Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we near the end of Term 1, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of our great school. Your presence at school functions is greatly appreciated and embodies our philosophy of a school / home partnership. As we are about to embark on a new term our teachers have been planning curriculum to ensure that the Goals for Education outlined in the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians are achieved:

1. Australian schooling promotes equity and excellence
2. All young Australians become:
   • successful learners
   • confident and creative individuals
   • active and informed citizens

I would like you to be aware that Miss Katrina Bono will not be taking dance club during term two.

Please have a safe and happy Easter sharing in God’s blessings.

Veronica Lawson, Principal

CLASS AWARDS How children have shown care to each other


KWC

Enrolments for Prep 2014 at St Francis Xavier School

All families with children to commence either Prep or Year One in 2014 are invited to collect an Enrolment Application Form from the School Office or contact the Office on 3818 0100 to have one posted out. If you know of anyone in the wider community who may be interested in enrolling their child in our school, please ask them to contact the School Office on 3818 0100 for information or for Enrolment Forms. Remember the school website www.stfrancisxavier.qld.edu.au

Enrolments close on 10 May 2013.
RE NEWS  Mrs Natalie Tugliach APRE Go Blue for Autism  On Friday April 26, (Friday of week 2) we will be having a free dress day to raise funds and awareness of Autism. Autism now affects one in every 100 children. Every person with Autism is different to another and has their own way of seeing the world, which makes them interesting and unique. When we return to school in term 2 we will be selling ‘go blue for autism’ wrist bands for $2. The money raised supports people living with Autism and their families. So save your pennies over the holidays and bring in $2 to buy a wrist band.

Defend Your Class  Our school has registered to take part in the MOOV Defend your Class Schools program. This is a Head Lice awareness program which aims to educate and inform students, teachers and parents about Head Lice and promote open discussion about how it affects kids both in the classroom and at home. The program aims to dispel the myths and stigma attached to head lice. There are some great individual student prizes to be won and a $10 000 school grant up for grabs, so make sure your child completes the animated CD Rom game will be given to enter. Classroom teachers will begin to teach the program with their class when we return in term 2.

ANZAC Day  April 25 falls on a Thursday this year. It is Thursday in week 2. We are honoured to have been invited to have two students read at the local ceremony. We ask that you mark this special date in your diary so we can have a strong student representation from St Francis Xavier in the march.

Harmony Day  What a celebration we had on Tuesday. There were students dressed in their traditional dress and a lot of orange to be seen. Students enjoyed participating in a variety of activities, including writing ‘their’ story. A special part of the day for me was sharing a meal with others. To see the pride in children as they got to share food their family had prepared was quite emotional. Many Stories – One Australia is strong in the St Francis Xavier community. Thank you for supporting your children to share your/their family story. As we move through Holy Week, preparing for Easter, I take this opportunity to thank Ms Bono and 1W, Ms Cavallaro and 3W, Mr Seguna and 5B and Ms Meiklejohn 5R for sharing Jesus’ journey to his death and resurrection with us. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday. May you have the opportunity to share with special occasion with your children, reminding them of the Easter Story.

Whisper Jesus  Today I got a burden, And I felt that I should pray, For God’s spirit seemed to tell me, That you needed prayer today. I don’t know what the problem is, I sure do know the cure, And if you’ll only let Him, God will keep you safe and secure. In life there’s always problems, Cropping up to spoil our day, My friend you know the answer, All you have to do is pray. If you still feel you’re defeated, And you want to run and hide, Just reach out and I’ll be there, Right there by your side. Remember, Whisper “Jesus”, For He is just a prayer away, He’s so close that you can touch Him, All you have to do is pray. Take care and God bless

Natalie

FROM THE DESK OF THE APA  Mrs Michaela Lewis APA

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Happy Easter! Share this time to reflect on life, love, family and all your blessings (Enhance Dreams, 2103). We are looking forward to a happy and safe holiday after a busy term.

School Photos: The school photo shoot went well last Friday, with the new company, Studio Kirby. Many parents were able to utilise the online ordering system. Each child was checked for a neat and correct uniform prior to the photo. I encourage parents to use the holiday time to purchase the correct black shoes, check uniforms for lost buttons and rips and mend these, and make a list of items, such as school socks, to be purchased from the uniform shop early in Term 2. Hair should be the natural colour and be tied up if beyond shoulder length. Boys with longer pieces of hair should have these in a single tidy plait. If your son is having a haircut over Easter, please ensure it is suitable for school. Thank you for your co-operation in helping your child to look their best and to be proud of their school uniform.

Staff Goal Setting: This term, the staff has engaged in a goal setting process to determine their professional needs and career direction for this year. These goals match in with our overall school goals and help determine the Professional Development opportunities offered to staff.

Teacher Planning: This week, I continue to meet with teachers to work on planning for Term 2. Year 7, Prep, Year 5, 5/6, 6 and Year 3, will all work on planning engaging work for the students and continue to develop their knowledge about the Australian Curriculum. Joanna Paul, ESL teacher, is attending planning sessions to guide staff in using the ESL curriculum to make adjustments to teaching so that activities meet the needs of students. These adjustments are useful for all students, as they contain good teaching practice and strategies such as scaffolding, additional explanations and vocabulary building.

Thank you to all who have contributed to Term 1 here at St Francis Xavier. May you experience the joy of the risen Lord over Easter and have a chance to recharge your batteries.

Best wishes  Michaela

School Photos: Please note any late orders or further inquiries please contact  Studio Kirby direct. Ph. 3208 4793
**Project Compassion: Opening the Doors To The Future**

Our Lenten Project of Project Compassion is quickly drawing to a close. We as a community this year have reflected on Lent being a time where we have the chance to act, think and feel like Jesus towards others. By doing this we can create a world filled with peace, love, harmony and justice. Our project this year focused upon the Pope’s Lenten message about helping those less fortunate in our community by opening the doors to a brighter future. With this in mind at each of our Lenten assemblies we have reflected on 6 different characters around the world who have been assisted by Caritas. Children learnt about these characters in class and identified how by helping Caritas with our prayers and donations we are following the message of Jesus and letting God’s light shine upon them and opening doors to a brighter future.

Each week we have been creating our Lenten symbol where we have added the coloured door of these six characters around our school candle to represent how our learning, prayer and donations allow God’s light to shine upon them. Our bike-atas collection has been a tremendous success with over $2,000 raised. Classes have been participating in many different fundraising activities from lolly guessing, ice block selling, fun days, slipper days, raffles, craft selling, photo guessing and selling of ice blocks just to name a few. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their tremendous support and work throughout this Lenten period. Their hard work and dedication has been second to none. Congratulations to our children for their energy and efforts in their classrooms through religion lessons and fundraising efforts. Well done to all members of our Mini Vinnies Committee who have given up many lunch times to practise liturgies, count money and create promotional posters and movies. Finally a big thank you to all members of our extended community, without your support and generosity our project would not have been any where near the success that it has been. Many blessings upon all our families during this Easter season.  

James Seguna

**READING TO LEARN NEWS Mrs Monique Wild, Reading to Learn Co-ordinator**

**Reading and Writing Ideas for the Holidays**  As a parent, you are your child’s most important role model. Here are some reading and writing activities that you can do with your child during the holidays: Read recipes, food labels, schedules, maps, instructions, advertisements, flyers, and brochures. Read traffic, store, and restaurant signs. Read novels, newspapers, and/or magazines for enjoyment. Look up information in phone books, cookbooks, manuals, atlases, and dictionaries. Write shopping lists, telephone messages, reminder notes, and labels. Write the date and time of appointments and activities on a family calendar. Read and write greeting cards, letters, and e-mail messages.

Take the time to show your child that reading and writing are used in many ways every day. Make sure your child sees you reading and writing for your own purposes. Also, as you do reading and writing activities with your child, introduce new words and phrases to him or her. Most of all enjoy quality family time over the Easter break!  

Monique

**Little Bytes from eMouse**  wishing you a very happy Easter holiday! There are lots of ways you can use the Internet these holidays to make your lives easier and save you time. Maybe you want to find out about some family-friendly events or check out what’s happening at the local library or museum. You can also look up movie times and buy tickets online to save time lining up at the cinemas. The Internet can also be used to look up bus and train times, or if you prefer a quiet day at home you can get some great ideas for Easter crafts or cooking. Have a safe and happy break!

**Gold Coast Theme Park Vouchers!**  Up to 50% off!  Available from the front office Valid 12 April until 30 June 2013.

Yes, St Francis Xavier School Community, we are participating again in the Woolies Earn & Learn. From Monday 8th April, when you shop at Woolworths, collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points from the checkout operator and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet. There’ll be 1 Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent*. Once completed, you can place their Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet in the Collection Box, either at your school or at your local Woolworths. We will earn valuable learning resources for our school from MTA.

**News from the Uniform Shop:**  Olivia Kalashnikoff, Uniform Shop Convenor

All inquiries Email: sfx.uniformshop@hotmail.com.au  The be uniform will be closed until Term 2. Opening Monday 15th April 8.00am then every Fridays from 8.00am to 9.30am.

**TUCKSHOP Anna Timu, Tuckshop Convenor (Phone 3818 0033) Parents are reminded if your child is ordering via a Brown Bag, that all orders are to be into the office on Thursday morning. Having difficulties with registering on Flexischools? Just ring 1300 361 769 and Flexischools will assist you with the process .Tuckshop needs your help to volunteer on a Friday even if its just for an hour or 2. Come in and see me, or you can call on 0435911247 or leave your details in the office and I will contact you. Volunteers for the 19/04/2013 are Megan Low, Shona Schick, Megan Kinder, Maria Adams, Jacinta Anae, Danielle Bosse, Sally Warner. I hope that all of you will have a wonderful Easter Break with your children and will see you all in term 2. Thank you and have a Blessed Easter everyone!!