



# St Francis Xavier Primary School

## Newsletter

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
Term 4 Week 2

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### Term 4 Week 2

#### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

Class Assembly 2CJ 12.40pm

#### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

Sacrament of First Eucharist  
at St. Alipius & Buninyong

#### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

Sacrament of First Eucharist  
at St. Alipius & Buninyong

### Term 4 Week 3

#### **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

Class Assembly 1EM 12.40pm

#### **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

Sacrament of First Eucharist  
at St. Alipius

#### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

Sacrament of First Eucharist  
at St. Alipius

### Term 4 Week 4

#### **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

Casual Dress Day

Class Assembly 3JV 12.40pm

### Term 4 Week 5

#### **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

Student Free Day

#### **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Public Holiday–Melbourne Cup

#### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

Junior Athletics Day

### Term 4 Week 6

#### **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

Class Assembly 4CP 12.40pm

### 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 Student Day for Term 4

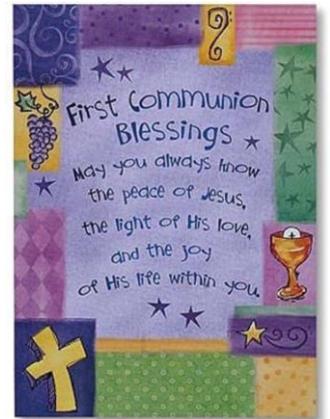
**All other Calendar Dates for 2022 have been updated and can be accessed live on the Skoolbag App or by visiting the School Website**

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

Dear Parents and Families,

What a wonderful last few days we have had at St. Francis Xavier primary school. On Friday we celebrated for the first time in over two years a whole school Mass at St. Alipius Church. The theme for our Mass was celebrating our Mercy heritage and acknowledging Catherine McAuley – Boundary Breaker. In her lifetime Catherine McAuley worked tirelessly to educate the poor and founded the Sisters of Mercy religious order. Fr. Jorge blessed our beautiful statue which is currently placed in our office window for all to enjoy. In time, we will find the most suitable place for this important statue.

Following on from this event we also had over the weekend children celebrating and participating in their First Eucharist celebrations. What a wonderful community event for our parish. The children were amazing in the way they confidently spoke at the lectern, presented the gifts in the altar procession and how they most reverently received communion for the “first but not the last time.” Many thanks to Fr. Jorge.



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**Foundation children 2023** This Friday 14th October we will hold our first Foundation Transition Day for our 2023 Foundation children. All of our children look forward to these days with great expectation. It is a sign of the life and movement that make schools reinvent themselves. Many thanks to Bec Conroy our Deputy Principal/Learning Enhancement, Emma Hancock Junior Level leader and Jayne Mohr Deputy Principal/Learning Diversity for organising this wonderful experience for our 2023 Foundation children!

**Car Park – Traffic Movement** I wish to remind everyone at the start of this new term that the management of traffic flow at the beginning and end of the day is always a concern. We are fortunate that there is very little non-school traffic in the mix at these times. If the road signage and markings are adhered to with a good level of patience a safe environment can be maintained. We remind drivers to pull off to the left around the trees where the buses travel and U-turn to return down Fortune Street rather than cross directly across the traffic. (This is illegal!). Our staff carpark is not to be used as a pathway to either drop your children at school or pick them up. Car spaces are limited and the onsite carpark is for **staff cars only**. Many thanks for your assistance with these matters.

**Class Groupings 2023** This week Teachers will be working on formulating class groupings for 2023. In doing this, academic, social and emotional considerations will be taken into account to inform decisions. We are fortunate at St. Francis Xavier to have our teachers plan learning activities that often allow our children to mix across the year group where they are working alongside. Next year all our classes will be straight classes again. Prior to teachers working on the construction of 2023 class groups, all children will be asked to nominate children who they know they can work well with and would like to be considered to be in a room with in 2023.

**Class Structure for St. Francis Xavier Primary School 2023**

Foundation x 4    Year 1 x 3    Year 2 x 3    Year 3 x 3    Year 4 x 3    Year 5 x 3    Year 6 x 3

**SFX Parents and Friends - New Committee** We are currently in the process of seeking interest from members of our community willing to join our Parents and Friends (P&F) Executive and General Committee in 2023 and 2024. The P&F Committee play a crucial role within our school community. *Why join our P&F Committee?* The main purpose of our P&F Committee is to support the school for the benefit of all students. This is achieved by leading and participating in areas such as planning and resourcing, school functions, fundraising activities and creating links to the broader community. Key benefits to joining the P&F include:

- Having a close connection to your child’s education.
- Making a difference in the school by sharing your thoughts and offering a level of input into the operations of the school.
- Being part of a team with other parents of children within the school community.

If you are interested in joining our P & F please reach out to Ange Staley on [angestaley@hotmail.com](mailto:angestaley@hotmail.com) or [principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au) All inquiries most welcome.

**Summer Uniform** The reason for our school uniform is to ensure that our children are identified as students who belong to the community of St. Francis Xavier Primary School.

- Full summer uniform may be worn from Day 1 Term 4.
  - For the first 3 weeks of Term 4 we will be in a transition phase for Uniform. Children are permitted to be in either Summer or Winter Uniform.
  - **From Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October (Week 4) all children are expected to be in Summer Uniform.**
- Thank you for your support with this matter.

**Assembly Awards** Thank you to the children and staff of Foundation MM for their assembly on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October. The children were marvellous and it was wonderful to see so many families and friends from Foundation MM in attendance. Congratulations to our Award winners who received an award for our school value of **Excellence**. Please check the attachment for names of the children who received an award. Excellence means being the best person we can be. We always try our hardest, even when it’s difficult, just like Jesus did.

**School Assembly Roster** Please note that our School Assembly Program is held weekly at 12:40pm on a Friday afternoon. Assemblies will take place in the Gymnasium. The roster below indicates when each Class will be leading Assembly/Prayer. This has also been updated on the school calendar for your perusal.

Term 4	Week 2	2CJ	14 <sup>th</sup> October
	3	1EM	21 <sup>st</sup> October
	4	3JV	28 <sup>th</sup> October
	6	4CP	11 <sup>th</sup> November

**Hats** As we are a SunSmart school, it is an expectation that all children and staff at break times and when having classes outside wear their hats. Remember that our children need to have their school hats from the beginning of Term 4 until the end of Term 1 next year! We say “No Hat No Play”.

**School closure days**

**Term 4** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December = **11 Weeks**

<b>6</b>	<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	Staff Professional Development Day ( <b>Assessment &amp; Reporting</b> )
	<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	Melbourne Cup - Public Holiday
<b>7</b>	<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Staff Professional Development Day ( <b>First Aid</b> )
	<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Last Day for Staff - Staff Planning Day

Please find attached: St Alipius parish bulletin; Assembly Awards; Turn their worry into “I wonder”.  
Have a great week.

Yours sincerely,



Jane Clark, **Interim Principal**



**Religious Education News**

**FIRST EUCHARIST NEWS-** Over the weekend, fifty children from our school celebrated their Sacrament of First Eucharist at St Alipius Church. These children have been preparing with their families and teachers to learn more about their faith, what it means to be in communion with God and that we are God’s body on Earth. Congratulations to the children involved in making their First Eucharist and a special thank you to Ms Pearson, Ms Wrigley and Ms Howard for all their hard work in supporting the children to prepare for this special day.

**Mercy Day Mass-** Last Friday we celebrated Mercy Day with a whole school Mass at St Alipius Church. We were fortunate to have members of the Sisters of Mercy present at our Mass and we thanked them for their commitment to our school by presenting them with a flower. Sister Geraldine Mugavin was thrilled to unveil our new bronze statue of Catherine McAuley, who in her lifetime worked tirelessly to educate the poor and founded the Sisters of Mercy. Our statue is made of bronze and depicts Catherine McAuley as a young woman. The plaque on the statue reads:

*To commemorate the significant contribution of the Sisters of Mercy Ballarat East to St. Francis Xavier Primary School from 1914 to 2021. "We should be the shining lamps, giving light to all around us"*



Our beautiful statue will be installed at school so that we are always reminded of our proud Mercy history and we are all a part of the ongoing story. Our Parish Priest, Father Jorge De Chevaz prayed a “Prayer of Blessing” over the statue as part of the Mass celebration with our parish community. Our statue is currently in the office foyer so please come and have a look!

**Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) Gospel:** Luke 17:11-19

As Jesus made his way to Jerusalem, he went along the border between Samaria and Galilee. He was going into a village when he was met by ten men suffering from a skin disease. They stood at a distance and shouted, “Jesus! Master! Take pity on us!”

Jesus saw them and said to them, “Go and let the priests examine you.”

On the way they were made clean. When one of them saw that he was healed, he came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself to the ground at Jesus' feet and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. Jesus said, “There

were ten men who were healed; where are the other nine? Why is this foreigner the only one who came back to give thanks to God?" And Jesus said to him, "Get up and go; your faith has made you well."

*(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation®)*

**Gospel reflection:** We are often reminded how important it is to have good manners. When we ask for something, we should say *Please* and when we receive something, we should say *Thank you*. Today we heard that Jesus gave the amazing gift of good health to ten people who all had an illness called leprosy. While all of them were happy to receive the gift, only one of them gave thanks to Jesus and praised God.

In Jesus' time, people with leprosy had to live separately from everyone else.

They couldn't even hug their families or friends anymore. How do you think the men felt when they realised that they were well again? Perhaps they ran home to their families and friends? After all, they'd been living away from them for ages. Can you imagine how excited they were and how happy their families must have been to see them?

Though the nine other men were really happy to be healed, they didn't return to Jesus to give thanks for what he had done. Only one man went back to show how grateful he was for the gift of health and a new life with his family.

**Our Challenge:** This week let's think about people in our world who cannot live with their family and friends- especially the homeless and those refugees affected by war and famine.



Christine Meneely, **Interim Religious Education Leader**

### Learning & Teaching News

Welcome to Week Two of Term Four - Term Four is always a busy, productive and celebratory time of year that is for certain!

**Inquiry** Throughout Term Four all children will continue to engage in their termly Inquiry units. Our Inquiry learning sequences aim to provide opportunities for children to explore content and skills through real-life scenarios.

The concept-based learning sequences for this term are:

- **FOUNDATION – Great and Small:** Children will learn about different features of animals and use their imagination to design an animal
- **YEAR ONE – Through Generations:** Children will integrate their Inquiry learning with their Religious Education learning, as they explore traditions and stories from different cultures
- **YEAR TWO – Robot Buddies:** Children will work to design and build a robot using craft materials. They will also develop their coding skills, through the use of programming apps and BeeBots
- **YEAR THREE/FOUR - Our Island Home:** Children will build on their understanding of the geography of Australia. They will also learn about Australia's neighbouring countries and contribute to conversations about what life may be like in these places
- **YEAR FIVE/SIX - Data and Decisions:** Children will be engaged in economics and business as they work in groups to develop a business plan that they will present to younger students in the school



### **Lyn Stone – Professional Learning Day**

Last term, our SFX staff engaged in a Professional Learning Day with linguist, literacy and language specialist Lyn Stone. Lyn provided us with expert insights into evidence-based practices to support the teaching and learning opportunities we provide our children to ensure they develop into successful, independent readers. The day provided us with affirmation of many practices we use here at SFX, while also guiding us as we aim to enhance our current reading approaches to design learning opportunities that provide the best reading outcomes for all children.



## NAPLAN 2022

We are continuing to analyse our 2022 NAPLAN data at a school level. Please see below our five-year trend data for Spelling.

### Year 3 Spelling Results – 5 Year Trend Data

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Nation	418	419	-	421	-
State	426	428	-	431	-
<b>St Francis Xavier PS</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>443</b>
Student Count	52	61	-	57	72

### Year 5 Spelling Results – 5 Year Trend Data

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Nation	502	501	-	504	-
State	508	506	-	506	-
<b>St Francis Xavier PS</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>495</b>
Student Count	48	52	-	68	63

Wishing everyone a wonderful Week Two!

Bec Conroy

**Interim Deputy Principal – Learning Enhancement**



### **Wellbeing News**

Many parents ask how they can assist their children when they become anxious about seemingly routine events such as attending school camps, difficult subjects or changes in routine. Typical responses such as ignoring their child's worries or encouraging them to 'get on with it' are unhelpful. Allowing a child to avoid an activity that makes them anxious is another unhelpful option. Avoidance may help kids feel safe in the short term, but it risks the establishment of a long-term pattern that can be impossible to shift.

It may make little sense that an activity makes a child anxious, but as adults we just need to witness their anxiety without dismissing or ignoring their feelings. but also to normalise that we all feel worried at times and that is okay! Anxious kids frequently look to parents and teachers for reassurance when they feel worried. Adults don't have to fix kids' problems, but we do have to understand how they are feeling and model brave thinking. As adults we need to normalise that we all feel worried at times and that is okay! Changing our mindset about worry to wonder can be very effective- attached are some great strategies in supporting your anxious child.

Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

### **Sport/Physical Education News**

**Regional Athletics Day** Congratulations to the following students that represented SFX at last Friday's Regional Athletics Carnival at Llanberris: Milla O'Donohue, Ashlee Beseler, Nic Ward, Maya Simanjuntak, Nate Toohey, Mia van Hamond, Felicity McGrath, Archer Spackman and Mitchell Kane.

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With initial conditions more akin to the middle of a Ballarat winter, our athletes braved the conditions and performed outstandingly and all put in their best efforts in their events. We had 4 Bronze medals, a lot of fourths and a heap of fun. Thank you to Ms Cook for supporting and supervising the students.

**Swimming Program** Thank you and well done to all of the students, staff and parents that were involved in a very successful swimming program for our Yr 1 - 6's. The program was both enjoyable and an excellent learning experience regarding water safety, important as we are coming up to the summer months.

**SFX Football Jumpers & Singlets** If you have any SFX Football jumpers or singlets at home could you please return them to either Mr Down or Mr Carroll.

**Term 4 dates:**

- Wk 5 - Wednesday November 2 - District Cricket Tournament
- Wk 5 - Friday November 4 - Junior Sports Day (F - Yr 2)

Have a tremendous week.

Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**



### Parents' and Friends' News

The St Francis Xavier P&F are excited to be bringing back our **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

with all funds raised going back into the development of our school.

We would be grateful to any families and businesses that would like to donate prizes.

If you have something you would like to donate, please get in touch with the P&F Committee.

Contact Ange Staley or Steph Nunn [sfxpsc@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sfxpsc@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au)

### Uniform Shop

As of Term 4 we have made the decision that the school uniform shop will become a second hand uniform shop. Our sports uniform will be now available at Crockers only. We believe having our uniform in one place makes it so much easier for families. If you have any questions please email: [sfxpsc@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sfxpsc@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au)

### Community News

**Basketball Ballarat's introduction to basketball programs:**

- Aussie Hoops – perfect for children aged 4 – 7 years
- Rookie Hoops – perfect for children aged 8 – 11 years
- All Abilities Rookie Hoops – perfect for children aged 5 – 18 years whom are living with a disability



Registrations are now open for all community hoops programs, with the programs starting the week **beginning October 17<sup>th</sup>**. For more information and to register: Community ([nbl1.com.au](http://nbl1.com.au)) For further details please contact Ethan Fiegert via email [development@ballaratbasketball.com](mailto:development@ballaratbasketball.com) or call reception on (03) 5338 1220.

**KELLY SPORTS AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM 4**

**Mondays 3:25pm-4.55pm (Crazy Games / Kids' Choice of Sports)**

**Wednesdays 3.25pm-4.55pm (Multi-Sports: Tennis, Cricket, Touch Rugby, Basketball & Baseball)**

Boys & Girls, Preps to Grade 6

11 week programs (both Mondays & Wednesdays)

Mondays - Commencing Mon 3rd Oct, Concluding Mon 12th Dec

Wednesdays - Commencing Wed 5th Oct, Concluding Wed 14th Dec

After-school programs focussing on teaching sport specific skills in a fun, inclusive and engaging environment.

Cost: \$254 per program for the 11 week term Enrol: [www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat](http://www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat)

Queries: Please call Dom 0417 967 621

