Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week we welcome Mrs Maree Fazackerley, as part of the Student Support Team in the role of Literacy Support Teacher and Ms Alejandra Diaz as a School Officer.

We thank the P and F for their organisation of the Lapathon to raise funds for our school. Children received a sponsorship form and information letter on Tuesday of this week. This event will be held on Thursday, 9th May, 1:40pm. Parents are welcome to come and watch the event. Each year the children look forward to purchasing a gift for their mother or grandmother at the Mother’s Day stall. The P & F have organised this stall for Friday, 10th May. All students will have the opportunity to visit the stall throughout the day.

Prep enrolments for 2014 close on Friday, 10th May. If you wish to enrol your child or know another family who is interested in joining our school community, please contact the office for an enrolment package.

Next Wednesday evening, our staff will remain open school to complete their First Aid qualification. This enables teachers to attend excursions, camps and sporting events, ensuring our children are safe and our obligation of care is met.

Best wishes for the coming week

Veronica Lawson, Principal
**RE NEWS  Mrs Natalie Tugliach APRE**

**Catching Fire** is the name of the Brisbane Catholic Education Spiritual Formation Framework. Out of this framework staff formation programmes and a variety of resources have been developed. This year St Francis Xavier is beginning a three year cycle of retreat programs. Ms Cavallaro and I are participating in *Spirit Fire*, which we started last term, Mrs Lawson begins *Guiding Lights* this week and next term Mrs Wild and Mr Sologinkin will begin *Keeper of the Flame*. Each program has a different rationale but what bring them together is that Catching Fire is a whole school community approach to staff formation. As a school we are making a commitment to support the spiritual growth of individual staff as well as supporting the spiritual heart of our whole school. This term we are focusing on Staff Prayer Fire. As a staff we participate in a different prayer experience each week, which can be used individually or within the classroom context. Participating in these experiences and being confident to pass them on to our students supports the Religious Life of our School. So far we have experienced Lectio Divina Prayer though the *Spirit of Welcome*: The kind of person whose generosity welcomes the friend and stranger alike; who understands the importance of ‘breaking bread’ and ‘sharing bread’ and ‘sharing lives; and who is a smiling face of welcome to all. We have also done Christian meditation through *Spirit of Prayer*: The kind of person who is faithful to our community’s prayer life and supportive of others in nurturing and sustaining personal prayer.

If you would like to know more about the prayer experiences please do not hesitate to see me. During term 3 I would like to facilitate a parent’s prayer morning using these same resources. I will be asking for interested parents to let me know later in the term.

**Reconciliation Action Plan – RAP** as a school we are beginning the journey of writing a school RAP. We met with staff from Brisbane Catholic Education on Tuesday and will begin working with staff early in term 3. We want to make links with local elders to support this process. If you know an elder from the local people we ask that you speak with them to ask if they would be interested in supporting SFX on this journey. Once you have permission from the elder if you pass their name on to me that would be most appreciated.

**May Christian Behaviour Focus** - Kindness (with a focus on Stewardship) is showing you care, doing some good to make life better for others. It is being thoughtful about people’s needs. Kindness is showing love and compassion to someone who is sad or needs your help. Kindness is treating yourself and others gently. It is caring about the earth and all living things.

A question for families - How do you use your Time Talent and Treasure to show kindness to others?

**Year 4 are presenting assembly prayer this week. Natalie**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE APA Mrs Michaela Lewis** Dear Parents and Caregivers,

**Reporting:** At the end of this term, you will receive your child’s report card, outlining their progress to date this year. This week at our staff meeting, the teachers reviewed the reporting process, which is managed and stored centrally through Brisbane Catholic Education. Teachers log in and complete the reports on line. These are proof read by a peer reviewer and then verified by a member of the school Leadership Team. The reports are then printed and signed. Teachers use a variety of assessment items and techniques to make the judgements about a student’s achievement level. These can include observations, anecdotal notes, formal assessment, conferencing, assignment tasks and work samples. **NAPLAN:** National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy. On 14th, 15th and 16th May, the students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will complete the NAPLAN tests.

**Purpose of the tests:** The NAPLAN tests are designed to assess the skills of Australian students in literacy and numeracy. The specific purposes are: to collect data from the population of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students for reporting to parents/carers and schools for systematic reporting to accommodate the assessment of students against national minimum standards. **What is tested?** A series of tests will assess areas of literacy and numeracy. The following areas of **literacy** are assessed: Language conventions - spelling, grammar and punctuation

Writing - knowledge and control of written language, Reading - comprehension. As in other years, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be required to respond to a stimulus in the 2013 NAPLAN Writing test. In **numeracy**, the content areas assessed are: Number, Measurement, chance and data, Space, Algebra, function and pattern (formal algebra for Year 9 only). Results from the tests will provide important information about children’s progress in literacy and numeracy. Following the tests, schools and students will receive a statement of performance in relation to the national minimum standards. **Source:** http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/1407.html

Parents and Carers are asked to ensure that outside appointments for students do not occur on these days. Thank you.

**Promoting Safe Behaviours:** We continue our series of information about keeping our children safe and happy. In previous articles, we have looked at the definition of bullying and the signs that may indicate a child is being bullied. **What should I do if my child is being bullied?** If you think your child is being bullied, the most important thing to do is to talk to him/her about it so your child feels safe and supported. When talking to your child, they could try the following: Stay calm and let them know you’re pleased that they have told you Listen to the whole story and let them know that you believe them/Explain that it’s not their fault and that it’s never okay to be bullied / Ask them what they want you to do Let them know that you are there to help them if they wish to talk through or practice ways to respond to bullying Contact the school to make sure teachers know about the situation and to find out if anything is being done to address it. **Source:** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au At St Francis Xavier School, the Beating Bully Bulldozer Program equips students with an excellent way of identifying, reporting and dealing with bullying behaviour.

**Reading Workshop Date Claimer:** Parents and carers of children in our Early Years classes are invited to attend a workshop about helping children to learn to read. Two sessions will be offered. **Date:** Monday, 13th May. **Times:** Session 1: 9-10am. Repeated session: 2-2:50pm. **Venue:** School library. Lucky door prize, meet other parents, tips about reading. Bring a friend!

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut! Enjoy the week, Michaela*
St Peter Claver Dance Troupe: Last Wednesday, the children enjoyed a performance by the St Peter Claver Dance Troupe. The children were an appreciative audience to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dances, Samoan dances and Tongan singers.

READING TO LEARN NEWS Mrs Monique Wild, Reading to Learn Co-ordinator Dear Parents and Caregivers, Last term I spent my time working with the year 4 and 5 classes modelling a Reading to Learn cycle. In year 4 we deconstructed an explanation where we compared two different animals. Students learnt many skills in how to re-write sentences using their own words. Whilst in year 5 we looked at a well written exposition about the importance of healthy food in school canteens and had many opportunities to re-write one about the importance of sport. This term the year 4, 5 and 6 teachers were given time out of the classroom to plan their own Reading to Learn cycles. It was a very productive day where teachers were able to plan 2 cycles. They are all looking forward to using these great lessons to enhance the reading and writing skills of their students. I look forward to sharing more about Reading to Learn with the parents in the upcoming Early Years Reading Workshop. I will also be spending time with our school officers and year 3 classes this term. Monique

Woolworths Earn & Learn 2013 - Collect and bring your full cards to Wanda Woolworths in the office! We need your help. By simply shopping at Woolworths you can assist our school to earn great prizes. We need as many of these full sticker cards as possible. The more we collect the more great prizes we can earn for our school. Of course when you have them bring them to the office and visit Wanda Woolworths our box mascot who can’t wait for you to say hello.

Reminder Mother’s Day stall on Friday 10 May

TUCKSHOP Anna Timu, Tuckshop Convenor (Phone 3818 0033) Thank you to all those parents who have taken the time to register to Flexi schools Online Ordering. For the parents who need help to log on or to register please contact Flexi schools on 1300 361 769. Flexi schools will be able to talk you through the process of registration. If you have any concerns please call or text me on 0435911247 or phone 38180033. Brown paper bag orders are still available for families who do not have access to a computer. Please write your child’s order on a paper bag and take it to the office. All orders must be in by Thursday. Volunteers for this Friday 3rd May 2013 are: Megan Kinder, Ina Salapo, Megan Low, Danielle Bosse, Natalie NON, Louise Mason and Otila Timu. Volunteers for next week Friday 10th May 2013 are: Megan Low, Jacinta Anae, Shona Schick, Megan Kinder, Natalie NON Otila Timu and Sally Warner. Thank you.

Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters HIPPY IS FUN!!!! HIPPY IS FREE!!!!! Do you live in Riverview, Bundamba, Dinmore, Collingwood Park, Redbank Plains, Goodna or surrounding areas? Do you have a child around 4 years old? Want to be involved in your child’s learning and help them have a successful start to school? If you do, HIPPY may be for you. HIPPY Riverview is funded by The Australian government Department of Employment, Education, and Workplace Relations through the Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters. The Brotherhood of St Laurence is licensed to operate HIPPY in Australia. Contact Bev Seaman 0400 827 153 www.hippyaustralia.org.au

Dental Van News [Mobile Dental Facility 102 @ St Francis Xavier] The offer of treatment for children at St Francis Xavier has now closed. Any medical/consents for treatment received after today will be offered an examination/treatment at our next location [yet to be determined]. Due to time restraints, we have been unable to post all appointments to home addresses. Please check school bags just in case your child [especially those in Prep + Year 4] has their appointment hiding down the bottom! It is requested that a parent or legal guardian attend with all Prep – Yr 3 students. All children must be able to confirm their name, date of birth and why they are at the dental van or have a support person who can do so. NB - Teachers and school officers are not legally allowed to do this on behalf of the children. Parents, if you are not attending with your child, please remind them to be at the dental van for their appointment time. It is not the responsibility for dental staff to collect your child from class for a booked appointment. It is the responsibility of parents to re-book missed appointments. Please check with staff if you have any concerns about appointment times/missed appointments. Due to mandatory sterilization procedures and daily processes, after school appointments are very limited. Facility hours – Monday, Tuesday + Friday [8.00 – 4.30]. For any dental emergencies outside the facility hours, please contact our Business Service Centre - 1300 763 246, or your Family Dentist
St. Francis Xavier School
GOODNA Newsletter

Kids who care
P & F meeting time as advised in newsletter

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