



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 8th February 2021
Term 1 Week 3

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2021

Key Dates

Term 1
Jan 28 – April 1

Term 1 Week 3

Monday 8th February
Year Ahead Meetings
2022 Foundation
Enrolment Applications
Open
After School Sports
Program - Soccer Begins

Tuesday 9th February
School Board Meeting

Wednesday 10th February
Foundation Children at
Home

Thursday 11th February
After School Sports
Program – Basketball
Begins

Term 1 Week 4

Tuesday 16th February
Shrove Tuesday
School Open Day #1
Getting to Know Your Child
as Person and a Learner
Meeting #1

Wednesday 17th February
Ash Wednesday
Foundation Children at
Home
2021 Head Primary School
Tennis Championships

Friday 19th February
Friday Hot Lunches begin
Sovereign and Eureka
Division Swimming Sports
@ Eureka Aquatic Centre

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to week three! It seems a lot has happened since last Monday's newsletter. What a wonderful start we had to our school year. It was great to get the first week 'under our belts' and for the teachers and children to establish their routines and expectations. Staff have spent invaluable time before the resumption of school preparing for this year and the children are most excited and eager to be back and into school work. A positive 'feel' exists around our school.

Beginning of the Year Prayer Gathering

It was great to gather at school on Friday for our Beginning of the Year School Prayer. Unfortunately due to COVID19 restrictions families were unable to attend this year. Our prayer theme and focus for this year is based on a wonderful Catherine McAuley saying "We must strive to do the ordinary things extraordinarily well!"

Fr. Jorge led our prayer and spoke about the excitement of a new school year and the energy that is obvious around our school.

Many thanks to Fr. Jorge and Bernadette Luckman (our Religious Education Leader) for organizing such a memorable start to our school year!



Year Ahead - Parent Information Evening via Zoom

Tonight, **Monday 8th February** St. Francis Xavier will hold a Parent Information Evening for all parents. Arrangements for these meetings this year have changed due to COVID 19 Density Requirements.

Please note: This year the meetings will be held online (**virtually with Zoom**) and all class teachers will send a Zoom Invitation to each family via SeeSaw.

These meetings are intended to give parents specific information about class programs and approaches to teaching and learning. I strongly encourage all parents to attend as we believe that a positive, nurturing, and encouraging home-school relationship is essential in helping children achieve success. The education of each of our children is a partnership between staff, parents and children.

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

Term 1 Week 5

Tuesday 23rd February
School Open Day #2

Wednesday 24th February
Foundation Children at Home
School Open Day #2
Getting to Know Your Child as Person and a Learner Meeting #1

Friday 26th February
Casual Clothes Day

Term 1 Week 6

Monday 1st March
School Photos
Year 5 Cyber Safety Parent Information Night

Tuesday 2nd March
Reconciliation for Year 4 - Parent Information Session at St Alipius Hall
P&F Meeting

Wednesday 3rd March
Reconciliation for Year 4 - Parent Information Session at St Alipius Hall
Foundation Children at Home

Thursday 4th March
School Open Day #3

Friday 5th March
SFX Junior School Athletics Day (F - Year 2) Russell Square Sports Ground North
Year 3 -6 Cyber Safety and Chromebook Bootcamp.

Term 1 Week 7

Monday 8th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 9th March
Year 6 Camp - Melbourne

Term 1 Week 8

Term 1 Week 9

Monday 22nd March
SFX Middle-Senior School Athletics Day (Year 3 - 6)
Llanberris Athletics Reserve

Thursday 25th March
Reconciliation for Year 4 students - St Alipius Church

The sessions will run for up to between 45 minutes with each classroom teacher (please note new times below).

- 5:00pm Foundation to Year 2
- 6:00pm **Specialist Teachers**
- 7:00pm Year 3 to Year 6

Student Led Conferences about each child will take place in Week 2 & 3 of Term 2.

Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting – Bookings Open

Staff will be doing all they can to get to know your child at the beginning of this term so they can enhance wellbeing and support and challenge each child to be the best that they can be, to be successful!



An important aspect of getting to know children is the “Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting” on **Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 24th 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.

Bookings for these meetings are open from 9:00am on Monday 8th February 2021.

The web address for booking is <http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au> and the new logon code is: **3yrtz**

- Day 1 3:45pm to 5:30pm Tuesday 16th February.
- Day 2 3:45pm to 5:30pm Wednesday 24th February.

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

Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meetings are a brief and formal opportunity for parent/teacher communication but certainly these meetings are not the only times when there can be effective communication about your child’s learning. Teachers are always happy to make themselves available to discuss your child’s progress. We will send home some question prompts the week before to ensure we maximise the time together. Please make a note in your diary for this now and look out for the School Interviews sign up on Monday 10th February for your time slot.

Parents & Friends Funds for 2021:

The Catholic Education Office requires that every school works to raise funds to make up the shortfall in funding received from the Federal and State Governments each year. This means that every year our parents must work to raise money to undertake essential issues in running the school and to provide our children with valuable resources to support them in their education as well as provide a safe, stimulating environment for them.

Our Parents & Friends are an energetic, committed group of people who work to support the school in its fundraising efforts. I commend all of you who support the efforts of the P & F group and ask you to continue this support throughout the year.

Friday 26th March
Casual Dress Day

Term 1 Week 10

Wednesday 31st March

Thursday 1st April
Holy Thursday
Last Day of Term 1

Friday 2nd April
Good Friday

Sunday 4th April
Easter Sunday

Term 2
April 19 – June 25

Term 2 Week 1

Monday 19th April
First Day for Students

The Parents & Friends Committee Executive:

- Chairperson: Ange Staley angelastaley24@gmail.com
- Vice Chair Person: Paul Beseler paul@bezgroup.com.au
- Secretary: Breonie Campbell breemkelly@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Carolyn Ward caroandrob@bigpond.com

Foundation Enrolment 2022 - Open Day and School Alive Tours

We are happiest when prospective families pay us a visit to see for themselves what makes us different.

New and Existing Families are invited to join us to learn about St. Francis Xavier Primary School.



Open Days will begin with an Information Session at 9:30 am with **School Alive Tours** to follow at 10:00am:

1. Tuesday 16th February 2021
2. Tuesday 23rd February 2021
3. Thursday 4th March 2021

Virtual Live Tours:

Virtual Live Tours are held fortnightly on a Thursday at 9:30am in Term 1.

Event Registration:

To register your attendance for an Open Day, School Alive Tour or Virtual Tour please complete the Registration Form at: <http://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/enrol/open-days>

Online Enrolment Open from Monday 8th February 2021

Attending an Open Day is the first step in the enrolment process. The online **Expression of Interest** is the second step in the enrolment process. If you wish to do so, please nominate St Francis Xavier Primary School as your first preference for your child's education. Please click on this link and fill in and submit the City of Ballarat Catholic School Expression of Interest Form: <https://ceob.edu.au/2022-foundation-enrolments/>

Foundation Enrolment 2022 – Existing Families

Enrolments are open for children of existing families who start Prep in 2022. Parents of existing families who have a child to start in 2022 - please complete the form by clicking on the following link to submit a **City of Ballarat Catholic Primary School Expression of Interest Form**: <https://ceob.edu.au/2022-foundation-enrolments/>

Friday Hot Lunch Helpers

Friday lunches will be available this year during Terms 1, 2, 3 & 4. This service will commence on Friday 19th February 2021.



The children love their Hot Friday lunches, and this year we are happy to offer the full menu during Terms 1, 2, 3 & 4, but to enable this to happen we need helpers!

If you have an hour to spare on a Friday morning between 11:00am – 12:00pm, and would like to help out, this is a great way to get involved in the school community and meet other Mums and Dads.

Friday Lunches will begin in Week 4 on Friday 19th February 2021 and will be ordered using Flexischools.

The more volunteers we get means your time may only be needed once per term. Without your involvement we unfortunately cannot proceed!

If you are interested and can help please sign up and register by clicking on this link:
<https://signup.com/go/YiNkiOs>

If you would like to know more, please contact:

- Jordie Roney on 0418322948 or jordiec@hotmail.com
- Gabrielle Howley on 0439064737
- Karen Nunn on 0438556686 or karenbrit@bigpond.com

Remember...the ones that benefit most from your involvement are YOUR children!

Monday Icy Poles

Icy Poles are also back this year from Monday the 8th February. Children are asked to bring \$4.50 to their teacher (please don't purchase through Flexischools) to cover icy poles for the entire term.

Operoo (formerly 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 **Operoo** as a health and safety program. It has been very well received by families since we began using it in 2015!

Operoo 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 **Operoo** system inviting you to enter the details for your child in an electronic medical form. Please complete and update your Operoo 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 5th 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 18th February 2021. Attached to the newsletter is the direct debit schedule dates for 2021.

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.

Icy Poles

Icy poles are again available for children this year on Mondays. We require parents to pay up - front for icy poles. They are now \$4.50 for the term and payable to the class room teacher by cash. Please pay by 9:30am Monday the 8th February, if you would like your child to have them on Mondays.

COVID Safe Environment

Our school continues to monitor and abide by all COVID safe regulations and recommendations issued by both the State Government and the Catholic Education Office. Density Limits and Good Hygiene practices continue to apply.

COVID Safe Principles for Children and Parents

- Any child who is unwell must not attend school
- Beginning of the Day Drop Off arrangements (see below)
- End of the Day Dismissal arrangements (see below)
- Entry and exit points to the school will be open, with additional staff allocated to ensure children are safely supervised
- Parents are not to enter classrooms at any stage and are to adhere to social distancing guidelines when waiting to collect their child at the classroom door
- Request that parents avoid or minimise time spent in or around the school grounds
- Regular School Cleaning continues
- Frequent announcements, messages, signage and red gaffer tape around school to remind staff, children and families of the need for continued safe behaviours

School Health and Safety Measures return for children

We have considered a variety of strategies to support physical distancing, particularly among adults, and good hygiene practices to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission within the practical limitations of our school environment.

Beginning of the Day Drop Off

- **Foundation (Prep) parents** will be able to accompany their children to their classroom in the first week of school. We ask that the Foundation (Prep) parents drop their child at the classroom and then leave in a prompt manner.
- We continue to request that **all other parents (Year 1 – 6)** drop their children off in the undercover area and then exit the school in a prompt manner. Staff will be present in the undercover area from 8:30am to assist children with walking to their classrooms if required.

At no stage are parents able to enter any classroom. Red Tape and Distance markers will be outside each classroom door to remind all adults.

End of the Day Dismissal

- No more staggered collection of the children at the end of the day
- From 3:15pm parents are to collect their children from the classrooms
- Should you collect your child before 3:15pm you will need to sign them out through

the office

- Please wait in your car until the bell goes at 3:15pm.
- Please do not gather at the front of the school or in the undercover area

To minimise congestion, especially among adults, we ask families to adhere to these guidelines and to be vigilant when promptly entering and exiting the building. Teachers will not be available to engage in discussion with parents at drop off or dismissal time and we ask parents to minimise stopping and engaging in conversation with children and adults while onsite.

Bus Transport for 2021

If there are any changes with regard to your child's transport from school for 2021 could you kindly fill in a Transportation From School form or contact the office with the relevant changes.

If you are a new family starting in 2021 and intend for your child to travel from school, please find attached the Transportation Form for you to complete and return back to the office.



Bus Procedures for Parents

- You need to notify the office if there is a change to your default (i.e. what you filled out on the form)
- Changes to the daily schedule would be appreciated as early in the day as possible – before 12.00pm midday.

Changes to the daily schedule will be able to be conveyed to the office via telephone, by a bus pass which will be available from the office or by downloading and printing from our website.

Changes to the daily schedule can also be communicated via the Skoolbag App, or via the generic "office" email office@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

School Hats

St. Francis Xavier is a Sun Smart school. This means all members of our school must wear a school hat while outside during the school day. Please ensure your child has a school hat.

Receiving the St. Francis Xavier School Newsletter by Email.

We seem to have a lot of parents and families changing their email address and then unable to get the newsletter. If you are not receiving the newsletter by email could you please notify the office as soon as possible and provide an updated email address.

Have a great week and I look forward to seeing you ONLINE at tonight's Year Ahead Meetings!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Paul Bissinella'.

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,



Sacramental News

The parish team of St. Alipius are almost ready to release the plan for Sacraments 2021. I am able to advise you that Reconciliation for Year 4 students will be held this term. Here are the details:

Parent Information Session at St. Alipius Hall beginning at 7:00pm

Dates: Tuesday 2nd March or Wednesday 3rd March (either session is fine)

Celebration: Thursday 25th March in St. Alipius Church beginning at 6:30pm

I will have the complete plan for all the sacraments next week.

Any Year 5 students who need their Baptism certificates returned for the purposes of secondary school enrolment, please contact me via email and I will return it to you. My email address is bluckman@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Ash Wednesday 2021

Due to Covid restrictions we will not be able to gather as a school and celebrate Ash Wednesday at St Alipius Church on Wednesday 17th February. Instead, each class will celebrate a special prayer time in their classroom. We will not be distributing ashes this year. Instead we will be giving the children a sticker to wear for the day during our prayer service. Foundation students will celebrate on Thursday 18th February.

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.

Bernadette Luckman
Religious Education Leader

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL - Sunday 7th February 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Gospel

Mk 1:29-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils. **The Gospel of the Lord**

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

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Gospel Reflection

This week's gospel follows directly on from last week's reading and, as is typical with Mark's gospel, the events occur on the very same day. The urgency of the gospel is obvious in this week's reading; Jesus had a very busy 24 hours! Having launched his public ministry in the synagogue earlier that day, Jesus accompanies his new disciples to meet some of their family and have a meal. However, on arriving at the home of Simon and Andrew, they find Simon's mother-in-law is sick. Unlike the public displays of his healing power that preceded and will follow this episode, Jesus does not say anything but simply takes the woman by the hand and helps her up. Her response of beginning to wait on Jesus and his disciples is a faith response and a recognition of who Jesus is. A theme that runs through this gospel is that the disciples never fully understand who Jesus is. Here, a woman who has just met him recognises him as the Messiah and begins to serve him.

Still on the same day, we see the expansion of Jesus' healing ministry. On this one day he has cast an unclean spirit out of a possessed man in the synagogue, healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever and then healed the crowds of people who came to the door. The next morning he announces that they will take the ministry to the whole region of Galilee. In a very simple way, the gospel of Mark has described the growth of Jesus' ministry from very humble isolated examples to a deliberate reaching out to the people of an entire region.

Historical Context – Capernaum

Jesus appears to have made Capernaum his base after leaving Nazareth. He may, in fact, have based himself at Simon Peter's house. There are many references in the gospels to Jesus' actions in Capernaum. Archaeologists have identified the house in Capernaum that they believe to be Simon Peter's house – less than 100 metres from the Capernaum synagogue. Evidence reveals carved inscriptions and symbols that identify both Jesus and Peter. The house appears to have been used as a 'house-church' until a church was built on the site in the 5th Century. Excavations of the site can be seen today.

Have you thought? Simon's Wife?

In this week's reading, it is Simon's mother-in-law who is healed. This obviously means that Simon is married. However, there is no mention whatsoever about his wife. Is she alive or dead? Do they have children? We have no indication. It is not until the writings of Paul (1 Cor 9:5) that we learn Simon Peter was indeed married and that his wife accompanied him on his travels. Perhaps this visit to his family home was to announce to his wife and family that he had decided to follow Jesus and give up fishing.

Living the Gospel – Prayer

In the midst of an extremely hectic 24 hours where Jesus effectively launches his public ministry, Jesus takes time to go aside to a lonely place and pray. The passage tells us that it was 'long before dawn' that he did this. It may have been his usual practice to pray early in the morning or he may have been restless after the events of the previous day and the thought of what lay ahead. Nevertheless, Jesus provides us with a model of using prayer to reflect on events and to prepare ourselves for the day ahead.

A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

- Q. Why might healing have been such an important part of Jesus' ministry?
- Q. Why might the gospel writer have portrayed so much happening in such a short time?
- Q. Why did Jesus leave Capernaum when his disciples told him that everyone was looking for him?
- Q. Why did Jesus go away by himself to pray?
- Q. What message does this passage hold for us today?

Greg Sunter has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.



Learning Enhancement News

Welcome back to 2021 where we look forward to a wonderful year of Learning and Teaching! Throughout the year, I will keep you informed of the latest Curriculum/ Learning Enhancement news!



Seesaw Update



This year, all classes will continue to use the online digital portfolio tool, Seesaw. Seesaw provides children with the opportunity to document and reflect upon their learning while strengthening their skills in the area of technology. Each child has their own Seesaw portfolio and throughout the year authentic assessment tasks will be uploaded to Seesaw. Specialist teachers will also be using Seesaw, and therefore you will notice that your child is a member of multiple classes. If your child has a current Seesaw account, you will not need to sign up to Seesaw again as 2020 classes have been archived. If you require a Seesaw log in for your child, please see your child's classroom teacher.

Spelling Mastery

Spelling Mastery will commence this week. *Spelling Mastery* is a research - based program designed to explicitly teach children the strategies they need to become successful, life-long spellers. *Spelling Mastery* supports the children in developing an understanding of the relationship between sounds, word parts and spelling patterns. Children are taught in small steps, using sufficient practice, so that they comprehend how spelling works and transfer accurate spelling to their writing.

Children in Years 3-6 will participate in *Spelling Mastery* four times a week, Tuesday through to Friday, from 9:00am to 9:20am. Due to the limited number of lessons that took place last year as a result of COVID, children in Years 4-6 will continue in their 2020 groupings for Semester One. This will provide the children with the opportunity to master the spelling skills at their level of need. Placement tests will be administered prior to the end of Semester One with children reassigned new groupings.

- Physical Education

Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) Testing

In Semester Two last year, all Year levels participated in Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) Testing. PAT provides objective, norm-referenced information to teachers about their students' skills and understandings in a range of key areas. Each PAT has its own proficiency scale with descriptors outlining the content and skills students are consolidating at any given point on that scale.

PAT provides quantitative and qualitative data on student performance, making the PAT ideal for understanding students' current strengths and areas for improvement, informing teaching and learning, and monitoring progress over time.

The PAT data has now been analysed, and I am pleased to report the following:

- In the area of **Reading**, 81% of children from F-6 are working at or above expected levels
- In the area of **Mathematics**, 83% of children from F-6 are working at or above expected levels
- In the area of **Spelling**, 90% of children from Years 2-6 are working at or above expected levels
- In the area of **Vocabulary**, 87% of children from Years 3-6 are working at or above expected levels

We hope to share your child's assessment results with you throughout the course of the year.

Jayne Bosworth

Deputy Principal - Learning Enhancement



Wellbeing Programs and Activities at SFX in 2021

Our term is now fully underway and there are a few terrific programs and activities we have planned for your children

1. Respectful Relationships

All classes will begin their SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) sessions. The first topic is Emotional Literacy. Emotional Literacy can be defined as the ability to understand ourselves and other people. It includes the ability to understand, express and manage our own emotions, build empathy, and respond appropriately to the emotions of others. Building a large vocabulary for emotions helps to increase emotional literacy and build self awareness and empathy for others.

2. Buddies are being formed and planned to begin in a few weeks.

3. Seasons for Growth program is going to begin in Week 9 for any Year 5/6 student

4. Christine Meneely our School Counsellor is now with us Mon- Thurs. If you would like to make contact with her either send her an email cmeneely@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au or call school to speak with her.

5. First Break activities will begin in Week 5. Interest/Collecting Club, Reading Club and Meditation Club will be available to all.

Happy Days,

Jane Clark

Wellbeing Leader



Welcome to 2021

I hope you and your family had a fun and relaxing time over the summer holidays. It is my hope that this school year will be filled with successful experiences and exciting challenges for all children!

This year, I will be working on **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday** and **Thursday** at St Francis Xavier.

With changes in families, classes, friendship and more maturity, some children I have previously worked with may not require counselling support this year. I value your parental input, so please let me know how things have been going in your lives or if your child again needs support.

At St Francis Xavier, we offer the **Seasons for Growth** program for children who are dealing with significant life changes, such as death or family separation.

Young people learn they are not alone in dealing with the effects of loss, change and grief and build their communication, decision making and problem-solving skills within a supportive peer group. Information on this program is available in the school office or you may like to speak to your child's teacher at the Getting to Know You sessions.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any queries or concerns. You are always welcome to pop in for a chat – I value our partnership in working toward the best outcomes for your child.

Kind regards,

Christine Meneely
School Counsellor



Welcome Back to 2021

Welcome back to all in our St Francis Xavier community. I hope you all had an awesome Christmas and New Year, and have returned refreshed and eager to tackle 2021.

As it stands, I have every indication and confidence that school sporting events will definitely be conducted this year which is exciting for all.

We begin the year with a pretty busy schedule.

Term 1 2021 Calendar Events

- Monday 8th February - After School Sporting Schools - Softball begins
- Thursday 11th February - After School Sporting Schools - Basketball begins
 - Due to the overwhelming response to these programs, we will look at conducting similar programs in the following terms for those that missed out and still want to be involved
- Wednesday 17th February - 2021 Head Primary School Tennis Championships - our SFX representatives will be announced this week
- Friday 19th February - Sovereign and Eureka Division Swimming Sports @ Eureka Aquatic Centre
- Friday 5th March - Junior (F-Yr2) Sports Day @ Russell Square
- Monday 22nd March - Middle-Senior Athletics Day @ Llanberris Athletics Reserve
 - More information on these events will be posted shortly

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Shaun Carrol
Sports Co-ordinator

Uniform Shop Update

Opening Hours Term 1 2021:

- 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

<u>Week 3</u>		
Monday 8th February	Wednesday 10th February	Friday 12th February
Yvonne Arnts & Georgia Skordos	Christine Taylor & Yvonne Arnts	Yvonne Arnts & Leona Troon
<u>Week 4</u>		
Monday 15th February	Wednesday 17th February	Friday 19th February
Yvonne Arnts & Sam Murphy	Christine Taylor & Sam Murphy	Yvonne Arnts & Camille Bell

Community News



TERM 1 PROGRAM
MULTI-SPORTS (90 MINUTES)
Wednesdays after school 3:25 pm - 4:55pm
(3rd of Feb) to (31st of March)
Tennis, Soccer, T-Ball and Basketball.
Preps to Grade 4
\$178.20 for the 9 week program
Enrol online www.kellysports.com.au
Any queries call or text Paul on 0423 335 616

Scholarship Testing date for St Patrick's College

The next Scholarship Testing date for St Patrick's College will be held at the College at 9am on **Saturday, February 20, 2021 for 2022 Year 7, 10 and 11 students.**

Registrations are now open at [this link](#).

Please note that registrations **close at midnight on Wednesday, February 10, 2021.**

To encourage and recognise the pursuit of excellence in all areas of school life, St Patrick's College offers scholarships for Years 7, 10 and 11 entry level in the categories of academic excellence, art, performing arts, music, sport, leadership and general excellence. All categories have an academic component and boys must sit a scholarship test conducted by the Australian Council for Educational Research. A fee of \$95 is payable at the time of registering your son as well as the opportunity to purchase additional practice testing papers at \$25 which are available online and downloadable in PDF format.

For further information please contact the College Registrar on 5322 4449 or email enrolments@stpats.vic.edu.au

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