To the Community of St Francis Nathalia

Hello everyone,

It is with great pleasure I write to you as your newly appointed Principal for 2015. In the coming weeks I will have the opportunity to visit St Francis to formally meet staff, students, parents and parishioners as the process for transition of principal ship takes effect. Both Claire and I will have time to work together to ‘hand over’ the reigns and for me to finally meet the wonderful community of St Francis I have been hearing much about.

Already, I am very grateful for the many positive emails and messages of congratulations and support of my appointment, and I look forward to next year with much enthusiasm and anticipation.

Currently I am the Deputy Principal of St Luke’s Catholic Primary School and I also work as a full-time class teacher as part of the grade 3 / 4 Learning Community. I have held this position for the past 4 years and previous to this I have taught and held positions of leadership in numerous school settings over a period of 23 years.

I live in Shepparton with my wife Sophie and we have four children Chloe (15), Lily (13), Bridget (5) and Liam (3). I am 43 years of age and have many interests including running, fishing, camping, socializing with friends and going on holidays with my family. We own a dog called Hudson and we have adopted an assortment of other pets including 6 guinea pigs of which have practically taken over our back yard.

At present, like in every school, it has been quite hectic preparing for end of year procedures and unfortunately this hasn’t allowed much time for me to scoot up the road to say hello. As the year draws to a close I’m hoping to do this more frequently and I look forward to meeting you all, sharing more of my story and to becoming part of the St Francis school and Nathalia community.

Until then,

Regards

Chris Summers

Dear Lord,
We are the Church.
Sanctify us and always be in our hearts
Amen.
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.

Due to their being no assembly this week, awards will be announced at next week’s assembly.

HELPERS WANTED:
The Parent Club are holding a “nude” cupcake stall at the Nathalia Primary School Fair which is being held this Friday, 14 November 2014 between 1.30 p.m. and 6.00 pm. The stall will have various icings and toppings for the children to decorate their own cupcake. Helpers will only need to sell the cupcakes and possibly top up the fillings. If you can help out on the day, even if only for an hour, please contact the school office.

OPENING DOORS FUNDRAISER:
We had a very successful fundraiser last Thursday, 6 November. All our students arrived at school in casual clothes and the school was a sea of colours. The zooper doopers proved popular, as did the fingernail painting and hair tinting! The winners of the colouring completion are: Gr 4-6: First prize: Jessica Legge; Gr 2-3: First Prize: Ryan Dealy; Second Prize: Emily Woods; Third Prize: Logan Daniel; Gr Prep/One: First Prize: Ella Dealy; Second Prize: Sarah Stone; Third Prize: Matilda Waser and Kindergarten winner: Chantelle Dealy. Well done to all the students who entered the colouring competition. A whopping $504.20 was raised for the Opening Doors Foundation – thank you to everyone for your generosity.

HEAD LICE
Head lice have been under control for some time but we are again experiencing students coming to school with head lice and in order to keep it under control we do ask that parents please check their children’s hair for head lice and treat them accordingly.

NOVEMBER

‘November is the month when we remember ‘those who have gone before’, ‘those who have died in the peace of Christ,’ those ‘whose faith is known to You alone’. During November we remember with love and gratitude the lives of those who have died and, in that recalling, they go on living in us. We are still connected – they with us and we with them. It is the time when the hope of resurrection takes on a more personal meaning. November is a reminder to look again at the gift of life with a more thoughtful and wiser eye.

… When a loved one dies, a part of us dies too. Our life will never be quite the same. We mourn the loss, we are saddened that we will not hear their voice or see them again in this life. Nothing can take away from that and, although time may diminish the sting we feel, surely love is meant to wound us in that way. Isn’t that a consequence of love? ... "The dearer and richer our memories, the more difficult the separation. But gratitude changes the pangs of memory into a tranquil joy. The beauties of the past are borne, not as a thorn in the flesh, but as a precious gift in themselves."

November is the time, however, when that part of us comes to life again when we remember past times together, when we recall how they live on in us and other loved ones in the habits and memories and the lessons, the expressions they gifted us. ...When we pray for those we love who have died, it is not just that we want God to stay mindful of them, we want to stay mindful of them too and that they would be mindful of us. Isn’t that part of what the Communion of Saints means? Death reminds us to live life fuller rather than faster, to appreciate the gift of time, our own and our time with those around us. It calls us to stop, to take time, to rejoice and enjoy the world, to appreciate the company of others, to pay attention to our friends, to take the time to appreciate the gifts of nature around us, to care for the earth, to rejoice in the rain and the cold and the wind as well as the warmth and sunshine... It reminds me of these words: He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. Rev 21:4.”  Jim Quillinan
Why is this day special to Australians?

At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare. The allied armies had driven the German invaders back, having inflicted heavy defeats upon them over the preceding four months. In November the Germans called for an armistice (suspension of fighting) in order to secure a peace settlement. They accepted the allied terms of unconditional surrender.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month attained a special significance in the post-war years. The moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front became universally associated with the remembrance of those who had died in the war. This first modern world conflict had brought about the mobilisation of over 70 million people and left between 9 and 13 million dead, perhaps as many as one-third of them with no known grave. The allied nations chose this day and time for the commemoration of their war dead.

On the first anniversary of the armistice in 1919 two minutes' silence was instituted as part of the main commemorative ceremony at the new Cenotaph in London. The silence was proposed by Australian journalist Edward Honey, who was working in Fleet Street. At about the same time, a South African statesman made a similar proposal to the British Cabinet, which endorsed it. King George V personally requested all the people of the British Empire to suspend normal activities for two minutes on the hour of the armistice "which stayed the worldwide carnage of the four preceding years and marked the victory of Right and Freedom". The two minutes' silence was popularly adopted and it became a central feature of commemorations on Armistice Day.

On the second anniversary of the armistice in 1920 the commemoration was given added significance when it became a funeral, with the return of the remains of an unknown soldier from the battlefields of the Western Front. Unknown soldiers were interred with full military honours in Westminster Abbey in London and at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. The entombment in London attracted over one million people within a week to pay their respects at the unknown soldier's tomb. Most other allied nations adopted the tradition of entombing unknown soldiers over the following decade.

After the end of the Second World War, the Australian and British governments changed the name to Remembrance Day. Armistice Day was no longer an appropriate title for a day which would commemorate all war dead.

In Australia on the 75th anniversary of the armistice in 1993 Remembrance Day ceremonies again became the focus of national attention. The remains of an unknown Australian soldier, exhumed from a First World War military cemetery in France, were ceremonially entombed in the Memorial's Hall of Memory. Remembrance Day ceremonies were conducted simultaneously in towns and cities all over the country, culminating at the moment of burial at 11 am and coinciding with the traditional two minutes' silence. This ceremony, which touched a chord across the Australian nation, re-established Remembrance Day as a significant day of commemoration.

Four years later, in 1997, Governor-General Sir William Deane issued a proclamation formally declaring 11 November to be Remembrance Day, urging all Australians to observe one minute’s silence at 11 am on 11 November each year to remember those who died or suffered for Australia’s cause in all wars and armed conflicts.

"Lest we forget"
"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We shall remember them"
COMMUNITY NEWS

Nathalia Primary School Fair
Friday, November 14th
1:30pm - 6:00pm

Entertainment:

Skits

Face painting

Cakes & Sweets

Showbags

Jumping Castles

Miniature Train rides

And much, much more.

As the planning continues we are
asking for donations of any unwanted items for our various stalls

- Books and toys in good condition
- Baby clothes
- Plants or cuttings
- Empty pottery containers

Please contact the school
03 5866 2048

COMMUNITY NEWS

Nathalia and district preschool
CHRISTMAS FAMILY PORTRAIT FUNDRAISER DAY
with a bit of fun.

When: Sunday 23rd November 2014
Where: Nathalia Recreation Reserve

Cost: $15 payable to Nathalia & District Pre-School to secure booking time (includes 20 minute session, 8x12" print and petitonne frame. Other packages available for purchase)

Sessions are outdoors (weather permitting) then straight after, you view & choose your photos.

One hour of your day all up – great for Xmas

Bookings close November 11th – Limited places available

Booking sessions available at Nathalia District Pre-School:

Wednesday 5th & Thursday 6th November 8:45am – 9:15am or otherwise please phone the Pre-School on 58662375

LIKE A MAGNET
WE DRAW IN WHAT WE CONSTANTLY THINK ABOUT.
IF YOU'RE ALWAYS THINKING POSITIVE, HAPPY, JOYFUL THOUGHTS, YOU'RE GOING TO BE A POSITIVE, HAPPY, JOYFUL PERSON, AND YOU WILL ATTRACTION HAPPY, UPTOWN,-positive people.
- Unknown

Nathalia Junior Tennis

HOTSHOTS: If you would still like to join Nathalia Hotshots or junior teams, there are some places available.

TENNIS PRACTICE: will be held from 3:45 - 4:45 each Tuesday. Di Bell has offered to open the clubhouse and help to supervise.

For more information contact Rose Nhill 0438 662 149

OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY ACKNOWLEDGES THAT WE ARE BUILT IN THE COUNTRY OF THE YORITA YORITA PEOPLE. WE PAY RESPECT TO THE TRIBAL ELDERS, AND CELEBRATE THE CONTINUING INDIGENOUS CULTURE IN AND AROUND THE NATHALIA AREA.