Prayer Space

Reading: That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. (Mark 1: 32-34)

Intercessions: For all who suffer through illness, may they experience the healing love of Christ. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, send us your Spirit.

Leader: For all who seek healing, may they be filled with new hope and strength. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, send us your Spirit.

Leader: For all who are dedicated to the care of the sick, may they receive the grace to continue their ministry of compassion. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, send us your Spirit.

Leader: For the families and friends of those who are ill, may their faith bring them strength to support their loved one. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, send us your Spirit. Amen.

Key Dates
This Week
Friday, 29 May
Winter Sports
St Francis v Katunga
SMOTA Oval & St Francis
Tiger Turf Court 1.30 pm start

Coming up
Monday, 8 June
Queens Birthday Public Holiday

Wednesday, 10 June
PSG Meetings

Tuesday, 16 June
School Board

Wednesday, 17 June
Gr 6 Transition Day
SMOTA

Monday, 22 June
School Closure Day – Staff Planning

Friday, 26 June
Last day of Term 2
Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis,

Last week I have had the privilege of being part of two very unique and diverse experiences. The first was on Monday when I attended a session with Cardinal Wilfred Napier. Cardinal Napier is an incredible person with an equally incredible story. His passion and love for justice and peace became evident from the moment he spoke. It was humbling to hear his Franciscan ideologies are not dissimilar to our school; care for self, care for others, care for school and care for the environment. He shared with us his reaction when Pope Francis was elected, especially when he chose the name Francis after St Francis of Assisi. For Cardinal Napier this was an overwhelming moment and he knew then and there ‘this pope was going to make a difference’. He had many amazing stories to tell not of just Pope Francis and living in the Vatican, but of his upbringing and hope for his country in Africa. Listening to and meeting people like Cardinal Napier gives hope and reassurance for the Church and everyone and everything it represents.

Last week I also had the privilege of attending both sessions of the YEMP (Youth Engagement Mentoring Program) that several of our year 6 students have been involved in this term. YEMP is a pilot project aimed at bringing together youth in rural communities with members of organisations to learn new skills and to build positive community relationships through the concept of mentoring. Each term we will introduce new students in year 6 to the program.

On Tuesday mornings our girls meet at the Nathalia Men’s Shed and participate in activities with students from the Nathalia Primary School. On Thursdays our boys do the same. It has been an incredible initiative for our community as it aims to bring students together to learn new skills and participate in activities that they may not have a chance to do or experience.

This week the girls learned the art of embroidery. I was surprised how quickly the students picked it up and better still, persisted with it for over an hour and a half. Once completed all end products will go towards keeping orphaned baby animals warm throughout winter at the animal refuge centre based in Kotupna. With a goal like that it was little wonder the girls wanted to take their yarn and needles home to keep working on their creations.

On Thursday our boys visited the local Police Station to learn more about the important role the police offer our community. Local police officers Sergeant Paul Shortis and Senior Constable Daniel Murray guided the boys through the station showing them all areas including the interview room, lock up room, administration and processing area and gave them the chance to try the siren and sit in one of the police vehicles. Finger-prints were taken (not for future records we were told) but for fun and to take home. We thank Sergeant Shortis and Senior Constable Murray for their time and patience.
In the coming weeks all students will learn how to fish, assemble bikes and help in other community projects. Below is a snapshot of the program rationale. Please contact the school for further information regarding the YEMP program.

**YEMP ~ Youth Engagement Mentoring Program**

Nathalia District Community Association Inc. has been funded through the Department of Human Health Services Engage Youth funding for a three-year project to:

- Establish an inclusive, youth mentoring program that builds relationships between young people, families, schools and the community; and
- To empower young people to develop confidence and skills that will assist them to make real links into their local community with regards to education, employment and getting involved in community activities.

The Nathalia District Community Association Inc. (NDCA), will auspice the project; the NDCA Coordinator will be the Project Manager and will have line management responsibility for employed staff and volunteers.

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) comprised of partners involved in the implementation of the project will be established to manage the project. In each year of the project, six secondary school aged adolescents will be appointed as equal members of the PSC, also Project Manager, Mission Australia and Nathalia District Men’s Shed.

The mentees will be two groups of 5 to 6 students from primary schools each group will participate in a 2 hours program once a week Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9.00 am to 11.00 am which will be decided by the Project Steering Committee upon consultation with the primary students.

**Mentoring Expertise**

Mentoring expertise will be provided by Prof Kevin Murfitt from Deakin University and the Willing and Able Mentoring (WAM) program. Prof Murfitt will have a consultancy role with the PSC and provide expert training and transfer of skills to the Project Manager in matching and training mentees and mentors, conducting information Sessions for project partners and families and will also be guest speaker at the launch of the project.

Prof Murfitt will have an ongoing connection with the project through teleconferencing and skype.

Also during the year we will have Alan Thorpe (Founding member of The Marngrook Footy Show), a proud Gunai man and one of Victoria’s most experienced Aboriginal male workers who will also facilitate a youth leadership session.

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**NATHALIA & DISTRICT MEN’S SHED OPEN DAY**

**TUESDAY MAY 26th**

10AM - 4PM

SAUSAGE SIZZLE 12 NOON

COME ALONG AND SEE THE NEW MEN’S SHED

AT 9-11 PARK STREET NATHALIA
Our School News

Bike and Scooter Safety
There have been a few reported safety concerns regarding several of our students traveling to and from school on bikes and scooters. If your son or daughter rides a scooter or bike to school could you please remind them of their rights and responsibilities about being safe on roads or shared footpaths. Some tips:

Safe riding checklist

• No scooters should be ridden on roads especially in the opposite direction into oncoming traffic.
• If your child is under 10 years, he needs to cycle with a grown-up, preferably on bike paths.
• Children under 12 years are allowed to ride on the footpath. Encourage your child to watch for vehicles coming out of driveways.
• Teach your child to walk her bike across pedestrian crossings instead of riding across the street.
• Children must show that they can follow road rules and predict what cars will do before being allowed to cycle alone. This takes a long time and a lot of practice.
• Show your child that he needs to approach driveways and intersections with caution. Riding onto the road from a driveway is particularly risky as parked vehicles can hide a bicycle rider from oncoming drivers.
• Teach your child that riding in wet weather needs different skills and extra caution.
• Teach your child to wear enclosed footwear when riding, rather than thongs or bare feet. Your child might hurt bare feet if they get caught in the spokes or chain, or if they’re used as brakes.
• Your child shouldn’t ride at night. To ride at night, you need special equipment (lights, visibility vests), acute traffic awareness and understanding of driver behaviour.
• Discourage stunt riding. ‘Look no hands’ and ‘dinkin’ are unsafe.

French Day ~ Bastille Day July 14th
As part of our commitment to learning the French language at school we will be participating in a French day held on the first Tuesday of Term 3. All students are encouraged to wear something in the colours of Red, White or Blue or to come in character eg: wearing berets, moustaches, French artists, pepe le pew! etc. Children will be participating in various French inspired activities and eating French inspired cuisine. All welcome. Further information and details will be available in the coming weeks.

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/

SMOTA production ~ ‘Annie’
Yesterday our 3-6 students attended the matinee of SMOTA’s school production ‘Annie’. Our students were entertained from the moment they walked in. Congratulations to all involved in
the making of the production as putting together a performance like this takes many hours of work and preparation. The show is highly recommended.

Dates for Annie: Thursday 28th, Friday 29th and Saturday 30th. Please contact the college for start times. SMOTA Phone: 5866 2222

Zone Cross Country Success
Last Friday Will Sheehan, Charlie Sheehan, Sara Kolundzija and Mak Hindmarsh competed in the Zone Cross Country at Princess Park in Shepparton. Congratulations to all runners especially to Charlie Sheehan who came 5th in his division and has made it through to the Regional Cross Country held at Broadford later next month. A great effort.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Chris Summers

“quoted”

“Challenge of the day: Find something good in everyone.”
Author Unknown

Over the next few weeks we will be including tips for parents to deal with children’s behaviour. As parents we cannot predict our children’s behaviour and sometimes the causes for inappropriate behaviour may be in what we are doing or failing to do. Last week tips were: Invest one on one time with your kids and Get serious about sleep.

Sometimes, when tasks and schedules get overwhelming, it’s helpful to make a to-do list to make things feel more manageable and focused. If your children’s behavior problems have you feeling overwhelmed and not knowing what to do first, start with these 10 tips for better behavior.

5. Encourage your kids to be problem solvers. Time to retire your referee whistle – when parents step in the middle of a sibling disagreement and determine who’s at fault and dole out punishments, it actually makes things worse. To kids, they see a winner and a loser and a need to escalate the sibling rivalry. Encourage your kids to find a resolution to the problem on their own, which will help them solve conflicts as they grow older. If you have to get involved, don’t choose sides, but ask questions that will help them figure out a solution that all parties can feel good about.

6. Simplify family rules and be firm. It can be difficult for kids to keep a mess of rules straight. If it seems like you have 50 or so family rules, whittle down the list to what’s most important. Determine a consequence for each rule, make it clear to kids ahead of time of both
the rules and consequences, and don’t give in. To make sure your consequences follow the 5 R’s of Fair & Effective Consequences.

(Source: http://www.positiveparentingsolutions.com/parenting/start-10-tips-better-behavior)

The Term Ahead...
This term is a busy and productive term educationally, socially and spiritually for students, teachers and parents. There is much on the horizon and there is much to look forward to. Some of the bigger immediate events happening this term include:

~ 8<sup>th</sup> June Queen’s Birthday Holiday
~ 10<sup>th</sup> June Parent Support Group Meetings (PSG’s)
~ 16<sup>th</sup> June School Board Meeting
~ 17<sup>th</sup> June Year 6 Transition Day
~ 22<sup>nd</sup> June School Closure Day
~ 26<sup>th</sup> June Last Day of Term

This week, our Positive Behaviour Blitz is Cooperation. Cooperation is the act of working together or jointly; of being united in producing an effect. By developing cooperation skills, students build relationships as they complete tasks, utilizing their own skills and those of others to their best advantage. Cooperating encourages students to compromise and negotiate and creates opportunities for unity and harmony to occur.

The winner of our Care Box this week is Stevie Colman and the winning class was Foundation. Congratulations
This week in French 5/6 are learning about the Weather. We have three pictures of different types of the weather, one showing different types of weather, one of l’orage (the storm) and le Printemps (the spring). We played jump the mat at the end of French.
SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Results 5/6

Nathalia played away against Grahamvale. Grahamvale defeated Nathalia 22 to 20. In a physical game the boys did a great job persisting right till the end. They made a come back in the last quarter to go down by just 2 points.

Goal Kickers - Will Sheehan 1 and Jack Myers 1

Best on - Mak Hindmarsh, Charlie Sheehan, Devon Maroney, Tom Butler, Cooper Bloodworth, Ned Bramwell

Thanks again to the 4’s that played up. Next week we are away at St Gorges Rd @ 10am.

Results - 3/4 Nathalia played away at Mooroopna. Mooroopna defeated Nathalia 65 to 0. The boys continue to show improvement each week and it's great to see a lot of our new players gaining in confidence. Mooroopna is always a tough side to play and you all did well.

Best on - Elgin Farrell-Stone, Max Frostick, Darcy Conroy, Tom Dohnt, Ben Nave and Connor Peachey.