

St Francis Xavier Primary School



Newsletter

Monday 31st October 2022
Term 4 Week 5

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Term 4 Week 5

Monday 31st October
Student Free Day

Tuesday 1st November
Public Holiday—Melbourne Cup

Friday 4th November
Junior Athletics Day

Term 4 Week 6

Friday 11th November
Class Assembly 4CP 12.40pm

Term 4 Week 7

Tuesday 15th November
SFX Art Exhibition
3.30pm to 6pm

Friday 18th November
Grandparents'/Grand
Friends' Day 2.30pm

Term 4 Week 8

Friday 25th November
Casual Dress Day

Term 4 Week 9

Friday 2nd December
St. Francis Xavier Feast Day

Term 4 Week 10

Wednesday 7th December
5pm Christmas Carols

Friday 9th December
Foundation Nativity

Term 4 Week 11

Friday 16th December
Last Student Day for Term 4

2023 Term 1 Week 1

Monday 30th January
First Student Day for Term 1

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

Condolences to the McLean family

I wanted to share the very sad news that Kathleen Kenna, Maureen McLean's mother and Estelle McLean's grandmother passed away last Friday at the grand old age of 93. Kath had a very strong connection to many Catholic schools in the Ballarat Diocese. Our condolences to Maureen, Mark and Estelle and to Kathleen's other children Michael, Mary-Anne (deceased), Bernie, Kevin and Alison.

Friday Lunches Announcement

Hot Lunches for 2022 will end Friday 2nd Dec. This will mean hot lunches will **not** be available Friday 9th Dec and Friday 16th December

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear Parents and Families,

My how quickly the weeks are flying past. Last week at St Francis Xavier we had a wonderful week full of teaching and learning and also a visit from the St Patrick College Symphonic Wind and Stage band, our 2023 Foundation students visited us again as part of their transition program and our Year One students had a successful excursion day and stay back. We capped off the week with an unreal disco organised by our terrific P&F committee and kindly supported by staff. Thank you to all who were involved and giving up their time to make these events happen.

This week we acknowledge that Tuesday is All Saints' Day and Wednesday is All Souls' Day.



Foundation Races

This week continues to be full of life-giving activities. On Wednesday, our 2022 Foundation students will hold the St. Francis Xavier Annual Foundation Horse Race on the bottom oval. (The horses and jockeys will be in the mounting yards ready to race from 2:50pm onwards. We are inviting families of current Foundation students to attend. Given the large size of our school and inclement weather, we will not be welcoming the remainder of the school community for viewing on this occasion. We do encourage you to get into the racing spirit by donning a fascinator or special hat to mark the occasion.

Our new building is open and ready

Last week our new building was finally signed off and we now have taken occupancy. There are still a few tasks which need to be completed, but the building is in working order and our Year 2 and 3 children will be moving into their new classrooms this week. Outside landscaping will be completed when the weather warms and dries up.



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Save The Date



Christmas Carols St. Francis Xavier Christmas Carols – 5pm Wednesday 7th December 2022. **Each Year Group and staff group will lead the community in carols ranging** from traditional carols to more modern Christmas songs. More details of the event will be communicated over the next few weeks. For the moment I ask for you to take note of the date and mark it in your diaries!

Class Groupings 2023 We hope to inform you by the end of November of your child’s class and teacher for 2022. Teachers are putting their final touches onto these class lists. I thank the staff for the time they put into this process. To assist with managing enrolments for 2023 I ask that any families who already know they will not be returning to St. Francis Xavier to please contact the school office. This allows us to contact families waiting for places as well as assisting with class lists and planning. Many thanks.

Camps Children and staff in Years 4 and 5 are looking forward to their upcoming camps. Thank you to those involved with all the preparation and planning which goes into these to make them so successful. Our school excursion program offers our children a great opportunity to experience settings and situations that they may not normally experience. Participating in camps allows the children to build on their self-esteem and interact with other children and adults in unfamiliar surrounds. **Year 5 Camp Week 8** **Year 4 Camp Week 11**

Closure Dates – Term 4 2022 Monday 3rd October to Friday 16th December = **11 Weeks**

7	Monday 19 th December	Staff Professional Development Day (First Aid)
	Tuesday 20 th December	Last Day for Staff - Staff Planning Day

Assembly Awards Thank you to the children and staff of 3JV for their assembly on Friday 28th October. The children were marvellous and it was wonderful to see so many families and friends from 3JV in attendance. Congratulations to our Award winners who received an award for our school value of **RESPECT**. Please check the attachment for names of the children who received an award. 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.

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	6	4CP	11 th November
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School Procedures for the Bushfire Season

The Department of Education and Training (DET) has recently advised the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) of the revised Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).

As a consequence of this review, St Francis Xavier School has been listed on the 2022-23 BARR and will be required to close on days with a fire danger rating listed as Catastrophic.

The following information will help us plan and prepare our school to support the safety of staff, students and the wider community.

Assessing bushfire and grassfire risk

Schools and early childhood education services are categorised based on their risk of bushfire and grassfire in line with the Victorian Education Facility Bushfire Risk Methodology and review this classification annually.

To inform this classification, we have used the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) analysis informed by the Bushfire Management Overlay, Victorian Fire Risk Register, and terrain and fuel type exposure.

Our school’s risk

Our school is rated as CAT 3. This means that St Francis Xavier Primary School:

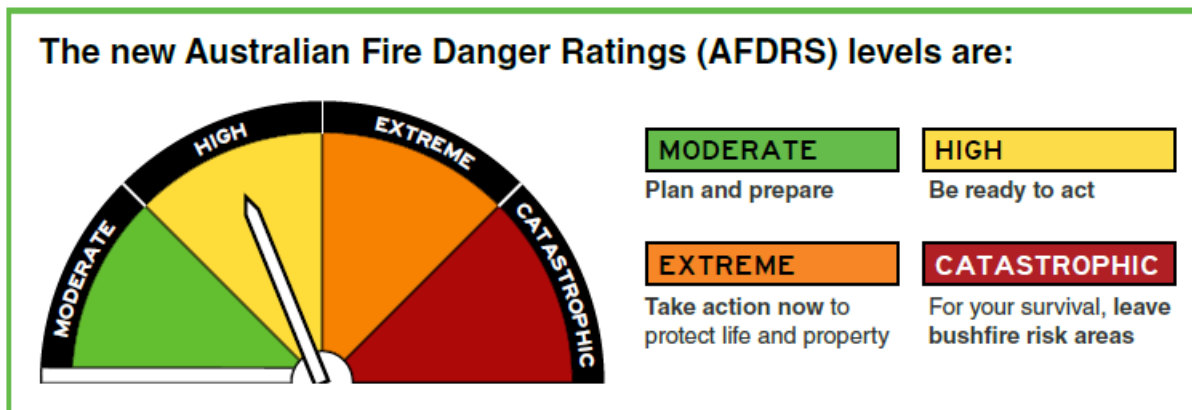
- Must close on days forecast as ‘Catastrophic’ by the Bureau of Meteorology within our designated fire district.

Australian Fire Danger Rating System

In September 2022, Australia introduced a new fire danger forecasting system, the Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS). A nationally consistent system will more accurately predict fire danger and produce clear, simple messages for communities. Victoria has been using a 6-tier system for fire danger ratings, from 'Low' or 'Moderate' to 'Code Red'. The AFDRS will replace the Victorian system this year and uses 4 tiers of fire danger, from 'Moderate' to 'Catastrophic'.

Fire danger ratings describe the potential level of danger should a bushfire start. They are important because they provide people with information so that they can take action to protect themselves and others from the potentially dangerous impacts of bushfires.

From September 1, Australians will have a simplified, action-oriented Fire Danger Rating System.



- The AFDRS will also introduce 'off' for those days where no proactive action is required by the community. On these days, you will still need to abide by local seasonal laws and regulations, but there is little or no risk of a fire that starts spreading in a dangerous or life-threatening way.
- The AFDRS is informed by one of Australia's largest social research projects which found that most Australians do not understand the current system, and would prefer a simpler, action-oriented set of fire danger ratings.
- The AFDRS is being implemented consistently across Australia and will mean that wherever you are across the country, you will be able to understand the threat posed on any given day and make appropriate decisions to keep you and your family safe.

What can parents do?

Make sure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking our website <http://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/>, and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff.

If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan. You can access more information about school closures on the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) website <www.cecv.catholic.edu.au>.

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at <www.cfa.vic.gov.au> or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.

Please find attached: St Alipius parish bulletin; Assembly awards; Why words matter.

Have a great week.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Clark, **Interim Principal**



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday October 30, 2022 Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10 Jesus went on into Jericho and was passing through. There was a chief tax collector there named Zacchaeus, who was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but he was a little man and could not see Jesus because of the crowd. So he ran ahead of the crowd and climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus, who was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to that place, he looked up and said to Zacchaeus, "Hurry down, Zacchaeus, because I must stay in your house today."

Zacchaeus hurried down and welcomed him with great joy. All the people who saw it started grumbling, "This man has gone as a guest to the home of a sinner!"

Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Listen, sir! I will give half my belongings to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone, I will pay back four times as much."

Jesus said to him, "Salvation has come to this house today, for this man, also, is a descendant of Abraham. The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." *(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation®)*

Gospel reflection: Zacchaeus was rich but he wasn't happy. He knew that he was missing something in his life. He knew that Jesus was special and hoped that by following Jesus, he could become happier.

Having enough money to live is really important, but if money and material things are all we have, that won't make us happy. We also need family and friends, people who care about us and to feel part of a community.

Zacchaeus wanted to have better relationships with everyone he knew and with God. Jesus could see that Zacchaeus wanted to change and Zacchaeus changed his life because of Jesus. When we let Jesus into our lives, our relationships with each other are much better. The love that God has for us fills our hearts and makes us more loving to others.

Our Challenge: How do you make room for God in your heart and in your home?



Save the Date! Grandparents' and Grandfriends' Liturgy

Your child will have brought home an invitation last week for them to share with their Grandparent/ Grandfriend to join us for a liturgy on Friday November 18 beginning at 2.30pm.

We will be in our Family Groups for this liturgy and the children will also take our visitors to view our Art Show in the gym. If your special person has any specific needs, please let us know so we can try and accommodate them. We look forward to sharing this memorable time together!

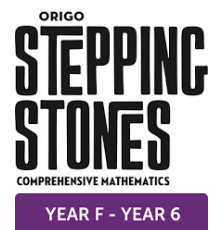


Christine Meneely, Interim Religious Education Leader

Learning and Teaching News

Term Four – Teaching & Learning

Our Term Four teaching and learning is in full swing as our teachers and children aim to consolidate their 2022 learning and ensure all children are set up for success in 2023. We continue to remain committed to utilising the Stepping Stones Maths curriculum, as well as Mental Maths to ensure all children develop the skills and understandings necessary to excel as mathematicians in our SFX environment and beyond. As a school we continue to strive for excellence in the teaching and learning experiences we provide our children each day!



Assessment & Reporting

This term, teachers will continue to report student progress via our Seesaw Digital Journal platform. The Assessment Tasks shared on Seesaw will showcase your child's achievements and inform you of their next steps in learning. Our teachers are also busy writing Semester Two formal reports ready to share with you later in the term. Each child will receive a written report along with a range of progression points that will indicate their achievements in alignment to the Victorian Curriculum.



Bec Conroy, Interim Deputy Principal – Learning Enhancement

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Wellbeing News

If you've ever snapped at your child, it does not make you a bad parent. It simply makes you human and reminds you that we all make mistakes.

The concept of mistakes that we teach our children also applies to us as parents. Mistakes will happen and that's okay, as long as we learn from them and do better next time. The words we choose to say to our children matter, and so are the words we choose to say to ourselves. While it is good for children to see parents experience different emotions, it is also important for them to learn where the responsibility for those feelings lie. The attachment this week gives us a script to use when we are communicating feelings to our children- without them feeling responsible for these feelings.

Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

Junior Sports Day Fingers crossed the weather will be kind for Friday's SFX F - 2 Junior Sports Day at Russell Square, Ballarat East. This event is an opportunity for students to participate in a sports carnival-like environment, practice and implement all of the fundamental skills they have been taught during PE lessons and have heaps of fun! Please see the Operoo notice for more details. We also look forward to our Year 6 Sports Captains playing a major role on the day.

Division Cricket Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control, this Thursday's Division Cricket Tournament has been postponed. Once we get a new date we will inform those involved of the new details.

Regional Golf Good luck to our four golfers that will be competing in the Regional Golf Tournament at Midlands Golf Club next week. Leo Thorp, Xavier Kersley, Lenny Driscoll and Charlotte Bell have progressed to this event and we wish them all the best.

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 - Friday November 4 - Junior Sports Day (F - Yr 2)
- Wk 6 - Tuesday November 8 - Regional Golf Tournament (Midlands GC)

Have a fantastic week.



Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**

Visual Art News



After a 3 year hiatus due to Covid, the SFX Art Exhibition is back!

On **Tuesday November 15th from 3.30pm to 6pm**, families and special friends are invited along to our St Francis Xavier gym to see the wonderful artwork that our artists have created during their Visual Arts classes in 2022. We can't wait to celebrate our artists with you! There will also be an opportunity for grandparents and special friends to visit the Art Exhibition during our Grandparents Afternoon on Friday November 18th.

We can't wait to celebrate our artists with you!



Jacinta Molloy
Visual Arts Specialist

Reconciliation in Action News

Nyurra wurriyn SFX Community,
How do you do?

We would like to extend an invitation to our fabulous St Francis Xavier Primary School community to get along and support our local Wadawurrung community by visiting the inaugural Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Art Exhibition.

The exhibition showcases more than 50 creative works from Wadawurrung hobbyists, up and coming artists, and professionals. Featuring a brilliant array of artwork from our local Wadawurrung artists ranging from 4 years of age to Uncle Mel, 93!

Exhibition Location The Art Exhibition is located in the Café area of the Mercure Hotel main building. The exhibition will take place from the 27th of October until the 30th of November, 2022.

Kooling wada-ngal
Let us walk together.

Nyatne
Thanks
Sarah & Jacinta
RAP Leaders

Jacinta Molloy, *Art Specialist Teacher & RAP Leader*, Jenna Oldaker, *Wadawurrung Traditional Owner and artist @murrup_art*, and Sarah Page, *E.E. Specialist Teacher and RAP Leader at the launch of the inaugural Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Art Exhibition evening, Wednesday 26th October, 2022.*



Community News

DUCK 'N' WEAVE presents
EuReKa
BUSH DANCE and catch up
BYO drinks

 \$10 per head
\$25 per family

Saturday 19th November
7-10 p.m.

TICKET ENTRY : Steve 0477 066 013

BRING A POCKET FULL OF GOLD COINS FOR WHISKEY TOSS
BRING A PLATE OF NIBBLES TO SHARE

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