



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 9th March 2021
Term 1 Week 7

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2021

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Key Dates

Dear Parents and Families,

Term 1

Jan 28 – April 1

Term 1 Week 7

Monday 8th March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 9th March

Year 6 Camp – Melbourne
Sovereign Hill - Costumed
School Program Year 5

Wednesday 10th March

Sovereign Hill - Costumed
School Program Year 5

Friday 12th March

Year 5 MM Assembly

Term 1 Week 8

Friday 19th March

Year 4 PB Assembly
P & F Mix and Mingle

Term 1 Week 9

Monday 22nd March

SFX Middle-Senior School
Athletics Day (Year 3 - 6)
Llanberris Athletics Reserve

Thursday 25th March

SFX 2021 Parent Forum
Reconciliation for Year 4
students - St Alipius Church

Friday 26th March

Casual Dress Day
Year 3 BGS Assembly

Term 1 Week 10

Thursday 1st April

Holy Thursday
Last Day of Term 1

Friday 2nd April

Good Friday

Our **Junior School Athletics Sports** day last Friday was a great success. Thanks to Mr Carroll for his organisation of a very smooth running and enjoyable day. Many thanks also to all our teachers and our parent helpers who each year ensure the success of the day for the children by volunteering time and energy.

Yesterday was a public holiday for **Labor Day**. The history of Labor Day in Australia spans over a century. It is an important annual event that remembers those who struggled and succeeded to ensure decent and fair working conditions in Australia. During the mid to late 1800s the working day was long and arduous, where some employees would work up to 12 hours a day, six days a week. As an aside, I'm sure many of you would say nothing's changed! I hope that you were all able to have a rest on Monday ready for the busy weeks ahead!

Over the last week I have spoken at assembly with the children about **School Uniform** and in particular the necessity to ensure hats are being worn. I have also noticed a prevalence of non – school socks being worn in the senior school. I wish to reiterate to parents that the school policy specifies that in full school uniform; boys should wear grey socks with blue hoops and girls, white socks. For sports uniform boys and girls should wear only plain white socks or socks with the St. Francis Xavier logo. Sports socks with alternative emblems/logos are not permitted. Thank you for your co-operation in adhering to our Uniform Policy.

Over the past 2 weeks I have also had the opportunity of watching our children participate in a number of **Sporting Events**. Not only was I delighted to see the children competing to the best of their ability, but also displaying great sportsmanship and acknowledging the efforts of their opponents. This too, was commented on by teachers and parents who were in attendance.

“Manners and etiquette for children is ranked as one of the most important qualities to nurture in the family home. Instilling good manners in some children will feel like an almost impossible task. But don't despair, just keep at it. You will be surprised how much your expectation about being well mannered stays with them.

*Good Manners are essential for every child's self-confidence and success in life.
In the family home - this is where it starts, where the 'manners seed' is planted and nurtured.”*

Well done everyone for being such wonderful ambassadors for our school!

Future Canonical Governance of St Francis Xavier Primary School

Last Friday a very important letter from David Beaver, School Board Chairperson and myself about the Future Canonical Governance of St Francis Xavier Primary School, Ballarat East was circulated to parents. After considerable prayerful deliberation and reflection, the Board of St Francis Xavier Primary School has chosen to recommend to the sponsor that St. Francis Xavier Primary School move to the DOBCEL governance structure. The Cosponsors support this

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

Sunday 4th April
Easter Sunday

Term 2
April 19 – June 25

Term 2 Week 1

Monday 19th April
First Day for Students

Friday 23rd April
Whole School Mass

Term 2 Week 2

Tuesday 27th April
Student Led Conferences -
Day 1

Wednesday 28th April
Student Led Conferences -
Day 2

Friday 30th April
Year 2 BW Assembly
Casual Dress Day

Term 2 Week 3

Tuesday 4th May
Bravehearts Incursion

Wednesday 5th May
Student Led Conferences -
Day 3

Friday 7th May
Mother's Day Liturgy

Term 2 Week 4

Tuesday 11th May
NAPLAN Testing - Year 3 & 5

Wednesday 12th May
NAPLAN Testing - Year 3 & 5

Thursday 13th May
NAPLAN Testing - Year 3 & 5

Friday 14th May
Year 1 RC Assembly

Term 2 Week 5

Monday 17th May
Student Free Day

Friday 21st May
Foundation EH Assembly

difficult decision. This decision will support the interests of St Francis Xavier Primary School, the Ballarat Diocese and our Church more generally. Please find attached this letter.

REMINDER: An Important School Rule

Parents should never approach a child or the parents of that child about a school related matter. If a parent has a concern or issue they must always approach the classroom teacher. Your child's safety and security are paramount.

Congratulations!

Last week we received some great news that I am very happy to share with you. **Miss Shannon Mackiln (Class Teacher FSM)** announced that she is getting married. Congratulations Shannon and Ben!



A Reflection for Lent Recognising Christ

During the season of **Lent** we take the time to reflect on our own lives and make changes from the heart. Lent is also an opportunity to not only look into our own hearts, but to recognise the presence of Christ in others.....

Jesus decided to see whether or not people would recognise Him.

He became the face of a happy child ...then an encouraging word, then a humorous comment ...then a difficult discussion ...then a life-giving moment ...then some timely advice ...and in the face of hope.

Jesus was sometimes not recognised by others during the course of the day.But Jesus recognised them...

Thoughts:

God's face can be seen often. ...in the face of others and in what they say and do out of Compassion ... But especially in the face of those who care.

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for Your presence in our lives. At times it is hard to recognise Your words that speak to us through different people. We know that You care about us deeply and that you are always ready to encourage and protect us. Help us to be mindful of Your presence each day. Amen.

Year 6 Camp – Urban Camp Melbourne

Early this morning our Year 6 children and teachers left for Melbourne for their annual camp. This is a great opportunity and learning experience for our children, taking them out of their 'comfort zone' and giving them a variety of wonderful experiences in Melbourne. Many thanks to the parents who have volunteered to assist. We look forward to hearing about all the positive experiences the children have and will publish some of them in future newsletters.

SFX 2021 Parent Forum – Thursday 25th March 2021

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 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



over

Term 2 Week 6

Monday 24th May
Catholic Education Week
begins

Friday 28th May
Foundation TW Assembly
Casual Dress Day

Term 2 Week 7

Thursday 3rd June
Year 3 Camp – Sunnystones

Friday 4th June
Year 6 JF Assembly
Year 3 Camp – Sunnystones

Term 2 Week 8

Friday 11th June
Year 5 LL Assembly

Term 2 Week 9

Monday 14th June
Queen's Birthday – Public
Holiday

Tuesday 15th June
Year 2 Camp - Log Cabin
Camp Creswick

Wednesday 16th June
Year 2 Camp - Log Cabin
Camp Creswick

Friday 18th June
Year 4 BL Assembly

Term 2 Week 10

Friday 25th June
Last Day of Term 2
Year 3 CP Assembly
Casual Dress Day

Term 3
July 12– Sept 17

[Term 3 Week 1](#)
[Term 3 Week 2](#)
[Term 3 Week 3](#)
[Term 3 Week 4](#)
[Term 3 Week 5](#)
[Term 3 Week 6](#)
[Term 3 Week 7](#)
[Term 3 Week 8](#)
[Term 3 Week 9](#)
[Term 3 Week 10](#)

To honour this process we continue 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 2021 Parent Forum opportunity :

Parent Forum Meeting 1

Time: 9.30am – 10.30 am

Date: Tuesday 25th March 2021

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/1FAIpQLSfJg6FGfH6RyLYVoadA7jIX6PCT48Wd_je3ew01tbOXWyoaw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Class Assemblies

We look forward to our second Class Assembly this Friday with Year 5 MM presenting a collection of their recent work and events! (Please see details below!)

Mix n Mingle Friday 19th March

Have you got your tickets yet?
Tickets are now available via Flexischools, get yours ASAP and we look forward to seeing you all on the night!



SFX Tuition Raffle 2021

What a great start to the year it would be if you won \$1,500 off your school fees. Tickets are now available for purchase through the link below.

The winner will be drawn at this year's Mix & Mingle on Friday 19th March.

<https://www.rafflelink.com.au/sfxpstuition2021>

Summer Lunch Menu has started!

The P&F are excited to bring you our new Friday Lunch Menu for Terms 1 and 4 and it's started last Friday! Place your order now via Flexischools.

All orders must be placed by 10am Thursdays mornings.



SFX Easter Egg Raffle 2021

Our very popular Easter Egg raffle is back again in 2021 but this year it is moving on line. Tickets are now available for purchase through the link below.

Hop to it!

<https://www.rafflelink.com.au/sfxpseaster2021>

Term 4
Oct 4 – Dec 16

- [Term 4 Week 1](#)
- [Term 4 Week 2](#)
- [Term 4 Week 3](#)
- [Term 4 Week 4](#)
- [Term 4 Week 5](#)
- [Term 4 Week 6](#)
- [Term 4 Week 7](#)
- [Term 4 Week 8](#)
- [Term 4 Week 9](#)
- [Term 4 Week 10](#)
- [Term 4 Week 11](#)



New Arrangements for End of the School Day Pick-Up

After observing the traffic conditions on Fortune Street over the past 2 weeks and also considering COVID19 Requirements we have decided for the safety of the community to **change the Arrangements for End of the School Day Pick Up.**

All other Calendar Dates for 2021 have been updated and can be accessed live on the Skoolbag App or by visiting the School Website.

Please see the table below for changed pick up arrangements that began on **Thursday 18th February 2021.**

	3:00pm – 3:10pm	3:10:pm – 3:20pm	3:20pm onwards
	Children with Surnames beginning...		
Week 7 to Week 9 Tuesday 9 th March to Friday 26 th March	Q - Z	A - G	H - P
Week 10 Monday 29 th March to Thursday 1 st April	H - P	Q - Z	A - G

Dismissal / Collections Area

Year Level	Teacher	Collection Area
Foundation	Shannon Macklin	Side door of the Foundation SM classroom
Foundation	Tom Willmott	Side door of the Foundation TW classroom
Foundation	Emma Hancock	Side door of the Foundation EH classroom
Foundation	Nicki Dalton	Side door of the Foundation ND classroom
Year One	Gemma Johnson	Enter via flag pole entrance
Year One	Rebecca Conroy	Enter via side gate (opposite perma patch). Walk up first set of stairs.
Year One	Matthew Manzl	
Year 2 to 6	Class Teachers	Collect from classroom door

To minimise congestion, especially among adults, we ask families to adhere to this timetable and to be vigilant when promptly entering and exiting the school site. Teachers will not be available to engage in discussion with parents at drop off or dismissal time and we ask parents to refrain from stopping and engaging in conversation with children and adults while onsite. An opportunity to meet with teachers is available this week with our *Getting to Know Your Child meetings*.

School Assembly Dates 2021

Due to the Specialist Timetable running from Monday to Thursday our School Assemblies will continue on Fridays in 2021 from 12:40pm to 1:10pm. Due to COVID19 restrictions, parents of just that class presenting the assembly are invited to join us.

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

Week	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1				
2		Year 2 BW 30.04.21	Year 2 AH 23.07.21	Year 3 SB 15.10.21
3		Mother's Day Liturgy	Year 1 MM 30.07.21	
4		Year 1 RC 14.05.21		Year 2 GH 29.10.21
5		Foundation EH 21.05.21	Student Free Day	
6	Year 6 CC 05.03.21	Foundation TW 28.05.21	Foundation SM 20.08.21	Ballarat Show Day
7	Year 5 MM 12.03.21	Year 6 JF 04.06.21	Foundation ND 27.08.21	Year 1 GJ 19.11.21
8	Year 4 PB 19.03.21	Year 5 LL 11.06.21	Father's Day Liturgy	
9	Year 3 BGS 26.03.21	Year 4 BL 18.06.21	Year 5 MA 10.09.21	St Francis Xavier Feast Day
10		Year 3 CP 25.06.21	Year 4 CJ 17.09.21	Foundation (Nativity)
11				

Punctuality

It has been great to see that the majority of our children are arriving on time each morning, ready for roll and for morning prayer at 8.55am (first bell) and ready to begin their learning soon after. Thank you to parents for ensuring this takes place.

Please find attached an article titled ***Every Minute Counts: Plan to crack down on school stragglers*** published in the Herald Sun. The article outlines directives being adopted in Government Schools to address issues of punctuality....

“School attendance is vital for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they achieve their full potential both academically and socially,” spokesman Simon Craig said. “Young children who regularly miss school or are late for the start of the school day will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates.”

The “Every Minute Counts” initiative follows the March introduction of \$70 fines as a last resort for parents whose children are absent for at least five days in a year without a reasonable excuse.

Education Department calculations show missing just 10 minutes of class a day equates to almost 1½ weeks of lost learning time over a year or almost six months over a child’s entire school life.

Those typically an hour late miss eight weeks of school a year or a whopping two-and-a-half years by the time they complete Year 12.

It is essential therefore that a smooth start to the day is established for your children so that excellent learning can take place. We ask that you continue to ensure that the children arrive on time to move to their classrooms for the 8.55am start.

St. Francis Xavier Primary School Working Bees

In 2015 our School Board agreed that St. Francis Xavier Working Bees will be held on the last Sunday of each term. Last year our Working Bees were very well attended and extremely successful! In order to spread the workload we have decided to allocate each family one Working Bee per year.

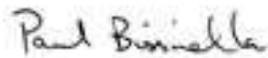
- Working Bee's will begin at 3:00pm and finish at 5:00pm.

We encourage all families to make the commitment to attend their allotted Working Bee. If you don't attend your allotted Working Bee we will include your name on the next Working Bee. If you can't attend your allotted Working Bee please arrange to swap with another family and notify the office.

Term 1	Sunday 28 th March 2021	Families with Surname beginning:	A - C
Term 2	Sunday 20 th June 2021	Families with Surname beginning:	D - H
Term 3	Sunday 12 th September 2021	Families with Surname beginning:	I - P
Term 4	Sunday 5 th December 2021	Families with Surname beginning:	Q - Z

Thank you for your continued support! I hope that you have an enjoyable week!

Yours sincerely,



Paul Bissinella
Principal

Catherine McAuley

How quietly the great God does all His mighty works! Darkness is spread over us, and light breaks in again, and there is no noise of drawing curtains or closing shutters.

Limerick Manuscript, in Sullivan, Catherine McAuley and the Tradition of Mercy, p. 17,



Reconciliation - Further Clarification

Please contact the parish office for enquiries regarding the celebration of the sacrament. I can help you with enquiries about the Parent/Carer & Child workshop.

The contact phone number for St Alipius parish office on 53326611.

FIRST RECONCILIATION EVENTS AND DATES FOR YEAR 4 AND ABOVE	
PARENT & CHILD WORKSHOP	CHOOSE ONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 9th March , 6.30pm at St Alipius Primary Wednesday 10th March, 6.30pm at Emmaus CPS Thursday 11th March, 6.30pm at St Francis Xavier
CELEBRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday 25th March at St Alipius Church (hosted by SFX) Monday 22nd March at St Alipius Church (hosted by Emmaus) Tuesday 23rd March at St Alipius Church (hosted by St Alipius PS) <p>Everyone attending a Reconciliation celebration must book online, not just the child. Click here for Instructions: How to Book Online</p>

Please note: Children need to have received the sacrament of Reconciliation to be eligible to receive First Eucharist. If you do not live in the parish of St Alipius, please contact your own parish about the sacraments for your child. Due to the Covid restrictions of 2020, St Alipius parish has more than 500 sacraments to administer this year and any help in reducing these numbers would be greatly appreciated.

St Alipius Parish, Ballarat East & Buninyong
Sacramental Programs 2021

As parents/ guardians we invite you to enrol your BAPTISED CATHOLIC child into the family based, Parish coordinated and Parish schools supported Sacramental Program for 2021.

CONFIRMATION RECONCILIATION EUCHARIST

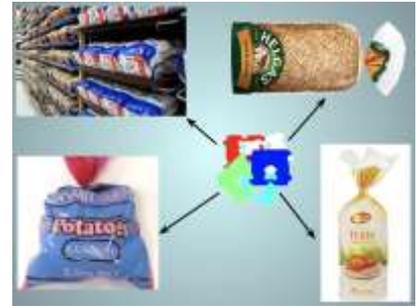
Due to the unusual circumstances of 2020 and the inability to prepare for and celebrate Sacraments with the children in our Parish, a new program has been created for 2021.

Term One	Term Two	Term Three	Term Four
<p>Reconciliation</p> <p>Baptised Catholics in Year 4 or older</p> <p><u>Parent Information Sessions</u> St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 2nd March, or WEDNESDAY 3rd March</p> <p>CELEBRATION DATES</p> <p>22nd March Emmaus CPS 23rd March St Alipius Primary 25th March St Francis Xavier</p> <p>All liturgies begin at 6.30pm in St Alipius Church</p>	<p>Confirmation</p> <p>Children who are baptised Catholic in Year 3 and 4 or older</p> <p><u>Parent Information Sessions</u> St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 27th April, or WEDNESDAY 28th April</p> <p>CELEBRATION DATES</p> <p>Confirmation will be celebrated during the first 2 weeks of May on week nights.</p> <p>Details to be confirmed.</p>	<p>Eucharist</p> <p>Those who have been CONFIRMED and have celebrated RECONCILIATION in Year 5</p> <p><u>Parent Information Sessions</u> St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 27th July, or WEDNESDAY 28th July</p> <p>CELEBRATION DATES</p> <p>28/29 August 4/5 and 11/12 September</p> <p>Eucharist will be celebrated during the 6.00pm, 9.00am and 10.30am mass.</p>	<p>Eucharist</p> <p>Children who have been CONFIRMED and have celebrated RECONCILIATION earlier this year in Year 4.</p> <p><u>Parent Information Sessions</u> St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 12th October, or WEDNESDAY 13th October</p> <p>CELEBRATION DATES</p> <p>Weekends of 6/7, 13/14 and 20/21 November 2021</p> <p>Eucharist will be celebrated during the 6.00pm, 9.00am and 10.30am mass.</p>

Aussie Bread Tags for Wheelchairs

Please save any plastic tags and send them along to school. The plastic will be recycled in South Australia and funds raised will be used to purchase wheelchairs for those in need in Sth Africa. Thanks to Olivia Green, in 4BL, who has introduced this initiative as a special activity for Lent. If you are interested in learning more about this, please read <https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/> This activity fits in with our RE curriculum through Social Justice, and the Catholic Social Teaching it covers is Care for our Common Home, as well as the others listed above. Caritas Catholic Social Teaching

Hand the tags in to your child's teacher or send them to 4BL.



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 March 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

Gospel

Jn 2:13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

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

The Temple in Jerusalem was (and still is) a powerful symbol of holiness and a symbol of the connection and relationship between God and the Hebrew people. It is often assumed that Jesus' anger was directed at the traders and moneychangers because their business had infringed on and desecrated the temple precinct. But the reality is a bit more complicated. The Temple was the holiest site for sacrifice to God. The tradition dictated that sacrifice made by a priest on the altar was the highest form of worship. The best animal to sacrifice was a healthy, properly formed creature. Rather than walking a lamb all the way from somewhere like Galilee to Jerusalem, the faithful would purchase their sacrifice animal at the Temple itself – thus the presence of the people selling cattle, sheep and doves. However, to further complicate matters, the Temple traders would not accept Roman coins to purchase the sacrificial animals as they bore the image of the deified emperor. Therefore, money changers were required to exchange Roman currency for acceptable coinage – so the money changers were also playing their part in the prayer life of the Temple.

Jesus' outrage is not so much with the traders and the money-changers as with the whole religious practice and hierarchical structure that has developed to a point where the only way a person can pray in a 'valid' way is to purchase an animal and hand it over to a priest who goes behind a screened wall to sacrifice the animal. The only way to seek God's forgiveness and mercy was to 'buy' it at the Temple. This was what outraged Jesus. He could not stomach the injustice nor the barriers that had been erected between the people and their God.

Scriptural context

This episode of outrage in the Temple is recorded in all four of the Gospels. Interestingly, the three synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke place the event in the final days leading to Passion events while the Gospel of John places the event in the very early days of Jesus' public ministry. While the three synoptics are likely to be more chronologically correct, the Gospel of John uses the event very deliberately to make the point that Jesus is the new Temple – the new focus of God's presence in the world; the Word made flesh.

Historical Context

In Jewish tradition, the Temple marked the point of physical connection between God and humankind and between the past and the present. It was where God's story and humanity's story met. However, in the year 70 C.E. – some 40 years after Jesus – the Temple was destroyed by the Romans. The gospel of John is written another 20+ years later and so the reality of the Temple's destruction is still trying to be absorbed by the people. It was a very powerful image for the gospel writer to suggest that Jesus was the new Temple – the new point of connection.

Different View – Just like Jesus

This gospel passage must be one of the most commonly misused passages in the Bible. So often it is used as justification for someone losing their temper, or worse, an outrageous temper tantrum, or 'dummy spit'. People will declare in their defence, 'Well, Jesus lost his temper and got angry in the Temple!' They fail to appreciate the difference between their own hot-headedness and the outrage against injustice that was being expressed by Jesus. They also seem to miss the significance of the fact that this was a 'one off' for Jesus!

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

- Q. What aspects of this gospel passage do you find confronting or challenging?
- Q. What was it about the practices in the Temple that spurred Jesus to such violent anger?
- Q. What might the poor have thought about what Jesus did in the Temple?
- Q. Have you ever seen something that you knew to be unjust? What did you do?
- Q. How can you work against injustice in your local community?

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.



NAPLAN ONLINE- Tuesday 11th May – Friday 14th May, 2021

In May every year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). NAPLAN was first introduced in 2008 and has become a routine part of the school calendar in Australia.

NAPLAN is how governments, education authorities and schools determine whether young Australians are reaching important educational goals.

In 2019, our school made the successful transition to NAPLAN Online. Moving to NAPLAN online brought many new opportunities for our children and teachers that were limited or not possible with paper-based tests. This year again, we will administer the NAPLAN tests through the Online National Assessment Platform. Children will complete the tests via a secure locked down browser on a suitable device. **The year three Writing test is the only test that will continue as a pen and paper assessment this year.**

Some of the main benefits of students taking part in NAPLAN Online include:

- **Better assessment – and more precise results.** NAPLAN Online uses a tailored test or adaptive design, where the test automatically adapts to individual student performance and asks questions that match the student achievement level, allowing the student to demonstrate their knowledge. This provides teachers and schools with more targeted and detailed information on students' performance on the tests. Tailored testing also provides an opportunity to broaden the scope of the assessments.
- **Faster turnaround of results.** Delivery of assessments online significantly reduces the time it takes to provide feedback to schools, students and parents, so teachers can respond more quickly to learning needs.

As technology develops, ACARA aims to further refine the delivery of the tests to best use the available technology to provide increasingly sophisticated assessments and valuable feedback to teachers, parents and education authorities.

National Coordinated Practice Test (CPT)- Thursday 25th March, 2021

On Thursday 25th March, all Year 3 and 5 students will complete the National Coordinated Practice Test (CPT). The CPT is a 45-minute test that aims to provide Year 3 and 5 students and staff with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the different components of NAPLAN online and to replicate the same simultaneous maximum number of test sessions that will be undertaken during NAPLAN Online. The CPT will not provide us with student results.

More information regarding NAPLAN Online will be communicated via the Newsletter in the coming weeks.

Book Fair

We are very excited to announce that the Book Fair is taking place this year! The Book Fair provides children with the opportunity to explore literature and select books of interest. The Book Fair is a great way to celebrate reading within our community with hundreds of fun, engaging and affordable books for the children to discover. Prior to the Book Fair, classes will be given the opportunity to view the selected books and write a wish list.



Book Fair Details

Who: The Book Fair will again be organised by our wonderful P&F Committee

Where: School Gymnasium

When: To minimise congestion in the Gymnasium, the Book Fair opening hours will coincide with Student Led Conferences (dates and times below):

- **Tuesday 27th April, 2021** - 3:45pm – 7:45pm
- **Wednesday 28th April, 2021**- 3:45pm – 7:45pm
- **Wednesday 5th May, 2021**- 3:45pm – 7:45pm

We ask that families visit the Book Fair while onsite prior to or after their child's Student Led Conference. The option to order online will also be available.

Colouring in Competition

We are very excited to announce that a colouring in competition linked to the Book Fair space theme will take place! The colouring in sheets (attached to this week's newsletter) are available for all children who would like to participate. The coloured in pictures will then be used to decorate the Gymnasium in preparation for the Book Fair. Prizes in the form of Book Fair vouchers will be awarded per level.

Stay tuned for further information regarding the Book Fair!

Have a wonderful week!

Jayne Bosworth

Deputy Principal - Learning Enhancement

Wellbeing News



First break activities

First break activities have been a real success. Everyone is invited to Book Reading, Trading/Collecting/Interest groups, Teddy's Bear's picnic or Meditation throughout the week. I sincerely thank the teachers who are giving up their break time to provide this extra activity for the children.

Cyber Safety

A big 'Thank You' goes to Des Hudson who presented a talk about Cyber Safety to our



Parents/Carers on Monday night and follow up sessions with our children from Years 3-6 last Friday. We know that technology is ever changing and we need to also 'keep up' with these changes and protective behaviours.

Bullying NO Way!

St Francis Xavier Primary school has joined with more than 60% of Australian schools by participating in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). Australia's key bullying prevention initiative for schools, celebrates 11 years of action, connecting schools and communities to find workable solutions to bullying and violence. We will be taking Action Together with our school community on Friday 19 March 2021, to join the national conversation to help address bullying. The theme for the NDA 2021 is **Take Action Together**. This theme aims to elevate student voice, empowering young Australians to join the conversation.



Special events throughout the year for Buddy time will be:

February: Buddy Meet and Greet
May: Buddy Games
August: Buddy Book reading
November: Buddy Celebration



Happy Days,

Jane Clark
Wellbeing Leader

Physical Education News



Junior School Sports @ SFX

A chilly start did not deter the excitement and fun had by our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students last Friday at Russell Square for our Junior Sports Day. The sunshine eventually made an appearance just in time to put a spotlight on all of the students as they ran in their sprints and relay races. Well done and congratulations to all of the students that participated on the day.

A huge thank you to all of the parents that helped out on the day, it couldn't have happened without your assistance.

And thank you to all of the amazing teachers and staff that played a huge part in making the day successful.

Term 1 2021 Calendar Events

- Monday 22nd March - Middle-Senior Athletics Day @ Llanberris Athletics Reserve
 - More information on these events will be posted shortly

Have an awesome week everyone.

Shaun Carroll
Sports Co-ordinator

Uniform Shop Update

NEWS from the Uniform Shop:

- **EFTPOS AVAILABLE in the Uniform Shop**
- **Second Pop Up Stall**
 - Have you outgrown your sports house polos?
 - If so would you like to swap sizes or just take your size at the pop up stall in the undercc on the 19th and 26th February and the 4th of March.

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 \$50**
- **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.

Uniform Shop Volunteers – we need your help!

All we need is half an hour of your time once or twice a term!!

Please Sign Up to Help in the Uniform Shop by clicking on the following link
:<https://signup.com/go/JvsbATD>

or text Yvonne Arnts on 0426 240 496 if you are able to help, with your preferred day. Thanks.



The shop is open and EFTPOS available in store and for all your online orders. All orders to be picked up at front office

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 Sign Up to Help in the Uniform Shop by clicking on the following link :
<https://signup.com/go/JvsbATD>

or text **Yvonne Arnts on 0426 240 496** if you are able to help, with your preferred day. Thanks.



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

Notice from Loreto College re: Year 7 2022

Applications for Year 7 2022 have now closed. An email to confirm application and details was sent to all applicants on Monday 15th February, 2021. Due to COVID restrictions Loreto College have had to change some traditional College procedures. As such, selection for Year 7, 2022 will NOT include personal interviews as advertised. If you have applied for a place at Loreto College for your daughter for Year 7, 2022 and did not receive this email or have any concerns please contact the College. registrar@loreto.vic.edu.au

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

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