



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Tuesday 1st September 2020
Term 3 Week 8

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2020 Key Dates

Term 3
July 13 – Sept 18

Term 3 Week 8

Friday 4th September
Father's Day Liturgy
POSTPONED

Term 3 Week 9

Monday 7th September
Year 5 & 6 Performance -
Dress Rehearsal
CANCELLED

Tuesday 8th September
School Board Meeting

Term 3 Week 10

Monday 14th September
Swimming Program Year 1,
3 & 5 begins
CANCELLED

Tuesday 15th September
3 Way Conversations

Wednesday 16th September
3 Way Conversations

Friday 18th September
School Assembly Program
POSTPONED

Last Day of Term 3

Term 4
Oct 6 – Dec 16

Term 4 Week 1

Monday 5th October
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 6th October
First Day of Term 2

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear Parents and Families,

Today we welcome Spring! It is a reminder that our world is changing and particularly in these challenging times we need to stop and recognize the wonder and beauty that is all around us.

COVID 19 Update

I hope you are all well and continue to manage the challenges of these times under Stage 3 restrictions. With this letter I hope to provide an update on remote learning although there is no definite date for a return to onsite learning at this stage. Stage 3 restrictions are in force until Sunday 13th September. This is one week before the start of the holidays.

Last week James Merlino, Deputy Premier and Minister for Education, commented that we would be returning to onsite learning at some stage in Term 4. However, we have received no official notification as to when we will return.

We await the important announcement from The Premier, Daniel Andrews this Sunday 6th September as he reveals the Roadmap for Reopening Victoria and we hope that this will shed light on our plans for the foreseeable future.

At this stage what we do know is that there are three weeks of this Term remaining. Two weeks will be remote learning and the final week is still to be determined. We are preparing to teach up until the end of Term whether this is remotely or onsite.

We look forward to providing more information as soon as it is available about our return to onsite learning. In the meantime, stay safe and stay connected!

Fathers and Special Men's Day at – Sunday 6th September 2020

This coming Sunday is Father' & Special Men's Day and on Friday we will celebrate our Fathers in our Connected Learning Communities. Happy Fathers & Special Men's Day to All!

Enjoy the attached read. **What kids learn from Fathers/ Father role models.**

Class Lists for 2021

Early next term our classroom teachers will start to look at possible groupings for classes for next year. If you have any concerns that are of a serious nature please forward these requests to me by email no later than Friday 18th September 2020. Please understand that this is the only process to go through if you would like this issue addressed properly.

principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

With planning for the 2021 school year now gathering momentum, I would ask families that are aware that they will not be returning to St. Francis Xavier next year, to promptly inform the school.

Called to action through Gospel values and Mercy tradition we will enrich thinking, expand horizons and pursue excellence!

Swimming Program Year 1,
3 & 5 continues
CANCELLED
P & F Meeting

Friday 9th October
Beginning of Term 4 Mass
TBC
Perform Education – The
Greatest Discovery
Performance

Term 4 Week 2

Tuesday 13th October
School Board Meeting

Friday 16th October
Foundation Transition Day
1
School Assembly Program

Term 4 Week 3

Monday 19th October
Book Week Begins

Friday 23rd October
Foundation Transition Day
2

Term 4 Week 4

Wednesday 28th October
Year 4 Camp
CANCELLED

Friday 30th October
Casual Dress Day
Foundation Transition Day
3
School Assembly Program

Term 4 Week 5

Monday 2nd November
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 3rd November
Melbourne Cup Day Public
Holiday

Term 4 Week 6

Tuesday 10th November
Bravehearts Incursion
School Board Meeting

Term 4 Week 7

Term 4 Week 8

Thursday 26th November
Foundation Information
Night 2021

Friday 27th November
Casual Dress Day

Ballarat Show Day Holiday moved to Melbourne Cup Day

Ballarat City Council has selected Melbourne Cup Day as its public holiday for 2020. It follows a decision by the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society to cancel the 2020 Ballarat Show, with the municipal public holiday usually held on Ballarat Show Day. This year Show Day would have been 13th November but instead Council has opted to have Melbourne Cup Day on Tuesday 3rd November as its public holiday. Please find below the adjustments.

** denotes changed dates.

Old Calendar

4	Monday 5 th October	Staff Professional Development Day
5	**Monday 9 th November	Staff Professional Development Day
	**Friday 13 th November	Ballarat Show Day - Public Holiday
6	Thursday 17 th December	Staff Professional Development Day
	Friday 18 th December	Last Day for Staff - Staff Professional Development

****New Calendar**

4	Monday 5 th October	Staff Professional Development Day
5	**Monday 2 nd November	Staff Professional Development Day
	**Tuesday 3 rd November	Melbourne Cup Day - Public Holiday
6	Thursday 17 th December	Staff Professional Development Day
	Friday 18 th December	Last Day for Staff - Staff Professional Development

St. Francis Xavier Primary School - Covid-19 Update

As the COVID-19 crisis in Victoria continues, St. Francis Xavier Primary School understands there is heightened anxiety in our community.

We continue to follow the advice from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Catholic Education Office Ballarat (CEOB). Whilst many restrictions remain unchanged, there is a need to provide further information, including procedures to be followed when a child or staff member has been in close contact with a symptomatic person or a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Students should not attend school if they are symptomatic (ill). This may include a cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath, fever, or loss of sense of taste or smell. Those children should immediately get tested for COVID-19 and not return to school until a negative result is known. Follow the links below for information from the DHHS website regarding testing and testing locations:

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/getting-tested-coronavirus-covid-19>
<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19>

There have been a number of enquiries from families seeking advice on whether their child should be tested, based on varying degrees of contact with another person who has been/is being tested.

The current DHHS recommendation for Ballarat is that only people with symptoms, or people who have had direct/close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 service should be tested.

While a test result is pending children should remain at home in isolation until they are confirmed negative. **'Direct/close contact'** means having face-to-face contact for more than 15 minutes with someone who has a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) – or

School Assembly Program

Term 4 Week 9

Tuesday 1st December
Orientation Day
Year 6 Transition Day
P & F Meeting

Thursday 3rd December
Feast of St. Francis Xavier

Friday 4th December
EE – World Soil Day
Year 6 Graduation Practice

Term 4 Week 10

Tuesday 8th December
Foundation Nativity
School Board Meeting

Thursday 10th December
Year 6 Graduation Mass

Friday 11th December
Staff v Student Netball
Match

Term 4 Week 11

Wednesday 16th December
Last Day of Term 4

**All other Calendar Dates
for 2020 have been
updated and can be
accessed live on the
Skoolbag App or by visiting
the School Website.**

alternatively sharing a closed space with them for more than two hours. The following link to the DHHS website contains more information regarding contacts.

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorian-public-coronavirus-disease-covid-19#how-do-you-define-closecontact>

In the case of a St. Francis Xavier student or staff member testing positive after having attended school, closure of the School will be enacted. A clear process will be communicated to parents and carers, including options for your child to travel home, or remain at school under strict supervision until the end of the school day. The School will take advice from the DHHS and the CEOB and begin contact tracing immediately.

As well, the School will undergo a complete decontamination clean. Classes will be taught remotely via the same platforms on which the first period of remote learning was delivered.

In order to support community awareness of the symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and to help identify children displaying symptoms, **all schools have now been instructed to undertake temperature screening** of students participating in the on-site supervision program while the stay at home restrictions are in the place.

Beginning Monday 17th August 2020 St. Francis Xavier staff will be Temperature Screening all students attending the on-site supervision program using the instructions supplied to the school below.

In line with advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has announced that **all Victorians must wear a face covering when they leave home from 11.59 pm on Sunday 2nd August 2020.** Face coverings will be mandatory for people aged 12 and over.

These measures will slow the spread of COVID-19 and help protect the community.

In schools, this means that school-based staff and secondary school students will be required to wear a face covering. The Victorian Chief Health Officer has advised that any face covering will be acceptable – it does not need to be a surgical mask.

As you are aware, the school has had to cancel or postpone many assemblies, events and gatherings. We are working with our staff and students to provide some opportunities for alternative activities within our own school community. These arrangements will continue to be communicated through the school newsletter.

National eSmart Week

Our school has registered to take part in National eSmart Week. eSmart is an initiative of the Alannah & Madeline Foundation and is all about building supportive and connected social environments both on and offline.

This is our chance to shine and show all the wonderful work we have done as a school community this year. At the start of this year, who would have thought that some school would be in remote learning, and spending more time online than ever before? Our school community has done an amazing job at adapting throughout this year.

This year's National eSmart Week theme is Connecting Safely. The week from 6-12 September celebrates the work schools have done to connect safely.

Teacher's be in touch with some of the initiatives you can get involved in throughout this week. #eSmartWeek

In the meantime, we'd like to thank you for all that you have done to ensure that our school has kept Connecting Safely in 2020!

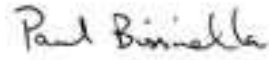
<https://www.esmart.org.au/media/3739/national-esmart-week-2020-poster-update-compressed.pdf>

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Thank you to everyone that participated in the Home Learning Surveys. The feedback was positive, constructive and welcomed! We are currently working our way through the information and responding where needed.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. Have a great week!

Yours sincerely,



Paul Bissinella
Principal

Catherine McAuley

Thus we go on...flourishing in the very midst of the Cross, more than a common share of which has latterly fallen to my lot, thanks be to God. I humbly trust it is the cross of Christ. I endeavor to make it in some way like his by silence.

Letter to Frances Warde May 15, 1838

Religious Education News



Prayer for Fathers and Special Friends Day

St Paul was a great traveller and writer of letters. He wrote to his friends in Corinth and gave them some good advice:

"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong and let all that you do be done in love."

What advice would you give to the young people in your care today?

You may like to share this advice with them.

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Together we pray:

Loving God, bless all fathers, grandfathers and special friends on Fathering Sunday. Help them to show their love. We remember those who are not with us today and those who are parted from us. May they receive your blessing.

We remember fathers who have died and live on in our memories.

We thank God for all fathers and special friends. Amen.

We pray the words Jesus taught his disciples to pray to God, our Father:

Our Father, who art in heaven.

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

We ask God to keep all those who are Fathers and those who are special friends close to his heart.

Sacraments For Year 3 & 4 Students - No News



As yet we have had no indication of when Masses will resume or when COVID 19 restrictions will be lifted for larger gatherings. We have no information for you about when the children will be able to receive the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation. As soon as we know, you will know. Thank you for your patience during this difficult time.

Please continue to complete the booklets which were sent home at the beginning of Term 3.

Those families who have handed in their child's Baptism certificate, rest assured that they are safe and will not go missing.

Connecting With The Eucharist During COVID 19 Closures

Many people are missing the opportunity to attend Sunday Mass during this time. If you wanted to gather and participate in Mass online, try one of the following websites. It is not the same as the real thing, and you can't receive Eucharist, but it may be of comfort to you to hear the Gospel and pray.

[St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat](#)

[Melbourne Catholic's Live Mass Streaming Sites](#)

[Sydney Live Streaming Mass Sites](#)

Baptism

If your child has been baptised since he/she started at St Francis Xavier Primary School, make sure you have informed us and you have sent a copy of the Baptism certificate to the school office. Your child will not be listed as Catholic in our school records and you may miss out on sacrament information.

If you are seeking Baptism for your child, please call the St Alipius parish office on 53326611.

If you wish to convert to Catholicism from another Christian faith, also call the parish office.

Yours sincerely,

Bernadette Luckman

Religious Education Leader

Wellbeing News



Got A Specific Parenting Problem?

Whether you're dealing with the big, small or one-off problems of raising kids and teenagers —Triple P can help!

- Temper tantrums?
- A child who won't go to bed and stay there?
- Kids who don't listen or a defiant child?
- Disrespectful or rude behaviour?
- A teenager who struggles to make friends?

The Triple P- Positive Parenting Program online program has been funded by the Victorian Government and is now available free of charge to all Victorian families.

The program provides access to expert parenting advice during these challenging times. Parents have access to modules and tipsheets regarding difficult parenting situations and day-to-day challenges.

Triple P is a parenting program, but it doesn't tell you how to be a parent. It's more like a toolbox of ideas -you choose the strategies you need and how to use them to make your family life even more enjoyable.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PPP](#)

Happy Days,

Jane Clark

Wellbeing Leader

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INFORMATION WEBINARS
Wed 9 Sep, 5pm & Tue 20 Oct, 6.30pm

GUIDED VIRTUAL TOURS
Held fortnightly on a Thursday at 9am

Event registration: damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us
2022 enrolments close on Fri 5 Feb 2021



Term 3 Week 8 Assembly Awards

Value: Respect

Hosted by: Year 3

Year level	Name	Reason
FEH		Nixon George
	Madeline Purtell	For always being ready to get started during Zoom meetings each morning and for bringing her biggest smile with her too. She respects herself and others through being happy and trying her best each day!
FND	Christian Wright	
	Noah Rice	
FMH	Minti Toohey	
	Bridie Millington	
FSM	Gabe Dunne	For trying his hardest during Zoom meetings, even when things get hard! Gabe shows respect to himself, his classmates and the teacher by doing his best work. Well done Gabe!
	Sienna Block	For trying her hardest during Zoom meetings, even when things get hard! Sienna shows respect to herself, her classmates and the teacher by doing her best work. Well done Sienna!
1GJ	Evie Tuffen	To acknowledge Evie for always demonstrating kindness, respect and thoughtfulness.
	Hudson Shorter	To acknowledge Hudson for always being positive towards his learning when working alongside his family members.
1MM		

1RC	Edward Lloyd	For being a consistently respectful member of 1RC Zoom time. Edward is always actively listening and ready to put his hand up to respond to all questions asked. He is able to sit still for the duration of Zoom time too. Congratulations Ed!
	Leni Brown	For displaying respect in all that she does. Leni is respectful of her peers during our Zoom times together and is always happy to provide further clarity when explaining her ideas and thoughts. She also continues to complete all learning tasks in a detailed manner. Well done Leni!
2GH	Milla Alford	For contributing and expressing herself well on Zoom. Milla has been engaging well with Zoom lessons and trying hard to sit still and participate with enthusiasm. Milla consistently uploads her work to Seesaw. Good stuff, Milla!
	Hugh Farrell	For always being on time and ready for Zoom. Hugh actively participates in Zoom activities and consistently completes all learning tasks in a timely manner. He uploads his work to Seesaw independently and takes on feedback from his teacher. Well done, Hugh!
2AH		
2AH		
2AH		
2BW	Mannix Treacy	For being very responsible and joining in during zoom meetings.
	Samuel Hill	For being very responsible and joining in during zoom meetings.
3SB	Jake Cheeseman	For respectfully sitting, listening and not fiddling in our zoom meetings. A big improvement Jake ... well done!
	Nate Griffin	For showing respect to the science tasks that he has been given to do. Nate has persevered and problem solved ensuring tasks are completed. Gold medal effort!
3BGs	Maebh Arnts	For showing respect to her peers in our Zoom sessions. Maebh always listens attentively and respectfully
	Sebastian Green	For showing respect to his peers in our Zoom sessions. Sebastian always listens attentively and respectfully
3CP	Ivy Pearce	For her respectful and inclusive manner with her friends and teachers especially during our catch ups on our zoom meetings.
	Xavier Staley	For his respectful and thoughtful and funny contributions in our discussions during our zoom meetings.
4TW	Will Steenhuis	For being very responsible and contributing respectfully during zoom meetings.
	Ashlee Beseler	For always contributing in our Zoom meetings with a friendly and positive tone.
4BL	Karla Austin	Listens well to others and contributes to conversations in a friendly, polite manner
	Tyler Simpson	Great listener and a great friend to others
4PB		

5LL	Oliver Wright	Always listening and sharing on Zoom and showing Respect to his classmates while they are speaking
	Harper Henjak	Always listening and sharing on Zoom and showing Respect to her classmates while they are speaking
5JC		
6CC	Isabella Brown-Kenyon	For being willing to share her work on Zoom, and listen to others sharing in a respectful manner.
	Sam Jones	For being respectful in all of his communications, especially using emails.
6JF	Lauren Walker	For showing respect to her peers in our Zoom sessions. Lauren always listens attentively and respectfully
	Amelia Brown	For showing respect and giving thoughtful responses during Zoom meetings.
Jap	Darcy Murray 4TW	Kindness and consideration at all times.
	Kaitlyn McDonald 4PB	For working extremely well both at school and during home learning.
EE	Harry Elliot 4PB	<i>For being so creative when completing his EE Activities from the August Specialist Activity Grid. His resourcefulness and creativity when creating his nature weave was brilliant, and it was lovely to see him share his creation with his class on Zoom.</i>
	Ari Jones 4PB	<i>For being so creative when completing his EE Activities from the August Specialist Activity Grid. His resourcefulness and creativity when creating his nature weave was brilliant, and it was lovely to see him share his creation with his class on Zoom.</i>
Art	Ava Vallance 1RC	For being a super dooper home artist!
	Olivia Buckland 6CC	For being a very engaged Visual Arts home learner.
Music	Benjamin Buckland	For having a go at all the Performing Arts tasks and completing them to a high standard. Well done creating videos of your work to share on Seesaw!
	Zara Thorp	For having a go at all the Performing Arts tasks and completing them to a high standard. Well done creating a video of your work to share on Seesaw!