Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to our SFX community especially those families new to our school! The year is already shaping up to be a very busy one even at this stage of the year. Yesterday we welcomed 71 excited and enthusiastic preps and 26 new children in other year levels. It was evident visiting the classrooms that all our students have come back eagerly looking forward to the year ahead.

Westside Bus Company has made a number of changes to school runs this year modifying existing runs to accommodate an earlier finish time for Goodna State School.

After school bus times and routes have changed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Time and Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>522</td>
<td>(urban bus): to Gailes; Camira and Springfield departs from SFX at 3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>to Bellbird Park and Collingwood Park departs from SFX at 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>to Goodna area and Riverview departs from SFX at 3.05pm</td>
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Please contact Westside Bus Company (3818 3333) for details of these routes.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that it is parents’ responsibility to see that their children are cared for before 8am and after 3.15pm. At 3.15pm a member of the leadership team will contact parents to determine how the child is to go home. I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Our parent / teacher evening will be held on Thursday 7 February in your child’s classroom. There will be two sessions: 6.30pm – 7.15pm and 7.15pm – 8pm.

Each session will be identical - it gives you as parent the opportunity to attend an alternate session if you have more than one child attending SFX. The sessions provide you as parent with curriculum and homework expectations and an opportunity to meet your child’s teacher if you have not already done so. A formal parent/teacher interview will be held in midterm two in conjunction with Semester One reporting. However, you are welcome to contact your child’s teacher to make an appointment outside these more formal occasions to discuss your child’s academic/social progress if you have any concerns.

There has been some delay in manufacturing our school hat. I am aware that there are a number of families who are unable to purchase one at the present time. While availability is limited students who do not have a school hat will be able to wear an alternate sun safe hat.

This year I would like to update student health information specifically asthma and anaphylaxis. If your child has either of the conditions, I am asking that you visit your doctor to obtain an up to date action plan for your child. Would you forward this plan to the school office at your earliest convenience. Similarly it is important that if there have been any changes to the health status of your child that you send us an update of this information. Please remember that if your child requires medication during school hours you will need to:

- Complete a medication administration form available from the school office
- Provide all medication to the school in the original container with the pharmacy label attached

Our Tuckshop will be operating every Friday this year, starting from next Friday 6 February. Orders will still have to be placed by Thursday. This year you will have the ability to order items from the tuckshop for your child online through Flexischools. If you are unable to access the internet, you will still be able to send in your child’s order in a brown paper bag with the money in it. More information about Flexischools will be available next week, and a Tuckshop Menu will be sent home as well.

Best wishes for the coming week, Veronica Lawson, Principal
**FROM THE DESK OF THE APA**  
*Mrs Michaela Lewis APA*

Dear Parents and Caregivers, May I also extend a warm welcome to the 2013 school year. On Wednesday I had the opportunity to visit all classes and talk with the children. It was great to see the happy faces, both familiar and new. I look forward to working with the children this year.

My role at St Francis Xavier, I have two roles in the school. I am Assistant Principal: Administration (APA) and Curriculum Support Teacher (CST). In my first role, I support Mrs Lawson in the day to day running of the school, and work with Mrs Lawson and Mrs Tugliach as a Leadership Team. We work on strategic planning for the school, Behaviour Management, Teacher Professional Learning, timetabling and resourcing - just to name a few of our varied tasks. As CST, I work with teachers on curriculum planning and delivery.

Prior to the students return, we have been engaged in a variety of Professional Development opportunities. In one of these sessions, we considered our approach to behaviour management in the light of the Gospel and through the lens of Catholicism. Our staff were asked to come up with key words or phrases that guide the way we treat the children. ‘Respect’, ‘sanctity of life’, ‘dignity’ and ‘potential’ featured. These words help guide our work and decision making when working with the children and each other.

Thank you for choosing St Francis Xavier School for your child and I look forward to a fulfilling year.  

*Micheala*

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**RE NEWS**  
*Mrs Natalie Tugliach APRE*

Welcome back to all of our students and families. A special welcome to those families joining the St Francis Xavier community in 2013. The year ahead will be a busy and an exciting one. Our thoughts and prayers go out to families who have endured a stressful, heartbreaking time over that past week. We pray that God watches over family and friends of the St Francis Xavier school and parish community, blessing each one of us.

This year our theme is UNITY and COMMUNITY. The message being, if we unite together we come together as one community. Our year 7 students were introduced to this theme at a retreat during Term 4 last year. They will support me to introduce the theme to the students at our Opening School Mass. Mass will be celebrated in McAuley Hall at 9am on Friday February 15. This is Friday of week 3. Another date for your diary is Ash Wednesday, February 13. This is also during week 3. We will celebrate with a liturgy in McAuley Hall at 8.45am.

All classes will begin with a Belonging Unit, learning about St Francis Xavier, Catherine McAuley, school rules and routines and discussing Jesus values. This unit will culminate in students writing a classroom covenant. I look forward to seeing these covenants, which will be used in classrooms throughout the year.

I hope you all have a wonderful week. Take care and God bless.  

*Natalie*

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**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Please remember in your prayers Marlene Ball, mother of Blanche Campbell and Mandy Morton who died early in January. Let us also pray for the Campbell and Morton families at this sad time. May Marlene rest in peace.

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**TUCKSHOP**  
Anna Timu, Tuckshop Convenor

Tuckshop will start next Friday 31 January. More information in next weeks newsletter.