



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 31st May 2021
Term 2 Week 7

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2021

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Key Dates

Dear Parents and Families,

Term 2

April 19 – June 25

Term 2 Week 7

Thursday 3rd June

Year 3 Camp – Sunnystones

POSTPONED

Friday 4th June

School Assembly - Year FTW

POSTPONED

Year 3 Camp – Sunnystones

Term 2 Week 8

Friday 11th June

School Assembly Year – 6JF

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

School Assembly - Year 4BL

Sunday 24th June

School Working Bee

Term 2 Week 10

Friday 25th June

Last Day of Term 2
School Assembly Year - 3CP
Casual Dress Day

The current **7 - Day Circuit Breaker Lockdown** is again extremely unsettling and frustrating for all and I feel it is important to explain the position that St. Francis Xavier has taken in supporting our community.

The health and safety of our staff and children is our paramount concern. In the context of an international pandemic; however, these considerations are much more complex.

St. Francis Xavier relies on the advice from the Victorian Government, who in consultation with their experts, are qualified to assess the evidence, weigh up conflicting opinions and make recommendations. I also acknowledges the guidance provided from the Catholic Education Commission Victoria. Based on advice from these sources, and in cooperation with the Catholic Education Ballarat, St. Francis Xavier remains closed until Friday 4th June unless we are notified to the contrary. We will continue to update you with information and advice in a timely and accurate way once we receive official communication.

Our school will seek to minimise the impact on student learning as much as possible with excellent preparation for online learning and for study at home, We will continue to try to stay positive and look for the new opportunities and different ways of living and working that may arise.

I will continue to provide regular updates as new information comes to hand.

Connected Learning Community

In relation to ongoing teaching and learning, the School will again make use of the Seesaw App for delivery of lesson content in the case of a school shutdown. This allows for activities to be communicated to parents and children, working on the assumption that staff and children have Wi-Fi access at home.

Staff have been working hard to furnish the Connected Learning Community (CLC) and to provide meaningful home learning experiences. It is an expectation that learning remains available to students in the event of school closure as part of all students' entitlement to access the Victorian Curriculum.

Please find attached 2 documents that outline our St. Francis Xavier Connected Learning Community and the method/platform that we will use to provide our children with meaningful learning experiences at home.

1. SFX Connected Learning Community (CLC) Letter to Parents
2. SFX Tips to Support Home Learning for Families

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

Term 3
July 12– Sept 17

Term 3 Week 1

Monday 12th July
First Day of Term 3

Tuesday 13th July
School Board Meeting

Friday 16th July
Term 3 Liturgy

Term 3 Week 2

Friday 23rd July
School Assembly – Year 2AH

Term 3 Week 3

Wednesday 28th July
Finance Committee Meeting

Friday 30th July
Causal Dress Day
School Assembly – Year
1MM

Term 3 Week 4

Monday 2nd August
Foundation 100 Days of
School

Tuesday 3rd August
P & F Committee Meeting

Term 3 Week 5

Tuesday 10th August
School Board Meeting

Friday 13th August
Student Free Day

Term 3 Week 6

Friday 20th August
School Assembly – Year FSM

Term 3 Week 7

Friday 27th August
Causal Dress Day
School Assembly – Year FND

Term 3 Week 8

Friday 3rd September
Father's Day Liturgy

Term 3 Week 9

Tuesday 7th September

Hygiene

The School has again engaged our cleaning contractors to ensure that areas such as classrooms and common areas are cleaned thoroughly and regularly. Hand sanitising stations and soap dispensers have been topped up around the School. Assemblies continue to be conducted stressing the importance of strong hygiene practices.

Message from The School Counsellor

It is normal for your child to be feeling concerned and anxious given the events over the past week / year! Please take advantage of the wonderful resources that have been shared with you by the school about supporting your family and your mental health.

You can best help your children by modelling healthy, proactive coping skills and self-care strategies when faced with adversity. As humans we thrive on structure, familiarity, comfort and predictability- think about how we can build these into our home routines over the coming weeks.

If you would like to contact me regarding your child, I will be available from 9-12 noon on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week. You can phone the school office or email me on cmeneely@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Education Week

Last week at St Francis Xavier and throughout the Ballarat Diocese we celebrated Catholic Education Week with the theme "Faith in the Future ", and recognised and celebrated 200 Years of Catholic Education in Australia.

You have entrusted your precious children to us at St Francis Xavier and believe that we will nurture and educate them in a holistic way for the time they are with us. It is a very fitting time to revisit our vision and mission for our school as we use the prompt of Catholic Education Week to reflect on what we hold dear and on what makes our school a unique Catholic School!

Our School Vision

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

Our School Mission

Through our ardent and all-encompassing Mercy work at St Francis Xavier Primary School, we will engender a passion for learning, respect and an ability to live in harmony with God's creation.

Charged with the ministry of our vision statement we are committed to the following core values:

1. Mercy
2. Respect
3. Compassion
4. Excellence
5. Justice

Central to the mission of St. Francis Xavier Primary School is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

Parent - Teacher Partnerships

Please find attached the second of six interesting documents where teachers reveal six rules for parents to help their children get the most out of school.

- Attached: *PTP Rule 3 -Partner With Your Child's Teacher.pdf*

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P & F Committee Meeting
Student Led Conferences

Occupational Therapist - Brittany Curtain

Wednesday 8th September
Student Led Conferences



Please see below the Firth Edition of The OT Times

Friday 10th September
School Assembly – Year 5MA

Brittany Curtain
Occupational Therapist

Sunday 12th September
School Working Bee

Term 3 Week 10

Monday 13th September
School Review 2021

Tuesday 14th September
School Board Meeting

Wednesday 15th September
Student Led Conferences

Friday 17th September
School Assembly – Year 4CJ
Last Day of Term 3

Term 4
Oct 4 – Dec 16

Term 4 Week 1

Monday 4th October
First Day of Term 4

Tuesday 5th October
P & F Committee Meeting

Friday 8th October
Term 4 Prayer – Celebration
of Mercy

Term 4 Week 2

Tuesday 12th October
School Board Meeting

Term 4 Week 3

Term 4 Week 4

Wednesday 27th October
Year 4 Camp

Friday 29th October
Casual Dress Day

Term 4 Week 5

Monday 1st November
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 2nd November
P & F Committee Meeting

Term 4 Week 6

Monday 8th November

THE OT TIMES
EDITION 5

HAND AND FINGER STRENGTH!

Hand and finger strength is important as it is required for many everyday activities such as doing up buttons and zips, climbing monkey bars or cutting up a piece of steak at mealtimes. It also helps to develop the endurance to complete activities such as writing a full page.

Here are some activities kids can do at home to work on their hand strength that doesn't require special equipment or too much time or effort.

- Play with water toys that require squeezing.
- Squeeze out a sponge before wiping down the kitchen table or bench.
- Use a spray bottle to water plants.
- Get dressed and undressed by yourself.
- Carry shopping bags.
- Cooking – mixing, sifting, kneading or use a rolling pin or cutters.
- Peel, grate and cut up fruit or vegetables. Start with easier to cut foods such as bananas or cucumbers and build up to harder foods such as carrots or potatoes.

KWS Corner!

Wishing all mums and special people a very happy Mother's Day!

Flat hand taps the side of the head twice.

Mum

With both hands flat, palms backwards, move hands upwards in an arc from opposite side to above shoulder.

Day

Continued Arrangements for End of the School Day Pick-Up

Please note that modified arrangements for End of the School Day Pick – Up will continue in Term 2. With the construction of the new School Building beginning over the school holidays approximately 20 staff car parks have been lost and will require some staff to park on Fortune Street until our temporary car park is constructed.

Please see the table below for changed pick up arrangements that continue.

	3:00pm – 3:10pm	3:10:pm – 3:20pm	3:20pm onwards
	Children with Surnames beginning...		
Week 7 to Week 9	Q - Z	A - G	H - P
Monday 31 st May to Friday 18 th June	Q - Z	A - G	H - P

Thank you to everyone for your continued co-operation and understanding!

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Year 5 Camp - Kangarooobie

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.

Tuesday 9th November
School Board Meeting

Friday 12th November
Public Holiday – Ballarat Show Day

Term 4 Week 7

Term 4 Week 8

Friday 26th November
Casual Dress Day

Term 4 Week 9

Tuesday 30th November
SFX Orientation
Year 6 Transition

Friday 3rd December
St. Francis Xavier Feast Day

Term 4 Week 10

Thursday 9th December
Year 6 Thanksgiving and Graduation

Friday 10th December
Foundation Nativity

Term 4 Week 11

Tuesday 14th December
School Board Meeting

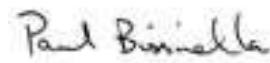
Thursday 16th December
Last Day of Term 4

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

Week	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1			Year 5 MH 16.07.21	
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	School Athletics Sports Y 3 -6	Year 2 GH 29.10.21
5		Foundation EH 21.05.21	Student Free Day	
6	Year 6 CC 05.03.21	28.05.21	Foundation SM 20.08.21	Ballarat Show Day
7	Year 5 MM 12.03.21	Foundation TW 04.06.21	Foundation ND 27.08.21	Year 1 GJ 19.11.21
8	Year 4 PB 19.03.21	Year 6 JF 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				

Have a great week!

Yours sincerely,



Paul Bissinella
Principal

Catherine McAuley

The blessing of unity still dwells amongst us and oh what a blessing, it should make all else pass into nothing....This is the spirit of the Order, indeed the true spirit of Mercy flowing on us...

Letter to Elizabeth Moore Easter Monday, 1841



Confirmation News

We offer sincere congratulations to those children from the parish of St Alipius who have received the sacrament of Confirmation in the past two weeks.

Due to the **7 - Day Circuit Breaker Lockdown** Confirmation this week is cancelled. The Parish Office will be closed but contactable by email.

Please direct all sacrament questions and requests to Bronwyn Ballesty in the Parish Office on 53326611 or via email on ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au . The office is staffed Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 10:00 and 3:00.

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 30th May 2021

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY YEAR B

Gospel

Mt 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Gospel Reflection

The Easter season celebrates some of the most important events and beliefs in Christian tradition. In the last seven weeks, we have remembered Jesus' Last Supper with his friends (regarded as the institution or establishment of the Eucharist); Jesus' death on the cross; the discovery of the empty tomb on Easter Sunday; the appearances of the Risen Lord to his disciples; the Ascension into heaven; and finally, the Holy Spirit filling the disciples at Pentecost. They are events that have shaped Christian belief for nearly 2,000 years. They provide the basis of beliefs and teachings such as: Christ present in the Eucharist; the resurrection of Jesus and the hope of resurrection for all people; the divinity of Jesus; and the ongoing action

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of the Holy Spirit in the world. The period of Easter-Pentecost celebrates these truly momentous events, beliefs and teachings.

Almost to round off this extraordinary focus on Christian beliefs and teachings, the Church this week celebrates the central doctrine of Christian faith: the Trinity. The belief in the Trinity is the belief that there are three 'persons' in the one Godhead: Father; Son; and Holy Spirit. The understanding and articulation of this doctrine occurred over time and was not until well after the writing of the gospels and other New Testament letters. Consequently, there are no specific scriptural passages that identify explicitly the doctrine of the Trinity. This week's gospel passage, the commissioning of the disciples from the Gospel of Matthew is perhaps the closest any New Testament writer comes to an expression of the Trinity when Jesus instructs the disciples to baptise 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'.

Historical Context – I believe

The word 'Trinity' does not appear anywhere in the New Testament although one can certainly see the beginnings of ideas about a Trinitarian God. It was not until 325, at the Council of Nicea, that the doctrine of the trinity was established as being orthodox teaching. This council sought to officially define the relationship between the Father and the Son as a response to the arguments of Arius (later known as Arian heresy). The statement of beliefs developed by this council in 325 is the Creed (credo = I believe) that is used in Catholic churches around the world today.

Have you thought? Mystery

I always thought that to describe the Trinity as a 'mystery' was a bit of a 'cop out' for not offering a decent explanation. However, a theological 'mystery' is defined as something that not only are we incapable of discovering except through divine revelation, but that even when its truth has been fully revealed, we are incapable of fully grasping it. Our understanding can never be any more than partial, even when we fully accept it. This is a concept with which our world struggles – that there is something that is not fully able to be known but it's OK not to fully understand it.

Living the Gospel – The Sign of the Cross

Jesus' instruction that the disciples go out to all the nations and baptise them 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' is an instruction that is still being carried on today. Those precise words are used by the priest at every baptism. They are also the words used in the sign of the cross – whether that is a personal, private blessing of oneself or a blessing of a group as in the introductory and dismissal rites as part of a Eucharistic celebration. When we make the sign of the cross we use the words of Jesus.

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

- Q. What is the belief about God that is expressed as 'Trinity'?
- Q. What confusion can be caused by the belief in the Trinity?
- Q. In what ways is this Sunday good 'timing' for a celebration of Trinity Sunday?
- Q. How might Christianity be changed if we did not accept the three-fold nature of God?
- Q. What are some images that have been used to describe the Trinity?

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.



National Reconciliation Week

Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021, More than a Word Reconciliation Takes Action. It urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action.

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians - as individuals, families, communities, organisations and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

National Reconciliation Week will take place from 27 May - 3 June.



On Time, Every Day

Parents /Carers can maximise their child's chance of future success just by making sure they come to school on time, every day and save absences for genuine illness and poor health. It is something that the Staff here at St Francis Xavier are keen to promote. Enjoy the easy to read article written by Michael Grose.

This Friday is a casual dress day raising much needed funds for St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal <https://www.vinnies.org.au/>

Trading and Interest groups

Trading and Interest groups are widely supported by our children here at St. Francis Xavier on a Wednesday. Enjoy the photos.



Term 2 First break activities

Children are invited to be a part of first break activities.

- **Wednesday : Trading/ Collecting/ Interest Groups - (including Chess Club)**
- **Thursday : Teddy Bear picnic and Reading time**
- **Friday : Meditation**

The attached article is about family rituals? Do you have any family rituals? I hope you enjoy reading the attached article.

Happy Days and Happy Catholic Education Week.

Jane Clark

Wellbeing Leader



Divisional Sport Tournaments

Wednesday 9th June is the next date on the sporting calendar that we are looking forward to. This date is scheduled for Divisional Sport tournaments. We have 3 events that we have qualified for - girls netball, girls football and boys soccer.

I will get the names of the girls interested in being part of the girls football team when we return to school

Calendar Events 2021

Term 2

- Monday 31st May - Regional Cross Country - Warrnambool
- Wednesday 9th June - Eureka Division Netball tournament - C.E. Brown Reserve
- Wednesday 9 June - Eureka Division Football tournament (girls) - C.E. Brown Reserve
- Wednesday 9th June - Eureka Division Soccer tournament - Morshead Park

Could any students that still have a SXF singlet return them to me please. Thank you.

Have a fantastic 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

Parish of St Alipius and Ss Peter & Paul - RCIA Process

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic?

An evening for those interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith will be held on Wednesday 19th May from 6.30 - 7.30pm in the St Alipius Hall, Victoria St (next to the church).

For more information please contact St Alipius Parish on 5332 6611.



JUNE-JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Monday 28th of June to Friday the 9th of July 2021

Fully supervised, covid-safe, fun-filled days of sports & activities that kids love!
(excluding weekends)

Eastwood Leisure Centre, Ballarat

8am to 5pm each day

Kinder to Grade 6, boys & girls

\$50 per day (\$45 per day for 5+ days)

Enrol online www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat or Contact Dom on 0417 967 621

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

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