



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 24th February 2020
Term 1 Week 5

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2020 Key Dates

Term 1
Jan 28 – March 27

Term 1 Week 5

Monday 24th Carnival
School Athletics Carnival

Tuesday 25th February
Shrove Tuesday
St. Francis Xavier Primary School - P & F Picnic
School Open Day #2

Wednesday 29th February
Ash Wednesday
Ash Wednesday Mass (Years 1-6)
Foundation Children at Home
Getting to Know Your Child as Person and a Learner Meeting #2

Friday 28th February
Casual Clothes Day
Parent Helper Meeting #1
EE - Schools Clean Up Day

Term 1 Week 6

Monday 2nd March
Personal Development
Parent Meeting (5/6)
Year 5 Cyber Safety and Chromebook Boot camp - Parent Meeting

Tuesday 3rd March
Parent Forum Meeting #1
P&F Meeting

Wednesday 4th March
Foundation Children at Home

Friday 6th March
School Assembly Program

Term 1 Week 7

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear Parents and Families,

St. Francis Xavier School Athletics takes place today Monday 24th February at Llanberris Reserve. Information was sent home via **Care Monkey** last week with details about the day and asking for parent helpers to assist on the day.

School Open Morning / School Alive Tours – Tuesday 25th February

This coming Tuesday 25th February St. Francis Xavier will hold the second of our **School Open Morning** from 9.30am – for families enrolling children in Prep for 2021.

This day will allow prospective families to meet with the School Leadership Team and Foundation Teachers and to familiarise themselves with our school programs and facilities.



School Open Morning / School Alive Tours Dates:

25th February | 12th March

SFX P&F Presents – “Fat Tuesday Family Picnic”

Hold on to your waistbands, SFX PS – this year’s Fat Tuesday Feast is going to be big!

We can’t wait to see all children and parents there for a night of great food, fun festivities and – the main event – our spectacular mask parade.

To re-cap, Fat Tuesday (or 'Mardis Gras' in French) refers to the last night of eating indulgently before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season. Masks are traditionally associated with the Fat Tuesday carnival, and are central to our SFX celebration.

🎭 The Mask Parade 🎭



Blank cardboard eye masks were sent home with all children to decorate in preparation for the parade. Please help your child remember to bring their creative masterpiece to the Fat Tuesday Feast so they can take part in the parade. Prizes are up for grabs!

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

Monday 9th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 10th March
Year 6 Camp
School Board Meeting
Parent Helper Meeting (2)

Thursday 12th March
School Open Day 3

Friday 13th March
P & F Mix and Mingle Night

Term 1 Week 8

Tuesday 17th March
School Photos

Friday 20th March
School Assembly Program

Term 1 Week 9

Tuesday 24th March
Sovereign Hill - Costumed
School Program Year 5LL

Thursday 26th March
Sovereign Hill - Costumed
School Program Year 5JC

Friday 27th March
Casual Dress Day
Holy Week and Easter
Prayer
Last Day of Term 1

Term 2
April 14 – June 26

Term 2 Week 1

Monday 13th April
Easter Monday Holiday

Tuesday 14th April
First Day of Term 2
School Board Meeting

Friday 17th April
Foundation Enrolments
2021 close

Term 2 Week 2

Tuesday 21st April
Student Led Conferences -
Day 1

Wednesday 22nd April
Student Led Conferences -
Day 2

Thursday 23rd April

Younger siblings won't miss out, with masks and decorations available at craft stations on the night. They too will get the chance to show off in their own dazzling parade!

☀ **More Important Fat Tuesday Details** ☀

Where: SFX PS Lower Oval
When: 5:00pm – 7:00pm on Tuesday 25th February 2020
Why: SFX P&F fundraising event. All proceeds to our 2020 target.

Sausages, Donuts, Drinks and Ice-Cream Available to Purchase On The Night 🍷

We look forward to seeing you there!

Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting # 2

As teachers, we build up expertise in how children learn and how each child operates within our setting. We acknowledge that it is the parent who knows their child best and therefore sharing information between parents and teachers will ultimately foster the spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional and social development of each child.

The *Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meetings* are the perfect opportunity for parents to share useful information about their child.



An important aspect of getting to know children is the “Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting” on **Wednesday 26th February.**

These meetings provide 5 minutes dedicated 1:1 time for parents and teachers to meet and for you to share your child's strengths, passions, your concerns, and aspirations and anything you think will help your child to be successful.

Today your child will bring home a document (also attached) outlining some question prompts for you to complete prior to your *Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting*. This document will need to be handed to your child's classroom teacher at the beginning of your meeting. **Bookings for these meetings are now open.**

The web address for booking is <http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au> and the new logon code is: **vgrhe**

- Day 2 3:45pm to 5:30pm Wednesday 26th February.

These meetings will **ALL** take place in the School Gymnasium. We look forward to seeing you there!

Confirmation Preparation Meeting 1

Friday 24th April
Casual Dress Day
School Assembly Program

Saturday 25th April
ANZAC Day

Monday 27th April
Student Free Day - Staff
Professional Development Day

Tuesday 28th April
Foundation Reading Workshop

Wednesday 29th April
Student Led Conferences - Day 3

Thursday 30th April
Confirmation Preparation 2

Friday 1st May
School Assembly Program

Term 2 Week 4

Tuesday 5th May
P & F Meeting

Thursday 7th May
Confirmation Preparation 3

Friday 8th May
Mather's Day Liturgy

Sunday 10th May
Mother's Day

Term 2 Week 5

Tuesday 12th May
NAPLAN – Year 3 & 5
School Board Meeting

Friday 15th May
School Assembly Program

Term 2 Week 6

Monday 18th May
Student Free Day - Staff
Professional Development Day

Term 2 Week 7

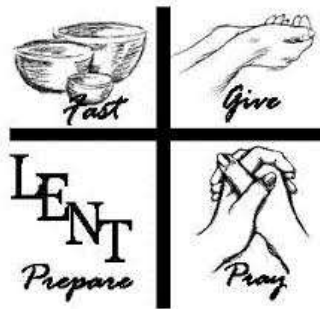
Monday 25th May
Catholic Education Week

Friday 29th May
Casual Dress Day

Term 2 Week 8

Shrove Tuesday

This Tuesday the children will be making pancakes in their classrooms to celebrate Shrove Tuesday.



Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs forty days before Easter [excluding Sundays.]

Ash Wednesday gets its name from the practice of placing ashes on the forehead as an outward sign that we all make mistakes in our lives and that we need to recognize our weaknesses and work hard to make ourselves better.

Ash Wednesday Arrangements

- Children in Year's 1 to 6 will be attending Mass at St Alipius, commencing at 9.30am – Wednesday 26th February.
- We ask that all children be dressed in their full school uniform. If it is your child's Sports Day they are permitted to wear their Sports Uniform to Mass.
- Travel arrangements have been made.

Lent

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days. All churches that have a continuous history extending before AD 1500 observe Lent.. The ancient church that wrote, collected, canonized, and propagated the New Testament also observed Lent, believing it to be a commandment from the apostles. (See The Apostolic Constitutions, Book V, Section III).

Prayer for Ash Wednesday

"As we live through this Ash Wednesday, may the crosses of ashes that mark our foreheads be a reminder to us and to those we meet that we belong to your Son. May our worship and prayer and penitence this day be sustained throughout these 40 days of Lent. Bring us refreshed and renewed to the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter."

INFORMATION ATTACHED TO NEWSLETTER: School Photos – Tuesday 17th March

Shortly you will receive your child's personalized photo envelope from MSP Photography. If you wish to purchase photos please ensure your child has the photo envelope on photo day with the correct money or alternatively there will an option to order photos online. Family Photo envelopes will be available from the Office.

Photo day is **Tuesday 17th March** and children will be required to be in full summer uniform (not sport uniform).

Tuesday 2nd June
P & F Meeting

Friday 5th June
EE World Environment Day

Term 2 Week 9

Monday 8th June
Queen's Birthday Public
Holiday

Tuesday 9th June
School Board Meeting

Thursday 11th June
Year 3 Camp

Friday 12th June
School Assembly Program

Term 2 Week 10

Monday 15th June
Year 1 & 2 Performance
Dress Rehearsal

Tuesday 16th June
Bravehearts incursion -
Foundation, 1s and 2s

Thursday 18th June
Year 1 & 2 Performance –
Matinee and Evening

Term 2 Week 11

Friday 26th June
Casual Dress Day
Last Day of Term 2

Term 3
July 13 – Sept 18

Term 1 Week 9

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

Thursday 10th September
Year 5 & 6 Performance -
Matinee & Evening

Term 1 Week 10

Term 4
Oct 6 – Dec 16

Term 1 Week 7

Monday 16th November

SFX 2020 Parent Forum - Tuesday 3rd March 2020

As a result of our 2016 School Review, St. Francis Xavier staff have made a commitment to enhance relationships and partnerships with the St. Francis Xavier Community.

We have listed the following goals as strategic actions over the next four years:

1. Provide opportunities for parent voice in the school in order to build a sense of dual-partnership
2. Seek feedback from parents regarding school programs and practices
3. Encourage parent access and involvement in classroom programs



To continue this process we are going to hold a number of Parent Forums where you can offer your feedback and questions. The Parent Forum will be a chance for you to meet in a group with the Principal to discuss your ideas and questions.

The main aim of the Parent Forum is:

- To support and promote children's learning
- To help the school find out what parents and carers think about important issues
- To involve parents and carers actively in school decisions
- To make plans that support the ways the school wants to develop and improve outcomes for our children

We invite you to attend the first 2020 Parent Forum opportunity :

Parent Forum Meeting 1

Time: 9.30am – 10.30 am

Date: Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Where: St. Francis Xavier Primary School

We also invite all families to provide feedback through an online **Google Form**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFJg6FGfH6RyLYVoadA7jiX6PCT48Wd_je3ew01tbOXWyoaw/viewform?usp=sf_link

2020 Tuition Fee Raffle

What a fantastic start to the year if you won \$1,500 off a year's tuition fees for one student!

- **Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$20**

In keeping with the mission of the Parents & Friends, proceeds of the raffle will go towards the annual fundraising target which contributes to projects which will benefit all students.



To purchase your tickets, please complete the tickets attached and/or sent home, enclose them in an envelope with your money and return to the P&F Box located in the school office before Tuesday 10th March, 2020.

The Raffle will be drawn at the **P & F Mix and Mingle Night** on Friday 13th March, 2020.

Year 3 & 4 Performance -
Dress Rehearsal

Thursday 19th November
Year 3 & 4 Performance -
Matinee & Evening

School Assembly Dates 2020

Due to the Specialist Timetable running from Monday to Thursday our School Assemblies will continue on Fridays in 2020 from 12:30pm to 1:00pm.

Please see list below. This has also been updated on the school calendar for your perusal.

Term 1 Week 8

Term 1 Week 9

Term 1 Week 10

Term 1 Week 11

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

Week	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1				
2		Year 3 24.04.20	Year 4 24.07.20	Foundation 16.10.20
3		Year 2 01.05.20	Year 3 31.07.20	
4	Year 6 21.02.20	Mother's Day Liturgy	SFX Art Exhibition	Year 6 30.10.20
5		Year 1 15.05.20	Pupil Free Day	Ballarat Show Day
6	Year 5 06.03.20			
7		Foundation 29.05.20	Year 2 28.08.20	Year 3 & 4 Performance
8	Year 4 20.03.20		Father's Day Liturgy	Year 5 28.11.20
9	Holy Week Prayer	Year 6 12.06.20	Year 5 & 6 Performance	
10		Year 1 & 2 Performance	Year 1 18.09.20	
11		Year 5 26.06.20		Foundation (Nativity) 15.12.20

CareMonkey for school parents....

As you know we take the health and safety of your children very seriously. As such will continue with our use of **CareMonkey** as a health and safety program. It has been very well received by families since we began using it in 2015!



CareMonkey is an innovative parent controlled electronic medical form for schools, clubs and other groups with a duty of care. It's an electronic version of the paper based forms you're always having to fill in for excursions, camps, enrolments, etc.

As a parent you will have received an email or SMS from the **CareMonkey** system inviting you to enter the details for your child in an electronic medical form. **Please complete and update your CareMonkey details as soon as possible.**

Should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

School Fees

School Fee Payment Agreement Forms were sent home to all families last year. If you have not yet returned your form please complete it and return to the school office by Friday 7th February. This form is to be completed by all families on an annual basis.

For families that returned their forms last year, the direct debits have all been set up and will commence from the 20th February 2020. Attached to the newsletter is the direct debit schedule dates for 2020.

Family Fee Assistance Scheme

In all Ballarat Diocesan Catholic Primary Schools, tuition fee discounts are available to families eligible for a means tested Centrelink or Veteran Affairs concession card. The scheme offers tuition fee discounts to both Catholic and non-Catholic families, to new and current students. If you are eligible for the above concession card and require further information regarding this scheme, please contact the school office for more information.

Camps Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

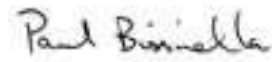
Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students, with \$225 per year paid for eligible secondary school students. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student.

Eligibility:

Families holding an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans Affairs Gold Card on the first day of Term 1 or first day of Term 2 or be a temporary foster parent will be eligible to apply.

Have a great week and I look forward to seeing you at the Athletics Carnival!

Yours sincerely,



Paul Bissinella
Principal

Catherine McAuley

Do not fear offending anyone. Speak as your mind directs and always act with more courage when the "mammon of unrighteousness" is in question

Letter to Mary Ann Doyle July 24, 18

Religious Education News



Mass for Ash Wednesday

All students from Years 1-6 will be attending Mass at St Alipius Church this week. Parents are very welcome to join us.

Lent

If you are looking for some activities for your family this Lent, have a look at The Season of Lent at <http://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/lenten-season-resources.html> There are video clips and a wide

variety of activities to help families prepare for Easter. Some interesting ones include Lenten Calendar for Kids and 40 Ideas for 40 Days.

Sacrament Enrolment 2020

Parents of baptised students in Year 3 & 4, plus any other eligible children in Years 5 & 6, are reminded of the Sacramental Enrolment meeting on Thursday 19th March at St Alipius Church, beginning at 7:00pm. Enrolment forms will be distributed and completed at the meeting.

Parents are encouraged to bring their child's baptism certificate to this meeting. Parents who are unavailable on Thursday are encouraged to attend one of the other meetings.

	St Alipius	Emmaus	St Francis Xavier
Dates	Tues March 17 th 7:00pm	Wed March 18 th 7:00pm	Thur March 19 th 7:00pm
Venues	To Be Confirmed	Ss. Peter and Paul Buninyong	St Alipius Church

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

Prior to each sacrament, parents are expected to attend workshops with their child to help them prepare the children at home. The three schools support the parish in this endeavour.
100% attendance is expected at the workshops and parents may attend at any of the venues.

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 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.

Yours sincerely,

Bernadette Luckman
Religious Education Leader

Curriculum News



Classroom Helper Information Sessions

This term I will be facilitating two Classroom Helper Information Sessions:

Session 1: Friday 28th February at 9:30 am in the Staffroom

Session 2: Tuesday 10th March at 9:30 am in the Staffroom

The Classroom Helper Information Sessions are for members of our community who would like to be involved as 'Classrooms Helpers'. These sessions will cover aspects of English and Mathematics and provide helpers with important information required prior to supporting in classrooms.

Please note:

- If you are interested in becoming a Classroom Helper, you only need to attend one of the Classroom Helper Information Sessions.
- A valid 'Working with Children's Check' is required prior to commencing classroom support. Office staff require a copy of ALL cards prior to commencement.
- If you have attended a St. Francis Xavier Primary School Classroom Helper session in previous years, you do not need to attend another session.

You will however need to read, sign and return the following documents prior to commencement:

- St Francis Xavier Primary School Volunteer Duty Statement
- St Francis Xavier Primary School Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct

Both documents can be collected from the Office.

Jayne Bosworth
Deputy Principal- Learning Enhancement



Managing Separation Anxiety

It's great that our school and home routines are starting to become familiar for all of us. Special events eg. School Athletics Day, assemblies and incursions/excursions all add to our school culture and our sense of belonging. Sometimes at stages, we may all feel a little anxious about new places, situations, events or leaving the people we love and feel safe with.

The article attached is from Michael Grose and it is titled Managing separation anxiety at school drop offs. Going to school for most children is a positive experience however some children can struggle making the transition from their home environment to school. It's naturally distressing to see your child upset at school drop-off but there is a great deal you can do to make school drop-offs easier for you and your child.

I think we all can apply these ideas for many situations in all our lives.

Just letting you know that as a school we will take part in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday March 20, 2020. Details to follow closer to the date.

Happy Days,

Jane Clark
Wellbeing Leader



Physical Education News



School Athletics Day at Llanberris Athletics Reserve – Monday 24th February 2020

This week we have our annual SFX Sports Day at Llanberris Athletics Reserve, which is a highlight on the school calendar for all students and their families.

All students will participate in a range of fun events which allow them to put into practice a range of skills that are taught in PE lessons prior to Sports Day.

A highlight this year sees the introduction of an SFX Champions race for girls and for boys. This is a sprint race comprising of the two fastest boys and girls from Years 3 - 4 - 5 & 6 running over specified distances to determine the SFX Boys & Girls Sprint Champion.

Good Luck to all students, and HAVE FUN!

Term 1 2020 Calendar Events

- Monday 24th February - St Francis Xavier Primary School Sports Day (Llanberis)
- Thursday 27th February - Division Swimming at Eureka Pool
- Friday 28th February - Football clinics for Yr 4
- Wednesday March 18th - 25m Encouragement Swim Meet (9yr and under) at Ballarat Aquatic Centre - Please refer to note sent on CareMonkey

Have an awesome week everyone.

Shaun Carrol
Physical Education Co-ordinator

Uniform Shop Update

Opening Hours Term 1 2020:

- Monday 8.40 am – 9.10 am
- Wednesday 8.40 am – 9.10 am
- Friday 3.00pm – 3.30pm

Available NOW!

- Boys school socks \$10 a pair
- School coats available \$45
- Swim hats available \$10

Price List & Order Form

The price list and order form is downloadable from the schoolbag app.
Orders with full payment (cash or cheque only) may be left at the front office.

DONATIONS PLEASE

Please check your cupboards for any uniform items you no longer need. Donations of second hand uniforms can be left at the shop with Sam or Yvonne. All donations are appreciated. Thanks.

VOLUNTEERS

We are always looking for volunteers to help out in the shop during the term. We only roster you on for 1 or 2 half hour shifts per term maximum. Parents with small children are welcome to bring them along when they are rostered on. Please text Yvonne Arnts on 0426 240 496 if you are able to help, with your preferred day. Thanks.

UNIFORM SHOP ROSTER

Week 5		
Monday 24 th February	Wednesday 26 th February	Friday 28 th February
School Athletics Carnival	Sam Murphy & Samantha Wright	Christine Taylor & Natasha Nicholson
Week 6		
Monday 2 nd March	Wednesday 4 th March	Friday 6 th March
Yvonne Arnts & Jordie Roney	Sam Murphy & Sarah Matthews	Christine Taylor & Kayla Moran
Week 7		
Monday 9 th March	Wednesday 11 th March	Friday 13 th March
Labour Day Public Holiday	Sam Murphy & Lou Jeffrey	Christine Taylor & Sarah Matthews
Week 8		
Monday 16 th March	Wednesday 18 th March	Friday 20 th March
Yvonne Arnts & Ebony Bromley	Sam Murphy & Sarah Matthews	Christine Taylor & Natasha Nicholson
Week 9		
Monday 23 rd March	Wednesday 25 th March	Friday 27 th March
Yvonne Arnts & Nicole Murphy	Sam Murphy & Lou Jeffrey	Closed – Last Day Of School Term

Community Announcements

Condolences:

- We offer our sincerest condolences to Rileigh (6JF) and Eli (2GH) Roberts and their family on the loss of their Great Grandmother

Go to our **St. Francis Xavier Facebook** page for more photos:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Francis-Xavier-Primary-School/273229632859103?ref=hl>