Dear Parents and Friends,

Next week Elli and Kerry head off to be part of two weeks of learning on the Walker Learning Study Tour. We know they will come back full of new ideas and renewed enthusiasm which will bring much to our children. We are always looking for new ways to ensure we provide a wide variety of teaching and learning experiences so that we can cater for all children in our care.

We recognise that we are each unique individuals with our own likes and dislikes, thoughts, attitudes and behaviours. We all learn at different rates and in different ways. Consider your friends and family; what is unique and special about them?

“Seek first to understand, then to be understood.” (Stephen Covey)

Can you recognise your child by these descriptions?

Does he easily recall things he has seen? Does she need to see the ‘big picture’ before making a decision? Is she organised, neat and observant? Is his appearance important to him? Does he have trouble remembering spoken instructions? Is she a good speller? Does he like to read? If you said yes to many of these, your child is most likely to be a visual learner. They will memorise things by pictures and words.

If your child is easily distracted, often talks to himself and vocalises when he reads to himself, then he is probably a more auditory learner. You may notice that she finds spoken language easy, but has difficulty with maths and writing. He probably likes music and learns best by listening and memorising steps and procedures.

A kinaesthetic learner is one who moves a lot, likes to touch or stand close to people and learns by doing. She will usually point to words as she reads, gesture frequently when speaking, and memorise things by walking and doing. He will develop large muscle movement early in life and react physically to situations.

Each of us has a preferred learning style, but we are capable of learning in a variety of ways. As teachers we are very mindful of planning learning experiences which cater for a range of learning styles and abilities. Talking to our children about the way they like to learn helps them to understand why they find some tasks difficult to undertake, and others are easy for them. By providing a wide range of teaching and learning experiences, which cater for different learning styles, in each classroom our aim is to engage all children in their learning. Exciting and engaging for all!

Blessings for the week ahead,

Claire Kelly

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**Key Dates**

**Week 8**

**Wednesday, 3 Sept**
NLC Board Gathering with Maggie Farrar
7pm - Library

**Friday, 5 Sept**
Father’s Day Celebration

**Coming Up**

**Tuesday, 9 Sept**
School Board Meeting 7pm

**Wednesday, 10 Sept**
PSG Meetings

**Thursday, 11 Sept**
Gr 5/6 Fashion Parade

**Tuesday, 16 Sept**
Gr 5 Transition Day
SMOTA
10.20-2pm

**Wednesday, 17 Sept**
Athletics Sports

**Thursday, 18 Sept**
Last day of Term – normal finish time

**Friday, 19 Sept**
Staff PLC Day
Student free day

**Monday, 6 October**
First Day - Term 4
This week, our Positive Behaviour Blitz is **Co-operation.**

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.

In week 7 our Social Skills Blitz was around Co-operation. The following students were nominated by their peers and teachers as displaying positive behaviour last week:

- Prep/1A: Natasha Hassell
- Prep/1B: Marcus Burns
- 2/3A: Grace McKeown
- 2/3B: Hannah Summerville
- 4/5: Jack Myers
- 5/6: Breanne Walpole and Cassie Brooks

**Congratulations Everyone!! Keep up the good work.**

**Candyland Concert DVD’s**

DVD’s which have been ordered for the St Francis Candyland Concert, are ready to be collected from the front office, once payment has been received. ($10 each.)

**Fathers Day Footy Celebration – Friday 5th September**

All dads, grandfathers or guardians are invited to lunch to celebrate Fathers’ Day on Friday the 5th of September. Lunch will be served from 1pm and then from 2pm there will be activities and games with the children. The children will be able to wear their favourite footy colours for the day as part of this celebration.

*God, bless all the fathers in the world. Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like You are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.*

*Amen*

**Athletics Sports Day – Wednesday 17th September (please note date change)**

Please note that the Athletics Sports Day has been moved to Wednesday 17th September 2014. The children wear their school uniform on this day and will be provided with a colour bib for their events, they may wear coloured ribbons in their hair or have a bit of face paint in their house colours. It will be at the Nathalia Recreation Reserve and begin at 9.30. Family and friends are more than welcome to come and watch the students.

**Nathalia Little Athletics Starts – Wednesday 3rd September**

Starts at 4:45pm at the Nathalia Recreation Reserve. Registrations are available on-line www.lavic.com.au
Pre-School Open Day / Fundraiser - Monday 15th & Saturday 20th September
Nathalia and District Pre-school Open Day is on Monday 15th September 2014 from 2:30pm, afternoon tea will be provided. Pre-School Fundraising Op-shop Tour on Saturday 20 September 2014, cost $25, morning tea and lunch provided. Expressions of interest contact Nicole Gabriel on 0458 972 416.

Our Place- 9x5 Impressions Exhibition at the SAM - Shepparton Art Museum
In October there will be a 9x5 impressions exhibition at the Shepparton Art Museum (SAM) of students’ work from across our diocese.

The concept of a 9x5 impressions exhibition dates back to Australian artists in the early 1900’s. The students learnt about some of these artists and Impressionist art - capturing a moment in time- and then with the theme of ‘Our Place’ and a range of materials the students were able to create their art.

Many of our students’ art will be displayed at the gallery but only a small number of students get selected to attend the exhibition opening. After lots of deliberation the following artworks were chosen, and these children will have the option of attending. Well done to all students- it was great to see the wonderful creativity of our students.
P&F Update
The Parents and Friends committee met last Thursday and here a few things to be aware of:

Fathers’ Day Lunch
Next Friday is the annual Fathers’ Day celebrations with a lunch organized by the Parents and Friends. Lunch for fathers and grandfathers is free of charge, there are order forms for anyone else attending, to order and pay for their lunch. These forms need to be returned by Wednesday the 3rd of September to ensure we are able to adequately cater for everyone. Volunteers to serve are welcome.

Fathers’ Day Raffle
Prize to be drawn next Friday, at lunch time. Tickets went home last Friday, $2 ea or 3 for $5. Due back next Wednesday.
1st prize: wheelbarrow full of goodies

Walker Learning Professional Development
Elli Cowcher and Kerry Conroy will be participating in an amazing professional development Walker Learning event commencing Sunday 7th September 2014, which has been organised by the Sandhurst Catholic Education Office.

The Walker Learning Approach (WLA) is the first major Australian based total pedagogy (Preschool to Year 8) to be designed and implemented. It is based upon decades of research about play-based and personalised learning and social constructivism. It is a total approach to teaching and learning which combines the need for children to be active participants in their learning (through hands-on and creative exploration and investigation) which sits alongside formal instruction. The Walker Learning study tour will take place from Sunday 7th September 2014 – Tuesday 16 September 2014 and will focus on providing opportunities for participants to witness and explore The Walker Learning Approach in a number of educational settings at a variety of locations including Central Victoria, Darwin, Arnhem Land and South Australia. Congratulations Kerry and Elli, we look forward to the learning you will be able to share with all of us. Fiona Baker and Veronica Williams will be teaching in Grade Prep/1 in their absence.

Nathalia Learning Community: Graduate Dinner
Last Wednesday evening graduate teachers from Nathalia along with their teaching mentors were given an opportunity to come together and share a meal. The purpose of the evening was to provide young teachers with an opportunity to network and connect with other staff from different schools within our community. A big thank you to the VET Hospitality students who prepared a beautiful 3 course meal and to St Mary of the Angels for hosting such a successful night! Just another great initiative by the Nathalia Learning Community.