



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 10th July 2023
Term 3 Week 1

P.O. Box 2027
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Term 3 (10 weeks)

Mon 10th July - Fri 15th Sept

Mon 10th & Tues 11th July
Year 3 Camp

Thursday 13th July
State Cross Country

Sacrament of Confirmation
Compulsory Parent
Information Sessions
at St. Alipius hall
10.30am and 6pm

Friday 14th July
9.30am Mass in Gym
12.40pm 2EH Assembly

Friday 21st July
12.40pm 1MM Assembly

Fri 28th July
School closure day

Friday 4th August
12.40pm 5OH Assembly

Friday 11th August
12.40pm F LH Assembly

Friday 18th August
12.40pm 6MM Assembly

Wednesday 23rd August
Division Basketball

Friday 25th August
Book Week celebrations

Friday 25th August
Ballarat Catholic Primary
Schools Athletics at
Llanberris

Friday 1st September
Fathers' Day celebration

Tuesday 5th September
Division Athletics @
Llanberris

Thursday 7th September
6pm at St Alipius
Year 3 Confirmation

Friday 8th September
12.40pm 1JS Assembly

Mon 11th – Fri 15th Sept
Years 1 & 3 swimming

Term 4 (12 weeks)

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Welcome to a new term, and our second Semester! As always there will be much happening around our school over the next ten weeks so make sure that you stay tuned for our weekly newsletter to keep up with all the happenings at St. Francis Xavier.

We wish our Year 3 students well as they attend their school camp experience today and tomorrow. There was much excitement in the air as the children arrived at school this morning with bags packed and expectations high for an eventful two days away. They will have many stories to tell on their return.

I wish all families a very happy third term. This is our coldest term but we will continue to work together to look out for each other in the weeks ahead as we learn and play together.

God bless,



Mark Hogbin.

Please find at the end of this newsletter: Parish Bulletin.

Lord, as we prepare for the coming of a new semester, help us to be ready, attentive and available to hear you.

Thank You for the gift of being able to rise each day with the assurance that You walk through it with us.

Thank You for the gifts of creativity and uniqueness, and the energy to put them to good use.

Amen.

What happened over the break?

We were able to make good use of an empty site over the break to get some much needed jobs done around our school. New hand rails make it easier to access our learning areas, our toilets are now fully operational, safety screens have been installed in the office/admin area and the old water tank has been removed from the roof. While some things might be more noticeable than others, it was great to tick a few jobs off the list.



Mon 2nd Oct - Wed 20th Dec

Mon 2nd – Fri 6th October

Years 2, 4 & 5 swimming

Friday 6th October

9.30am Mass at St Alipius

Friday 13th October

12.40pm 5JF Assembly

Friday 20th October

Grandparents' Day

Friday 27th October

12.40pm 2CJ Assembly

Friday 3rd November

12.40pm F MM Assembly

Friday 10th November

12.40pm 4CP Assembly

Friday 17th November

12.40pm 3NM Assembly

Friday 24th November

12.40pm F GJ Assembly

Friday 1st December

12.40pm 2GH Assembly

St Francis Xavier Feast Day
celebrations

Wednesday 6th December

Year 4 Camp

Monday 18th December

9.30am Mass in the Gym

Tuesday 19th December

Last 2023 student day



Thank-you to Mr. Down & Mr. Carroll

Perhaps the most exciting task completed over the break was the repairs to our basketball backboards. Mr. Down and Mr. Carroll spent a full day installing the new backboards so that our children can enjoy this area without hindrance. Thanks team!



Enterprise Bargaining Agreement 2022

You may be aware that there have been ongoing negotiations regarding working conditions for educators now for some time. After a long and protracted period of negotiations, the enterprise bargaining agreement entered into in 2022 has now been settled. This means that our staff and all who work in education can expect to hear of improved working conditions in the coming months. Once this has been approved at government level we can expect that our school will be called to revise some of the conditions in which we currently operate. We will wait until we receive more information in the weeks ahead before we make any changes to the way that our school operates so that we can be sure that any decisions made will be in the best interests of all concerned. We are so fortunate at St. Francis Xavier to have such a dedicated staff group who care for all students in exceptional ways, through the new agreement we hope that we can also ensure that we are looking after those who care so much.

Religious Education News

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday July 9, 2023 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, "Father, Lord of heaven and earth! I thank you because you have shown to the unlearned what you have hidden from the wise and learned. Yes, Father, this was how you wanted it to happen.

"My Father has given me all things. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on

*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.*

you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light.” (Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation)

Gospel reflection: Today we hear Jesus calling all people who are working hard, who are tired and struggling to come to him. Jesus knows that we all have times when we find life difficult. We all have times when we are tired, fed up and would like to give up.

Jesus says his yoke is easy. He does not mean an egg yolk! This yoke is spelled differently. It is a sort of wooden bar that farmers around the world use to make it easier to pull heavy ploughs. Jesus is saying that he will help us, that he is always there to comfort and support us and that when we are tired or finding things difficult, we can turn to him and find rest.

Just knowing that we are not alone can make a big difference when we are finding life hard. God is with us always, when we are alone, but also in the people who help and support us.

Our Challenge: Let’s look after others who are finding things difficult and do our best to help them. We can show them that they are not alone by the way we treat them.

What will you do to help someone who is finding life difficult, who is tired or struggling?



Sacrament of Confirmation Reminder

For all baptised children in Year Three or older, there is a compulsory parish meeting on Thursday July 13th for the parents of children making their Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

There are two meetings for you to choose from, either 10:30am or 6pm at St Alipius Church. Children are not required to attend. If you have any queries or concerns please contact Natalie or Cathy at the Parish

Office on 53326611.



School Term Three Mass

A warm invitation is extended to all our families, friends and parish members who would like to join us in celebrating our start of Term Whole School Mass. We welcome Father Barry Ryan, who has kindly offered to celebrate this Mass with us.

Time: 9.30am

Date: Friday July 14, 2023

Venue: St Francis Xavier School Gymnasium



Christine Meneely, **Religious Education Leader**

Curriculum News

What a great start to Term Three, with the children and staff returning to school with smiles on their faces and springs in their steps, ready to embrace and engage in another term of learning and growing. Our professional and dedicated staff are refreshed, well planned and just as excited to continue facilitating a plethora of learning opportunities to ensure that every child is catered for and that all will reach their goals. Once again, it will be another action-packed term with many events and experiences for our St Francis Xavier community as co learners to embrace and look forward to.



Book Week 2023

Book Week Theme: READ, GROW, INSPIRE

In the next following weeks you will be advised of the activities and events which the children and staff will be participating in.

Welcome back to Term Three,

Happy Days!



Jane Clark, **Deputy Principal – Learning Enhancement**

Wellbeing News



A Huge Thank-You!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal and for the generous donations of toiletries to support the most vulnerable in our community. If you have any further donations please bring them along and pop them in the office as we will drop them off at the end of the week.

Kind regards,

Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

Cross Country We wish Archer Spackman and Felicity McGrath all the very best for the State Cross Country Final in Melbourne this Thursday. We hope that your run is safe and swift.

After School Netball Thank you to all of those that expressed interest in playing in the after school netball competition in Term 3. Teams will be confirmed shortly and students and parents notified.

Sporting Schools We had an overwhelming response to those wishing to participate in the Term 3 Sporting Schools Program. Names of the students participating will be published in next week's newsletter and parents will be notified.

2023 Sports Dates

Term 3:

- Week 1 - Thursday July 13th - State Cross Country
- Week 7 - Wednesday Aug 23rd - Division Basketball
- Week 7 - Friday Aug 25th - Ballarat Catholic Primary Schools Athletics @ Llanberris
- Week 9 - Tuesday Sep 5th - Division Athletics @ Llanberris

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 terrific week.



Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**

P&F News

Second Hand Uniform Shop

We currently have a large supply of second-hand items available for purchase. If you would like to check what is in stock and buy, please call into the front office. New items are available to buy from Crockers.



▶ **SS PETER & PAULS**
701 FISKEN ST
BUNINYONG 3357



▶ **ST ALIPIUS**
82 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350



▶ **PARISH OFFICE**
84 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350
PH 5332 6611
OPEN TUE – FRI
10.00 AM – 1.00 PM

9 July 2023

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Come to me and I will give you rest

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Wed, Fri 9.30 AM in the Parish Hall
Saturday 9.30 AM, 6.00 PM
Sunday 9.00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)
10.30 AM (2nd & 4th)

Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2nd & 4th)
10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)
Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 4 this week – 9:30 AM

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

THE COMBINED
COMMUNITIES OF ST ALIPIUS
PARISH REACH OUT IN THE
SPIRIT OF FAITH, HOPE,
LOVE, AND ACCEPTANCE, AS
GOD CALLS US TO IN THE
GOSPELS.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed: Patricia
Parry, Jackie Wright

Anniversaries: Linda Gregory,
Edward John Duck, Silvia
Vasquez, Alina Miranda

Unwell: Peter McLachlan, Sarah
McLachlan, Carole Simmons,
Shelley Pawang

*Our parish is committed to all
children, young people, and
vulnerable adults' safety, well-
being, and dignity.*

*We acknowledge this land's
traditional owners and custodians
and pay our respects to Elders
past, present, and emerging.*



Parish Priest
Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Visiting Priest
Fr Barry Ryan

Sacramental and Parish
Coordinator
Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant
Natalie Shannon

Parish Pastoral Council
Chair
David Morrison

Finance Officer
Bernadette Prestwood

Finance Chair
Paul O'Beirne

Child Safety Officer
Emily Clarke

Liturgy Coordination
www.sapliturgy.net.au

Funeral Ministry
Carmel Flynn
stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com



Sea
Sunday

9 July 2023

MORNING TEA AT ST ALIPIUS

The Parish Pastoral Council invites all to stay for morning tea in the St Alipius Hall after the 10:30 AM mass on Sunday 9 July. Please bring a plate of food to share.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Morning Tea after 10:30 AM Mass 11:30 AM, Sunday 9 July, St Alipius Hall
Confirmation Information Sessions 10:30 AM or 6:00 PM, Thursday 13 July
Parish Master Plan Discussions After 10:30 AM masses on 16 July at Ss Peter and Paul's and 23 July at St Alipius
Parish Trivia Night 7:00 PM, Friday 4 August, St Alipius Hall

PARISH MASTER PLAN

The Parish Finance Committee is embarking on a process to establish a parish master plan to maximise the potential of our buildings and land. By generating income through these assets, we can better support the upkeep of our churches, our various ministries, programs, and ongoing pastoral initiatives, thereby serving our community more effectively.

We seek your insights, suggestions, and creative ideas. Together, we can envision new possibilities and identify sustainable income streams that align with the mission and vision of our parish. If you have expertise in real estate, business, or finance or simply possess a passion for our parish's wellbeing, your input is invaluable.

Please join us after the 10:30 AM masses on 16 July at St Peter's & Paul's and 23 July at St Alipius to discuss the parish's asset holdings and ideas for their future use.

CONFIRMATIONS

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin with parent information sessions at 10:30 AM or 6:00 PM on Thursday 13 July. If you or anyone you know has a child in Year 3 or older who would like to be confirmed, please contact the parish office, or refer to the parish website. Confirmation is the second Sacrament of Initiation and will be celebrated in September.

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

We are holding a Trivia Night at 7:00 PM on Friday 4 August. Tickets are \$10 per person with tables of up to 8 people. BYO nibbles and drinks. Tea and coffee will be supplied. Please contact the office for tickets and if you can help with donating prizes for the evening.

COLLECTION FOR THE POPE

Thank you to everyone who supported the Pope's collection last weekend. We raised \$935.75.

DRAFT MISSION STATEMENT

Our Parish Vision Statement is printed on the front of this notice sheet. At our most recent Parish Pastoral Council meeting, the following Mission Statement was drafted:

Our mission at the Parish of St. Alipius is to actively engage and serve our combined communities, embodying the teachings of the Gospel. Rooted in the spirit of faith, hope, love, acceptance, and Mercy, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment. Guided by God's call to service, we aim to build strong connections, provide spiritual nourishment, promote social justice, and offer support to individuals and families in their journey of faith. Through our dedicated interactions, we seek to deepen our relationship with God, inspire transformation, and make a positive impact in the lives of those we encounter, spreading God's love and compassion to all.

We invite and encourage all parishioners to consider the contents of the Mission statement and welcome your feedback.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your generosity is appreciated.

Supporting our parish priests	\$1,104
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$3088.20

Planned giving envelopes for the new financial year are available for collection at the back of the churches. Thanks to all who participate in the stewardship program for your contributions. We invite anybody who would like to join the program to please contact the parish office.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

The St Vincent de Paul Society's annual Winter Appeal will focus on older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Appeal envelopes are located at the ends of the pews. People wishing to support the work of SVdP through our local conference can place their donation in an envelope and return it via the collection plate. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and can be made at www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal, at Vinnies shops, or by calling 13 18 12.

FR JORGE ON LEAVE

From 13th July 2023 Fr Jorge is returning home to be with family. He will return on 2nd September 2023. Fr Jorge is asking for prayers for him and his family during this time. During this time we welcome Fr Barry, Fr Ed and Fr Jim who are happy to fill in during the absence of Fr Jorge.

BAPTISMS

Vivetta Mia and Oliver Gordon Stewart
Children of Daniel Stewart and Rachael Leoncini

Arabella Goldie Leoncini
Child of Jason and Kelly Leoncini

Fletcher Kenneth Boadle
Child of Teagan Boadle and Laura Jago

Harry Otto Boadle
Child of Nicholas and Amy Boadle

Levi James Boadle
Child of Scott and Karen Boadle

*The church gives faith to your children through
Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.*
Pope Francis

SEA SUNDAY – 9 JULY

Today is Sea Sunday when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living. The Appeal today is for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. To assist this Catholic ministry, please send your donations to <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/>

PIETY STALL

During a recent stocktake, many slow-to-move articles were identified. These have been placed on tables near the piety stall and are either free or \$2 each.

DIOCESAN E-NEWS

Read about news and events of the diocese in the latest edition of e-News www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/

PRAYING WITH THE POPE

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope, and calling us to loving service. 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – www.thepopevideo.org.

The Pope's intention for July – for a Eucharistic life: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and be opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

GOOD OIL WRITERS' AWARD

Entries are invited for The Good Oil 2023 Writers' Award, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. The theme for this year's award is "Finding My Voice". Entry is free and open to both emerging and published writers. For more information: www.goodsams.org.au/article/the-good-oil-2023-writers-award-finding-my-voice

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

On Tuesday, 20 June, the Secretariat of the Synod published the *Instrumentum Laboris*, or working document, for the first session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops – commonly referred to as the Synod on Synodality. Read more at the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/

CATHOLIC CARE APPEAL

CatholicCare Victoria helps individuals, families and communities access the care and support they need when they need it most. They believe that everyone deserves the safety and comfort a home can provide. This winter, you can support people who need a home. www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/16/winter-appeal

Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 11:25–30

Today's gospel begins with Jesus' prayer of thanksgiving to God. The verb "to thank" in this instance has connotations of blessing. In this prayer, Jesus contrasts those who consider themselves wise and intelligent with the truly wise ones, the "little ones" who know the daily struggle to survive, those to whom the secrets of God's empire have been revealed. The prosperity gospel that affirms the acquisition of wealth is far removed from the words proclaimed by Jesus. God's ways turn human expectations upside down.

The final verses of today's gospel are among the best known and best loved in all of the gospel tradition. "Come to me...and I will give you rest" is a lovely invitation. It is issued to those who are weary and burdened and that includes most of us at some time or another. We might hear it as addressed to the First Peoples of Australia and to African Americans who are weary and burdened by waiting for justice. We might equally hear it spoken to those in war-torn countries like Yemen and Syria and Afghanistan. The "rest" that Jesus offers is God's rest. It is not just relief from drudgery and hard

work. In the biblical tradition, rest is *shabbat*. It is freedom from any sort of enslavement. It is freedom to remember God's goodness in creation. Rest time or *shabbat* is about making a space to contemplate the wonder of the galaxies, the wonder of life in all its forms and all its potentialities. God's rest restores life to our wearied spirits. It frees us to open ourselves to ever new possibilities and to be there for others. Spending a little time each day with a poem or a beautiful painting can be an experience of entering into God's rest.

*Learn of me, for I am gentle and
humble of heart*

"Take my yoke upon you..." is Jesus' further invitation. The same verb will be used when Jesus tells his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them ... take up their cross and follow me." The "yoke" of Jesus, the cross that he will take up, and the cross that his disciples are invited to bear, are all of a piece. A yoke is a cross-beam or cross-bar. Jesus will carry his cross-beam to execution.



Disciples, in their turn, will carry their cross-beams, figuratively if not literally. They will not be weighed down or burdened by this prospect for the "yoke" of which Jesus speaks is "easy". How can this be? The answer lies in the final invitation: "Learn of me, for I am gentle and humble of heart..." In Matthew's beatitudes, the gentle are said to be blessed. There is nothing weak about the gentle ("meek" is not a helpful translation). The non-violent methods of the gentle are infinitely more effective in restoring creation than the violence of so many who present themselves as "wise and intelligent". God's "rest" is the source of their power – and of ours.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ZECHARIAH 9:9–10
ROMANS 8:9, 11–13
MATTHEW 11:25–30

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 55:10–11
ROMANS 8:18–23
MATTHEW 13:1–23

Basketball Ballarat Term 3 Community Programs

Basketball Ballarat provide children with a fun and safe basketball experience that will serve as an introduction to a lifetime involvement in the game. A wide variety of introduction to basketball programs are ran by Basketball Ballarat, allowing children to start learning basketball as young as 2 years old.

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
- Mini Miners – perfect for kindergarten aged children, 2 – 4 years
- Next Level – suited for domestic players 2011-2013 born

Registrations are now open for all community hoops programs, with the programs starting the week beginning July 17th.

For more information and to register: Community – Ballarat Basketball

For further details please contact Ethan Fiegert via email development@ballaratbasketball.com or call reception on (03) 5338 1220

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Meet and learn from all your favourite Ballarat Miners players

Mini Miners (2 - 4 years old)
Develop fundamental skills and movement

Aussie Hoops (4 - 7 years old)
Introductory basketball development program

Rookie Hoops (8 - 11 years old)
Introductory basketball development program

All Abilities Hoops (5 - 18 years old)
Introductory basketball development program

Next Level (10 - 12 years old)
Learn new concepts and build on skills

BALLARATBASKETBALL.COM.AU

QUERIES: CALL DOM 0417 967 621



WILD WINTER SPORTS!



BACK AT SFX PS FOR TERM 3!

IN TERM 3 2023

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM

WEDNESDAYS: MULTI-SPORTS 3:25PM-4:25PM
(AFL, SOCCER, BASEBALL, BASKETBALL & BADMINTON)
PREPS TO GRADE 6, 10 WEEK PROGRAM



LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!



WE RUN OUR SESSIONS AT SFX PS
PARENTS PICK-UP AT 4:55PM
\$23 + GST PER SESSION

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU

WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GREATER-BALLARAT



KELLY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP OFFER
POWERED BY SCHOOL LOCKER



40% OFF*

Get 40% off selected New Balance products, just for booking with Kelly Sports for Term 3, 2023.

*Conditions Apply

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU

