Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we had a number of visitors to the school. Firstly, on Monday evening for a twilight with the staff and then all day Tuesday with class teachers, we welcomed Sharon Crone – independent Literacy Consultant, who worked with us on identifying traits of and strategies for improving writing with a view to ‘bump up’ teachers’ knowledge of what a good piece of writing looks like. On Wednesday, we welcomed Michael McCusker, our AD Schools and Diane Pekin – Leading School Improvement consultant to our school. Diane and Michael spent 3 days with our school community interviewing Leadership, staff, parents and students to identify areas of growth as well as areas for improvement. We thank them for their wisdom and guidance throughout the process.

Next Monday all Leadership teams from the Diocese will travel to Rockhampton for a Leadership Conference. I thank, in advance, Brendan Clews who will be looking after the school in my absence. Should you have any concerns that might arise during that time, please do not hesitate to call Brendan or send him an email. Brendan will keep me fully apprised of the running of the school during the week. Our Leadership team drive back to Mackay on Friday morning.

On Wednesday of next week, our nation celebrates Harmony day and in deference to all those in our school community who have come from other countries we say…

You are welcome here.

To our friends from…

- Croatia - ovdje ste dobrodušii
- The Philippines - ikaw ay malugod dito
- Nepal – तपाईं यहाँ स्वागत छ (Tapā'īṁ yahāṁ svāgata cha)
- China - 你在这里欢迎你 (Nǐ zài zhèr lì huānyíng nǐ)
- India - आपका यहाँ स्वागत हैं (aapaka yahaan svāgat hain)
- Brazil - seja bem-vindo
- Venezuela -usted es bienvenido aquí
- Italy - sei il benvenuto qui
- Spain - eres bienvenido aquí
- Germany - du bist hier willkommen
- Malta - inti merhba hawn
- Ireland – tá fáilte romhat
- Netherlands – je bent hier welkom
- Papua New Guinea – Nogat samting
- South Africa – U is welkom hier
- Zimbabwe - munogamuchirwa pano
- Iran - به اینجا خوش آمدید
- Canada
- USA

Have a wonderful weekend, God Bless,

Olivia Rostirolla
Dear parents,

At St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone. Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying. You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. Listen calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they've told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need to: who, what, where, when. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child’s experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.
2. Reassure your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, ‘That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.’ or ‘I’m so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that’s not fair at all’.
3. Ask your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.
4. Visit www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.
5. Contact our school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher and, if you need to, ask to talk with the principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child's safety.
6. Check in regularly with your child; keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

If you are looking for support for yourself to deal with a bullying situation, you will find ideas on the Bullying. No Way! website for parents. As well, please contact our school if you would like to discuss any aspect of our approach to preventing bullying. Thanks for your support to make our school a great school for everyone.

House Spirit Day for this term will be held on Friday 23 March. All students are invited to wear their House coloured polo shirts if they have them and also wear their school hats displaying their House. Students who do not have a House polo may wear their sports uniform. House polo's are available from Uniform Solutions.
FROM the Acting Assistant Principal
APRE
Karen Gaviglio

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This year our school will celebrate our Easter journey by performing the Stations of the Cross on Thursday 29th March at 10am in our church.
The Stations of the Cross gives us an opportunity to remember ‘The Way of the Cross’ and meditate on Jesus’ passion. This is when Jesus suffered, died and three days later, rose from death.
Classes from Year 2 – 6 will depict a Station using a ‘freeze’ technique and our Year 1 classes will end our Stations with a ‘New Life’ hymn.
You are very welcome to join us in the church to follow the Stations of the Cross during this Holy time of the year.

SACRAMENTS
CONFIRMATION/EUCHARIST

Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they begin preparation for Confirmation and First Eucharist. Below is the timetable of workshops for Confirmation and Eucharist

**Confirmation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 12th March</td>
<td>5.15-6.15</td>
<td>Session 1: Confirmation</td>
<td>St Francis Xavier Yr 5 &amp; 6 classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23rd April</td>
<td>5.15-6.15</td>
<td>Session 4: Confirmation</td>
<td>St Francis Xavier Yr 5 &amp; 6 classrooms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Eucharist**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30th April</td>
<td>5.15-6.15</td>
<td>Session 1: Eucharist</td>
<td>St Francis Xavier Yr 5 &amp; 6 classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8th May</td>
<td></td>
<td>Session 2: Eucharist</td>
<td>Completed at home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 14th May</td>
<td>5.15-6.15</td>
<td>Session 3: Eucharist</td>
<td>St Francis Xavier Yr 5 &amp; 6 classrooms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On Wednesday 28 March, Matt from St Francis Xavier Outside School Hours Care will be shaving off his hair for the Leukaemia Foundations World’s Greatest Shave!
In association with St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, the shaving of Matts hair will be happening at 2:30pm on Wednesday the 28 March (the second last day of Term 1) in the Undercover Area!
Students will be able to have their hair coloured at lunch time on the day, for a gold coin donation with all funds raised going to the Leukaemia Foundation.
If you would like to donate to this great cause you can enter this link into your web browser: [http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/matthewnicholas](http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/matthewnicholas) or search for “The World’s Greatest Shave” on google, click on the SPONSOR button and search for “Matthew Nicholas”. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated, and any donations over $2 are also tax deductible!

Any donations linked to a student who attends St Francis Xavier OSHC will also have the added benefit of going in a draw with a “winner” being able to assist in the actual shaving of Matts hair on the day! This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for a student to shave the head of an educator!
Thank you for taking the time to read this. Words cannot describe how thankful I am for your support on this journey!
Matt Nicholas!
Year One Caritas Fundraiser

“CRAZY HAIR DAY”

Year One’s will be hosting ‘Crazy Hair’ Day on Friday, 23 March.

Come along to school with your hair in a crazy hairstyle or crazy colours.

Bring along a GOLD COIN donation if you want to show off your crazy hairstyle!

(Come with your hair already styled- NO hairspray cans at school!)

FROM the Assistant Principal
CURRICULUM/PE
Julie-Anne Brieffies

CROSS COUNTRY

The St Francis Xavier Cross Country will be held on the 23 March on the school oval. Children who are competing, are invited to wear their house shirts and comfortable shorts and joggers (please don’t forget to bring your uniform to change into afterwards).

Only students born 2006-2008, who have returned their permission notes, will be eligible to compete.

Parents are invited to watch the students. Assembly will be held at 11.30 that day.

QUEEN’S BATON RELAY

Next Tuesday 20 March, our two School Captains Liam Zurvas & Victoria Silman will be representing St Francis Xavier at the Queen’s Baton Relay at PCYC. This will be a wonderful experience for these students.

Please be aware there may be traffic delays around town which may affect pick up time as various roads are closed. You can visit: www.mackay.qld.gov.au/qbr for further information.

2018 ANZAC CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR TROOPS OVERSEAS

We will again, be sending ANZAC Care packages to our Troops serving overseas. The students will be asked to bring in a non-perishable food item for the package. Examples of appropriate items could include; lollies, biscuits, muesli bars, chips, coffee sachets, gum and tic-tacs.

It has also been suggested that some person hygiene goodies would also be appreciated.

Baby wipes
Ear buds
Deodorants (non aerosol)
Toothpaste
Mouth Wash travel size
Lip Balm

The main thing to keep in mind is that the box cannot weight more than then 2KG Non aerosol and travelling size gifts would be useful

The best way to donate these items is to purchase a multiple pack and we can then share them amongst the many boxes we have to fill. Any jars for example, peanut butter or vegemite, should not exceed 120 grams in weight.

A note or two of thanks from the students is always appreciated, as are the drawings our little ones contribute.

The packages must be posted by the last week of Term 1 in order to reach our Troops by ANZAC Day. The donations will be required by the end of week 8 at the latest to give us time to organise for postage.

Thank you again for your support, we know that those who receive a package are always very appreciative and we have received many letters of thanks from grateful service men and women.

Lainey Argent – Library Co-ordinator
SAD NEWS!

SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW WELL OVERDUE!

Payments can be made in Cash, EFTPOS, Cheque, Credit Card, Direct Debit, BPay or Internet Banking.

Internet Banking details as follows:
A/C: St Francis Xavier School
BSB: 034-210
ACCOUNT: 811093
REFERENCE: Account code at top right hand corner of invoice.

PROMPT payment before the end of term would be appreciated.

Pauline Hyde—Finance Secretary

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THE RACE IS ON
TO COLLECT VOUCHERS FOR SPORTS GEAR

THE MORE DOCKETS THE MORE SPORTING EQUIPMENT!

Please keep the Coles dockets rolling in! Thank you to all our families who have already sent in their dockets. Your support is always appreciated.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER HOOPS

BOYS AND GIRLS P-6

4 week program

When? Where?: Monday lunch time 1:00pm-1:30pm, School Basketball Court

Dress: 25/4, 30/4, 14/5 & 21/5.

Registration fee: $50

Guest coaches: Nelson Larkins (Adelaide 36ers) Titas Robinson (Mackay Meteors)

Students receive - 4 weeks coaching, Basketball, Drink bottle, Mini hoop and ball game

ST FRANCIS XAVIER HOOOPS

Child’s name: Parent/Guardian: Mobile:

School: Registration fee can be brought to the first session, or please contact coach Cameron Taggart on cam_7@iinet.com to arrange electronic payment.

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TUCKSHOP ROSTER

WEEK 9

Monday 19 March: Daniel Doran, Kristelle Lamb
Tuesday 20 March: Suzanne Skippen, Leanne Daly
Wednesday 21 March: Kelly Collis
Thursday 22 March: Haley Molloy
Friday 23 March: Michelle Kester

WEEK 10

Monday 26 March: Joanne Day & Kylie Smith
Tuesday 27 March: Melissa Figlia
Wednesday 28 March: Sue Soloinkin
Thursday 29 March: Leah Smith
Friday 30 March: GOOD FRIDAY

PLEASE KEEP THE COLES DOCKETS ROLLING IN!
THE MORE DOCKETS THE MORE SPORTING EQUIPMENT!
Congratulations to our students listed below who have been selected to participate in the Annual Inter Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival being held on Wednesday 28 March at the Pioneer Pool, North Mackay. All the best to our swimming team. Swim your best and enjoy your time at the carnival.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rachel Saron</th>
<th>Natalie Caporn</th>
<th>Michael Smyth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will DiFillipo</td>
<td>Sophie Parrish</td>
<td>Marley Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Cockayne</td>
<td>Hudson Mayfield</td>
<td>Sam Parrish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbey Avenell</td>
<td>Mia Bradford</td>
<td>Skyla Bradford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvie Cahill</td>
<td>Caleb O’Brien</td>
<td>Suzannah Smyth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reuben Saron</td>
<td></td>
<td>Charlotte Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Smith</td>
<td>Zahn Bugeja</td>
<td>Anessa Brannan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam McSherry</td>
<td></td>
<td>Riley Sheehan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ella Hoare</td>
<td>Angus Blackburn</td>
<td>Edward Spicer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyan Alty</td>
<td>Madalyn Finch</td>
<td>Mackensie Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Muller</td>
<td>Hunter Harris</td>
<td>Ethan Phillipson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blake Cumming</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

BACK: Jack Wale, Hunter Harris, Blake Cumming, Ella Hoare, Eden Idzikowski, Harrison Bradley, Bethany Collis, Matthew Romal, Bella Sullivan, Lola Rovelli

PLAYERS WANTED ASAP!
Under 8 Mixed Basketball

Looking for Boys & Girls aged 5-7 (Born no earlier than 2011)
Experience not required

Training Times: 4:30-5:30 PM Wednesday’s at Victoria Park School / Mackay Basketball Stadium
Game Times: Saturday’s 8:00-9:00am
Contact: Arnold - Mobile 0466694422

https://www.facebook.com/MaggiesBasketball/