



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 21st November 2022
Term 4 Week 8

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

Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Term 4 Week 8

23rd-25th November

Year 5 Camp at Kangarooie, Princetown

Thursday 24th November

7pm Information Evening for parents/carers of our 2023 Foundation children

Friday 25th November

Casual Dress Day

F-Year 2 Sports Day

Term 4 Week 9

Tuesday 29th November

Orientation Day

Friday 2nd December

St. Francis Xavier Feast Day

Last 2022 Hot Lunch Day

Term 4 Week 10

Wednesday 7th December

5pm Christmas Carols

Thursday 8th December

Year 6 Graduation

Friday 9th December

12 noon Foundation Nativity

Term 4 Week 11

Monday 12th December

9.30am End of Year Mass in school gym

10.45-11.30 Parent/Carer Helpers' Thank You morning tea in staffroom

December 14th-16th

Year 4 Camp at Log Cabin Lodge, Creswick

Friday 16th December

Last Student Day for Term 4

2023 Term 1 Week 1

Monday 30th January

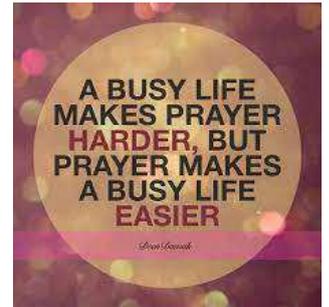
First Student Day for Term 1

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

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear Parents and Families,

Almighty God, We bless you for our lives, we give you praise for your abundant mercy and grace we receive. We thank you for your faithfulness even though we are not that faithful to you. Lord Jesus, we ask you to give us all around peace in our mind, body, soul and spirit. We want you to heal and remove everything that is causing stress, grief, and sorrow in our lives. Please guide our path through life and make our enemies be at peace with us. Let your peace reign in our family, at our place of work, businesses and everything we lay our hands on. Let your angels of peace go ahead of us when we go out and stay by our side when we return. In Jesus' name, Amen



Well, to say last week was busy was an understatement! We began the week with the launch of our Art exhibition where the gym had been transformed into the most beautiful feast for the eyes of children's art work. Thank you to Mrs Molloy and her team for delivering the most magical experience for us to enjoy. Thank you also goes to every artist here at St. Francis Xavier primary school for providing your talent for us to view. We ended the week with a huge crowd of

Grandparents and Grand friends who visited the school for a family group liturgy, art exhibition viewing and time spent with grandchildren and grand friends. Many thanks go to Mrs Meneely, her team and Family group leaders for providing us with such a special event.



We also presented Dennis, our crossing supervisor, with this week's Principal's award.

Will, Nate and Xavier from 5LH nominated Dennis for his friendliness, caring and positive attitude. We are very grateful to Dennis for keeping us safe and happy.

Congratulations Dennis. On the last count, Dennis had 283 likes and 48 comments on our Facebook page. What a St Francis Xavier treasure!

Year 5 Camp

Our Year 5 children and their teachers depart this week for their camp program at Kangarooie. 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. Teachers gain great insights into their children in these situations. We thank the many volunteer parents who have offered their time to assist. We hope that everyone has an enjoyable and rewarding time and we look forward to hearing their stories on their return!

St. Francis Xavier Primary School is a Child Safe School called to action through Gospel values and Mercy tradition. Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.

Sports Day F-2 This Friday our F-2 children will be participating in their postponed Sports Day. Many Thanks to Mr Carroll and Mr Down who have worked very hard to get this event organized.

What: Foundation / Year 1 / Year 2 Sports Day

Where: Russell Square Reserve (North Field)

When: Friday November 25th 2022

School Captains for 2023 Our Year 5 children and staff have been working on their leadership positions for 2023. After a lengthy process which involved voting from peers, staff and final interviews by leadership, it is with great pleasure that I announce our 2023 School captains.

Felicity McGrath, Lola Roney, Isa Jones

George Britt, Sully Boyd, Leo Thorp

I would like to congratulate all the students who made it through to the final stage. Like any process, not all can be the eventual winner. All students who presented themselves to Senior Leadership for interviews were enthusiastic, articulate and made us feel very proud of the calibre of students here at St. Francis Xavier Primary School. It was a privilege and a pleasure to be a part of this process.

Class and Teacher Allocation 2023 From 4.00pm this Wednesday 23rd November 2022 parents are able to access their Parent Access Module (PAM) account to view their child's 2022 class allocation.

I ask you to be positive with your children regarding the class groupings they are in. I understand that change is sometimes difficult but in reality, it is the only thing that we can be certain of and it is important for our children to welcome change in their lives for their own growth.

Spirit of Catherine McAuley Award – nominations called for The Spirit of Catherine McAuley Award is designed to celebrate the outstanding achievement and contribution to St. Francis Xavier of staff, parents and volunteers working in a diverse range of endeavours at St. Francis Xavier. The purpose is to acknowledge unwavering commitment to our school and the extraordinary outcomes that can be achieved through such commitment.

Endorsed by the St. Francis Xavier Senior Leadership team and the Sisters of Mercy this Award provides a mechanism to recognise those whose efforts are beyond the already high standards of education and care delivered by those involved at St. Francis Xavier. Through such commitment, these people will have made a difference in the lives and/or learning of children or others with whom they come into contact as they carry out their responsibilities in our school community.

The varied roles through which an exceptional contribution within St. Francis Xavier takes place provide the basis for the Spirit of **Catherine McAuley Award**.

The nominee should be actively contributing to the School Mission statement: "St Francis Xavier is a Catholic primary school community, inspired by the example of Catherine McAuley where we promote for all a sense of belonging, nurture right relationships, inspire a passion for learning and live in harmony with creation.

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

Respect, Compassion, Excellence, Justice, Hospitality

As a guide, some of the following may be relevant:

- Living a Christ-centred life through the integration of faith and life
- Excellence in standards and professionalism in the candidate's work for the school
- "Making a difference" in the lives of students or colleagues or parents through their personal and professional manner
- Role(s) or area(s) in which the nominee has excelled.

Within the spirit of these awards (as described earlier) please submit a one page nomination by 4:00pm Tuesday 29th November 2022 to principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au indicating how does:

1. the nominee demonstrate service worthy of recognition?
2. the nominee's work impact on either a particular field, school, group, community or St. Francis Xavier Primary School at large?
3. this person stand out from others?

Foundation Information Evening – 24th November On Thursday 24th November at 7:00pm we will hold our Foundation Information Evening for the parents/carers of our 2023 Foundation children.

St. Francis Xavier Primary School is a Child Safe School called to action through Gospel values and Mercy tradition. Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.

St. Francis Xavier End of School Year Mass On Monday 12th December at 9:30am we will celebrate our school year with a Mass. This Mass is our way to formally reflect upon and celebrate all we have achieved this year and to say farewell to our Year 6 students. We hope all families can attend this Mass as it is such a special occasion for our school community. We hope to see you there! Mass will take place in our **school gym** so more people will be able to attend.

Parent Helpers' Morning Tea A warm invitation is extended to all parents or carers who have helped in any capacity this year, to join us for a 'Thank you' morning tea.

When: Immediately following our end of year Mass on Monday 12th December 10:45-11:30

Where: SFX staffroom

All SFX staff look forward to your company as we acknowledge the help and assistance you have given both the children and us this year.

Major Fundraiser - the Christmas Raffle! The **St Francis Xavier Primary School Parents' & Friends' Committee** are thrilled to announce this year's **Major Fundraiser - the Christmas Raffle!** We have over \$10,000 worth of prizes on offer from generous school families and local businesses.

Please send the link far and wide as every dollar we raise goes straight back into developing the school facilities and purchasing new playground equipment.

The lucky winners will be drawn on the night of our SFX Christmas Carols. There are 27 prizes to win.

Thank you for your support & good luck!

THE ANNUAL SFX Christmas RAFFLE

27 FANTASTIC PRIZES TO BE WON!

1ST PRIZE: \$1000 OFF SCHOOL FEES AND \$200 ATHLETES FOOT VOUCHER

2ND PRIZE: \$1000 CROWN VOUCHER. THANKS TO TOOHEY'S FORMCRETE

3RD PRIZE: COASTAL ARTWORK VALUED AT \$880 DONATED BY BEC WARR

PLUS MANY MORE!!!

GET YOUR TICKETS AT:
www.rafflelink.com.au/2022sfxmasraffle
 TICKET PRICES START AT \$10



St. Francis Xavier Christmas Carols – Wednesday 7th December

Plans are well under way for the Christmas Carols to be held on Wednesday 7th December, 5.00pm - 8.00pm. Come and enjoy a night of carols, food, Santa and Christmas fun! Wear your Christmas colours.

Please note: we will be farewelling **ALL** SFX departing families at the Christmas Carols.

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

I have sent into Catholic Education Ballarat our proposed School closure days for 2023. As soon as they have been acknowledged I will print them into the newsletter for forward planning.

Please find attached: St Alipius parish bulletin; St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal letter; Mind your language – How what you say creates your child’s mindset.

Have a great week.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Clark, **Interim Principal**



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday November 20, 2022 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year C)

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43 The people stood there watching while the Jewish leaders jeered at Jesus: "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah whom God has chosen!"

The soldiers also mocked him: they came up to him and offered him cheap wine, and said, "Save yourself if you are the king of the Jews!"

Above him were written these words: "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

The other one, however, rebuked him, saying, "Don't you fear God? You received the same sentence he did. Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!"

Jesus said to him, "I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me." *(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation®)*

Gospel reflection: In today's gospel we hear how Jesus is put to death on a cross and how he is laughed at and made fun of by the people watching. Even when things are bad, when we are frightened, or hurting, upset or lonely, Jesus is right there with us. He knows how it feels to be laughed at, to be sad, to be in pain, but just like he did with the second thief on the cross, he is always willing to love us and to welcome us. We too can be kind, welcoming and generous. We can make sure that when we have power, we use it as Jesus did – for the good of all people – not just to make ourselves rich or important. We can make sure we include others in our friendships and in our games. We can join together with others to raise money or to change a situation that we think is unfair or needs improvement.

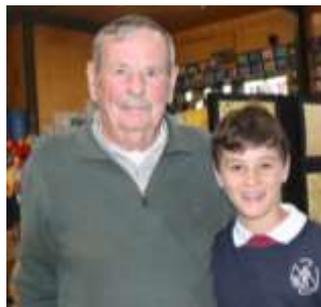
Our Challenge: When things are difficult, remember that Jesus is always with you.

What can you do when you see that things are difficult for others? *(Adapted from the CAFOD website)*

Grandparents' and Grandfriends' Day Thanks: There was a very special energy around the school last Friday and it was fantastic to see so many Grandparents and Grandfriends with us to celebrate our liturgy. The children were so excited to show them around our school, to introduce their friends, to share in a special prayer time and show them all their amazing art in the Art Show. So many of our visitors remarked on how wonderful it was to be invited to school and the respectful behaviour and kindness shown by our students to each other. Many thanks to the children and teachers for facilitating our family group liturgy with such enthusiasm and for the efforts of our Grandparents and Grandfriends to share this time with us.



Christine Meneely, Interim Religious Education Leader



Wellbeing News

Last week, I was privileged to sit in on leadership speeches as many of the Year Five children outlined their hopes and dreams for our school in 2023. What impressed me most was their positive outlook and growth mindset. They frequently referred to “growing in confidence”, “further developing their skills”, “learning from their mistakes” and “persisting when things were difficult”. A child with a fixed mindset believes they are fundamentally limited. Who they are today, is pretty much who they'll be in the future. For them, school and learning is a way to discover those abilities. They'll ask others for validation if they are musical, or how smart they are and school becomes one long test to discover the answers to these questions.

A child with a growth mindset understands they have the capacity to develop their abilities.

For them learning becomes a vehicle for creating and developing those abilities. You'll hear this child say things like “I want to become really good at maths, so I'm going to work hard to make that happen.”

As parents we play an important role in creating the experiences that develop our child's mindset. What we repeatedly say, value, and reward all shape our child's mindset.

In the attached article, James Anderson explores the idea of Growth Mindset and how we can empower our children to see life through this lens.

Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

Regional Cricket Good luck to our SFX Boys cricket team that will be participating in the Regional Cricket Tournament at Russell Square on Tuesday. Hopefully the weather is fine and we get some quality cricket in.

Junior Sports Day Our rescheduled Junior Sports Day will now be held this Friday November 25th at Russell Square. We will follow the same schedule and hopefully the weather is kind for us!

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 8 - Tuesday November 22nd - Regional Cricket Tournament (Russell Square)
- Wk 8 - Friday November 25th - Junior Sports Day (Russell Square) *Rescheduled date*



Have an awesome week.

Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**

Uniform Shop

Our Uniform Shop will be open Monday mornings 8:40-9:00 and Friday afternoons 3:00-3:30.

