We are Christ’s Body

Leader: St Paul reminds us that we are the Body of Christ, each of us adding our gifts and abilities to strengthening and building up Christ’s body in today’s world. Let us reflect for a moment on how we can together be his body, his hands, feet and eyes, transforming the world in which we live.

Leader: For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink

All: Ours are the hands with which Christ works today.

Leader: I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothing.

All: We are the body of Christ, and the compassion of Christ.

Leader: I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.

All: Ours are the feet with which Christ walks about doing good.

Leader: Christ has no body now on earth but yours; No hands but yours; No feet but yours; Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world; Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good; Yours are the hands with which he is to bless his people.

Reader: For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 1 Cor 12:12, 27.

All: Lord Jesus, help us to be your hands and feet in today’s world. Teach us to open our hearts to you ways of love and service, so that we will go about doing good. Teach us to be your eyes, so that we will look with love on our world.

Key Dates

Coming up

Tuesday, 15 Sept
Gr 5 Transition Day – SMOTA

School Fair Meeting
3.30 p.m. Staff Room

Thursday, 17 Sept
Athletics Sports Day
No Dillmac lessons due to sports day

Friday, 18 Sept
Last day of Term 3
2.15 pm finish

Monday, 5 Oct
First Day of Term 4

Friday, 9 Oct
St Francis Feast Day
Celebrations
Mass 9.15 am followed by activities
The actual Feast Day is Sunday, 4 Oct however
Due to school hols we will be celebrating on Friday, 9 October 2015.

Week 9
TERM 3, 2015

St Francis School

Educating The Whole Child For Today and Tomorrow.
A school community that recognises learning is natural, creative and ongoing
Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis,

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend parent teacher interviews yesterday or parent group support (PSG) meetings over the past few weeks. I have had the privilege of being part of the PSG meetings and it has been wonderful to hear of the many improvements and growth our students have displayed throughout the term. Goal setting is a major focus for developing student potential and we encourage all families to help your children achieve the goals that have been set in consultation with their teachers. Developing SMART goals is a process we have been focusing on throughout the year. SMART goals are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely ambitions that aim to keep students focused on a specific and purposeful achievement. By setting these in consultation with students, teachers and parents they become more relevant and attainable for our students. Please spend time with your child discussing goals and ways these goals can be achieved by the end of the year.

Developing a Specific Goal

SMART goals are:

S = Specific
M = Measurable
A = Attainable
R = Relevant, Rigorous, Realistic, and Results Focused
T = Timely and Trackable

Learning how to frame goals as SMART goals and being willing to adjust them to get SMARTer is an important skill that we are helping our students have a better school year, this year and into the future.

Congratulations ~ It’s a Girl!

On behalf of the St Francis Community, congratulations to Jodie and David Daniel on the arrival of Maddison Emily who was born last Thursday. Maddison is the youngest sister to Logan (Grade 3 Mrs Jean) and Mitchell (Foundation Mrs Conroy). This is wonderful news.

Helpers Needed…Athletics Day Set Up ~ Thursday Sept 17th ~ 8:00am

If anyone can be of assistance to help set up for Athletics Day next Thursday morning it will be greatly appreciated. A team of helpers will be meeting at the Nathalia Football Oval at 8:00am.

School Uniform ~ Summer Uniform for the last week of term.

As the weather warms up and while we are in full swing of training for our athletics day this coming Thursday, students will be allowed to wear their summer uniform beginning Monday Sept 14th. Please encourage your children to wear their correct uniform including hats throughout the week.

Athletics Sports Day – Thursday, 17 September 2015

Students are encouraged to wear their house colours rather than school uniform on our sports day.

Grade 5 Transition Day ~ Tuesday 15th Sept.

Our Grade 5 students will be attending a Transition Day at St Mary of the Angels Secondary College (“SMOTA”) next Tuesday, 15 September 2015. Our Grade 5 students will be walked down to SMOTA at 10.00 a.m. and be waked
back to school at 2.00 p.m. Students are to wear their runners and bring a snack for recess. A bbq lunch will be provided for the students.

*St Francis School Fair ~ Sunday October 11th*

As part of our fundraising community events for 2015, we are holding a School Fair on Sunday 11th October. This event is fast becoming a major fundraiser and is shaping up to be a great community event. Thank you to Tam Perry, Dean Limbrick, Denise Butler and all who have volunteered to be part of our School Fair steering committee. Please contact the school if you have other ideas that might help to make this event even more successful. A flyer has previously been sent home outlining specific stalls with families allocated to a given time slot. Again, please contact the school if you need to change this time or if you need further details.

*Staff Professional Development*

~ Karyn Miller and Anna Newman attended their next accreditation day today in Shepparton. We wish Karyn and Anna every success as they approach the end of their Religious Education accreditation and training for this year.

~ Lonky and Veronica Williams attended a Goulburn Valley A3 professional development day on Tuesday to learn the new dances and songs for the A3 performance being held on Dec 2nd.

*Country Alliance Forum ~ Friday 4th Sept*

On Friday I attended a country alliance forum in Melbourne presented by Maggie Farrar. Maggie Farrar has worked in London and Birmingham in senior leadership positions in schools and local authorities. She has a particular interest in team leadership, community leadership and schools as organisations that work together to transform children’s life chances and close gaps in achievement.

We are extremely lucky to have such a close working relationship with our schools within Nathalia and Friday’s forum was all about how to improve these relationships and make them more sustainable moving forward. Some pertinent points I gathered from our day together included…

*Developing Alliance Maturity*
Where are we heading from effective to ambitious collaboration?

Ambitious Collaboration = High Ambition + Partnership

Intentional shifts from cooperation and coordination to collaboration.

Purposeful and Identity Learning Focused Collaboration culture relational and Trust.

Ideal Alliances:
- Have long term goals and are inclusive
- Share accountability
- Share leadership:- people responsible for specific areas eg: teaching and learning priorities
- Have strong governance.

How do we sustain the collaboration of our alliances? Who do we need to focus on within our system to keep the spark alive and sustain the long-term fundamental transformation?

Act like an organisation – Think like a movement.
Attend to the process – the why and the how before the ‘what’ Vision and purpose – build and sustain engagement. Celebrate, affirm, dream.
Alliance Leadership
Collective moral purpose ~ Michael Fullan
We build relationships with everyone, including those who disagree, are sceptical and even cynical
1. Ask for, listen to understand and show respect for all perspectives
2. Create conditions and connections to others and are purposeful and the goal of shared improvement.
3. What are the barriers to progress ~ staff, parents and students.

A Charter for leadership…
- Share each other’s success
- Go back to square 1 – relearn – be flexible
- Be open minded – let the kids to be leaders and teachers to be the learner
- Understand that learning is life long
- Be willing to try and then share
- Don’t push for closure ~ stay open to learning
- Leaders depend on expertise and experience, not position
- Everyone contributes and everyone gets a turn
- Learning and leading are equal in value.

‘Our leadership must be active, passionate, ethical and driven by our collective dedication and effort. We need to break the “mind-forced manacles” that chain us to accept certain beliefs or ways of doing things.’ Michael Fullan.

Other School Happenings...

~ Athletics Updates:
All classes have been training for our Athletics Sports Day on Thursday 17th Sept. The Athletics Championship will be conducted at school prior to our athletics. Please note: The 100 metre heats and final will be conducted on the day. All students in 4/5/6 have already signed up to compete in the championship events.

Insert Children’s Writing ~ Principal’s writers award

The winner of our Principal’s Writer’s Award this week is Will Sheehan. Will wrote about what three things he would change if he was Prime Minister for a day.

I hope you like my writing our subject was

If I was the Prime Minister for a day the three things I would change would be...

First of all I would give everybody an extra two week holiday. I would do it because people don’t get enough break time. I also think that if you go on a holiday you wouldn’t enough time to enjoy yourself.

The second thing I would do is banish drugs and if someone got caught using any type of drug the penalty would be a twenty year jail sentence. It is killing people every day and once we start doing it other countries might follow our lead.

The third thing I would do is ban smoking because it is bad for your body and people are getting sick and dying. It also is polluting the air and it doesn’t make a nice smell around your house our if you live in the city it makes your apartment stink.

From Will Sheehan
Our School News

Dillmac – Music Lessons
There will be no Dillmac music lessons next Thursday due to our athletics sports being held on that day.

School Maintenance Updates (repeated)
~ School Administration Block will be painted throughout during the holidays.
~ Upgrades to our PA system have been completed. We now have speakers in all learning areas and an improved messaging system has been installed.
~ New carpet and painting has been completed in the Western End portable. New blinds and awnings will be installed soon.
~ New painting has been completed in the Foundation classroom and adjoining spaces.
~ Apple TV’s have been installed in most learning spaces. Further improvements to our WiFi and Internet will be completed in the near future.
~ Our permits have now been approved and construction of a new storage shed will commence at the Western End of the School grounds hopefully before the end of the term.

~ St Francis Behaviour Management
All staff have been involved in redesigning and reshaping our Behaviour Management Policy in light of our current context, practices and SSEB recommendations. Behavior Management is unique for all school settings and there’s no one size fits all approach. It takes continuous review and dialogue before all stakeholders are satisfied with what our policy will look like moving us forward. We have high expectations for our students and acceptable behavior is a big part of this. Consequences for when children choose not to follow school rules or expectations are being considered and we would appreciate any feedback you may have. Please contact the school for further information regarding St Francis’ approach to Behaviour Management.

Reminder…
Next Friday 18th September is our last day of the term. We will be finishing school at 2:15 pm next Friday.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Chris Summers

Important Dates on the horizon:
11th Sept St Francis Trivia Night
17th Sept St Francis Sports Day
18th Sept Last Day of Term
4th Oct St Francis Feast day
5th Oct School Resumes Term 4
9th Oct St Francis Feast day school activities ~ 9:15am Mass
11th Oct ~ Sunday: St Francis Fair
20th Oct ~ School Board
2nd Nov Bishop’s Holiday
3rd Nov Melbourne Cup Holiday
24th & 25th November Grade 3/4 Camp ~ Billabong Ranch Echuca
2nd Dec GV Festival of the Sacred
10th Dec St Francis Christmas Carols
16th Dec End of Year Christmas Mass and Graduation

Quote of the Week:
If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn’t seem so wonderful after all. - Michelangelo
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.

In Week 8 our Social Skills Blitz was around Responsibility The following students were nominated by their peers and teachers as displaying positive behaviour last week:

Josh Burns, Catarina Pawlowicz, Summer Mclver, Ruby Mclver, Ben Nave, Mak Hindmarsh, Wade Tuddenham and Billy Brinsdon

Winner of the care box was Riley James
Principal’s Writing Award: Will Sheehan

Awards for reading: Tom Walker, Bryce Young, Tas Baker, Declan Begley, Aiden Botterill, Sarah Stone, Ned Frostick, Marcus Burns.

Congratulations Everyone!

Social Skill Blitz ~ Cooperation

There are certain things you can do that greatly increase the chances that kids will cooperate. Here are the 6 secrets to getting kids to cooperate that have worked:

1. Invite, don’t demand.
We all want our children to “ask nicely,” but the truth is, that’s easier said than done. My question is, where do you think they learned to be demanding and inflexible? Oh yeah, from us! If we want our kids to cooperate, then we’ve got to be the bigger, more mature ones and lead by example. Contrary to popular belief, asking nicely, inviting, and working together to find a solution to a problem doesn’t teach children to be more defiant or disobedient, instead, by doing these things you’re laying a foundation of trust and teamwork that your kids will soon learn to rely on.

Use this quick test to figure out whether your request is actually a demand. Ask yourself, “Would it be OK if they answered ‘no’ to this request?” If not, then you’re not actually inviting or asking, you’re demanding or requiring a specific behavior. That’s OK some of the time, especially if safety is an issue, but remember, the more demands you make on your kids, the less true, internally motivated cooperation you’re likely to get.

That’s not to say you shouldn’t have expectations of your children. It’s just that when those expectations aren’t met, it’s helpful to see that as an opportunity to problem solve together, rather than an excuse to punish them into submission.

2. Turn it into a game.
Kids love to play. When you can make something fun, they’re far more likely to get on board. This does require some creativity and spontaneity on your part. When your child refuses to leave the park, can you find a way to make getting to the car more fun? Maybe you’ll pretend you’re firefighters and you have to jump into the firetruck to go put out the fire. Or perhaps you’ll race, or hop like a bunny, or offer a ride on your shoulders. Making things more fun isn’t just a great way to gain your child’s cooperation, it’s also a way to enjoy your time with them more. I mean, which would you prefer, a power struggle where you force your child kicking and screaming into his car seat or a fun game in which he climbs in willingly?

If you’re not sure what kind of a game will work best, tune in to your child’s interests. If she loves princesses, then you’ll be her knight in shining armor or her trusty steed. If he’s into trucks, you can ask if he wants to be fork-lifted into the car. Or maybe you’ve just read a story about a friendly fish, so try acting it out! If you just can’t seem to come up with an idea, ask your child what to play. Most kids are more than ready with a suggestion for a fun game or activity that you can alter slightly to fit your agenda.
Our School News

3. Stop repeating yourself.
This is a mistake we all make, especially when we’re not getting the results we want. Trust me that repeating yourself is the last thing you want to do if you’re trying to foster cooperation. Your child heard you the first time, and by repeating yourself, you’re simply training her to stop listening and wait for you to get frustrated before she acts.
Children are discovering all sorts of things about the world around them, including vast amounts of information about social/emotional dynamics. When they throw you off your game or induce you to get frustrated or upset, they’re gathering very interesting data about how to get what they want and what might cause you to reconsider your position. Don’t fall prey to their cunning.
When you can keep your cool and maintain clear boundaries, your kids will still test you, but after they’ve tested all their theories about how to get around your rule with no success, they will find other areas far more interesting and emotionally rich.

4. Be forgetful.
But what about when you’ve asked once and they’re not responding? Instead of asking again, take a different tack. Be forgetful and invite them to remind you what you said a moment ago. “Wait, I forget, didn’t I just ask you to do something? What was that? I think we were getting ready to go somewhere, but can you please remind me where?”
This allows the kids to be the smarter ones and if there’s one thing children love, it’s being smarter and more capable than adults.

5. Let them be in charge.
That’s why you’ll get a lot more cooperation when you allow them to be in charge. No need to constantly corral them, just put one child in charge of getting everyone ready and out the door and you’ll be surprised how quickly it will happen. This works especially well with my daughter when I underestimate her abilities and she gets to prove how smart and capable she is. “You don’t know how to do that all by yourself, do you?” And then when she has her shoes on and is climbing into her car seat, “Wow, you knew exactly what to do to get ready to go and you did know how to do it!”

6. Cooperate with kids.
There are times when even the most cooperative child just needs some extra help. This could be because they’re tired, sick, hungry, or just feeling sad and disconnected. So if nothing else seems to work, offer to help. During times like this, we like to play a game in which my daughter pretends to be a baby and I have to do everything for her. After just a few moments of this game, she is far more willing to do what I’ve asked or help me with something. That’s because she knows that when she really needs some extra support, I’m there to willingly and happily provide her with the support she needs.
Hopefully, you’re already well versed in these secrets and this has simply been a reminder of what you already know works best.
By Shelley Phillips
http://www.lifehack.org/articles/lifestyle/6-secrets-getting-kids-cooperate.html

St Francis Catholic Primary School acknowledges the Bangarang and Yorta Yorta people, the traditional custodians of the land on which our school is situated. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.

School Email: principal@sfnathalia.catholic.edu.au
Newsletter Email: vdanield@sfnathalia.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.sfnathalia.catholic.edu.au
School Wiki: www.stfrancisnathalia.wikispaces.com

St Francis School
Chapel St, PO BOX 66, NATHALIA, 3638
Phone: 03 5866 2271
Fax: 03 5866 2136

NATHALIA COMMUNITY EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Enrolments are now being taken for our VACATION CARE PROGRAM:
21st September - 1st October
To make a booking please call the centre (See the insert in this weeks newsletter for program details)

Please call the Centre for more information or to book your child’s place
5866 2088
20 Bromley Street, Nathalia
ncelc@nfe.net.au
www.facebook.com/nathaliacomunityearlylearningcentre

Proudly supported by Nathalia Community Bank® Branch
## School Athletics Sports Carnival Program

### Welcome (School Captains Chair)

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### Lunch (Pack up all equipment)

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### Assemble in houses. Pre-Schooler Races (for 5 years and under boys & girls) 5 Years and under boys & girls (6)

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### Assemble in houses. Pre-Schooler Races (for 10 - 12 years)

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### Reassembly for 100m Sprint Final heats

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### Presentations (House Captains)

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### Relays

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### Championship 100m Sprint Final

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### Back to school or go home with parents

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### Notes

- Sessions are 9:30 - 11:15 and 11:45 - 2:15
- Morning tea is available at 10:45 and 1:15
- Lunch is provided at 12:30-1:10

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**ST Francis School Athletics Sports Carnival Program**