



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 13th February 2023
Term 1 Week 4

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Term 1 Week 4

Monday 13th February

3.45pm Classroom Helper
Session in 2EH

Tuesday 14th February

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

Wednesday 15th February

Foundation children at home
District Tennis at BRTC

Thursday 16th February

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

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

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

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Have you been able to call by school recently? We were pleased to be able to conduct our *Year Ahead* meetings at school last week which was a great opportunity for parents and carers to meet the staff and see the various learning areas around the school. I know that the children were excited that you would be spending time in their classrooms, even if they weren't there.

We will have many opportunities for you to visit our school this year. Tomorrow after school we will be conducting the first of our *Getting to know your child as a learner* evenings in the gymnasium at school. These meetings are short and sharp and designed to allow you to let the teachers know more about your child as we commence the year together. These meetings will continue next Wednesday. Our year 3-6 classes will be enjoying their athletics day on Friday 17th February which is another great opportunity to be involved in the life of our school. There is certainly a lot happening!

We know from all the research undertaken about learning over the past 20 years that family involvement has a strong impact on students' attitudes to learning and their engagement in school. Even chatting together at the end of the day lets your children know that you are interested in their school life. Combine that with a few minutes of reading together and a moment or two to look over the dreaded homework and your children will certainly know that you value their learning in many different ways.

God bless,



Mark Hogbin.



Language Program 2023 We are very excited to be able to announce that we will commence our Auslan language program in second term this year. Many families may recall completing surveys in 2022 about preferred languages in our school. Acting on the findings of these surveys, we have been able to secure the services of Ms. Chantelle Stacey to assist us as we introduce the program. Chantelle comes to us with great experience in the field and we are looking forward to learning alongside our students as we embark on an Auslan adventure together.

Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting 2023 As teachers, we build up expertise in how children learn and how each child operates within our setting. We acknowledge that it is the parent who knows their child best and therefore sharing information between parents and teachers will ultimately foster the spiritual, physical,

Tuesday 14th March**Student Free Day -**

Staff Professional Development Day (Structured Literacy Partners - Reading)

Regional Swimming at Horsham

Wednesday 15th March

NAPLAN testing commences

Thursday 16th March

Year 4 SFX Sacrament of Reconciliation

Term 1 Week 9**Monday 20th March**

NAPLAN testing concludes

Friday 24th March

Mix + Mingle at Oscar's

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 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 Oct to Wed 20th Dec = 12 weeks

intellectual, emotional and social development of each child. These meetings provide 5 minutes dedicated 1:1 time for parents and teachers to meet and for you to share your child's strengths, passions, your concerns, and aspirations and anything you think will help your child to be successful.

Bookings for these meetings are via PAM.

- Day 1: 3:30pm to 5:00pm Tuesday 14th February.
 - Day 2: 3:30pm to 5:00pm Wednesday 22nd February.
- These meetings will take place in the gymnasium.



School Photos This week you will receive your child's personalized photo envelope from MSP Photography (5333 5577). If you wish to purchase photos please ensure your child has the photo envelope on photo day with the correct money or alternatively, there will an option to order photos online. Family Photo envelopes will be available from the Office. **Photo day is Monday 27th February and children will be required to be in full summer uniform (not sport uniform).**

Foundation Enrolment 2024 - 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:

1. Tuesday 21st February 2023
2. Tuesday 28th February 2023
3. Tuesday 7th March 2023
4. Wednesday 29th March 2023

There is also a 6pm session on Wednesday 29th March 2023.

Event Registration:

To register your attendance for an Open Day, School Alive Tour or Virtual Tour please complete the Registration Form at:

<https://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/enrol/open-days/>

Online Enrolment opened on Tuesday 8th February 2023

Attending an Open Day is the first step in the enrolment process. The online **Expression of Interest** is the second step in the enrolment process. If you wish to do so, please nominate St Francis Xavier Primary School as your first preference for your child's education. Please click on this link and fill in and submit the City of Ballarat Catholic School Expression of Interest Form: <https://dobcel.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/enrolments-application-form/>

Foundation Enrolment 2024 – Existing Families Enrolments are open for children of existing families who start Prep in 2024. Parents of existing families who have a child to start in 2024 - please complete the form by clicking on the following link to submit a **City of Ballarat Catholic Primary School Expression of Interest Form:** <https://dobcel.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/enrolments-application-form/>

PAM does not send an alert or reminder notice to families when the school sends a new letter or permission slip to be signed. Therefore we request that you login to your PAM account on a regular basis to check for outstanding notifications, to avoid missing important event information or deadlines. We have requested from PAM Support that alerts and reminders be future features.

Please find attached: St Alipius parish bulletin; Back to Mass 18th/19th February details; School Alive Tour details; Why micro-moments of connection matter.

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.

Parent Helping and Volunteering at St Francis Xavier

In the spirit of partnership we welcome family members to be actively involved in the education of their children.

In line with the Child Safe Standards Guidelines we now require all members of our community who would like to parent help and volunteer their time to complete our **Volunteer Induction Presentation** (link below) which includes a Volunteer Induction Application.

This will familiarise you with the protocols and expectations for volunteering at St Francis Xavier Primary School.

You are only required to watch the presentation and complete the application once.

Volunteer Induction Presentation

<https://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/SFX-Volunteer-Induction-Presentation-.pdf>

(This should take approximately 5-10 minutes)

Documentation required: Please bring your Working with Children card to our Office when volunteering for the first time. You will be required to sign in via our electronic Passtab system and will need your WWC card to do this. After signing in once you can save your details with as Quickpin which is your mobile number.

You will be also be required to sign a hardcopy of the DOBCEL- Child Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct on your first time volunteering, which we will keep on file. Hard copies will be available from the Office.

This information can also be found on the school website:

<https://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/community/volunteering-at-st-francis-xavier-primary-school/>

Religious Education News

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL Sunday February 12, 2023 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

"You have heard that people were told in the past, 'Do not commit murder; anyone who does will be brought to trial.' But now I tell you: whoever is angry with his brother will be brought to trial, whoever calls his brother 'You good-for-nothing!' will be brought before the Council, and whoever calls his brother a worthless fool will be in danger of going to the fire of hell. So if you are about to offer your gift to God at the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar, go at once and make peace with your brother, and then come back to offer your gift to God" *(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation®)*

Gospel reflection: Jesus tells us that we must try hard not to get angry with our sisters and brothers or call them names. If we do argue with them we must try to make it up with them and become friends again as soon as possible. Sometimes people spend too much time thinking about the differences between us, rather than seeing that we are all part of the same global family. This can lead to arguments and problems. In some cases it can lead to war or fighting between countries which means that people get hurt and have to leave their homes.

We are all different but we all have our own special gifts. What is your special gift? Are you good at sharing? Are you good at making friends? Are you a brilliant singer, dancer, builder, scientist?

We can use our special gifts to work together to make the world a fairer place for everyone rather than fighting with people who are different.

Our Challenge: This week, can you try not to argue with or hurt anyone? How will you try to make peace with others this week? *(Adapted from CAFOD website)*

Parish and Sacramental News

Please find attached to the Newsletter an invitation from St Alipius Parish to join us for Mass on February 18th at 6pm or at St Peter's and Paul's Buninyong on February 19th at 10.30am



REMINDER: Don't forget there is a compulsory parent information session at either 10.30am or 6pm on Thursday February 16 at St Alipius Church to register for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For any queries please contact Cathy or Natalie on (03)53326611



Christine Meneely, **Religious Education Leader**

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Curriculum News

Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting 2023

Staff will be doing all they can to get to know your child at the beginning of this term so they can enhance wellbeing and support and challenge each child to be the best that they can be, to be successful!

An important aspect of getting to know children is the "Getting to know your child as a Person and Learner Meeting" on Tuesday 14th February and Wednesday 22nd February **face to face**.

These meetings provide 5 minutes dedicated 1:1 time for parents/carers and teachers to meet and for you to share your child's strengths, passions, your concerns, and aspirations and anything you think will help your child to be successful.

If you haven't already signed up please do so. The process to sign up is through your PAM account.



A big 'Thank You' to those who were able to attend our Year Ahead meetings last Monday night. The teachers prepared PowerPoint presentations which gave an informed snapshot of what it looks, feels and sounds like to be in their classrooms. Thank you Classroom and Specialists teachers for the work you put into these.

NAPLAN 2023 is not far away. They are earlier than in years past, please put these dates into your diary. **Wed 15th March - Mon 20th March Week 8/9**

Enjoy your week.

Jane Clark

Deputy Principal – Learning Enhancement



Wellbeing News

Time poor and stressed out parents will often tell me they feel guilty for not spending enough "quality time" with their children.

Although grand gestures and whole days spent together are lots of fun, spending frequent, small amounts of time with children can be more beneficial than less frequent longer periods of time.

Dr Matt Sanders (Positive Parenting Program) suggests trying to spend small amounts of time with your child- as little as one or two minutes- frequently throughout the day.

Time that is special to your child might be when they approach to tell you something, show you something important, ask a question or involve you in their activity.

When these moments occur and you are not occupied with something important, try to stop what you are doing and be present with your child for just a short time. It takes a bit of practice to really tune in but it can really be powerful in developing positive relationships with your child. (This strategy works for partners/ family/ friends and work colleagues too!)

In my house, this looks like me putting my phone down for a minute to watch some funny youtube clip, joining them on the couch for a spontaneous cuddle or making a silly joke.

Quality time is different for all families. You may like to think about how you and your child can spend quality time together and those short minutes that can make such an impact.

In the attached article, Maggie Dent explores these micro-moments of connection and gives some great ideas that might be fun for your family.

Kind regards,

Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

Primary Schools Tennis Tournament Good luck to our 8 tennis players heading off to Hollioake Park this Wednesday for the Ballarat Primary Schools Tennis Tournament. Congratulations to Lola Roney, Felicity McGrath, Harriet Johnson, Annabelle Chalmers, Harriet Le Grand, Milla Shillito, Jack Fraser and Lachlan Patterson.

SFX Yr 3-6 Athletics Day This Friday (Feb 17) we look forward to our Year 3 - 6 Athletics Day at Llanberris Athletics Reserve. For full information please refer to the note sent on PAM.

After School Sporting Schools program This week our after school Sporting Schools program begins. The response to both programs was overwhelming so should we receive funding for future terms we will look to provide these programs again for those that missed out this time around.

Students participating on the following Mondays (Volleyball) are:

- Monday Feb 13 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Monday Feb 20 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Monday Feb 27 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Monday Mar 6 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Monday Mar 20 (3:30pm - 4:30pm) (*Mar 13 is a Public Holiday*)
- Monday Mar 27 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)

Mollie Arnts, Maeve Arnts, Damilare Baruwa, Elizabeth Baruwa, Mayomikun Baruwa, James Bodnar, Laura Bodnar, Meredith Bodnar, Charlotte Carter, Daulat Singh Gill, Scarlett Govan, Harper Gull, Harriet Johnson, Oscar Johnson, Oscar Kersley, Charlie Kersley, Xavier Kersley, Edward Lloyd, Macie Lloyd, Harriet Locke, Emma Locke, Jasper Patterson, India Skewes, Hannah Smith, Evangeline Spiers, Sofia St Louis, Christian Wright, Vivienne Young & Edith Young.

Students participating on the following Thursdays (Basketball) are:

- Thursday Feb 23 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Thursday Mar 2 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Thursday Mar 9 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Thursday Mar 16 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Thursday Mar 23 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Thursday Mar 30 (3:30pm - 4:30pm)

Connor Allen, Eddie Anderson, Judd Boyd, Flynn Boyd, Sully Boyd, Greyson, Broadbent, Odie Brooks, Freddie Brown, Tex Brown, Leni Brown, Lilly Bye, Harley Bye, Nicholas Green, Thomas Green, Eliza Hanrahan, Grace Hocking, James Hocking, Alexander Hocking, Charlie Irving, Noah Irving, Isla King, Evie Loader, Patrick Ludbrook, Annie Ludbrook, Banjo Nicholson, Betsy Nicholson, Oskar Olsewski, Myah Rivett, Jet Rivett, Aurorah Rivett, Imogen Sordello & Amelia Sordello.

2023 Sports Dates

Term 1:

- Week 4 - Wednesday Feb 15th - 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

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

Zooper Doopers for sale on Mondays. 50 cents each, pay weekly.

Please see below a link to sign up to help with Zooper Doopers on a Monday. Your help is really appreciated!

<https://signup.com/go/LSiymVV>

Please be aware that you will need a current Working With Children Check to be a helper. Thank you.



Friday Lunch Orders are Back

The P + F committee are pleased to announce that Golden Nugget and Wilsons Fruit and Veg, will be back as our suppliers for lunch orders this term.

When our good friends at Stewarts Bakery re-open, we will revert back to them as our main supplier for pastries, rolls and donuts. We continue to wish them all the best with their re-build.

Please don't forget to place your child's lunch order prior to 10am on a Thursday morning via the flexischools app. Unfortunately, no late orders can be accepted.

The P + F committee are continually on the lookout for volunteers to help pack orders each Friday. It would only be an hour of your time from 11-12ish, please sign up via the link below.

Thankyou in advance for your support.

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1266996607377888029/false#/invitation>



Community News



There's still time to join!

At Sovereign we ... dance, sing, perform, make friends, have fun. 2 free classes for new members only.
4/898 Humffray Street South, Ballarat. 0408 170 850 info@sovereigncalisthenics.com

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