



# St Francis Xavier Primary School

## Newsletter

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
Term 1 Week 10

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## 2022 Key Dates

### Term 1 Week 10

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March**  
PAM Open for booking  
Student Led Conferences

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March**  
School Open Day #3

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April**  
Class Assembly – 5 MH

### Term 1 Week 11

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April**  
Year 1 Parent Information  
Reading Workshop

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April**  
P & F Meeting

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April**  
Class Assembly – 4 BW  
Last Day of Term 1

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### Term 2

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April to  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June  
= 9 Weeks

### Term 2 Week 1

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April**  
Public Holiday – ANZAC Day

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April**  
First Day of Term 2 for  
children

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April**  
Casual Dress Day  
Class Assembly – 3 ND

### *In the Land of the Wadawurrung People*

Dear Parents and Families,

It is hard to believe that there is only two weeks left until the Easter holidays. This year, the children came back to school after the summer holidays full of energy and enthusiasm. I commend them all for the way they have worked. The classrooms are places of exciting happenings and I praise the children for the wonderful learning that they have all been part of. Your teachers have quickly adjusted to new classes and new students, have completed their preliminary testing and analysing and certainly begun the work of ensuring that the children under their care are gaining the knowledge and experiences they need.

Our **Foundation children** are an awesome group of individuals. Although only 9 weeks have passed, these little ones are settled, organized and very clear about their place in the school, extremely caring of each other and very settled in the St. Francis Xavier school environment.

Congratulations to our **Year 6CC children** on organising a wonderful School Assembly last Friday. This Assembly is available for you to view on our School Facebook page.

### End of Term

Next Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April marks the end of our first term. School resumes for Term 2 on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 8.55am. **Please note that the School Term ends next Friday at 2:20pm.**

### Year 1 Parent Information Reading Workshop

We are pleased to announce the following opportunity for you to partner with us to ensure all our Year One children get the head start they deserve in becoming proficient readers in 2022.

### Year One Parent Information Reading Workshop

**Who:** All Year One Families are strongly encouraged to attend this event, even if they attended the Foundation Reading Workshop in 2021, as this presentation will include new information relevant to our Year One Reading Program

**When:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 @ 6.00pm

**What & Why:** The Year One Team will deliver a live online webinar to highlight the importance of your role as parents in supporting your Year One child/ren to develop proficiency as readers in 2022. The teachers will present key skills and strategies essential for reading growth in Year One to ensure all children continue to experience reading success and develop their reading independence.



*Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.*

### Term 2 Week 2

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**  
Student Led Conferences -  
Day 1

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May**  
Student Led Conferences -  
Day 2

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May**  
Mother's Day Celebration

### Term 2 Week 3

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May**  
2022 NAPLAN

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May**  
2022 NAPLAN  
Student Led Conferences -  
Day 3

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May**  
2022 NAPLAN

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May**  
Ballarat Catholic P.S.  
Football Carnival @ St Pat's  
Class Assembly – 2PB

### Term 2 Week 4

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**  
Year 6 Urban Camp

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May**  
Class Assembly – 1 SM

### Term 2 Week 5

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May**  
Casual Dress Day  
SFX Athletics Carnival -  
Llanberris Reserve  
Class Assembly – F EH

### Term 2 Week 6

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**  
Class Assembly – 6 JF

### Term 2 Week 7

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June**  
P & F Meeting

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June**  
Year 5 - 2022 Secondary  
Education Experience Day  
(SEED)

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June**  
Year 3 Camp – Sunnystones

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June**  
Year 3 Camp - Sunnystones

### Position Vacant at SFX – Learning Support Officer

Our Learning Diversity team at St Francis Xavier is expanding. We are looking for a Learning Support Officer to join our team, three days a week for approximately 14 hours. If you love working with children and are interested in supporting the many different ways children learn, please email a resume through to [jmohr@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jmohr@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au) by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Jayne Mohr – Deputy Principal: Learning Diversity**

### Mix n Mingle 2022

Thank you to all those that attended another great Mix n Mingle night. It was wonderful to see so many SFX parents and staff in attendance!

Thank you to our wonderful P & F Committee for organising a great night! Thank you to all our sponsors!

Congratulations to our Major Prize winner and all our other raffle winners!

Congratulations to **Dianne Hill** for winning our 2022 Tuition Raffle.



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

<https://www.facebook.com/sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au>

### My Schools Website – NAPLAN Results 2021

I encourage all parents and families to visit the Australian Government's My Schools website and view our schools 2021 NAPLAN results. St. Francis Xavier results in 2021 are excellent and reflect the great work going on in our classrooms. Please visit <http://www.myschool.edu.au>

### Foundation Enrolment 2023 - Open Day and School Alive Tours

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



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

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

**3. Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

*Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.*

Class Assembly – 5 MA

### Term 2 Week 8

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

Public Holiday – Queen’s  
Birthday

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

Year 2 Camp - Log Cabin  
Camp Creswick

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

Year 2 Camp - Log Cabin  
Camp Creswick

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

Casual Dress Day  
Class Assembly – 4AH

### Term 2 Week 9

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

Last Day of term 2 for  
Students

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

Student Free Day

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### **Term 3**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July to Friday  
16<sup>th</sup> September  
= 10 Weeks

### Term 3 Week 1

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July**

Class Assembly – 3 BL

### Term 3 Week 2

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

Class Assembly – 2 GH

### Term 3 Week 3

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July**

Class Assembly – 1 GJ

### Term 3 Week 4

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August**

Class Assembly – F TW

### Term 3 Week 5

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August**

Student Free Day

### Term 3 Week 6

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August**

Class Assembly – 6 ZA

### **Event Registration:**

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

### Foundation Enrolment 2023 – Existing Families

Enrolments are open for children of existing families who start Prep in 2023.

Parents of existing families who have a child to start in 2023 - please complete the form by clicking on the following link to submit a **City of Ballarat Catholic Primary School Expression of Interest Form**: [https://ceob.edu.au/2022-foundation-enrolments/Student-Led-Conferences at SFX](https://ceob.edu.au/2022-foundation-enrolments/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 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022**
2. **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022**
3. **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

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.*

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### Term 3 Week 7

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August  
Class Assembly – 5 OH

### Term 3 Week 8

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
Father's Day Celebration

### Term 3 Week 9

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September  
Class Assembly – 4 CP

### Term 3 Week 10

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September  
Class Assembly – 3 JV

*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 30<sup>th</sup> 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
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
  - 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

### COVID Safe Environment

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

### Beginning of the Day Drop Off

- Foundation (Prep) parents will be able to accompany their children to their classroom in the first week of school. We ask that the Foundation (Prep) parents drop their child at the entrance to the classroom and then leave in a prompt manner. On entry to the building Foundation parents must QR Code in.
- We continue to request that all other parents (Year 1 – 6) drop their children off in the undercover area and then exit the school in a prompt manner.

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### Term 4

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October to  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
= 11 Weeks

### Term 4 Week 1

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022  
First Day of Term 4 for  
Students

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October  
Class Assembly – 2 CJ

### Term 4 Week 2

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October  
Class Assembly – 1 EM

### Term 4 Week 3

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
Class Assembly – F JS

### Term 4 Week 4

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
Casual Dress Day  
Class Assembly – F MM

### Term 4 Week 5

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Student Free Day

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
Public Holiday – Melbourne  
Cup

### Term 4 Week 6

### Term 4 Week 7



**Term 4 Week 8**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November**  
Casual Dress Day

**Term 4 Week 9**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**  
St. Francis Xavier Feast Day

**Term 4 Week 10**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December**  
Foundation Nativity

**Term 4 Week 11**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
Last Day of Term 4 for  
Students

- Staff will be present in the undercover area from 8:30am to assist children with walking to their classrooms if required.

**End of the Day Dismissal**

Please see the table below for staggered pick up arrangements that continue at St. Francis Xavier.

|   |  |                         |                       |
|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|   | <b>3:00pm – 3:10pm</b>                     | <b>3:10:pm – 3:20pm</b> | <b>3:20pm onwards</b> |
|   | <b>Children with Surnames beginning...</b> |                         |                       |
| <b>Week 6 to Week 11</b><br><br>Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February<br>to Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>Q - Z</b>                               | <b>A - G</b>            | <b>H - P</b>          |

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**All other Calendar Dates for 2023 have been updated and can be accessed live on the Skoolbag App or by visiting the School Website**

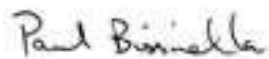
**School Assembly Dates 2022**

Due to the Specialist Timetable running from Monday to Thursday our School Assemblies will continue on Fridays in 2022 from 12:40pm to 1:10pm. **Due to COVID19 restrictions Assemblies will be live – streamed until we are able to gather back in the Gymnasium.** 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    |                              | <b>Year 3 ND</b><br>29.04.22     | <b>Year 3 BL</b><br>15.07.22     | <b>Year 3 JV</b><br>07.10.22       |
| 2    |                              | <b>Student Free Day</b>          | <b>Year 2 GH</b><br>22.07.22     | <b>Year 2 CJ</b><br>14.10.22       |
| 3    |                              | <b>Year 2 PB</b><br>13.05.22     | <b>Year 1 GJ</b><br>29.07.22     | <b>Year 1 EM</b><br>21.10.22       |
| 4    |                              | <b>Year 1 SM</b><br>20.05.22     | <b>Foundation TW</b><br>05.08.22 | <b>Foundation MM</b><br>28.10.22   |
| 5    |                              | <b>Foundation EH</b><br>27.05.22 | <b>Student Free Day</b>          |                                    |
| 6    |                              | <b>Year 6 JF</b><br>03.06.22     | <b>Year 6 ZA</b><br>19.08.22     |                                    |
| 7    |                              | <b>Year 5 MA</b><br>10.06.22     | <b>Year 5 OH</b><br>26.08.22     |                                    |
| 8    |                              | <b>Year 4 AH</b><br>17.06.22     | <b>Father's Day Liturgy</b>      |                                    |
| 9    | <b>Year 6 CC</b><br>25.03.22 | <b>Student Free Day</b>          | <b>Year 4 CP</b><br>09.09.22     | <b>St Francis Xavier Feast Day</b> |
| 10   | <b>Year 5 MH</b><br>01.04.22 |                                  | <b>Foundation JS</b><br>16.09.22 | <b>Foundation (Nativity)</b>       |
| 11   | <b>Year 4 BW</b><br>08.04.22 |                                  |                                  |                                    |

Have a great week!

Yours sincerely,



Paul Bissinella  
Principal

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### 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



### **Fundraising at St Francis Xavier - Why do we ask the students to share what they have?**

St Francis Xavier Primary School is a Catholic school and a Mercy school. Our Vision Statement says 'Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.' This means that we teach Catholic Christian values to our students. These are inspired by the behaviour of Jesus, who healed the sick, taught people, helped those in need and cared for all people no matter their nationality or religion. These are the values that Catherine McAuley also followed when she began the Sisters of Mercy in the 1800s.

The teachings of the Catholic Church on social justice issues are grounded in the Bible and the wisdom gathered from experience by the Christian community. Here is a summary of four of the Catholic Social Teachings that are most relevant for our casual day donations.

- Human dignity

All life is sacred, every person has inherent dignity and worth. Human rights and responsibilities are founded in this essential, shared human dignity.

- The common good

People have responsibility for one another in their shared life together, and are called to work for the common good of all. Catholic Christians must advocate for a just society in which all people, particularly the vulnerable and marginalised, are able to flourish and meet their needs.

- Solidarity

Humans are social by nature and depend on one another. We seek to stand in unity with each other, particularly those who are powerless or disadvantaged, and recognise each person's rights regardless of our differences.

- Preferential option for the poor

The needs of the socially disadvantaged and vulnerable are prioritised.

This week we will be raising money for Caritas (Project Compassion). Caritas are committed to work alongside the most vulnerable, and to address the imbalance of power by including the people affected in the decisions impacting their lives. They are inspired by the Gospel which finds its expression in Catholic Social Traditions. Find out more at

<https://www.caritas.org.au/>

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## Sacramental News

Congratulations to the St Francis Xavier students who will receive the sacrament of Eucharist for the first time through St Alipius parish this weekend. We wish them well and hope that they continue to welcome Jesus in their lives.

Please don't hesitate to contact the parish if you have any further questions.

Please direct all sacrament inquiries 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, Friday between 9:30am and 1:30pm.

## 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.*

*If you are seeking Baptism for your child, please call the St Alipius parish office on 53326611. If you wish your child to convert to Catholicism from another Christian faith, also call the parish office.*

Bernadette Luckman  
Religious Education Leader

## THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C

## Gospel

Lk 15:1-3. 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Your brother here was dead and has come to life.*

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his



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father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

## The Gospel of the Lord

### REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Today's gospel is perhaps the most famous of the parables that are unique to the Gospel of Luke. Sadly, what is often overlooked is the accusation aimed at Jesus that leads into the telling of this and two other shorter parables (the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin – Lk 15:4-10). The Pharisees and scribes accuse Jesus of what they regard to be abhorrent behaviour in relation to the purity code that dominated 1st Century life: not only does Jesus welcome sinners, he actually shares meals with them. This would be absolutely scandalous behaviour. Who you ate with was a reflection of who you were. To eat with sinners and the unclean effectively made you a sinner and unclean.

The three parables Jesus tells in response to this accusation are all about the lost being found and great rejoicing over the finding of the lost sheep, lost coin, or lost son. The Gospel of Luke – more so than any of the others – has a very strong focus on the message of Jesus being addressed to and welcomed by the outcasts and marginalised; in other words, the 'lost' of his society. Rather than being embarrassed by the accusation that he ate with sinners, Jesus would have worn those words like a badge of honour. It was exactly what his mission and ministry was all about – being one with the poor; the outcast; the sinful; the lost. The three parables, and particularly the parable of the lost son, demonstrate the joy of a loving God when one who was lost returns. The extravagant welcome the prodigal son receives from his father is symbolic of the extravagance of God's love that will be poured out for any 'sinner' who returns to God.

#### Historical Context – Customs and culture

The parable of the lost son is a fascinating study of Jewish culture and purity laws. The son could not have distanced himself more from Jewish custom. Firstly, he demanded his inheritance, effectively treating his father as dead. Secondly, he travels to a pagan land and then in despair finds himself feeding pigs – animals whose meat was forbidden to Jews. He knows that his actions have alienated him from his family and culture and yet when he returns, his father gives him a fine robe and a ring to wear – signs of a father claiming a son as his own.

#### Have you thought? The Prodigal

Because the only context in which most people ever hear the word prodigal is in relation to this parable, there is a common misunderstanding of the word. Because the parable is also referred to as the parable of the lost son, many people think prodigal means lost. However, to be prodigal means to be wastefully extravagant. When the son took his father's money he adopted a prodigal lifestyle. However, the irony of the story that is often lost is that the father too was prodigal in the extravagant welcome he gave. The father's extravagance echoes God's extravagant and abundant grace and love.

#### From the perspective of ... The Older Brother

We might have a little sympathy for the position of the older brother who has stuck by his father and done all that was required of him. All of a sudden his wayward brother returns and his father pulls out all the stops to welcome him home. The older brother is like the Pharisees and scribes who criticised Jesus for dining with sinners. They were sticklers for the rules and had no sense of compassion if it involved moving outside the requirements of Law. Like the older brother, they could not comprehend a God who could be extravagant in expressing his love.

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

- Q. Why were Jesus' actions of welcoming and dining with sinners so scandalous?
- Q. In what way is the parable a response to the accusation of the Pharisees and scribes?
- Q. Which aspects of the story could be regarded as 'unpredictable' or out of the ordinary expectation?
- Q. How might the original audience have expected the father to react to his son's homecoming?
- Q. When have you ever felt like one of the characters from this parable?

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.

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## Curriculum News



### **Book Fair to begin on 26/04.**

We are very excited to announce that the Book Fair is taking place once again 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. This will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

### **DETAILS about the Book Fair**

**Who:** Our wonderful P&F Committee will once again assist with the running of the Book Fair

**Where:** School Gymnasium

**When:**

- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May - Before school 8:30 am- 8:50 am and After School 3:00-3:45pm
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - Before school 8:30 am- 8:50 am, After School 3:00- 6:30pm
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May - Before school 8:30 am- 8:50 am, After School 3:00- 6:30pm
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May - Before school 8:30 am- 8:50 am and After School 3:00-3:45pm

Families are most welcome to visit the Book Fair at these times.

### **Colouring in Competition**

We are very excited to announce that a colouring in competition linked to the Book Fair underwater theme will take place very soon! The colouring in sheets will be attached to next week's newsletter and 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!

### **NAPLAN: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**

In May every year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This year we will administer the NAPLAN tests through the Online National Assessment Platform. The year three Writing test is the only test that will continue as a pen and paper assessment this year. More information regarding NAPLAN Online will be communicated via the newsletter in the coming weeks.

Have a great week.

Jane Clark

**Deputy Principal - Learning Enhancement**

## Wellbeing News



### **Friendships**

Welcome to Week 10!

It was fabulous to meet so many parents and have time to chat on a social level at the recent P&F Mix and Mingle.

It's always lovely to learn names for faces and be able to connect children to family members- I hope those of you who made it had a fabulous night too!

Friendships matter, especially as a parent. Having supportive friends is associated with higher life satisfaction, being happier and better physical and mental health. Taking time out for yourself from the busy job of parenting is so important for wellbeing and self-care.

Having friendships with other parents to talk to about joys and challenges of child raising can be a wonderful support- friends offer shared experiences and understanding. Connecting with other parents give us a chance to normalise the “ages and stages” with those who are also experiencing it. These relationships can help you maintain balance in your life, encourage you and give you a different perspective on things. These friendships don’t have to be “soul-level deep”- sometimes they simply make us feel in the loop and part of a larger community.

Attached is an Insight article about parenting styles and navigating the right approach for your family. It's a bit like asking if you are a dog or a cat person- there are no right or wrong answers, just personal preference. For the record, it’s dogs all the way for me!

Christine Meneely  
**Wellbeing Leader**

### **Physical Education News**



#### **Netball**

Pat Darroch Primary School Netball Competition. Please see the Operoo note for more details.

#### **Swimming Program**

Year 6 will participate in a swimming program in Term 2, Year 1 & 3 at the end of Term 3, and Year 2, 4 & 5 at the beginning of Term 4. More details to come soon.

#### **Year 6 Term 2 swimming dates:**

- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

#### **Yr 3 - 6 Athletics Day**

After a long time waiting, we are looking forward to holding our Yr 3 -6 Athletics Day and Llanberris Reserve on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May (Term 2 Week 5). Mr Down has been and will continue to go through track & field technique development in PE lessons with these classes leading up to the day. More information will come out closer to the day.

The Junior Sports Day (F - Yr 2) will be held later in the year (T4).

#### **Cross Country**

The Ballarat Catholic Primary School Cross Country event will take place on Thursday 28th April (T2 Wk 1) at Fed Uni. Mr Down is compiling a list of potential students to represent SFX and they will be notified shortly.

#### **Catholic and Division Winter Sports**

Previously, we have participated in Catholic Primary School tournaments for the Winter Sports (Netball/Soccer/Football). This year the organisers have changed things up and we will be competing against numerous Ballarat Primary schools straight into the Divisional level.

Selection for these teams will be made early next term.

*Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.*

### **Term 2 dates:**

- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April - BCPS Cross Country @ Fed Uni
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May - Division Cross Country @ Ballarat High School
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Netball/Soccer Winter Sports @ Llanberris/Morshead Park
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May - Football Winter Sports @ Vic Park
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May - Year 3 - 6 Athletics Day @ Llanberris Athletics Reserve
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Regional Cross Country @ Warrnambool

Have a fabulous week.

Shaun Carroll  
Sports Co-ordinator

### **Uniform Shop Update**

#### **NEWS from the Uniform Shop:**

#### **Uniform Shop Sales during Term 1**

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](mailto: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.

#### **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. **EFTPOS available**

#### **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. All donations are appreciated. Thanks.

### **Community News**



#### **EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

**Monday 11th of April to Friday the 22nd of April 2022**

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

Eastwood Leisure Centre, Ballarat

8am to 5pm each day

Kinder to Grade 6

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

Enrol online [www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat](http://www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat) or Contact 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>

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|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Assembly Date:</b><br>T1 W9<br>25/3/2022 | <b>Theme: RESPECT</b><br>Respect means considering the feelings and wishes of others, respecting myself and caring for all of creation. We show respect because Jesus shows us that everyone is important and because our world needs our care.   |
| <b>HOST CLASS</b>                           | <b>6CC</b>  |
| F EH  | Noah McGregor and Wilson Quinlan  |
| F TW  | Vivienne Young & Oscar Kersley  |
| F JS  | Oliver Taylor / Evie Loader   |
| F MM  | Oskar Olszewski and Addison Jeffs   |
| 1 SM  | Paddy Ludbrook and Milla Rowland  |
| 1 GJ  | Charlie Quarrell and Malo Hansen  |
| 1 EM  | Jett Raine and Pippa Gleeson  |
| 2 PB  | Gabe Dunne and Anna Marson  |
| 2 CJ  | Eli Jones and Chloe Wilson  |
| 2 GH  | Sibella Moore and Ella Crumpton   |
| 3 ND  | Nicholas Hyland and Amelia Sordello   |
| 3 BL  | Abbey Dwyer, Edward Lloyd   |
| 3 JVG                                       | Alfie Sosinski, Audrey Lynch  |
| 4 BW  | Tom Anderson & Laine Anwyl  |
| 4 AH  | Ivy Bromley and Isla-Rose Block   |
| 4 CP  | Jack Lewis and Molly Danaher  |
| 5 LH  | Pearl Nicholson and Xavier Staley   |
| 5 OH  | Jack Gerdtz & Evie Knowles  |
| 5 MM  | Sully Boyd & Annabella Chalmers   |
| 6 CC  | Kaitlyn McDonald and Liam Patterson   |
| 6 JF  | Maya Simanjuntak & Harry Elliot   |
| 6 ZA  | Jake Kennedy & Claramae Delahunty   |
| Environmental Education                     | Edward Lloyd 3BL & Leo Thorpe 5LH <i>for the respect they demonstrate for the Natural World each and every day through their actions, including picking up litter, caring for the chickens, reminding others to be careful of climbing and treading on living things, assisting with the gardens...</i> |
| Performing Arts                             | Jessica Youl and Eden Howard - 4AH  |

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|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Visual Arts        | Mila Psimaris, Ivy Howard, Annabelle Fulcher, Harry Elliott, Ari Jones |
| Physical Education | Wentworth Campbell, Stella Reus, Eva Cummins, Zara Thorp               |