Dear Parents and Friends,

As teachers are writing, reading, rewriting and rereading reports this week ensuring that they have a clear record for you of your child's progress throughout the first half of the year, it is probably timely for us all to consider our goals for the rest of the year.

We have just celebrated Pentecost Sunday, and this is a time to reflect on our mission, and what holds us back from being all that we can be. We see this in our children - the fear to step out of their comfort zone and take on new challenges – and it is up to us to model what we want for them. The following reflection sums that up in the context of this week's Gospel.

_The doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. (Jn 20:19)_

Fear can close us in more firmly than locks, more firmly than bars. Our personal fears can paralyse us so deeply, so greatly that we can feel helpless in the simplest of circumstances. Jesus does not despise us in our fear, rather he comes and stands in our midst offering the truest force to overcome fear: his peace.

_Loving Jesus, you know the fears that debilitate me and stop me from living my life richly and deeply. Let me see that accepting your peace is the surest way to face courageously my fears._

(Take Two with Jesus, Diocese of Rockhampton)

Be courageous and have a great week,

Veronica Williams

“When you strip it of everything else, Pentecost stands for power and life. That’s what came into the church when the Holy Spirit came down on the day of Pentecost.”

David Wilkerson, _The Cross and the Switchblade_

NO SCHOOL CANTENE THIS FRIDAY, 13 JUNE 2014 AND NEXT WEDNESDAY, 18 JUNE 2014.
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 characters.

**REPORTS & PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

Reports will come home on Tuesday the 24th of June. We will then hold parent teacher interviews on Thursday the 26th of June, from 2.00PM until 7.30pm. Please call the office and make an appointment.

**Something from Prep/One**

One of the provocations (an invitation to use materials provided) was drawing materials with herbs growing in boots. Below are some of the great drawings done, and the inspiration for them.
FACEBOOK PAGE
As part of our ongoing commitment to improve communication we have set up a St Francis Facebook group. This is a closed group – so that anything posted in the group cannot be seen by anyone who is not a member of the group. The group will be only open to parents and carers in our school who wish to be a part of it. To become a member of the group simply follow this link
https://www.facebook.com/groups/stfrancisnathalia/
and click on ‘Join Group’. Once your request has been accepted you will be able to access the group and see all posts. This will be a place to share news and information - not a place to air grievances or concerns. If you have any queries or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact Veronica Williams.

P & F UPDATE
1/ Lice/nit check Tuesday 17th June in Parents room from 9am volunteers required. If you can assist, even if only for a short while please contact the office.

2/ Thanks to all those parents endeavouring to keep their children in correct school uniforms. We are still looking at some options for our uniform and have had discussions about embroidering the logo on our shirts rather than a transfer. The Uniform shop will still offer the opportunity to bring in your own shirt to be embroidered for $8.00.

3/ The parents and friends club will once again be running a snack stall at this year’s school concert; any willing volunteers please let the office know and a member will get in touch with you.

4/ A big thank you to all those who came to the movie night or donated goods or time to make it such a wonderful evening for those attending. Final figures are not yet in, but when they are, we will let you know the total raised.

5/ Another big thank you to those parents that assisted and supported the Mothers Day stall we raised a total of $468.40 for our school. Well Done!

6/ Monster Car Boot and Community Garage Sale - Sunday August 3rd from 9am. We will be holding a car boot sale and sausage sizzle at the school as well as supporting several garage sales around the town on the same day. Sites available for tables or car boots at the school $10 each or $5 to get your garage sale listed on our map. There will be a second hand uniform stall and a school stall also. If you have "TREASURE" hanging around your house or shed but don’t wish to man your own stall call Denise 0400 052 428 or text Louise 0408 797 632 to donate to the school stall. The perfect opportunity to have a spring clean over the holidays and turn those unwanted items into $. The whole community is invited to attend, so make sure you tell your friends and neighbours. Contact the above numbers for any enquiries.

TIMETABLE CHANGE
Next Tuesday, the 17th of June, David Newman and Karyn Miller will be attending a Blueearth Workshop in Shepparton and so we will be running our Library/Sport timetable on Monday. So Grades Two-Six will need to bring their library books next Monday.
YEAR SIX TRANSITION
There will be Grade Six transition activities at St. Mary of the Angels on Tuesday the 24th of June.

VICTORIAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PARENT BODY. The VCSP’s latest bulletin is now available on its website at www.vcspb.catholic.edu.au/bulletin.htm
This bulletin includes articles on Online Safety, Gifted and Talented Students, NAPLAN and more.

PUBLIC SPEAKING
The town finals for the Lion’s Public Speaking Competition is the middle of the second week of Term Two, therefore we will hold our school competition in the final week of this term, and then give our winners some time in the first week of Term Three to brush up for the town finals. So over the next couple of weeks students will be writing and polishing their speeches and it would be great if they could be practicing them at home as well. The topics are as follows:

Grade 3 & 4 AN AUSTRALIAN HOLIDAY
You are a tourist officer representing a region in Australia. You want to convince you audience to come for a holiday in the region you have chosen.

Grade 5 & 6 A TOAST TO SOMEONE YOU ADMIRE
You are at a function to honour a person in your local community. You are asked to propose a toast to a person in your local community that you admire.

WEAR YOUR PJ’S TO SCHOOL!
TUESDAY, 17TH JUNE 2014

GOLD COIN DONATION
GIVE ME 5 FOR KIDS
IS A FUNDRAISER ORGANISED
BY 95 3SR FM.
Funds raised go to
THE CHILDREN’S WARD
AT GV HEALTH SHEPPARTON

St Francis School
Chapel St, PO BOX 66, NATHALIA, 3638
Phone: 03 58 662 271

Nathalia Early Years Group
Presents
Readiness for School
Tuesday 17th June
7pm
Nathalia Preschool

Parents with children who are eligible for school in 2015 are encouraged to attend.

Supper will be provided.

Bought to you by Barmah Kindergarten,
Nathalia & District Pre-school, Nathalia Early Learning Centre, Nathalia Primary School, St Francis Primary School and Waaia– Yalca Primary School.