



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 15th March 2021
Term 1 Week 8

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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 8

Wednesday 17th March

St. Patrick's Day
#4 Open Morning And
School Alive Tour

Friday 19th March

**National Day of Action
against violence and
bullying**

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

Wednesday 24th March

#5 Open Morning And
School Alive Tour

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

Sunday 4th April

Easter Sunday

Welcome to Week 8 and happy St. Patrick's Day for Wednesday! The term is moving along quickly with a number of important events taking place over the next few weeks! I encourage you to read over the newsletter closely and make yourself familiar with the **Key Dates Schedule!**

...in his evangelising of the Irish people, Patrick understood that Irish culture centred around a rich tradition of oral legend and myth so it was not surprising that he used that knowledge to his advantage, presenting the scriptures according to the four master themes of Irish oral tradition at that time—courage, generosity, loyalty, and beauty.

St Patrick's Day

Many Australian Catholics have Irish ancestry and they honour St Patrick as one of the patron saints of their Irish heritage. We can all celebrate the life of this very interesting man because he is also the patron saint of the Ballarat Diocese.

Who was Patrick? Patrick was born on the west coast of Britain about 360 A.D. At the age of 16 he was kidnapped by Irish pirates and sold as a slave into the service of a local king. On a rainy hillside tending sheep, he met the Lord and his faith was nurtured over the next several months. He escaped, but God called him to return to Ireland as a missionary. He was a saint of God who gave his life to help people know Jesus by starting mission churches. He baptized tens of thousands and hundreds of chapels were erected for the worship of Jesus all over Ireland.

<http://www.joyfulheart.com/stpatrick/patrick.htm>



REMINDER 1: Student Absences

If you know your child/children will be absent from school due to holiday, sickness etc., we ask that you kindly let our office staff know as soon as possible. You can send a notice through the Skoolbag App, email the office on office@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au or telephone the school.

REMINDER 2: Crossing Supervisor of the Year Awards - Don't Forget to Vote!

Click the link below to nominate our **Dennis McGuire!**

I'm sure if he received enough nominations he would not go unrecognised. He is a fantastic asset to our school! <https://www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au/>

REMINDER 3: 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.

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

Term 2
April 19 – June 25

Term 2 Week 1

Monday 19th April
Student Free Day – Staff
Professional Development

Tuesday 20th 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
#6 Open Morning And
School Alive Tour
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

REMINDER 4: Class Assemblies

We look forward to our next Class Assembly this Friday with **Year 4 PB** presenting a collection of their recent work and events!

REMINDER 5: School Closure Days

Please note that in Term 2 we have set aside two days as a School Closure Days for Staff Professional Development.

- **Monday 19th April** School will be closed as a Staff Professional Development Day
- **Monday 17th May** School will be closed as a Staff Professional Development Day

NEW DATES ANNOUNCED - OPEN MORNING AND SCHOOL ALIVE TOURS

Please join us for **if you haven't already** for an Open Morning and School Alive Tour:

1. OPEN MORNING AND SCHOOL ALIVE TOURS

- 9:30am on Wednesday 17th March 2021
- 9:30am on Wednesday 24th March 2021
- 9:30am & 6:00pm on Wednesday 28th April 2021

2. VIRTUAL LIVE TOURS

- Held fortnightly on a Thursday at 9:30am in Term 1



Event Registration: <http://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/enrol/open-days/>

3. FOUNDATION APPLICATION ENROLMENT PROCESS – FOR FOUNDATION 2022

Step 1: Attend an Open Day 'School Alive' Tour or "Virtual Live Tour" – Please click here for the dates and to [Book a Tour](#).

Step 2: Fill in an 'City of Ballarat Catholic School Expression of Interest Form' with the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Education Office.

- 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](#).

Please Note: 2022 Foundation Enrolments (including SIBLINGS) close on Monday 10th May 2021

Student - Led Conferences at SFX

Your child(ren) will be showcasing their schoolwork and discussing learning goals with you through Student-Led Conferences. During Student – Led Conferences, your children will lead the discussion with you about their school work, while teachers will help direct conversation and answer questions you may have.

These conferences are scheduled for Week 2 & 3 next term, on the following dates:

1. **Tuesday 27th April 2021**
2. **Wednesday 28th April 2021**
3. **Wednesday 5th May 2021**

WHY STUDENT LED CONFERENCES?

- Students develop **ownership** of their learning
- Students build **independence**
- Students take **pride** in their success
- Students identify areas for **improvement**
- Students **share** knowledge and skills learned

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

These meetings will last for 20 minutes and we encourage all families to attend. Children must attend these meetings!

We have several goals for holding conferences using this format:

- **For parents** – we hope that you will get to see rather than simply being told about your child's progress.
- **For students** – we hope students will take more responsibility for their learning.
- **For teachers** – we want teachers to have more meaningful and impactful conferences with you.
- **For all** – we want to maximize our time together, create ways to partner with one another to support student success.

Questions to ask your child at Student - Led Conferences.

Here are some questions for you to ask your child during their Student – Led Conference.

These are suggestions, so please look them over and pick a few that you would like to ask!

1. **What are you most proud of?**
2. **It makes me proud to see that**
3. **Can you tell me more about ...?**
4. **I can tell that you improved in**
5. **What did you find challenging this term?**
6. **Did you reach your goals? Why/Why not?**
7. **What can we do together at home to support your learning?**

The purpose of these meetings is to celebrate, affirm the children's learning and promote Student Voice. Parents and teachers will be able to ask questions of the children during these meetings in regards to their achievements, challenges, effort, behaviour, goals and next steps in their learning. We are certain that these conversations can happen with the child present with our teachers up-skilling the children to lead these conferences with confidence.

We have deliberately formed them as Student – Led and not 3 – Way Conferences. In response to the recommendations of our 2016 School Review we have developed a Strategic Educational Plan with the support and approval of the School Board and targeted promoting Student Voice across the school. Highly Effective Catholic Primary Schools promote Student Voice. Student – Led Conferences are identified as a significant way of developing Student Voice and all the latest research and evidence around Assessment as Learning supports this. If a parent needs to have a conversation with the teacher not in the presence of the child in regards to other matters, this needs to take place at another time. Contact can be made with the class teacher requesting further time if needed.

Student Led Conferences can be booked online using PAM

Please note: that PAM will be used for booking Student Led Conferences with instruction included below.

PAM will open on Wednesday 24th March at 9:00am for you to log in a conference time. You can logon yourself and choose your preferred time or alternatively contact the office and we can do this for you. The allocated time is 20 mins per conference.

Student - Led Conferences on PAM - Booking Instructions for Parents

1. Log into PAM using your Username and Password

PAM can be accessed via the schools homepage:<http://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/news-events/parent-access-module/> or by going directly to the PAM site <https://pam.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/Login/Default.aspx>

2. Click on Parent Teacher Interviews

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Term 3 Week 10

3. Select student
4. Select Core Group
5. Select Teacher (If your child's class has 2 teachers, only one teacher has the times available.)
6. Select your time
7. Click Book Interview

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

- The interview times will be displayed underneath your booking window. If you need to alter your child's interview time please click on the blue pen box and alter your time.
- If the interview time you have made does not suit and you wish to delete the time, please click on the red cross box
- There is an option to print your interview booking times by clicking the blue printer icon.

Please do not hesitate to contact the office on 5331 6311 should you have any queries or concerns.

Occupational Therapist - Brittany Curtain



Please see below the **Second Edition of The OT Times**

Brittany Curtain
Occupational Therapist

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

THE OT TIMES

EDITION 2

What's fun to cook, horrible to eat, and terrific to play with? PLAY DOUGH!



Play Dough Recipe	Method
Ingredients <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1/2 cup salt- 1 cup plain flour- 2 tbs cream of tartar- 1 cup water- 1 tbs oil- 1 tbs glycerine (optional)- Food colouring (optional)- Scented oil (optional)	Mix all ingredients together in a medium-sized saucepan. Stir over heat until dough is pliable. Allow to cool, and store in a well-sealed plastic bag or container. *Sensory fun such as glitter can also be added.

Play Dough Play

Making play dough can help kids;

- with their maths and measuring skills
- learn kitchen safety
- develop their upper limb strength (the dough gets tricky to stir!)
- follow instructions and sequencing of tasks
- encourages creativity

Playing with play dough;

- allows kids to practice their fine motor skills
- stimulates their tactile (touch) senses
- encourages creativity
- can be a calming activity
- promotes hand-eye coordination

Play dough activity ideas;

- Roll play dough snakes and make the letters of the alphabet
- use toothpicks to add quills on the echidna, add and take some away to practice maths
- use scissors to cut the play dough to practice scissor skills
- play play dough Pictionary and have others guess what you've made

Next week in The OT Times, should I buy my child a weighted blanket?

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 over the next four years:

1. Provide opportunities for parent voice in the school in order to build a sense of dual-partnership



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2. Seek feedback from parents regarding school programs and practices
3. Encourage parent access and involvement in classroom program

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: Thursday 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/1FAIpQLSfFJg6FGfH6RyLYVoadA7jIX6PCT48Wd_je3ew01tbOXWyoaw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Hot Cross Buns Drive and Easter Egg Raffle

Get set for Easter with the P&F's Hot Cross Buns Drive and Easter Egg Raffle! Order your Hot Cross Buns with the form sent home last week and buy your tickets for our Easter Egg Raffle! We are accepting donations for the Easter Egg Raffle and they can be left at the office.

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!



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 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.

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.

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

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



Hop to it!

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



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,

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

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.</p> <p>Click here for Instructions: How to Book Online</p>

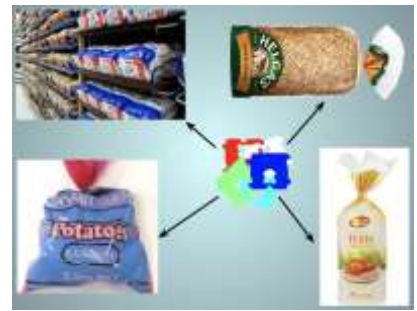
Please note: Children need to have received the sacrament of Reconciliation to be eligible to receive First Eucharist. If you do not live in the parish of St Alipius, please contact your own parish about the sacraments for your child. Due to the Covid restrictions of 2020, St Alipius parish has more 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.			
<div>CONFIRMATION</div> <div>RECONCILIATION</div> <div>EUCCHARIST</div>			
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
Reconciliation	Confirmation	Eucharist	Eucharist
Baptised Catholics in Year 4 or older	Children who are baptised Catholic in Year 3 and 4 or older	Those who have been CONFIRMED and have celebrated RECONCILIATION in Year 5	Children who have been CONFIRMED and have celebrated RECONCILIATION earlier this year in Year 4.
Parent Information Sessions St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 2 nd March, or WEDNESDAY 3 rd March	Parent Information Sessions St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 27 th April, or WEDNESDAY 28 th April	Parent Information Sessions St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 27 th July, or WEDNESDAY 28 th July	Parent Information Sessions St Alipius Hall 7.00pm TUESDAY 12 th October, or WEDNESDAY 13 th October
CELEBRATION DATES	CELEBRATION DATES	CELEBRATION DATES	CELEBRATION DATES
22 nd March Emmaus CPS 23 rd March St Alipius Primary 25 th March St Francis Xavier All liturgies begin at 6.30pm in St Alipius Church.	Confirmation will be celebrated during the first 2 weeks of May on week nights. Details to be confirmed.	28/29 August 4/5 and 11/12 September Eucharist will be celebrated during the 6.00pm, 9.00am and 10.30am mass.	Weekends of 6/7, 13/14 and 20/21 November 2021 Eucharist will be celebrated during the 6.00pm, 9.00am and 10.30am mass.

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 14th March 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

Gospel

Jn 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

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

To fully understand this week's gospel passage, it is important to take the first reading into consideration as well. The account from 2 Chronicles describes the way in which the people began to neglect their relationship with God. Despite prophets and messengers being sent to them, they turned their backs on God. At about this time the Israelites were conquered, the Temple in Jerusalem destroyed and the survivors taken into exile in Babylon. For many, this was seen as a punishment from God because of their neglectful and selfish behaviour. But the reading demonstrates God's infinite patience with humankind. God gives the people another chance and calls on them to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem. God is willing to wipe the slate clean and start afresh. It is in this context that we must understand the gospel passage. In yet another attempt to demonstrate love and forgiveness, God's only Son – the Word made Flesh – is sent into the world to lead the people from darkness to light. Despite the many, many attempts by God to demonstrate love and foster a relationship with humankind, the people have repeatedly rejected the relationship with God and preferred to live a life of selfishness and darkness. Yet we see through both of these readings the unquenchable nature of God who keeps giving humankind one more chance.

In our day to day relationships, it is true that we often seek to test the limits of the love that is expressed. Young people in particular often test the boundaries of their parents' love and the boundaries of others who care for them. It is often a test to reassure themselves of this love – will you still love me, even if I do this? Today's readings portray the people of God as adolescents constantly testing out the limits of God's love. In a remarkable act, God's own Son is sent into the world to die as a sign of the lengths to which God will go to assure humanity of the love that is theirs for the taking.

Have you thought? God in popular culture

Think for a moment of the last time you saw or heard a reference to God on a television program, in a song, or some other popular medium. Chances are, the reference was one of a judging, vengeful, punishing God. This sort of image plays particularly well with a modern audience. It's easier to dismiss God as irrelevant if we can paint God in that sort of image. TV sitcoms do it particularly well with thunderclaps, bolts of lightning and booming, disapproving voices from above. It's much harder to dismiss a God of love who will go to extremes to demonstrate that love.

Gospel Focus – Not to condemn ...

The gospel passage tells us that God's Son was not sent into the world to condemn it, but rather, 'so that through him the world might be saved'. It also tells us that whoever refuses to believe 'is already condemned'. God does not condemn the world, nor individuals within it. Indeed, God is absolutely determined to save the world. However, we do sometimes condemn ourselves. When we turn our back on love; when we hide from relationships; when we wallow in selfishness – we shut ourselves off from relationship with God and condemn ourselves. We only have to open our eyes to see the alternative!

Historical Context – Babylonian Exile

In the book of Leviticus (25:4), it is commanded that every seventh year, the land was to be allowed to have a 'Sabbath year' – no tilling soil, no planting, no harvesting. The people failed to observe this command and the prophet, Jeremiah, interprets the destruction of the Temple and exile into Babylon as God's opportunity to enforce the period of Sabbath rest for the land. The people were in exile in Babylon for 70 years, ending about 537 BCE when the Persian emperor, Cyrus, conquered the Babylonians and agreed to return the Israelites to their land. He also returned to them all of the treasures looted from the Temple so that it may be rebuilt.

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

- Q. Why might the Israelites have turned away from God in the time before the coming of Jesus?
- Q. In what way did Jesus coming into the world bring 'light' to the darkness?
- Q. In what ways have you sometimes 'tested the boundaries' with those who care about you?
- Q. How might you reassure those you love that you do love them?

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



National Day of Action against violence and bullying

This week we are raising awareness about Bullying through a variety of activities. The National Day of Action against violence and bullying is Friday 19th March and our Year 4 PB class will present some information and strategies on this topic to all the children through their assembly.

If you are interested, the Bullying No Way! website has many terrific resources, facts and information. <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/>

I have attached a poster which presents information about what we know about bullying, effective practices, positive teacher-student relationships and positive family relationships. This information is vital for us to know about Bullying. I hope you find it very worthwhile.



Happy Days,

Jane Clark

Wellbeing Leader

Physical Education News



Senior School Sports @ SFX

The countdown is on until we conduct our Year 3 - 6 Athletics Day at Llanberris Reserve. The day promises to be full of fun, great competition and team spirit.

Please note that students are to be dropped off at the venue with the day to begin at 9:15am, and picked up from the venue from 2:40pm. More information can be found on the Operoo note sent out last week.

I have been informed that Primary School Netball competitions for Year 3/4's and 5/6's on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons will begin in May. Please contact me if your child would like to be involved.

Calendar Events 2021

Term 1

- Monday 22nd March - Middle-Senior Athletics Day @ Llanberris Athletics Reserve

Term 2

- Friday 23rd April - Catholic Primary Schools Cross Country @ Fed Uni
- Friday 7th May - Catholic Primary Schools Netball (Girls & Mixed)
- Friday 7th May - Catholic Primary Schools Soccer (Boys, Girls & Mixed)
- Friday 21st May - Catholic Primary School Football @ St Pat's College

Have a tremendous week everyone.

Shaun Carroll

Sports Co-ordinator

Uniform Shop Update

NEWS from the Uniform Shop:

- EFTPOS AVAILABLE in the Uniform Shop
- POP up shop will be happening again in the undercover area on Friday 26th March 2:45 to 3:30 all uniforms for sale \$5 and \$10

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 \$55
- Swim hats available \$10

Price List & Order Form

The price list and order form is downloadable from the schoolbag app.

Orders **with full payment** 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

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

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

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