Dear Parents and Friends,

On Friday I was very fortunate to spend the day with the children who will make their Confirmation and First Communion next Sunday. It was their Retreat Day, where they do their final preparations for the forthcoming Sacraments and reflect on this step in their faith journey. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they take this next step. The following reflection is taken from the ‘Steps in Faith’ booklets used in preparation for the Sacraments and holds something for us all to think about.

In communion with Jesus, we try to build a friendly world.

In our world there is gladness and there is sadness
some are healthy, others are sick
Some are rich, others are poor.
Some have work, others do not.
Some have friends, others do not.
Some live in peace, others live in war.
We cannot change that by suddenly waving a magic wand!
But Jesus does want us to try, altogether,
day after day,
to make things better.
At home, at school, on the playgrounds, everywhere
Jesus wants us to bring about a little more justice.
a little more love, a little more peace,
a little more joy.

Have a great week,

Veronica Williams
POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AT ST FRANCIS SCHOOL

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

Tolerance is a skill, which can reduce conflict. It is an ongoing process. Tolerance encourages us to respect opinions and practices, which differ from our own, and to be free of bigotry. Tolerance encourages understanding and appreciation of individual differences, minimises generalisations and helps combat prejudice and discrimination.

In week 6 our Social Skills Blitz was around perseverance. The following students were nominated by their peers as displaying positive behaviour last week:

Harry Morgan, Ella Dealy, Zahlia Kautai, Shontay McCabe-Jackson, Emily Woods, Ebony James, Jake Brown, Harry Dietrich, Ella Brereton and Breanne Walpole

The following students received sports awards for their fantastic efforts at Winter Sports on 6 June:

Abbey Bell, Will Sheehan, Rebecca Williams, Ella Johns, Breanne Walpole and Maddison Pawlowicz.

**Congratulations Everyone!**

**Grade Two and Three Excursion to Glenaaron Farm:**

We went to Glenaaron Farm. The cows have three calves when they're two. Glenys made ricotta cheese. I had four pieces. She has 300 cows. She made ice-cream. It takes 3 hours to milk the cows.

Mia Spiteri

On Wednesday 4th June 2/3A and 2/3B went to Glenarron Farm. It is a dairy farm. They had 300 cows and 12 calves. A woman called Glenys showed us the farm. First we saw the cows and calves. When a new baby cow is born it can stay with their mum for 24 hours. We then went to the milking sheds and we saw the cows almost ready to be milked. Then we went to the guesthouse and got ice-cream. It was yum. I wished I could have had more. Then we had cheese. It was not very nice.

Hayley Wigmore

2/3 A and 2/3 B went to Glenarron Dairy Farm. We saw some calves and some cows and I saw a farm dog. There I saw 2 cats run first I saw one and then the other. We ate ice-cream! We ate cheese, but I did not like the cheese.

Daniel Chisholm

On the excursion we went to the calf paddock that was fun. We saw cows get milk to drink. We had fruit snack after. We went to the house and saw kookaburras. We got ice-cream. We got cheese on bread.

Brady Walpole

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

FACEBOOK PAGE

*It has been great to have so many parents join our group and use this very easy and powerful form of communication to strengthen our school community links.*

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/](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 REMINDERS

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

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.

YEAR SIX TRANSITION

There will be grade six transition activities at St. Mary of the Angels on Tuesday the 24th of June. More information will be sent home with the Grade 6 students.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Students are working on their topics- would be great to share this at home. 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 your 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.
ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
Nathalia Primary School offer the Active After School Program and are opening up this opportunity to our families for next term. The Active After School Program takes place on a Monday and Wednesday night from 3.40pm - 4.40pm with pick up by 4.45pm. There is no cost involved in the program and it is offered for about 7 weeks of the term. Nathalia Primary School is seeking expressions of interest in this program. If you are interested in taking part please contact either our school office or Nathalia Primary School on 5866 2677, as places may be limited.

RECONCILIATION PROGRAM
Next term we will be preparing students for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is a four week program that will be offered during the middle of the term. Students in grade three, or above, that wish to make this Sacrament will receive information early next term. On Friday as part of our Sacramental program however we had two students receive this Sacrament in order to take part in the upcoming Confirmation and First Communion ceremony. Matt Walsh, who is in year 9 at St Joseph’s, Echuca, and Jack Myers received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Below is Jack with his parents, the boys receiving their certificates and Matt with his grandfather, Norm Walsh, one of our local parishioners. Congratulations to them both.