Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
Show us your face and we will be saved.
Send your Spirit to consecrate us so that the Jubilee of Mercy
may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm,
may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
and restore sight to the blind.
We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy;
You who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.
Amen

Early Years Education Conference. Friday 20 May – Saturday 21 May
Last Friday and Saturday our teachers attended the above conference which included teachers across all sectors; WA Government schools, Independent and the Catholic sectors. The Conference featured local, interstate and international key note speakers, as well as offering a range of concurrent sessions focussing on contemporary issues relevant to early year’s education. Our teachers thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the bonus of course, is the shared experience so that they can learn from each other.

Parents and Friends Federation Conference
This was a busy weekend. Whilst teachers were attending their conference the parents had their own to attend. Catherine Howarth, Belinda Stewart and myself attended the PFF Dinner at the Crown. Peter Collier, the Education Minister was the Keynote speaker, he thanked the Catholic P&F Associations for their commitment to not only their own children, but also to all children across the Catholic Education System.
I take this opportunity to thank our parents for their commitment to our school community. We value your support and as a staff, we strongly believe in parents as partners in your child’s education. Saturday at the conference Catherine Howarth, Karen Bone, Angela Connelly and myself joined Catholic schools from Carnarvon to Esperance.

Dr Tim McDonald our Executive Director of CEWA opened the conference. He thanked the parents for giving up their time to be present at conference and for the work they do in the schools. Tim spoke about the Federal and State Funding. He reminded parents that they were a very powerful group in the upcoming election as to who they believed would benefit their child’s education. Peter Bell entertained us sharing his life story, the message was to have passion in what you believe in and to support your child’s total development every step of the way. The parents had the opportunity to ask questions to the panel made up of the various political parties. For your interest the questions put to the panel were; around funding for Catholic Schools, the use of NAPLAN, funding for students with disabilities and country funding to name just a few. Thank you to the parents for giving up your precious time to be at the conference, a learning curve for all of us!
Student Work Experience
Chelsea Shreeve, a year 12 student from Wanneroo Secondary College is currently here at St Elizabeth’s Catholic Primary School to work in an early year’s education setting as she is considering teaching as a profession. Welcome Chelsea, we already love your high standard of professionalism and look forward to having you here with us over the next few days.

Play Group
We are looking forward to commencing our Play Group next term. Many blessings to Belinda Stewart who has taken on the role of Coordinator. Belinda and myself met with Joanna Fry from Playgroup WA two weeks ago. Belinda is hoping to invite a few of our families along in the last two weeks of this term before we have families from the wider community join us. Belinda is calling this a ‘test run’. God love her.

Three Year Old Kindy Group
We are hoping to commence this program at the beginning of Term Three this year. We need twelve children to be able to commence the program. Your child must have turned three to be included in this group. We will operate the program from 8:40am to 2:40pm on Fridays for $75.00 a day. Please note you will not be eligible for a rebate.

Electrical Safety Incursion
On Friday, 13 May the pre primary and year one children were involved in the Electrical Safety Incursion, a free educational program conducted by Western Power. The children had to find light switches, power points and power cords in the classroom. They were told to always ensure they had dry hands if they needed to touch any of these items and they were not play items. The presenter was very child orientated and was able to explain the electricity power at the children’s level. We thanks Western Power for their support.

Year One Liturgy
On Wednesday, 18 May Tanika and Caitlyn supported the children in their Religious Education development using the theme ‘Good Choice’s through a beautiful and reverent liturgy. The year one children actively participated in the singing and read beautifully. We congratulated the kindy and pre primary children for their outstanding behaviour and beautiful singing. Thank you to the parents and grandparents who were able to attend. The children look forward to seeing you at these celebrations.

National Sorry Day
National Sorry Day is an Australia-wide observance held tomorrow, Thursday, 26 May which is an annual event. This day gives people the chance to come together and share the steps towards healing for the Stolen Generations, their families and communities. Stolen generations refer to Indigenous Australians who were forcibly removed from their families and communities.

National Reconciliation Week 2016 (27 May-3 June)
The theme of National Reconciliation Week 2016 is Our History, Our Story, Our Future
Our History urges us to consider the consequences of Australian laws, practices and policies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It seeks a commitment to ensure that past wrongs are not repeated.
Our Story is about the importance of the struggle for reconciliation in Australian history and identity. It recounts the ‘trauma and triumph’ told by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
Our Future emphasises the need for all Australians to share a genuine commitment to reconciliation and the principles of fairness and diversity.
Art Shirts
It has been brought to my attention that the white board markers the children use for writing their names is actually causing stains on the children’s polo shirts. We apologise for this, we were under the impression that the white board marker, which is not permanent would wash out. Alas this has no happened!
To prevent further problems the staff have come up with an idea which would prevent further staining. We would like every child to bring in a tee shirt which needs to be at least two to three times larger than their normal size. This would cover their shirts or tracksuit tops in case another child accidently touches them with their marker. The children would put the tee shirt on at the beginning of the day until the white boards are put away before recess.
We do not want to create extra expense and please do not buy an art shirt or send in button up shirts. I am sure we would be able to gather the tee shirts between us all. Parent’s old tee shirts will be too big and inhibit the child’s movement. This idea will not be compulsory if you feel this is not a problem for you.

Open Day
At 9:00am, Friday, 3 June, Mater Dei College will be conducting a Tour morning. If you would like to participate in a tour of the College grounds and find out about the enrolment process, then please contact the Enrolments Officer on 9405 4777 or register your interest in attending on: https://www.trybooking.com/LHXH Mater Dei College is a co-educational Catholic Secondary College located at 107 Treetop Avenue, Edgewater.

Principal Review Process
Please read the attached letter for further information. The School Board Members will be meeting tonight to prepare and submit their comments to CEWA. Tomorrow night the P&F Executive Committee will be here to complete their comments. If you have not been around the school, please note there will not be a P&F Association Meeting tomorrow night, Thursday. The next P & F Association Meeting will take place at 6:00pm Thursday, 23 June. Please note the meeting has been changed to the evening and not at 8:00am as per the Planner.

Up Coming Events
Feast Days
Sunday, 29 May - Body & Blood of Christ
Tuesday, 31 May - The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, 4 June - The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

School Events
Thursday, 2 June - 8:30am Kindy Assembly
Thursday, 9 June - Pirate Day We will celebrate Pirate Day on this Thursday and we encourage parents to donate a gold coin towards Research for Brain Cancer in children. We encourage the children are to come dressed as a pirate, no expense homemade is far more interesting!

Week Seven
Monday, 6 June – WA Day Public Holiday
Tuesday, 7 June – School Closed (Sorry we do not have the numbers for Camp Australia on Tuesday, 7 June)

‘May God keep us safe in the palm of his hand’

Carmel O’Shaughnessy
Principal