Hello everyone,

On Monday, Fr Elio Capra came to St Thomas Aquinas and worked with the staff after school and a small number of parents in the evening. He spoke with parents about the importance of reconciliation in our lives. Being able to ask for forgiveness and to forgive is vital to our wellbeing as individuals and as a community. During the season of Lent, we are invited to think about our lives and how we can try to be the best people we can be.

Fr Elio left us with this Native American story:

Two Wolves

One evening an old Cherokee Indian told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, ‘My son, the battle is between two ‘wolves’ inside us all. One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith.’

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: ‘Which wolf wins?’

The old Cherokee simply replied, ‘The one you feed.’

This is such a lovely story: so simple and yet so true. I think each and every one of us has these two wolves running around inside us. The Evil wolf or the Good Wolf is fed daily by the choices we make with our thoughts. What you think about and dwell upon will in a sense appear in your life and influence your behavior. We have a choice, feed the Good Wolf and it will show up in our character, habits and behavior positively. Or feed the Evil Wolf and our whole world will turn negative: like poison, this will slowly eat away at our soul.

The crucial question is “Which are you feeding today”?

Parents and Friends

Thank you to the parents and friends who have gathered to get the ball rolling this year. Our office bearers for 2016 are:

**President:** Matekino Olsen
**Treasurer:** Johanna Everest-Mostert
**Secretary:** Cassie Burr

We need many other helpers in a range of jobs over the year.

Thanks

Rod Sims
Principal

| Coming Events |  |
|---------------|  |
| **Mon 14/03** | Labour Day Holiday |
| **Wed 16/03** | Playlinks Playgroup |
| **Thur 17/03** | School Cross Country Windsor Park St Patrick’s Day Mass St Patrick’s Cathedral |
| **Fri 18/03** | Clonard Open Day |
| **Sun 20/03** | Palm Sunday St Ignatius Open Day |
| **Mon 21/03** | Paraliturgy - Palm Sunday - Foundation 2:30 pm followed by assembly St Joseph’s Open Day |
| **Tues 22/03** | Sacred Heart Open Day |
| **Wed 23/03** | Easter Bonnet Parade and Raffle Draw |
| **Thur 24/03** | Paraliturgy - Holy Thursday 3/4 Good Friday 5/6 End of Term 1 - school finishes at 3:10pm |
| **Fri 25/03** | Good Friday service |
| **Sat 26/03** | Easter Sunday Vigil Mass |

The Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on Tuesday April 19th at 6pm in St Thomas Aquinas Church
Easter Raffle

Parents and Friends,

Easter Raffle tickets will be going out today. Please note we only had enough tickets for 80 families so if you don’t receive some please don’t be disheartened.

On the day of the Easter Bonnet parade 24th March, we will be selling more tickets, so you won’t miss out.

Also can we please have all money and tickets returned to school by the 23rd of March.

Matekino

Donations of Easter Eggs and Easter Gifts appreciated - they can be left at the office

Baptism Program

Do you have a child who you would like to be baptised this year? Please contact me via email or let Carol know in the office.

rsims@stanorlane.catholic.edu.au

Safety around our school

Please take care around our school at drop off and pick up times. There can be many cars around and many children wishing to cross Plume St. Please talk with your children about crossing safely. I will talk with the council about getting a crossing constructed. I can guarantee that there will not be a crossing supervisor provided but the council may build the crossing for our students.

Fingers crossed.

As drivers, please make sure that you:

- obey the parking signs and park in designated areas;
- obey the speed limit - 40 km/h - this makes it safer for all.
- don’t park in the staff carpark.

Think about dropping your children off a bit further from school and allowing them to walk - perfect for Active April!

House Cross Country Carnival

Help needed!

The House Cross Country Carnival will be held Thursday 17th March at Windsor Park from 9.30am-11am. All grade 3 to 6 students will be attending. If you interested in assisting at the carnival, please indicate on the permission form. All parent helpers will be contacted prior to the event. Please return permission slip by Monday 14th March.

Premier’s Active April encourages all Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. It’s free, it’s fun and it’s part of the Victorian Government’s commitment to get more people active and healthy.

As a participant, you can log your daily activity with the Active April Activity Tracker and chart your progress throughout the month. You can also create and join teams, track the progress of team members and discover events that are taking place in your local area.

There are some fantastic incentives and prizes to help you get active. It only takes 30 minutes of activity every day!

Friday Food Deliveries:

Thanks to Jenny for the work she does with collecting food on Fridays. She often has a car full of great food products for our community. All you need to do is:

- Bring some bags and take what you need.

Find her on Friday afternoons in the Staff Carpark.