides the scaffolding to deliver the content. Please be assured all areas of the curriculum are being carefully attended to and student achievement is monitored, assessed and adapted to suit individual needs. This is our core purpose and our teachers work very hard to provide our students with the best innovated learning opportunities possible. Although we can’t do it alone, teachers, parents and students must work together. Communication and engagement is key to the holistic development of children. Goal setting, hearing students read, practising common sounds / words, understanding basic number facts etc and getting involved in your children’s education are simple ways children will succeed at school and build confidence as learners.

Please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or school for further information regarding our pedagogical methods towards teaching and learning. Or visit:


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtNPtfT6Fco

Your thoughts and feedback is greatly appreciated.

Our school closure day on November 23rd provides our entire staff with the opportunity to listen to and learn from Kathy Walker a leading expert in the field of Inquiry Based Learning. Her approach is the preferred method or pedagogy we have adopted here at St Francis and will drive our teaching and learning moving forward. Formalised targeted teaching of specific skills such as reading, writing, learning letter sounds, mathematical concepts, Religious Education and everything else in between will always be at the forefront of what we do and naturally become part of our Inquiry Based approach.

**Victorian Schools Athletics Championships ~ Well Done Mia and Gus!**

Congratulations to Gus Bramwell and Mia Bell who competed at the Victorian Schools and Athletic Championships held at Albert Park on Monday. Gus competed in the Shot Put and Mia in the 800m and Long Jump. Both Gus and Mia achieved wonderful results in all events. We are extremely proud of the both of you.

**St Francis Community Group ~ (Formally P&F)**

This year we have managed to operate community events and fundraisers without a fully functional Community Group. Although we have managed to get by quite successfully, the current format isn’t ideal. A Community Group meeting is being held on **Monday 9th November at 3:30pm** in the school library / gathering space to discuss proposals for next year. All welcome!
Date Changed ~ Gr 3/4 Camp at Billabong Ranch

Due to unforeseen circumstances the dates for the grade 3/4 camp to Billabong Ranch, Echuca have changed to **Thursday 26th and Friday 27th November**. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. Students will leave School at 9.00 a.m. on Thursday 26th November and will return in time for the normal school buses on Friday, 27th November.

**CAR PARKING ISSUES ~ ongoing.**
In relation to the relocation of the Bus Zone sign in front of our school, please be advised this was a decision that was made without appropriate consultation and authorization with our school.

Due to an increase in enrolments at St Mary’s of the Angel for the coming year, the issue of more buses and where to safely drop off and collect students has become the subject of concern of which all parties are currently in discussion and negotiation.

Although we are unable to move the sign back to its normal position, we have been able to make a satisfactory compromise.

In the short term the local police have been contacted to ensure unnecessary infringements will not be made, however please understand this does not condone parking within illegal boundaries.

It is a very frustrating and unwarranted situation we currently face and is something we are working hard to rectify. Thank you for your understanding.

**Principal Writing Awards ~ Week 4**

Grade 3/4 Jean ~ Corey Legge

Grade 1/2 Mestrom – Harry Morgan

Congratulations Harry and Corey your stories were very entertaining and showed great style. Keep up the great work with your writing everyone!! 😊

Enjoy the four day-long weekend!

Chris Summers

**Other School Happenings…**

**Staff Professional Development**

On Wednesday both Veronica Williams and Chris Summers attended a PD day in Shepparton learning the process for changing over our current school email to gmail.

**Quote of the Week:**

The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence. **Confucius**

**ZOOPER DOOPER’S - -TERM 4**

“Quench your thirst”

Friday Lunchtimes until the end of term.

.50 cents each (Limit of 2 per child)

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**NO ASSEMBLY NEXT WEEK DUE TO MONDAY & TUESDAY BEING SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS**
FIRE CARRIER NEWS – NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
We are having our annual Open Doors Fundraiser on Tuesday 24th November, 2015. The Open Doors Foundation is an organisation that assists Aboriginal families with the costs of education, so they can send their children to school. We are asking that everyone comes dressed in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colours – red, yellow, black, blue, green and white. A gold coin donation would be appreciated. During recess we will be selling:
Aboriginal wristbands with chocolate balls for $3.00
Nail polish/ face painting for 50c each
Zooper Doopers for 50c each.

Also we are running a dreamtime story of your own choice (500 words or less) and a freehand drawing competition with an Aboriginal theme. Get your words writing and your pencils drawing. Prizes will be awarded for the best story and drawing in the following categories: Prep – Two, Three – Four, and Five-Six. These are due in Friday 20th November. They can be handed into the front office.

KANGA CRICKET

On Thursday the 22nd of October the grade 5/6s and six grade 4s went down to the Nathalia Rec Reserve to participate in the Kanga 8’s. Which is where the you vs other schools including St Joeys Numurkah, Katunga Primary, Nathalia Primary, Tongala Primary, Cobram Anglican, Cobram Primary and St Joeys Cobram in cricket. Our School had two boys teams and two girls teams. I was on the girls Team 1 alongside Nikita, Nicola, Kate, Ebony, Ella B, Jess, and Emily. Our first game we lost; we played against St Joeys Numurkah. Oor second game was against Katunga and we won. Our third game we lost; we played against Cobram Primary and our last game was in finals and we played St Francis Primary 2 and we won against them by one run. Luckily Nicola Oliver hit a 12 and won us the game. But in the end it was a great day and thank you to Mr Ross and Mrs Rankin for taking us down. Tthank you to all who set up and especially all the kids who participated and made it a great day.

By Bec Williams

On Thursday last week the grade 5/6s went down to the recreation reserve to play Kanga 8s. We had to vs three other schools. Everyone played really well and made the finals. In the finals the boys team 1 versed boys team 2 and the girls team 1 versed the girls team 2. The team 1 boys won and the team 1 won. And thank you to all the grade 4 who filled in.

By Sam Trower

GRADE 3/4 NEWS

Grade 3/4’s had a special guest speaker today Tony Bramwell lcame to talk to us about making worm farms using poly pipes. The children were so engaged and loved making their own worm farms in the school garden. Thanks Tony for giving us some of your time and sharing your passion for a sustainable future.
SCHOOL VOUCHER

OUR FINAL FUNDRAISER FOR 2015

$5.00 PER TICKET

1ST PRIZE: $500.00 voucher

2nd PRIZE: $200.00 voucher

3rd PRIZE: $100.00 voucher

Voucher must be used towards school expenses – eg hats or backpacks, reduction of school fees including school camps, laptop fees etc. Not redeemable for cash.

ONE RAFFLE BOOK HAS BEEN SENT HOME WITH EACH FAMILY. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF EACH FAMILY COULD SELL ONE RAFFLE BOOK. IF YOU REQUIRE FURTHER RAFFLE BOOKS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

AND THE WINNER IS!....

THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT HELLO NIGHT ON 4 FEBRUARY 2016
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.

In Week 3 our Social Skills Blitz was around Kindness. The following students were nominated by their peers and teachers as displaying positive behaviour last week:

**Lexie Smith, Ned Frostick, Matilda Waser, Bailey Woods, Kiara Devenish, Riley James, Jessica Legge and Tom Butler.**

**Winner of the care box was Chloe Hildebrand.**

**Awards for reading: Kirily Fisher, Katie Halden, Sophie Halden, Ryan Dealy, Kiari Maynard and Corey Legge.**

*Congratulations Everyone!*
GRADE 1/2M NEWS
On Wednesday, 28 October 2015 Gr 1/2M had their final session at St Marys with their Year 10 friends! I was so proud of how our kids engaged with the big kids, how appreciative they were, how they participated in every activity & how they were open to new challenges! Apparently "going to St Marys is as exciting as a bumble bee flying over flowers collecting pollen".
COMMUNITIES IN HARMONY: A Choral Spectacular

A concert of beautiful choral singing, featuring the choirs of Echuca's very own River Voices, as well as guest Melbourne choir, Excelsis.

7.30pm, Saturday 7 November 2015
The Paramount
392 High Street, Echuca
Admission: $15  Ph: (03) 5482 3399

NATHALIA COMMUNITY EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Did you know we are available to look after your children before and after school, on Student Free Days and during the School Holidays?

Please do not hesitate to contact the centre should you need to book your children in to care on either Monday 2nd November or Monday 23rd November

Please Call the Centre for more information or to book your children in 5866 2088
26 Bramley Street, Nathalia ncoalc@mvf.net.au
www.facebook.com/nathaliocommunityearlylearningcentre

WANTED Babysitter

pays cash
phone 0408 662 708

“If you can’t fly, then run, if you can’t run, then walk, if you can’t walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.”
— Martin Luther King Jr.