Dear Parents and Caregivers

This week we have sent out Student Validation Forms and Media Consent Forms to all parents. It is essential that all forms are returned to the office as soon as possible. This information is essential for an upcoming state census where it will be vital to have access to the most up to date information.

A reminder that if your child is sick it is important that your child does not return to school until they are well. Obviously your child’s wellness will maximise learning.

I would like to remind you that before school all children sit in the undercover area between 8am and 8.20am. You are very welcome to wait with your child in this area if you choose to do so. At 8.20am all children move into McAuley Hall and sit in their class groups. Again you are most welcome to stay with your child. All playground equipment is out of bounds before and after school.

I thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Our Annual General P&F meeting was held last Monday. During this meeting our new executive was elected:

President: Helen Youngberry
Vice President: Lydia Felu
Treasurer: TBA
Secretary: Chrissy Peters

The P&F have a busy year ahead and would appreciate your help with their proposed activities. Our P&F consistently support our school and provide resources which otherwise would not be available to our students.

Best wishes for the coming week

Veronica Lawson, Principal

CLASS AWARDS How children have shown care to each other


KWC

Ashleigh Goodwin, Patrick Arthur, Lauren Wojciechowski, Jamie-Leigh Bath, James Wodhams, Drucilla Jimenez, Stacey Bateman, Ericka Foley, Madalyn Trudgett, Grace Harriott, Tahlia Johnston, Erica Da Costa Couto, Angeth Majok, Dahmani Luafutu, Men Tran
RE NEWS  Mrs Natalie Tugliach APRE
On Monday afternoon each class was fortunate enough to share their Classroom Covenant with the school community. This year there has been teaching and learning about covenant at each year level and the thought that has gone into the preparation is excellent. If you have not seen your child’s class covenant, they are displayed in the classroom so please pop in and have a look. We use the class covenant along with our behaviour management program to reflect on school and class expectations. Last week I spoke about our theme for 2013. There are 3 components to our theme, one being our Christian Behaviour Focus. February is Love…Love is a special feeling that fills your heart. You show love in a smile, a pleasant way of speaking, a thoughtful act or a hug. Love is treating people and things with special care and kindness because they mean so much to you. Love is treating other people just as you would like them to treat you – with care and respect. Congratulations to Alysha Hamilton, Lakapi Muliaga, Nyang Dang, Patrick Arthur, Riley McCormack, Alana Matheson, Emma Wheeler, Ben Martinac, Chris Lynn Ncube, Jet Nunez, Naisara Cheung, Tyrese Asiata, Francesco Ro, Liam Kembler, Lily Habtewolde, Erica DeCosta Couta, Levena Crisp, Locky Nicol, Caitlin Welter, Maddison Hamilton, Jedd Tyler Schick who have shown Christian Behaviour qualities this past week. Last Wednesday was the final parent only meeting for children participating in the Sacramental Program at St Francis Xavier Parish. This weekend students will be enrolled in the program at Mass. On Wednesday March 6, the group program begins at 6.30 in the parish centre. I look forward to meeting with participants then.

Date claimer: Sunday March 10 at 9am will be a Youth Mass. Students from SFX and the parish youth group will be presenting parts of the Mass. We will have students Welcome, read the Prayers of the Faithful and do the Offertory. As a part of the Offertory we are collecting cans for St Vincent DePaul. If you can support this, it would be appreciated if you can send in a can of something any day next week. There will be a collection point in the office.

Project Compassion – Mr Seguna and our Mini Vinnies team are doing an amazing job of facilitating our Project Compassion Bika-tas fundraising. Last week as a school community we raised over $500. From this week, individual classes may be doing a small fundraiser in their classroom so please support these individual ventures. Our next whole school event is Wednesday March 6. Mini Vinnies will be serving ‘Fish Fingers in bread’ for lunch. It will be $1 for 2 fish fingers in bread with sauce. A pre order form will go home tomorrow (Friday) and will be due back on Tuesday next week. Please support this whole school initiative and help us buy bikes for children less fortunate than we are.

John 13:34 A new commandment – ‘Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.’

FROM THE DESK OF THE APA  Mrs Michaela Lewis APA
Dear Parents and Caregivers, February has been such a busy month, with the children settling into the school, parent information nights and some unusual weather. Curriculum News Recently I attended a Curriculum Support Teacher’s workshop at St Mark’s at Inala. The teachers attending found out more about the Australian Curriculum: The Arts and completed a series of activities to help them become familiar with purpose and intent behind the curriculum. I will undertake a similar workshop with our staff at St Francis Xavier. Several teachers on staff are participating in the Reading to Learn course. Mrs Parker, Mr Bromilow, Miss Knappick and myself will attend 8 days of training, and implement this program in the classrooms. My focus class is Year 2 Red, with Miss Cassidy. I am enjoying the teaching aspect of my involvement and have been using the book “Ping” with the class.

Pick-Up Zone  Reminder Drive Through Zone
There is a two-minute drive through zone for parents who do not wish to leave their car. This loading zone is for dropping children off and picking them up. Parents must remain in their car. It is a 2 minute Council regulated zone from 8am to 9am and 2.30pm and 3.30pm. Children exit via the Prep gate. The first four cars pick up children and then move on. If a child is not waiting, parents drive on and park in the correct parking area. After School Children sit on the cement area adjacent to the drive through zone area, outside the hall. Children waiting for buses are supervised. Children are to be picked up by 3:15pm. After this time, children will be taken to the office and parents will be contacted about pick-up arrangements. Outside School Hours Care is available [3818 2715]. Parents arriving before 2.55pm wait for children in year one/two and three/four eating areas. Parents are asked to keep away from verandah areas, as it is distracting to the children. Pedestrian Crossing There is a supervised crossing for parents and students in Queen and Church Streets. Children walking are to cross Church Street & Queen Street at the supervised crossing. Recently, parents have been crossing in-between cars. This is not a safe practice. Parents are asked to use the crossing and model safe behaviours for the children. Thank you for your co-operation in this very important matter. Each year we give our new and existing parents reminders about our procedures.

Art Show Keep this date free: 18th March, 5-7pm. Theme: “Arty-facts: Art through time” Entry via gold coin donation. In addition to viewing the art, there will be student performances throughout the evening. On the night you can purchase: Multi-draw raffle tickets. Dinner for the family, Children’s face painting, balloons and crazy photos. You can also bid on a class canvas.

Your support of this event is appreciated. It will be a wonderful evening. Have a great week, Michaela
**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Once again a family in our school community is mourning the loss of a loved one. Please remember in your thoughts and prayers the maternal grandmother of Marco and Luchino Rose and their mother, Colleen Friel. May Mrs Friel rest in peace.

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**LIBRARY NEWS  Bernadette Hunt & Debbie Kenny**  Welcome back to borrowing! Now that the children have started to borrow for the year we would like to give a gentle reminder about how important it is to take care of borrowed books and return them on time. Some of the children do not seem to have an appropriate library bag. It is important that the children have a large, fully closable, waterproof bag for borrowing. The bag on the book list is an A3 zip up satchel, as pictured. Some of the children have small bags or document wallets that do not seal. Consequently, in the recent weather books have become water damaged. The children are only allowed to borrow books that fit fully inside their library bag, therefore the A3 size is important.

Thank you and happy reading.

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**Little Bytes from eMouse** Hi it’s eMouse again, back with some more tips for safely using the internet. If your child wants to use the library to find some information for a school project, please encourage them to do so in a safe way. As a parent you can ask the library staff for information on safe searching techniques, links to internet safety information or a list of safe or child-friendly websites. Many libraries offer internet training sessions for you to attend. Happy searching.

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**DEADLY JARJUMS** The Deadly Jarjums enjoyed a day of Art with Vernon Carlo and some wonderful parents sharing their culture. The canvas for the Art Show looks very interesting. Thanks to all who helped on this day.

Liz Ellis (Indigenous Support Teacher)

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**Dental Van News** As of Monday 4th of March, the dental van will operate as a part-time facility. In the case of a dental emergency please phone 1300 763 246.

Parents of children in years 1, 7, 5, 2 this year (2013) who would like their child to have a dental examination and did NOT receive one last year (2012), please collect a dental form from the school office and complete it in ink pen and return to the school office or dental van ASAP.

Children in years 3 and 6 were recently offered a dental examination. Parents, please check children’s school bags for dental forms. Children in prep and year 4 will be offered a dental examination at a later stage in the year.

If parents have any concerns or urgent matters, please contact van 102 on 0412 706 510 Keep smiling  Dental Staff

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**School Fees** By now you would have received your Fees and Levies Statement for February 2013 by post or email. Payment was due 14th February. If you have not received the School Fees Statement, please contact the school office so we can check your details. Families experiencing financial hardship are invited to apply for a concession. A concession form is available from the office. Please note that even if you received a concession in 2012, you will need to complete a new application for 2013.

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**TUCKSHOP** Anna Timu, Tuckshop Convenor Many thanks to all the lovely ladies who helped in the Tuckshop last week, this help is very much appreciated. Our Online ordering system is working really well. For those that still want to order online without using your credit card detail, you may set up an account with Flexischool using a direct deposit. Please note our cut off time for ordering online is now 7.00am Friday mornings. Orders after this time will not be accepted. BROWN paper Bag orders need to be in by THURSDAY morning. Volunteers for this week 01/03/2013: Megan Low, Chrissy Peters, Ina Salapo, Shona Schick, Cameron McCormack, Megan Kinder, Lucia Brose, and Rachael Grant and Otilia Timu. Volunteers for 08/03/2013: Shona Schick, Megan Kinder, Lucia Brose, Chrissy Peters, Ina Salapo, Jacinta Anae, Otila Timu and Danielle Bosse Thank you.