Prayer of the week

*Feast of the Assumption ~ 15th Aug*

Tomorrow is the Feast of the Assumption…we pray

And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

All: For the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

All: He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

Almighty Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have revealed the beauty of your power by exalting the lowly virgin of Nazareth and making her the mother of our Saviour. May the prayers of this woman clothed with the sun bring Jesus to the waiting world and fill the void of incompleteness with the presence of her child.

Amen
Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis,

School Review
Yesterday our school underwent a full review of our current practices and procedures in alliance to the Victorian Registration and Qualification Authority (VRQA). Our Catholic Identity ~ what makes St Francis a catholic school, was also inspected and we look forward to sharing, celebrating and gaining improvement perspectives in all areas of school life.

It was a significant day for the development of and planning for future programs and has given us scope to develop our strategic directions. A incredible amount of preparation went into preparing for our review day and I am extremely proud of our staff, students and School Board who have worked tirelessly to make sure we were not only compliant but are now well placed for the future.

We warmly welcomed the following validation members to St Francis yesterday:
~ Julie Cobbledick (Panel Chair) & Senior Catholic Education Consultant Western Deanery
~ Jasmine Ryan ~ Principal Pyramid Hill
~ Rueben Johnson ~ Principal St Monica’s Kangaroo Flat

The represented and nominated panel members were at our school all day reviewing relevant documentation, current practices and provided valuable feedback for future recommendations. Recommendations from the review panel and those highlighted through Staff Leadership, Staff consultation and Board will now form our Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2018 and we look forward to sharing this in the coming weeks.

Thank you and Best Wishes Mr Secchi
Yesterday was Nathan Secchi’s last day teaching at St Francis. Nathan has been working as a Casual Relief Teacher since the beginning of the year, and more recently for the past 5 weeks, part time in the 3/4 Learning Community. Nathan has been a valued member of our community and will be sadly missed by staff, parents and students. We wish Nathan every success as he takes up a teaching position in the UK. Thank you Nathan for all you have contributed to our school community.

Welcome Malinda Rankin
We warmly welcome Malinda Rankin back on deck. Malinda has been on maternity leave and will commence teaching part time in the 3/4 Learning Community next Wednesday.

Other School Happenings…

Athletics Training has commenced:
Mr Ross has commenced training for our Athletics Sports Day on Thursday 17th Sept. More information regarding our athletics will be presented in the coming weeks.

Kinder Transition Day Wednesday 19th Aug:
Next Wednesday we will be holding an information session for all new families who are interested in sending their child to St Francis commencing 2016. Kinder students are invited to participate in a fun transition session from 9.30 a.m. – 11.00 am.

Northern Angels Footy Clinic last Friday:
Thank you to all of the girls who represent the Northern Angels Football Squad for conducting a junior girls football clinic last Friday. Our girls had a wonderful time learning new skills and playing a game of football with the squad.
Science Week Aug 17th ~ 21st

Next week is science week and many of our students have been conducting and trialing experiments in preparation. SMOTA has invited classes to attend several of their activities throughout the week ~ please refer to the below for further details and times.
**Our School News**

**School Maintenance Updates**
- Upgrades to our PA system have been completed. We now have speakers in all learning areas and an improved messaging system has been installed.
- New carpet and painting has been completed in the Western End portable. New blinds and awnings will be installed soon.
- New painting has been completed in the Foundation classroom and adjoining spaces.
- Apple TV’s have been installed in most learning spaces. Further improvements to our WiFi and Internet will be completed in the near future.
- Once permits have been approved, construction of a new storage shed will commence at the Western End of the School grounds.

**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

**Quote of the Week:**

*Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust in God.*

*Pope Francis*

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**Important Dates on the horizon:**
Aug 19th Kinder Transition Day
Aug 24th ~ 28th Book Week
Aug 27th Book Week Parade
1st Sept Board Mtg
4th Father’s Day Celebrations
9th Sept Funded PSG’s
10th Sept P/T Interviews
11th Sept St Francis Trivia Night
17th Sept St Francis Sports Day
18th Sept Last Day of Term

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**SOCIAL SKILLS BLITZ**

**This week**, our Positive Behaviour Blitz is **Perseverance**

Perseverance is a quality where the process is more important than the end result. It is difficult for students (and adults) to see that anything is gained by trying constantly, sometimes without success. One successful goal easily balances out many failures. Perseverance helps to build strong character.
Our School News

In Week 4 our Social Skills Blitz was around Kindness. The following students were nominated by their peers and teachers as displaying positive behaviour last week:

Hugh Stone, Bryce Young, Bridie Wilson, Will Trower, Riley James, Mia Spiteri, Zarlina Maynard & Ella Wilson

Winner of the care box was Ebony James.

PRINCIPAL’S WRITING AWARDS:
Congratulations to Katie Halden and Darcy Young for winning the Principal’s Writing award. Both winners wrote very humorous and entertaining stories. Well done.

100 NIGHTS READING:
Congratulations to Archer Backway, Matilda Flenley and Jayda Limbrick for reaching the milestone of 100 nights reading. Well done.

INDEPENDENT READERS:

Well done to all of our students who received awards and certificates.

LIFE RELATIONSHIPS FAMILY EVENING
The Life Relationships family evening for Year 5 and 6 students and parents is on Monday, 31 August 2015 at 7.00 p.m. in the school library. The next day we will be running the follow up sessions. Chris Summers and Brodie Ross will take the boys and Fiona Baker and Tam Perry will take the girls. Further information will be sent home early next week to parents.

ST FRANCIS PS TRIVIA NIGHT
FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2015
TABLES OF 8-10 PEOPLE
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
SCHOOL OFFICE: 5866 2271
GET A TABLE TOGETHER AND TEST YOUR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE SKILLS
$10.00 A HEAD – BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES
2016 FOUNDATION ENROLMENTS
A reminder to our school families that if you have a child commencing school at St Francis in 2016 that you need to complete an enrolment form. Enrolment forms can be obtained from the school’s front office.

BOOK WEEK 24 AUGUST – 28 AUGUST 2015

The theme for Book Week is “Books Light Up our World.” We are all so excited about Book Week and cannot wait to see what the children will wear for the Book Week School Parade. This year we are holding the parade on Thursday, 27 August 2015. Students are encouraged to dress as a book character and participate in the parade. For our new families we can assure you that this is one fun day and seeing all the fabulous costumes that the students come up with is the highlight of the day. We will also be holding a hotdog lunch and orders forms for the lunch will be coming home next week.

We will again be holding our book fair throughout the week. The library will be opened before and after school each day in Book Week to give students and parents an opportunity to purchase books. Further details will be provided regarding opening times in next week’s newsletter. During Book Week our students, in their house groups, will participate in a range of activities based on the books that have been shortlisted for the year. What a wonderful way to celebrate the written word.

BASKETBALL
Basketball is recommencing on Tuesday, 18 August 2015 at the Nathalia Community Centre, 4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Cost is $2.00 per child per game. Competition is open to all Primary aged children. No need to register, simply turn up next Tuesday. For further information please contact Mr Jim Brereton on 0417 349 464.
SCHOOL FOOTY RESULTS

Results Grade 3/4:

Nathalia 48 to Kialla United Blue 21
Goal Kickers - Max Frostick 2, Brodie Armstrong 2, Brandon Orton 1, Darcy Conroy 1, Charlie Sheehan 1.

Best On - Charlie Sheehan, Brandon Orton, Max Frostick, Oliver Sheehan, Billy Liddell, Henry Myers.

Results – Grade 5/6

Nathalia 14 to Bouchier Street 48
Goal Kickers - George Malachi (Bouchier St). Best on - Darcy Backway, Cooper Bloodworth, Kaleb Kopsidas, Devon Maroney, Harry Caldow, Mak Hindmarsh.

Next week is our last game of the season.
Bonjour everyone, this week in French 5/6 are learning about the human body. We played a game where we had to match-up some body parts and it was fun. The game is called body-part match-up. Then after that we had to draw a body and next week we will label them.

By Erin and Tom