



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Wednesday 17th July 2024
Term 3 Week 1

P.O. Box 2027
Ballarat East VIC 3354
Phone: 5331 6311
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Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Term 3 (10 weeks)

Mon 15th Jul – Fri 20th Sep

Thursday 18th July

10.30am and 6pm

Confirmation: Compulsory
Parent Information Sessions
at St Alipius Church

Friday 19th July

2pm Start of Term 3 and
NAIDOC Week celebrations
Mass in our Gym

Friday 26th July

2.40pm Assembly led by 2CK

100 days of school for
Foundation

Thursday 1st August

Last day for Book Club
Issue 5 orders

Friday 2nd August

2.40pm Assembly led by
1EM

Friday 16th August

2.40pm Assembly led by
FTW

Friday 23rd August

Book Week Parade
2.40pm Assembly led by FGJ

Friday 30th August

Fathers/Special Friends Day
Liturgy

Friday 6th September

2.40pm Assembly led by
4BO

Friday 13th September

2.40pm Assembly led by
3DW

Term 4 (11 weeks)

Mon 7th Oct – Fri 20th Dec

Friday 11th October

Start of Term/Mercy Day
Mass

Friday 18th October

2.40pm Assembly led by 2JS

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Welcome to our third term and our second semester. I hope that you were able to enjoy a restful break over the past two weeks while we put the school books away and enjoyed some of what beautiful Ballarat has to offer in the winter months. I headed off to Canberra over the break and I can confirm that there are colder places than Ballarat in the midst of winter!

As always, we have a busy term ahead with lots of learning planned. The staff have all rested up and are ready to go and by the looks of the faces of the children this morning, I would say that they are too. Let's have a great term everyone as we continue to grow and learn together at our great school.

God bless,

Mark Hogbin



A Prayer for A New Term



Lord,

As we prepare for the coming of a new term make us 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 with us. Thank You for the gifts of creativity and uniqueness, and the energy to put them to good use. Amen.

Baby News

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Keogh (2CK) who are expecting their first child in December. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs McMorrow (5MM) who have announced that they are expecting their first child at the end of the year.

Pick up & drop off around School

Please note that our school is open from 8.15am each morning and classes cease for the day at 3.15pm. We understand that traffic can be extremely busy at these times so we ask all drivers to be mindful of pedestrians. The children are great at obeying the traffic safety rules and we want to support them in their learning and keep everyone safe always.

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.

Friday 25th October
2.40pm Assembly led by
1MV

Friday 1st November
2.40pm Assembly led by
5JW

Monday 4th November
Student Free Day

Tuesday 5th November
Melbourne Cup Holiday

Friday 8th November
2.40pm Assembly led by 6ZA

Friday 15th November
2.40pm Assembly led by 2RR

Wed 20th & Thurs 21st Nov
Year 5 Camp

Safe Travel Around School

It is vitally important that all adults observe the safety rules when approaching our school at drop off and pick up times. Parents are reminded of the need to be patient and to move with the flow of the traffic along Fortune Street by proceeding up to and around the tree (marked with a white cross) which is on the left-hand side of the road at the Golf Course end of the school. Drivers cannot legally cross the double lines which extend from the bus parking area at the front of the school to the end of the barrier fence that is located opposite the school. Doing so risks the safety of other children and drivers. At pick up and drop off times most traffic on Fortune Street is directly connected to our school community so it is very important that we look out for each other and model safe practices at all times.



School Closure Days

Thank you to all members of our school community for supporting our school closure days at the start of this term. We were able to use the time wisely to ensure that all staff are up to date with their professional requirements and ready to go for the second half of the year.

Children are invited to:

100 Days of School

Theme:
'What I want to be when I grow up!'

Foundation
St Francis Xavier Primary School
TERM 3 WEEK 2
FRIDAY 26TH JULY

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday July 14, 2024 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Gospel: Mark 6:7-13 Jesus taught in all the neighboring villages. Then he called together his twelve apostles and sent them out two by two with power over evil spirits. He told them, "You may take along a walking stick. But don't carry food or a traveling bag or any money. It's all right to wear sandals, but don't take along a change of clothes. When you are welcomed into a home, stay there until you leave that town. If any place won't welcome you or listen to your message, leave and shake the dust from your feet as a warning to them." The apostles left and started telling everyone to turn to God. They forced out many demons and healed a lot of sick people by putting olive oil on them. *(Gospel passage taken from Contemporary English Version)*

Gospel reflection:

Jesus sent his disciples out to spread his word, but told them to take very little with them. The disciples had nothing – it must have been very difficult without food or money. They had to rely on the people they met along the way being kind and generous, inviting the disciples to stay with them and share their food.

In the world today some people have to leave their homes very quickly, because of fighting nearby, or because of floods or other natural disasters. They do not get to take very much with them – just what they can carry. Khodesa had to leave her home in Myanmar and travel to the neighbouring country of Bangladesh, because of violence. She waited until her baby was a week old before she set out. Before then they hid with her three older children outside their village for safety. Khodesa said, "We walked for days through the jungle before reaching the border with Bangladesh, then we had to wait to cross. We started with four bags but had to abandon them on the way. We survived by begging for food from other refugees"

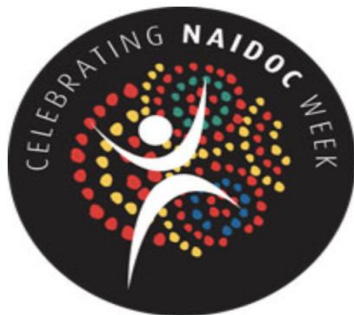
How do you think Khodesa felt, having to flee her home with her family? And how do you think she felt when others shared their food with her?

Our Challenge: How can you share and be welcoming to others this week? *(Adapted from CAFOD website)*



Sacrament of Confirmation Reminder

For all baptised children in Year Three or older, there is a compulsory parish meeting on Thursday July 18th for the parents and caregivers 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 3 and our NAIDOC Week celebrations with Eucharist together. We welcome our Parish Priest Father Justin Driscoll who has kindly offered to celebrate this Mass with us.

Time: 2 pm

Date: Friday July 19, 2024

Venue: St Francis Xavier School Gymnasium

Christine Meneely, **Religious Education Leader**

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Upcoming Event - Book Week 2024



Book Week is held annually at St Francis Xavier to celebrate reading and engage children in literature and to bring stories to life through play and costume. It's a great time to encourage the joy of reading through dress ups. Please save the date and more information will follow soon. Each year Book Week carries a new theme, in 2024 that theme is "READING IS MAGIC".

NAPLAN 2024

NAPLAN reporting packages will be delivered to schools from **Monday 15 July 2024** and will include a printed Individual Student Report for each student who participated in NAPLAN in 2024. Once they have arrived we will pass them on.

Structured Literacy School Closure day Term 3 Tuesday 16th July 2024

What an informative day we had at St Francis Xavier via Zoom with our other Level 1B schools led by Emma Rutherford - Education Officer DOBCEL: Structured Literacy Project Lead. Teachers worked on each of the below sessions with enthusiasm and learning occurred for all. The children in turn will gain great benefit from the skills and knowledge their teachers gained from the day.

Session 1. Reading for Enjoyment - The importance of rich literature selections

Session 2. Effective Planning - Lesson Preparation

Session 3. Pulling it all Together - The Second Hour of the Literacy Block- Applying literacy skills in the context of HASS (Humanities and social sciences (TWR - The Writing Revolution Strategies).

Enjoy your week.



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

Parents' & Friends' News



Hot lunches: Each Friday we require a minimum of 5 volunteers to help pack our hot lunches for an hour, 11am to 12noon. Please sign up here if you are free to help.

[Hot Lunches
signup.com](https://signup.com)

Attachments

ASSEMBLY AWARDS 28th June 2024 Hosted by FMM Theme: Respect

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.

FLH	Sadie Porter and Fergus Toohey	4GH	Bridie Millington and Mollie Arnts
FGJ	Sophie Quinlan and Murphy Daniel	4ML	Grace Hocking and Noah Rice
FTW	Rex Owins and Bob Nunn	4BO	Emily Crough and Paddy Dwyer
FMM	Georgie Dwyer and Jack Hingston	5CC	Henri Gleeson, Zara Thorpe and Murphy Noonan
1JS	Piper Swayn and Rupert Veal	5MA	Cooper Manning and Christopher Martin
1EM	Polly Meade and Tom Stanely	5JW	Myles Youl and George Pearce
1MV	Billie Dodd and Zahli Kingston	6PB	Flynn Boyd and Eden Howard
2RR	Tex Brown and Lachie Purtell	6ZA	Mila Shillito and Campbell Delahunty
2CK	Scarlett Govan and Edward Giblett	6MM	Emma Locke and Elliana Tocchet
2JS	Ted Answer and Ivy Dorning	EE	Will Allan and Birdie Toohey
3JE	Mitchell Cyples and Tara Lloyd	PA	Sutton Answer and Darcie Richardson
3JV	Leo Dodd and Molly Lewis	VA	Piper Swayn, Marli Wilson and Theo McAdam (1JS). Ted Answer (2JS)
3DW	Hudson Ryan and Charlie Quarrell	PE	Pippa Bourke and Ted Nunn
		Tch	Macklin Smith and Joe Trigg (4GH)
Principal's Award: Aila Glab for always demonstrating the value of respect in her class			



► **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
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

14 July 2024

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

'He called the Twelve, and began to send them out.'

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tue 5:30 PM, Wed – Fri 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

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

Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

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

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed:

Danko Skrokov, Rizaldy Lizada (Fr. Eladio's brother), Michael Cullinan, Jaclyn O'Loughlin

Anniversaries:

Peter Saunders

Unwell: Socorro De Chavez

Shelley Pawang, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Carole Simmons

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest
Fr Justin Driscoll

Assistant Priest
Fr Matthew Restall

Parish Coordinator
Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant
Natalie Shannon

Finance Officer
Bernadette Prestwood

Child Safety Officer
Emily Clarke

PARISH VISION

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.

PARISH MISSION

Our mission in the Parish of St Alipius is to actively engage and serve our combined communities, embodying the teachings of the Gospel. Strengthened 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 relationships with God, inspire transformation, and make a positive impact in the lives of those we encounter, spreading God's love and compassion to all.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Anniversary Planning
3 PM, 14 July, Parish Hall

Parish Finance Council Meeting
7.30 AM, 18 July, Presbytery

Confirmation Preparation
10.30 AM or 6 PM, 18 July, Parish Hall

Leadership Formation Session
10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, 4 August, Buninyong

Trivia Night
6:30PM for 7PM start, 30 August, Parish Hall

SVDP WINTER APPEAL

The theme of this year's St Vincent de Paul winter appeal is the 'Working Homeless', which focuses on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. Donation envelopes are available at the piety stand, at the end of each pew at St Alipius, and near Sts Peter and Paul's entrance. Envelopes can be placed in the offertory collections during mass. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Please write your name and address on the envelope if you need a receipt.

ST VINCENT VOLUNTEERS

Between May 2023 – May 2024, SVdP provided \$730,000 worth of aid across greater Ballarat, which was an increase of 33% on the previous year. The gratefully received support from our parish enables SVdP to continue to assist those in need. If anyone is interested in joining the Society, please contact the parish office. SVdP needs volunteers for their Wednesday and Friday sessions held between 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM, at the Ballarat Assistance Centre, 4 Dawson Street, Ballarat.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING

The next meeting for anniversary planning will be held this Sunday 14 July at 3pm in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Come along and share your memories and ideas for how we can recognise this anniversary in our parish.

COMMUNION TO THE HOME

We currently have a number of parishioners who are receiving communion at home and others who would like to. These parishioners are unable to attend Mass for various reasons and it is our wish to be able to have people visit them at home and give them communion on a regular basis. If you would like to contribute in this way please contact the parish office for more information.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

A Marriage Encounter weekend will be held on 4 - 6 October 2024 at St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantima South. This starts on Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm.

Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$938
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$268.90

Planned Giving envelopes are now available in the rear of each church. Please collect yours as soon as possible to save on postage.

PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

Planned Giving receipts are now available. If you wish to receive a statement for your contribution to the Planned Giving program, please contact the parish office. The statements will not be sent out automatically this year.

MEDITATION SESSIONS

Following the success of recent meditation sessions with Fr. Peter Murphy, there will be a trial period of Christian Meditation for those interested.

It will take place on Wednesdays at the St. Alipius Church hall at 5pm. Sessions will run for approximately 45 minutes. After the four week trial, a decision will be made as to the future of these sessions.

BAPTISMS

Marley Jane and Archie David Martin
Children of Lachie and Nikita Martin

Ted Geoffrey and Lenny George Baldwin
Children of Grant and Jodie Baldwin

Olive Ivey Pollard
Child of Tess Pollard

Anderson Evan Sutterby
Nicholas and Jessica Sutterby

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

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY PREPARATION

In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. In 2023, Bishop Paul asked parishes to focus on leadership in their local communities, either by forming or developing further a parish council or leadership team according to local circumstances. The Diocesan Assembly will bring together clergy, representatives of the leadership teams in parishes, schools and Catholic organisations to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. The formation opportunity is for Clergy in parishes, Parish Leadership Team/Parish Councils, School Leadership Teams/School Advisory Councils, Catholic Organisations Leaders. An invitation is also extended to people who have leadership potential and who would like to participate. Leadership teams are invited to nominate others who might benefit from this experience. Ballarat dates are: August 4, 10.30am – 4.00pm, Ss Peter and Paul's Church, Buninyong, August 13, 5.00pm – 8.30pm, OLHC Church, Wendouree.

SAFETRAC TRAINING OVERDUE

Have you completed your training? Clergy, staff and volunteers including Parish Safeguarding Officers are required to complete this training. If you are receiving a reminder email each week please go to the link to complete training. If you have any queries please contact the parish office, we are very happy to help.

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Plans are in place for another trivia night in our parish. Please keep August 30 free so that you can join us and share your wealth of knowledge. If anyone has, or knows of someone who may be in a position to donate an item for a raffle to be held on the night, please contact the parish office. Tables of 8 can be booked through the parish office. Tickets are \$15 per person. BYO drinks and nibbles.

SPORT CAN LEAD THE WAY TO CHRIST

Like many other countries, Australia is passionate about sport. But how are the Church, faith and sport connected and why should they be? Whether competing, supporting or encouraging play for health, sport is part of our family and social life. In sport we experience community and teamwork, sacrifice and dedication, the benefits of rules and fair play, the highs of success and the learnings that come with defeat. We learn from coaches, parents and friends as we put in the extra effort to train or to attend games. Sport forms us not only in the skills of play or competition, but in life experiences that form our personal human development. The Church and sport can learn from each other in many ways. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has published a new document that explains how sport is a gift that can draw people closer to Christ. More information available from the diocesan website.

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/sport-can-lead-the-way-to-christ/>

LAUDATO SI

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us that everything is connected. Our relationship with nature is not separate from our relationship with God and others. This concept of integral ecology encourages us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action. The Diocesan Social Justice Commission, in collaboration with Caritas (Diocese of Ballarat), Earthcare Ballarat and the Pastoral Ministry Office offer the following:

Save energy at home: Much of our electricity and heat are powered by coal, oil and gas. Use less energy by reducing your heating and cooling use, switching to LED light bulbs and energy-efficient electric appliances, washing your laundry with cold water or hanging things to dry instead of using a dryer. Improving your home's energy efficiency, through better insulation for instance, or replacing your oil or gas furnace with an electric heat pump, can reduce your carbon footprint by up to 900 kilograms of CO₂e per year.

The Value of Travelling Light

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

To be a disciple of Jesus is to experience a call. It is also to be sent on a mission in partnership with others, a mission invariably expressed in terms of preaching, teaching, healing, and/or driving out of demons or unclean spirits. In other words, it is to be authorised to do what Jesus did and to proclaim what he proclaimed. When we hear of Jesus casting out demons and telling his disciples to do likewise, we tend to think that whatever they did is something that belongs to another time and has little to do with our contemporary society. In the cosmology of the time, there was a realm between the divine and the human that was inhabited by good and evil spirits (angels and demons). The divide between these realms was conceptualised as porous so that humans could be protected by the angels or "possessed" by the demons. While the cosmology of the twenty-first century has no "place" for such beings, the contemporary imagination allows space for a metaphorical engagement with the angelic and demonic. When we speak of "demons" now, we are talking about something recognisable in human experience, even if somewhat removed from the "demons" that beset the poor in the Roman imperial provinces of the first century.

Today's parents spend much of their time metaphorically "casting out the demons" that beset their children, as do our friends when they sit and listen to the pain in our hearts and help us to let go of the "demons" that so often inhabit our psyches. Many health professionals are paid to heal the hurts as well as the cuts and burns. They drive out the demons of fear and hate and prejudice and of paralysing mental illness.

*'Mutual respect,
community-mindedness,
an eagerness to share,
reverence for nature,
thankfulness and love of
life...'*

Educators also, aware that learning occurs only when students are relatively free from fear and anxiety, know what it means to drive out the demons. The recent experience of pandemic and of violence in its many forms has unleashed new "demons" of fear and distrust.



We are called to be attentive to the pain in the hearts of those affected in these ways.

It is significant that Jesus instructs the disciples to travel light. They need the basics to live and to do their job, but if their mission is to be effective, they must be free from the anxiety that comes from excess. Psychologist and social critic John F. Schumacher suggests that societies with the most material goods tend to be the most anxious. "Mutual respect, community-mindedness, an eagerness to share, reverence for nature, thankfulness and love of life", it seems, are the major ingredients for a stress- or "demon"-free personal and community life. There would be no need to shake the dust from our feet for want of hospitality if that were the way we all chose to live. What's more, if we travelled light there would be enough for all on our planet, the human and other-and-human, to live in dignity and peace.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AMOS 7:12-15
EPHESIANS 1:3-14
MARK 6:7-13

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JEREMIAH 23:1-6
EPHESIANS 2:13-18
MARK 6:30-34

QUERIES: CALL DOM 0417 967 621



TERM 3 SPORTS!



SFX PS

WEDNESDAYS: MULTI-SPORTS 3:20PM-4:50PM

FOOTY, SOCCER, BASKETBALL, BASEBALL & BADMINTON (2 WEEKS OF EACH)
10 WEEK PROGRAM. PREPS TO GRADE 6



**\$23+GST
PER
SESSION**

**SIGN UP
AT ANY
TIME
DURING
THE TERM**



Sessions run at SFX PS.
Pick-up is at 4.50pm from the
front of the school

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

 **KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU**

WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GREATER-BALLARAT



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS AFTER SCHOOL *care program*

We cater to the needs of all children and offer a range of activities including sports, games, arts and crafts, cooking, creative and expressive arts such as drama, singing and dancing, board games and puzzles and much more. We also provide healthy and delicious snacks.

For more information call 0491 743 126
or visit yballarat.org.au

