Dear Parents and Children,

Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and our strength. An ever present help in times of trouble.

Nothing more needs to be said. Our first world problems and petty issues pale into insignificance. Pray for the people of Nepal, especially the children. Pray for those members of the international community who are effected. Pray for the rescuers. Give thanks to God for our blessings.

Thankyou for your support of our hastily organised fundraiser in response to the Nepalese Earthquake—the response was absolutely wonderful and truly indicative of our ‘concern for the other’, a key principle of Catholic Social Justice. You will notice prayer flags fluttering around the school. Our children have each written a prayer or message of hope for the people of Nepal. The prayer flags are a simple way to spread goodness around the world. The belief is that the fluttering of the flags in the wind creates a vibration that carries the prayers across the country-side and world. In this way we send our prayers to Nepal. The fluttering of the flags by the wind harmonise the environment with each colour representing a natural element: Red – fire, Blue – space, Green – water, Yellow – earth, White – air. May the flags also be a constant reminder for our community to utter a silent prayer and send it to those in need.

And out of the rubble, amidst all the heartache……
A miracle! Deo Gratis! Thanks be to God.
PYJAMA DAY...
This Year’s Pyjama Day was an absolute blast and a great success. It was a great way to raise money for the Nepal Earthquake victims and see everybody joining in on the fun. We appreciate all the kind donations that everybody donated. We raised $2687.85 and the money is being sent to Caritas to help the earthquake victims. Thanks to the entire school and community for their kind donations.
From Milly, Molly, Mandy and Hop-a-long (Milly Townsend-Booth, Grace Williamson, Alexandra Salva & Sienna Marazita)

Thank you to all—parents, teachers and students—for your input into our Learning Conferences during the week. The sharing and discussion of information is important to children’s ongoing learning.

This weekend 12 of our staff are undertaking Professional Learning into various aspects of PYP—Pedagogical Leadership, Digital Citizenship, Well-Being, The Exhibition, Physical Education and Making the PYP Happen. It is great to see so many staff members dedicated to their own learning which, in turn, will be of great benefit to the students. As these courses are of three days duration, there will be emergency teachers in many classes on Monday.

Whilst on the subject of PYP our school hosted the Victorian Network on Wednesday afternoon which was attended by Heads of School and PYP co-ordinators from about 30 schools throughout Victoria. We received very positive feedback about our school, and most heartening of all, how great our students were, especially our Year Six Leaders who conducted school tours.

Enjoy the weekend.
Peace and all good
Anne Doherty

TERM 2 2015

May
Week 4
Thurs 7th May Confirmation Parent Evening 7.00pm

Week 5
Tue 12th May NAPLAN
Wed 13th May NAPLAN
Thurs 14th May NAPLAN
Eucharist Parent Evening 7.00pm
Sat 16th May Eucharist Presentation Mass 5.30pm
Sun 16th May Eucharist Presentation Mass 10.00am

Week 6
Tue 19th May Parent Workshop Anxiety Solutions 7.00pm
Sat 23rd May Confirmation Presentation Mass 5.30pm
Sun 24th May Confirmation Presentation Mass 10.00am

June
Week 8
Sun 7th June First Eucharist Mass 12.00pm—3CM
3.00pm—3M

Week 9
Fri 12th June Confirmation 5.30pm—6KS
7.30pm—6M

Week 11
Fri 26th June End of Term—Children Finish 1.30pm

P & F Meetings
Below are the Our Lady of the Nativity School Parents and Friends meeting dates for 2015:

Monday 1st June 7.30pm
Monday 20th July 7.30pm
Monday 17th August 7.30pm
Monday 12th September 7.30pm
Monday 19th October 7.30pm
Monday 16th November AGM

Meetings commence at 7:30pm and are held in the school staff room. All are welcome!

ST BERNARDS COLLEGE TOUR DATES
Tours of the college for 2015 are as follows:

Monday 15th June.
Tuesday 19th May, 2nd June, 21st July
Wednesday 6th May, 27th May, 3rd June, 10th June, 22nd July, 29th July
Thursday 30th April,

Each Tour commences at 9.00am. Bookings Essential
For further information contact the Registrar on 9289 1103

Canteen News.....
A reminder that orders MUST be submitted by 9am on the Monday before canteen. If your child is absent or on a school excursion, and has placed an order, please text 0417 145 259 as soon as possible.

Thank-you
Caroline
Reading Recovery at Our Lady of the Nativity School:

Early Reading Initiative Celebrates 30-Year Anniversary. Our Lady of the Nativity is joining with schools across Victoria to celebrate 30 years of Reading Recovery. Thousands of former Reading Recovery students, first graders at risk of reading failure, are now successful readers and writers thanks to the skilled instruction of Reading Recovery-trained teachers.

Reading Recovery was developed by Dr. Marie Clay, one of the most-distinguished literacy researchers in the world. Dr. Clay is credited with transforming the practice of primary school literacy instruction. Since it began in Australia in 1984, more than 5,000 trained teachers have reached many thousands of children for nearly 30 years, with most students who completed the full 12- to 20-week series of lessons meeting statewide grade-level expectations in reading and writing.

Reading Recovery consistently produces top results. A review of Reading Recovery research by the What Works Clearinghouse, an initiative of the U.S. Department of Education, reported the highest rating in general reading achievement for all beginning reading programs. An independent research study conducted by the Consortium for Policy Research in Education (2013), reported “large positive effects for student literacy performance overall, and these positive results were also large for EAL (English as an Additional Language) students and students in rural schools.” Reading Recovery now operates in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, North America and the United Kingdom and has been translated in Spanish and French.

Reading Recovery is a partnership between students, teachers and parents and I would like to thank all the parents for their support of Reading Recovery principles and the classroom teachers for their on-going collaboration. Through this partnership great results have been achieved.

Maureen Lane
Reading Recovery Teacher

Mowing Roster

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### Church Welcoming Family - Roster

**Where:** Our Lady of Nativity Church  
**When:** Saturday Night  
**Time:** 5.30pm  

**What to Do:**  
Father would like the rostered family to arrive about 15 mins before mass commences to hand out the mass bulletins and song books to all the parishioners as they enter the Church, and to say "Welcome to Mass" with a lovely smile. Your children can also get involved. The Mass bulletins will be available in the church when you get there. If you can’t do your rotation, please arrange to swap with another family.  

*All families are welcome to join us in Church.*

**Any questions:** Lynette Xerri - 0408 573 045 / Lynettexerri@nbnco.com.au

**Family to assist:**  
- Polizzi & Cutajar Family (Tatiana & Brian)  
- Fox Family (Louise & Greg)  
- Zivkovic Family (Mary & Rob)  
- Grigg Family (Elizabeth & David)

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### Church Welcoming Family - Roster

**Where:** Our Lady of Nativity Church  
**When:** Sunday Morning  
**Time:** 10am  

**What to Do:**  
Father would like the rostered family to arrive about 15 mins before mass commences to hand out the mass bulletins and song books to all the parishioners as they enter the Church, and to say "Welcome to Mass" with a lovely smile. Your children can also get involved. The Mass bulletins will be available in the church when you get there. If you can’t do your rotation, please arrange to swap with another family.

**Any questions:** Lynette Xerri - 0408 573 045 / Lynettexerri@nbnco.com.au

**Date:**  
- Saturday, 2 May  
- Saturday, 9 May  
- Saturday, 16 May  
- Saturday, 23 May  

**Family to assist:**  
- Xerri Family (Lynette & Daniel)  
- Zammit Family (Nancy & Sandro)  
- Kavanah Family (Letitia & Ben)  
- Spinazzola Family (Anthony & Andrea)