



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 21st June 2021
Term 2 Week 10

PO Box 2027
Ballarat East VIC 3354
Phone: 5331 6311
Fax: 5331 8337

Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

2021

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Key Dates

Dear Parents and Families,

Term 2

April 19 – June 25

As we come to the end of Term 2, we acknowledge the efforts and work of our school community; the children, staff, carers, parents and families. We have had a wonderful term despite the enforced changed school arrangements due to COVID 19. We appreciate the wonderful support our staff received again during these extraordinary times!

Term 2 Week 10

Friday 25th June

Last Day of Term 2

School Assembly Year - 3CP

Casual Dress Day

Please Note:

- School finishes for the term this **Friday 25th June at 2:20pm**.
- **Buses** will run as normal but an hour earlier e.g., 2:20pm.
- School **resumes** for Term 3 on Monday 12th July at 8:55am.
- **Friday pick up arrangements** will be staggered as per the current process but just an hour earlier. Please see table below for staggered times and family allocations.

Term 3

July 12– Sept 17

School Reports – Mid Year

Your child's School Report will be available for download from the PAM site this Friday 25th June. My thanks to staff who have completed thorough and informative reports as this is a time consuming and demanding task. We hope these together with the Term 3 Student Led Conferences and Assessment Tasks on SeeSaw form a comprehensive summary of your child's progress to date and direction for future learning and development that we equally pursue.

Term 3 Week 1

Monday 12th July

First Day of Term 3

Tuesday 13th July

School Board Meeting

Friday 16th July

Term 3 Liturgy

PAM is accessible through the school's website (see below) and provides parents with information on a range of areas related to their child's education, including attendance and Academic Reports.

Term 3 Week 2

Friday 23rd July

School Assembly – Year 2AH

PAM can be accessed via the school's homepage:

Term 3 Week 3

Wednesday 28th July

Finance Committee Meeting

<https://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/for-parents/pam/>

Friday 30th July

Causal Dress Day

School Assembly – Year

1MM

or by going directly to the PAM site -

<https://pam.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/Login/Default.aspx>

Term 3 Week 4

Monday 2nd August

Foundation 100 Days of

School

We suggest you save a copy of your child's report on your device for future reference. A printed copy can be obtained at the school should it be required.

Unique usernames and passwords have been sent home to each family which will give you access to PAM and allow you to view information related to your child's progress. Please be aware that if you do change your password the school will not have a record of this. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office should you have any further questions.



Term 3 Week 5

Tuesday 3rd August

P & F Committee Meeting

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

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
P & F Committee Meeting
Student Led Conferences

Wednesday 8th September
Student Led Conferences

Friday 10th September
School Assembly – Year 5MA

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

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)



Over the last few weeks, you will have read in this Newsletter about the National Consistent Collection Of Data (NCCD). NCCD being a collection that counts:

1. the number of students receiving an adjustment or ‘help’ due to disability
2. the levels of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other Students, and we provide this information to education authorities

What Are The Benefits Of The NCCD For Students?

The information collected by the NCCD helps teachers, principals, education authorities and governments to better support students with disability at school.

The NCCD encourages schools to review their learning and support systems and processes. This helps schools to continually improve education outcomes for all students.

What Must Schools Do For Students With Disability?

All students have the right to a quality learning experience at school.

Students with disability must be able to take part in education without discrimination and on the same basis as other students. To ensure this, schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed for students with disability. Educators, students, parents, carers and others (eg health professionals) must work together to ensure that students with disability can take part in education.

The **Disability Discrimination Act 1992** and the **Disability Standards for Education 2005** describe schools’ responsibilities.

Who is Included in The NCCD?

The definition of disability for the NCCD is based on the broad definition under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

The following students are examples of those who may be included in the NCCD if they need monitoring and adjustments:

- students with learning difficulties (such as those with a specific learning disorder in reading)
- students with a social/emotional disability (such as those diagnosed with an anxiety disorder or those with a diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder)

Pete Mullane

Deputy Principal – Learning Diversity

Continued Arrangements for End of the School Day Pick-Up

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 10 Monday 31 st May to Friday 25 th June	Q - Z	A - G	H - P

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

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
Year 5 Camp - Kangarooobie

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

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Once again, we will be supporting the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. More families than ever will face hardship this winter with the ever-increasing cost of living. For the month of June, we are asking that families donate money that can be used to support needy families. Please note that we are holding a **Casual Dress Fundraiser** on Friday 25th June.

Occupational Therapist - Brittany Curtain



Please see below the latest Edition of The OT Times

Brittany Curtain
Occupational Therapist



THE OT TIMES
EDITION 6

Motor Pathways and Fine Motor Tasks

We have motor pathways for all the automatic movements we make. Building strong motor pathway means our bodies will automatically help us do the action without having to think about it and will help us get quicker at doing things. This is especially important for fine motor tasks.

We have motor pathways for driving a manual car, typing on a keyboard or phone as well as writing too. Mums and Dads, I bet if I gave you an old phone (think Nokia 3315) you could probably still write a text message on the telephone keyboard. This is because you developed a motor pathway for texting on those style of keyboards.

While we are learning we have to think about it a lot more and it will take more time but as we build and strength the motor pathways it will get faster. It is important to try and create correct motor pathways otherwise you'll find your child is making the same mistakes consistently. The more you practice the better and stronger my motor pathways will get. Activities like rainbow writing with lots of repetition can help build motor pathways for letter formation.

Parent - Teacher Partnerships

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

Important messages for parents from teachers

Today's teachers have provided the parents of children attending preschool and school with some valuable insights into how they can contribute more effectively to their children's education.

Features surveyed:

In response to an opinion survey conducted by NEiTA (National Excellence in Teaching Awards) and the Australian Scholarships Group (ASG), award-winning teachers speak openly about learning, teaching, and parent involvement in their children's education.

Insights gained:

Teachers offer insights into the roles parents need to play to help their children make the best of their abilities. Most of all, teachers want parents to work in partnership with them.

Attached: *PTP Rule 6 - Support Your Child's Teacher and School.pdf*

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

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.

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)

Lost Property

The buckets are once again full of UNAMED items. If your child has lost a jumper or tracksuit pants, please contact the office to retrieve these items. The left-over articles are now being washed and will be put into the second-hand clothing pool.

Uniform Shop Sales during Term 2

For the time being and until further notice the Uniform Shop is CLOSED and will only accept orders submitted by completing the attached order form and emailing back to office@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au or by dropping it into the school office.

Payment can be made by filling out your credit card details on the order form or by cash. Please indicate your preferred payment method on the order form.

Prayers for Families

We pray first for our own families and for those who support families.

We pray for families in our community and in the world who are experiencing times of war, famine, drought and poverty.

We pray for leaders in our Church and community, that they will be advocates of peace and justice for the powerless in our society.

We pray for ourselves, that we will have the courage and wisdom to reach out to others and strengthen families and community.

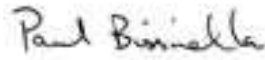
God of all goodness, we give thanks to you for hearing our prayers through Christ, our Lord Amen.



Enjoy the last week of term and, when the holiday finally comes, may it be a time of peace, blessings and renewal for you all.

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

Yours sincerely,



Paul Bissinella
Principal

Catherine McAuley

How rapidly the days, weeks, and months are passing. Another month ended, that seemed but a few days begun. If we have not forfeited the friendship of almighty God, but have been trying to love Him more and more, and to serve Him faithfully, they were blessed days for us.

Letter to de Sales White February 28, 1841

Religious Education News



Confirmation News

After a mighty effort of 8 Confirmation ceremonies over four days, Father Jorge has cleared the backlog of students seeking Confirmation from St Alipius Parish! The recent COVID closures and revised density limits put our Confirmation hopes in doubt, but thanks to the creative ideas of Bron Ballesty, parish coordinator, and Fr Jorge, this mighty task was completed. From St Francis Xavier school, almost 150 students were confirmed across the 13 ceremonies, joining with 350 young people from other schools in the parish. We congratulate all our students and their families and thank them for their endless patience during these trying times.

First Eucharist News

In Term 3, First Eucharist will be celebrated (COVID willing) for Year 5 students and their siblings in Year 4. This program will follow the same format as Confirmation this year.

All interested families need to attend an **Enrolment/Information evening**. There will be two **Parent/Carer & Student workshops**, attendance at parish mass and finally the celebration of First Eucharist. All these activities are compulsory for families who wish their young people to receive Eucharist. Please note that the sacrament of **Reconciliation** must have been received prior to **First Eucharist**.

The **Eucharist** program will be coordinated through the parish, not the school. Online bookings will be required for all activities. Information about the program and enrolment forms will be distributed early next term.

The First Eucharist masses will be held on Saturday mornings beginning at 10:00am. This is once again due to COVID density limits. Each child will be able to have four guests. Families can select any mass. Bookings will open after the Enrolment/Information meeting.

The dates are:

- 14th August
- 21st August
- 28th August
- 4th September
- 11th September

In Term 4, **First Eucharist** will be celebrated for students in Year 4 and their siblings in **Year 5** still to receive Eucharist. More information about this program will be available later next term.

Please direct all sacrament inquiries and requests (including certificates) to Bronwyn Ballesty in the parish office on 53326611 or via email on ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au The office is staffed Tuesday, Thursday, Friday **between 10:00 and 3:00.**

Bernadette Luckman
Religious Education Leader

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Gospel

Mk 4:35-41

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Gospel Reflection

Having returned to the liturgical period of Ordinary Time and with it the sequential readings from the Gospel of Mark (for a few weeks at least), we can appreciate some of the literary structure and devices that were used by the gospel writer. Throughout this particular gospel, the writer has used a framing device – sometimes known as the Markan sandwich – to bracket sections of the gospel. By using these framing stories, the gospel writer draws greater attention to the substance of the 'sandwich' – what has been framed. This week's reading is the beginning of such a framed section that highlights some of the great miracles performed by Jesus but also draws attention to the disciples' lack of understanding about who Jesus really is. The section that runs from 4:35 to 8:21 is framed by two rhetorical questions: 'Who can this be?' asked by the disciples; and 'Do you still not understand?' asked by Jesus (8:21).

This week's passage includes one of the great nature miracles of Jesus – the calming of the storm. Some scripture scholars suggest that this story is a construction by the gospel writer to speak directly to the community for whom this gospel was written. The community of the gospel of Mark were consumed with doubt and surrounded by evidence of the world as they knew it falling apart. They were living the metaphor captured in the story: a boat adrift on the sea in the midst of an almighty storm. The cry of the disciples was the cry of the Christian community: 'Master, do you not care?' They felt that God did not care about the turmoil that surrounded them. The gospel writer reassures them that God does care about their struggle but at the same time chastens them for their lack of faith!

Scriptural context – Miracle stories

The miracle stories of the three synoptic gospels (Mark, Matthew and Luke) generally fall into four categories of miracle: healing miracles (healing of physical ailments and disease); exorcism miracles (driving out evil spirits – often associated with a form of healing); resuscitation miracles (bringing people back to life); and nature miracles (Jesus appears to contradict the laws of nature – walking on water, multiplying food and calming a storm). Each type of miracle story tends to have its own literary structure and being able to recognise the type of miracle being described assists the interpretation of the gospel account.

Living the Gospel – Do you not care?

The experience of the disciples as their boat was tossed about the sea by the powerful storm may sound like a familiar situation. At times in life we may feel that we have lost control of our situation and we are being blown from one 'disaster' to the next. At such times, we may find ourselves asking the question that the disciples asked of Jesus, 'Master, do you not

care?' Jesus' reply to the disciples suggests that had they been calm and trusted in the slow work of God then they would have made it through the storm unharmed.

Historical Context – Mark's audience

Scripture scholars are now convinced that the Gospel of Mark was the first of the four New Testament gospels to be written. It is probable that it was written at about 70–75 C.E. – approximately 40 years after the death of Jesus. The intended community was probably based in or around Rome and so were mostly gentile (non-Jewish) Christians. The destruction of the Jerusalem Temple by Roman forces in 70 C.E. was one of the signs that led this community to believe that the world was coming to an end and that the Messiah was about to return.

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

- Q. What comparison is being made between the kingdom of God and the seed growing night and day?
- Q. What is a literal interpretation of the parable of the mustard seed?
- Q. How does knowing some of the social context of a passage help in understanding and interpreting?
- Q. Why do you think Jesus so often taught through parables?
- Q. Why might Jesus have avoided a direct description of the kingdom of God?

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.

Wellbeing News



Respectful Relationships in Term 3

In our Respectful Relationships program for Term 3 children will be discovering more about **POSITIVE COPING**.

Positive self-talk is a key strategy for coping with negative thoughts, emotions, and events. Resilience research shows that use of positive self-talk is associated with greater persistence in the face of challenge, whereas negative self-talk is associated with higher levels of distress, depression and anxiety. Positive self-talk can be learnt or strengthened through practice.



With holidays nearly here the attached article written by Michael Grose, may give some terrific insights for Parents/Carers over the school holidays.

Encourage kids to occupy themselves

A child's ability to fill in their own time and cope with moments of boredom are important independence skills to develop. Children have less practise at keeping themselves occupied than those of past generations. You have many jobs as a parent/carer, but constantly entertaining your child should not be one of them.

Term 2 First break activities - recommence again this week.

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**

Happy Days and Happy Holidays!

Jane Clark

Wellbeing Leader

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



Division Winter Sports Tournaments - NEW DATE

The Division Winter Sports Tournaments that were to be held this term have been postponed until Term 3. The new date for this is Wednesday 21st July.

2021 Athletics Day - Rescheduled

Following the cancellation of our Year 3-6 Athletics Day earlier this year, we are excited to inform you that we have a new date. Our Athletics day will now be held on Friday August 6th. Hopefully the weather will be friendlier this time and the students can have a great day! More details will be provided early next term.

Calendar Events 2021

Term 3

- Thursday 15th July - Regional Cross Country - Warrnambool (date TBC)
- Wednesday 21st July - Eureka Division Netball tournament (girls) - C.E. Brown Reserve
- Wednesday 21st July - Eureka Division Football tournament (girls) - C.E. Brown Reserve
- Wednesday 21st July - Eureka Division Soccer tournament (boys) - Morshead Park
- Friday 6th August - Year 3-6 Athletics Day - Llanberris Reserve
- August 23/24/25 - Golf Clinics (Yr 4-6) - Mt Xavier Golf Club
- September 13-17 - Swimming Program (Yr 1,3,5) - Ballarat Aquatic Centre

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

Have a fantastic week, and a wonderful break everyone.

Shaun Carroll
Sports Co-ordinator

Community News



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

Term 2

Week 9: Justice

<u>Year levels</u>	<u>Award recipients</u>
FTW	Hamish Nicholls & Ted Nunn
FND	Malo Hansen & Eden Brady-Walker
FEH	Casey Hartup & Jagger Van Langevelde
FSM	Kade Swayn and Addilyn Simpson
1RC	Bridie Millington and Alexis Toohey
1MM	Gus Murray & Noah Rice
1GJ	Mollie Arnts & Olivia Farrell
2GH	Will McGregor & Harriet Locke
2AH	Tom Kierce and Alfie Sosinski
2BW	Riley Ponsonby & Amelia Sordello
3SB	Camp
3VG	Camp
3CP	Camp
4BL	Isaac Hatt and Jake Cheeseman
4CJ	Sophie Millington and Logan Warren
4PB	Mia Mahar and Jensen McCartin
5MM	Liam Patterson and Chelsea Klein
5MH	Xavier Ponsonby and Ryan Alford
5MMA	Nash Hutchinson and Lucy Cochrane
6CC	Carter Meneely and Angus Siemensma
6JF	Levi Hynes and Liam Riding
Japanese	Sibella Moore 1MM Maddison Ponsonby 6JF Grace Douglas 6JF Isabelle Thompson 6JF
Performing Arts	Edith Brennan FSM Miah Cooper 1GJ
Visual Arts	Lily Mason 6CC Amaeley Walker 1MM
Environmental Education	Eddie Anderson, FTW Mila Psimaris, 5MH

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

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