Week 6
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

Prayer of the week

Silence for God

Leader: Let us quiet ourselves and remind ourselves that we are in the presence of God...
Let us begin our prayer together:

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

Reader: At times prayer becomes silent. Peaceful sharing with God can occur without words. Psalm 131 gives this image: “I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a child with her mother.”
We pause in silent prayer to our God...

Leader: Together, let us pray:
Lord, you know our all innermost thoughts. May we learn to find moments of silence in our lives to experience you, and to hear what it is you want us to do. Help us to entrust our worries and stress to you, knowing that your way will be the right way for us all. We pray this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please be aware there was an attempted abduction of an 11 yr old boy from the Nathalia Primary School yesterday. Crime Stoppers have issued a description of a man in his 50s driving an unregistered white van who has allegedly repeated the same offence last week in Numurkah by trying to lure children to his car with lollies.

Please emphasise the important message of stranger danger with your children and remind them never talk to / or get into a vehicle with unknown persons. From the schools point of view we will emphasise the same message in our classrooms.

It’s important not to alarm or scare your children with details of the above mentioned incident, rather raise awareness of not walking alone or talking to strangers and if they notice anything unusual please report it.

Kind regards

Chris Summers

Congratulations to the following students who are making their First Reconciliation next Tuesday evening.
Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis,

On Wednesday our grade 5/6 students attended the Nathalia and District Remembrance service held at memorial park. It was a beautiful service attended by many in our community including past service members, RSL representatives and especially students from all schools. MacKenzie Craig spoke highly of the importance of keeping our youth at the heart of Remembrance Day and that it is imperative our children are always represented at events such as these. His words were pertinent on many levels and it was with pride that our students represented their school, their families, themselves and their wider community. I have attached an interesting article regarding Remembrance Day worth reading titled “5 Lessons we should learn this Remembrance Day”. Thank you to our students and teachers who attended.

St Francis Community Group ~ (Formally P&F) – Our new way of thinking has been a real success!

Last Monday we held a meeting to discuss the current format of our Community Group (P&F) and proposals for next year. A decision was made that we will continue with our arrangement of sub-committees to organize and run events for 2016. This format has been less of a burden for busy parents as organization of events are now a shared responsibility and more inclusive. A real success story.

Funds raised this year are in excess of $10 000, a 30% increase. These funds have been used to help…

School Maintenance

~ Upgrades to our PA system. We now have speakers in all learning areas and an improved messaging system has been installed.
~ New carpet, blinds, awnings and painting have been installed and completed in the Western End portable.
~ New painting has been completed in the Foundation classroom and adjoining spaces.
~ New painting has been completed in the administration block, office areas and corridors.
~ Apple TV’s have been installed in most learning spaces. Further improvements to our WiFi and Internet will be completed in the near future.
~ Construction of a new storage shed has commenced at the Western End of the School grounds and will be completed before the end of the term.
~ To pay for our 2015 swimming program.
~ To pay for the 2015 Grade 6 Mosaics/garden.
~ Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden concept to become a reality in 2016.

We look forward to next year with enthusiasm for not only raising funds but for further engagement and participation of our school community. An events meeting will be held in early 2016.

Grade 3/4 Camp Date Changed ~ Billabong Ranch

Our Grade 3/4 camp is fast approaching and our staff have been working hard to put together a fun and educational camp for our students. Camp will be held on Thursday 26 and Friday 27 November 2015.

Raffle Tickets ~ School Voucher

Raffle books that have been sold may be returned to the school with the collected money at any time. The winner will not be announced until our Hello Night in 2016 so plenty of time to get your tickets sold.

Other School Happenings…

Classes for 2016

We are currently in the process of working out classes for 2016. Announcements will be made when all decisions are finalized.
**Oxfam Unwrapped – Helping to transform the lives of people living in poverty:**
We are taking part in Oxfam Unwrapped this year. What is Oxfam Unwrapped? Oxfam Unwrapped helps to fight poverty around the world. By raising money for a gift, like a goat for a family in Mozambique, we are not only helping a family in need but it is a great way to further promote our students ethical and intercultural understanding, reconnecting our students with the true meaning of the Christmas season and reminding them of the value of giving. So……for the next two Fridays, commencing on 20 November, all proceeds from our Zooper Dooper sales will go towards purchasing a gift. Our goal is raise $146.00 – this will enable us to buy the gift of a goat family comprised of a Mum and Dad and two siblings ($98.00) and a chicken family comprising Mum and her chicks ($38.00). We are so excited to be part of Oxfam Unwrapped, for further details visit Oxfam’s website at www.oxfamunwrapped.com.au.

Enjoy your weekend and week ahead!

Chris Summers

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**Quote of the Week:**
"I want children to discover where food is from, how it is grown and how delicious it is to eat, and how easy to prepare... We need to capture their interest, curiosity and energy – as well as their appetites."

STEPHANIE ALEXANDER, of her Kitchen Garden Program

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

"Perseverance us 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.

In Week 5 our Social Skills Blitz was around Perseverance. The following students were nominated by their peers and teachers as displaying positive behaviour last week:

**Archer Backway, Nate Summerville, Nikita Pawlowicz, Hayley Wigmore, Kaira Maynard, Chloe Hildebrand and Harry Dietrich.**

Winner of the care box was Sophie Creer Pope.


**Awards for writing:** Grace McKeown and Shannyn Pengilly.

**Principal Writer’s Award:** Zara Limbrick – congratulations your story was entertaining and showed great style. Keep up the great work with your writing everyone. 😊

**Congratulations Everyone!**

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Perseverance is failing nineteen times and succeeding the twentieth.

*(Julie Andrews)*
**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 each
- 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.

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**HELPERS NEEDED**

Helpers are needed in the kitchen on Sunday, 15th November for the Nathalia Fire Brigade Motorcycle Show.
- 1 hour shifts from 9.30 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.
- Contact Denise Butler on 0400 052 428 or Leanne Pell on 0429 662 387.