



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 30th January 2023
Term 1 Week 2

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Term 1 Week 2

Monday 30th January

First Student Day for Term 1

Wednesday 1st February

Foundation children at home

Friday 3rd February

Year 6 Leadership Day at
Kirk's Reservoir

Term 1 Week 3

Monday 6th February

5-8pm Year ahead meetings

Wednesday 8th February

Foundation children at home

2024 Foundation
enrolments open

Term 1 Week 4

Tuesday 14th February

3.30-5pm Getting to Know
your Child as a Learner -
Session 1

Wednesday 15th February

Foundation children at home

Thursday 16th February

10.30am or 6pm
at St Alipius Church
Compulsory Parent Meeting
for Year 4 Reconciliation

District Tennis at BRTC

Friday 17th February

Years 3-6 SFX Athletics Day
at Llanberris

Term 1 Week 5

Tuesday 21st February

9.30am School Alive Tour

Wednesday 22nd February

Ash Wednesday

Foundation children at home

3.30-5pm Getting to Know
your Child as a Learner -
Session 2

Friday 24th February

Casual dress day
Donations to Royal
Children's Hospital
Years 4-6 District Swimming
at Eureka Pool

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Welcome to a new school year! I am delighted to be able to put my first newsletter together for the Saint Francis Xavier community as the incoming Principal in 2023. Having spent many years working in Catholic education I am excited at the prospect of working with such a dedicated staff and such a strong community. I can happily report that the Mercy values of welcome and hospitality have certainly been evident as I begin my tenure at this fine school. It may take me a while to get to know names but I'm sure that in time I will begin to connect siblings and families together. I hope that you will be patient with me.

Over the past week I have spent time with staff learning about our school and how it works on a daily basis. There is much to learn, so I can certainly understand what our new families might be experiencing at this time. Rest assured, we will learn together. I am very fortunate to have the support of Mrs. Jane Clark to assist me and to share her deep knowledge of our school. Along with Jayne Mohr, Christine Meneely and Gab McKinnis, I have a School Leadership team that is second to none.

On behalf of the staff, may I wish all students and families a very happy year of learning as we grow together in 2023. My hope for us all is that we will feel welcome, valued and supported as we come to school each day. With the blessings of a loving God, may the year unfold in the most positive of ways.

God bless,

Mark Hogbin



First Day of School

We enjoyed a very positive start to the school year on Monday with so many happy faces coming through the gate. Thank you to our existing families who made the newest members of our school community (including me!) feel so welcome. A special thankyou to Ange Staley (our outgoing Parents' and Friends' President), Steph Nunn (our incoming President) and the Parents' and Friends' team who catered for our morning tea.

Parents' Car Park – Traffic Movement

As we start a new school year it is important to remember that the management of traffic around our school is a shared responsibility. Please take your time to read the following information carefully and share with your family who will be driving to or from St. Francis Xavier.

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.

Term 1 Week 6

Monday 27th February
School Photos

Tuesday 28th February
9.30am School Alive Tour

Wednesday 1st March
Foundation children at home

Term 1 Week 7

Tuesday 7th March
9.30am School Alive Tour

Wednesday 8th March
Foundation children at home

Term 1 Week 8

Monday 13th March
Labour Day holiday

Tuesday 14th March
Student Free Day -
Staff Professional
Development Day
(Structured Literacy
Partners - Reading)

Regional Swimming at
Horsham

Thursday 16th March
Year 4 SFX Sacrament of
Reconciliation

Term 1 Week 9

Years 3 and 5 NAPLAN

Term 1 Week 10

Wednesday 29th March
9.30am School Alive Tour
6pm School Alive Tour

Thursday 30th March
Ballarat Catholic Primary
Schools Cross Country at
Fed Uni

Thurs 30th-Fri 31st March
Year 5 Sovereign Hill
Costumed School

Friday 31st March
Casual dress day
*Donations to Caritas
(Project Compassion)*

Term 1 Week 11

Thursday 6th April
Last Day of Term 1

Term 2

Monday 24th April to Friday
23rd June = 9 weeks

Term 3

Monday 10th July to Friday
15th September = 10 weeks

Term 4

Monday 2nd October to
Wednesday 20th December
= 12 weeks

Traffic Movement Instructions:

- When turning at the top of Fortune Street to come back down to park - please go to the 2nd group of trees beyond the double lines and opposite the golf club (marked with a LARGE X). Please go up to the cross in a single line and cross to come back down Fortune Street.
- Please inform all friends and relatives of the parking expectations and in particular THE ROAD RULES around St. Francis Xavier.
- Double Lines are painted on Fortune Street adjacent to the St. Francis Xavier school grounds. Double Line rules state that is illegal to:
 1. Overtake
 2. U-turn
 3. Right turn across the double lines from the left lane into a car park

The Double Lines have been introduced to ensure that the SFX Community is kept safe and that sensible driver behaviour is maintained.

Road Rules

- As a pedestrian only ever cross Fortune Street at the School Crossing.
- Please observe ALL 'No Standing,' 'No U-Turns,' 'One Way' and 'Bus Zone' signs.
- The Fortune Street Bus Zone is for BUSES ONLY. Parking in the bus zone will incur a parking fine.
- For the safety of all – please use the designated areas for parking and follow the rules.
- Police and Council patrols happen randomly and without notification.

By following the road rules we not only ensure safety for all but we also model to our children the importance of being responsible citizens. Let's make sure that we all arrive at and leave from school safely each day.

2023 School Calendar Please note that the 2023 School Calendar is continually being updated with key dates for the school year ahead. You can access the live calendar by visiting our School Website:

<https://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/news-events/school-calendar/>

Foundation 2023 – Rest Days

Please note Wednesdays 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd February and Wednesdays 1st and 8th March are rest days for our Foundation children. This means they will not be required at school on these days.

Our Foundation teachers will invite children to attend school for a short period of time on 2-3 of these days for assessment purposes. Stay tuned for further communication in regards to this!

School Closure Days – Term One, 2023 Please make note of the following Term One School Closure Days in your diary. These dates require all SFX children to stay home as school will not be open. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Monday 13th March, 2023	Labour Day – Public Holiday
Tuesday 14th March, 2023	Staff Professional Development Day (Structured Literacy Partners - Reading)

School Fee Schedule for 2023 All families should have received the School Fee Schedule for 2023. These fees were set out with the support and guidance from DOBCEL (Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited). If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Bus Transport for 2023 If there are any changes with regard to your child's transport from school for 2023 could you kindly fill in a Transportation From School form or contact the office with the relevant changes. If you are a new family starting in 2023 and intend for your child to travel by bus, please contact the office for a Transportation Form for you to complete and return.

Please find attached: St Alipius parish bulletin; Enrolment Information for Prospective 2024 Foundation Students; School Alive Tour details; PAM information for 2023; School fee details and agreement; Classroom teacher list; Bus transport from school form; Specialist teacher timetable.

Religious Education News

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday January 29, 2023 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Jesus saw the crowds and went up a hill, where he sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them:

"Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

"Happy are those who mourn; God will comfort them!

"Happy are those who are humble; they will receive what God has promised!

"Happy are those who hunger and thirst for what is right; God will satisfy them fully!

"Happy are those who are merciful to others; God will be merciful to them!

"Happy are the pure in heart; they will see God!

"Happy are those who work for peace; God will call them his children!

"Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

"Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers. Be happy and glad, for a great reward is kept for you in heaven. This is how the prophets who lived before you were persecuted.

(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation®)

Gospel reflection:

We are all part of one global family and we are called by God to care for the other members of that family, wherever they are in the world. The words of Jesus give us hope for a fairer world. We can help Jesus' words to come alive today and make the words that he spoke to his disciples a reality.

Our Challenge: What will you do this week to help Jesus' words to come alive in our world?

(Adapted from Cafod Website)



Christine Meneely, Religious Education Leader

Curriculum News

Hello and welcome to the 2023 school year and St Francis Xavier Primary School.

I have the privilege and pleasure to hold the position of Deputy Principal/Learning Enhancement here at school. Learning Enhancement is all about Learning. Learning is the process of acquiring new understanding, knowledge, behaviours, skills, values, attitudes, and preferences and Enhancement is an increase or improvement in quality, so therefore that is what I will be striving to do this year with children, staff and our community.

I look forward to the year ahead and supporting all. I wish everyone a happy and learning filled year.



Jane Clark
Deputy Principal – Learning Enhancement

Wellbeing News

Welcome to the 2023 school year! How wonderful it was this morning to feel such a positive energy and to see our children so excited about another year of learning.

With new beginnings comes the opportunity to introduce myself to new families as the School Counsellor and Wellbeing Leader. Each week I will share articles of interest in the newsletter about strengthening families and wellbeing as a way of supporting you in your very important role as parents and caregivers.

We are very fortunate at St Francis Xavier that mental health and wellbeing is prioritised as a means of ensuring holistic educational outcomes for all children.

I am thrilled with the way the school counselling service has been embraced by the school community and particularly the children with whom I work. Many of my referrals have come from children talking to their friends, parents speaking to other parents or teachers suggesting when a child may benefit from some support.

Over the next couple of weeks I will spend some time catching up with the children who worked with me last year. I look forward to hearing how their year has started and their goals for the year ahead.

After our initial meeting, I will introduce our new Student Wellbeing Leaders, so our children can continue to have a voice in both issues that affect them and the opportunity to be a part of the solution.

As in 2022, I will be working on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries or concerns as I value our partnership in working towards the best outcomes for your child.

Kind regards,

Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

2023 Welcome

I hope that you all had a relaxing and refreshing break over Christmas and New Year's. We welcome everyone back for a huge 2023 and look forward to many exciting Sports events this year. We kick off the Sporting year pretty soon!

2023 Sports Dates

Term 1:

- Week 4 - Thursday Feb 16th - District Tennis @ BRTC
- Week 4 - Friday Feb 17th - SFX Athletics Day @ Llanberris
- Week 5 - Friday Feb 24th - District Swimming @ Eureka Outdoor Pool
- Week 8 - Tuesday Mar 14th - Regional Swimming @ Horsham
- Week 10 - Thursday Mar 30th - Ballarat Catholic Primary Schools Cross Country @ Fed Uni

District Tennis Mr Down and Mr Carroll will be conducting tennis tryouts for girls and boys in the coming weeks for those wishing to participate in the District Tennis tournament at Hollioake Park in Week 4.

SFX Yr 3-6 Athletics Day

This year we will be conducting our Year 3-6 Athletics Day on Friday Feb 17 at Llanberris Athletics Reserve. More information will be presented shortly.

District Swimming Nominations are now being taken for and Yr 4 - 6 students wishing to compete in the District Swimming Competition in Week 5 at Eureka Swimming Pool. More information will be posted shortly.

SFX Football Jumpers, Singlets & Netball dresses/bibs If you have any SFX Football jumpers, singlets or netball dresses/bibs at home could you please return them to either Mr Down or Mr Carroll.

Have a great week.



Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**

P&F News

Zooper Doopers for sale on Mondays, commencing 6th February.
50 cents each, pay weekly.