Dear Parents,

On the first Sunday of the school holidays, we celebrated Easter - a very special day, a day when Jesus rose from the dead so that we may have new life.

After following the events of Holy Week where Jesus was welcomed triumphantly into Jerusalem as a King, to his death on the cross on Good Friday, all that was promised came true through his resurrection.

Easter is the day when we celebrate the fact that like the sun does...the Son of God rose again. And because Jesus rose again...we are promised that we too will rise again to new life in a place God has created for us.

Easter is a time to celebrate. It is a time of sharing love and hope with our friends and family. It is a time to be grateful for all that we have, a time to reflect and a time to look forward to our ‘new lives’.

A life where we are stronger, more loving, giving and forgiving than we have been in the past.

WELCOME BACK

A very warm welcome back to everyone. I hope you were all able to have some ‘downtime’ over the holiday break. I would like to begin by saying a big thank you to Helen West who has done a superb job of making our school look so clean, tidy and welcoming. It is such a pleasure walking into the school grounds each day. Thank you Helen. Thank you also to Ms Mary Oxenham (Miss O to the children) for the wonderful updates and tips she has been putting on our school Facebook page. We have had a number of positive ‘face to face’ comments made already.

We have come back to a very busy term ahead. A major celebration we will be organising this term is the Blessing and Opening of our new and refurbished buildings. Bishop Michael along with our Director Miss Leesa Jeffcoat and many other dignitaries will be in attendance. Please keep May 25 free and join us if you can.

I encourage you all to keep reading the newsletter and checking Facebook to keep abreast of the many events coming up this term.

ANZAC DAY – LITURGY & MARCH

On Wednesday, we celebrate ANZAC Day. It is a day where we remember all those who have fought in wars past and present, to give us the freedom we enjoy today. Please join with us in Hall on Tuesday at 9:00am for our liturgy. A reminder also, that children are invited to join as a school to march on Wednesday, 25 April. Details are as follows.
An ANZAC Prayer

God of love and liberty, we bring our thanks today for the peace and security we enjoy,

We remember those who in time of war faithfully serve their country.

We pray for their families, and for ourselves whose freedom was won at such a cost.

Make us people zealous for peace, and hasten that day when nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither learn war any more. Amen

(from A Prayer Book for Australia)

Have a wonderful weekend,

God Bless,

Olivia Rostirolla

Assistant Principal Religious Education — Karen Gaviglio

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>Rite of Enrolment Mass</th>
<th>Sunday March 11th 9 am</th>
<th>St Francis Xavier Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>12/03/18</td>
<td>Completed with catechists: St Francis Xavier School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Completed at home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 4</td>
<td>23/04/18</td>
<td>Completed with catechists: St Francis Xavier School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Eucharist**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rite of Enrolment Mass</th>
<th>Sunday April 29th 9 am</th>
<th>St Francis Xavier Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>30/04/18 5.15 – 6.15</td>
<td>Completed with catechists: St Francis Xavier School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>08/05/18 5.15 – 6.15</td>
<td>Completed with catechists: St Francis Xavier School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 3</td>
<td>14/05/18 5.15 – 6.15</td>
<td>Completed with catechists: St Francis Xavier School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Official Opening and Blessing of
St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School and Kindergarten
25th May at 9.30am

(Please mark this important event in your diary. Invitations will be sent out to our school community in the near future)

Assistant Principal Curriculum — Julie-Anne Bieffies

**NAPLAN** In 2018, students in Year 3 and 5 will sit the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests on Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th of May. These tests are made up of four domains, Reading, Writing, Language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. They are taken nationwide and assess skills considered essential for every child to progress through school and life. This program is mandated by the government; therefore it is important that if you have a child in Year 3 and 5, they be in attendance on these days.

To best prepare your child for these tests, ensure they have a good sleep the night before and a wholesome breakfast in the morning. To alleviate any extra anxiety, ensure they arrive on time to school, prior to the 8.25am bell. This will allow plenty of time for students to prepare their materials.

**Special Adjustment Forms**
These forms will be sent out to those students identified as meeting the criteria for adjustments to the testing procedures. These students will have a medical diagnosis, with reports on-file in our system. If you do receive one of these forms and you consent to the adjustment, please ensure they are returned to the office by Friday, 11th May.

**Parent Requested Withdrawal for Testing**
Students may be withdrawn from the testing program at a parent/guardian’s request. Withdrawals are intended to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. If you wish to withdraw your child from the program a *Notice of Parent Withdrawal* form will need to be completed and returned to the office by Friday 11th May. Please contact Brendan Clews (Learning Support Teacher) to request a withdrawal form.

School Counsellor — Ninette Nell

**The effect of Anxiety/Worry/Stress on your child's ability to learn**

Anxiety can prevent children from taking part in fun activities. It can also cause physical issues such as sleeplessness, diarrhoea, stomach aches, irritability, tiredness and headaches. Children who suffer from anxiety often has difficulty concentrating and this may affect their learning ability.

Anxiety is a normal part of the human’s survival instinct. However, some children’s survival instinct is a lot more sensitive than others which makes them perceive the world as a much more dangerous place than it really is. Some children just find it harder to control their anxious feelings.

It is important that our children are given the best opportunities to learn in school and hence the need for them to learn to control their own anxieties.

**A Parent Workshop will be held on the 3rd May at 5:45-7:30 at St Francis Xavier Primary School’s library.** The Catholic Education Counsellors will discuss different forms of anxiety and provide parents with strategies on how they can help their children cope with their anxious feelings.

There are limited spaces available, so if you are interested in attending this workshop, please RSVP to: ninette_nell@rok.catholic.edu.au.
**Prep Enrolments 2019**

Enrolments for Prep are currently being taken for the 2019 school year. If you have a child due to commence Prep next year born July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 please complete an enrolment form available from the school office or download from the school’s website. Enrolments for Years 1—6 are also currently being taken for 2019. When returning the enrolment form, please ensure there is a certified copy of your child’s birth certificate, baptismal certificate & immunisation info. It is essential that we have our current families accounted for so that we know the number of places available for new families.

**Bookclub**

Issue 3 Book Club order forms were handed to students this week. Lots of fun and exciting reading is again available to all our students both old and new from the Scholastic Book Club. Once again, we are glad to offer you the benefits of purchasing resources from Scholastic at reasonable cost. The Book Club has the latest books available and introduces us to new authors throughout the year. The school is awarded bonus points from the total sales and from this, I purchase new resources for the library. Closing date for Issue 3 is Thursday 26th April, 3.00pm close of school. **Sorry no late orders will be accepted.** Please make cheques payable to ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL and NOT to Scholastic. If you would like to place an order after the closing date, this may be done online directly to Scholastic Book Club. Should you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to visit me in the library.

*Mrs Argent—Library Co-ordinator*

**Uniform Shop**

*Second-hand Uniform Shop*
*Open – Thursday 8.15am – 9am in the Hall.*

*Plenty of jumpers available for the upcoming cooler months.*
*Starting from $3.00*
*House shirts available also.*

**Prep Vision Screening**

**Visit by Registered Nurse for Prep Vision Screening**

Good vision is important for a child’s educational, physical and social development. Vision screening is therefore vital in early childhood, particularly for conditions such as ‘lazy eye’, which if not detected early can lead to blindness.

A Registered Nurse will be visiting the school in 2018 to commence vision screening for all Prep Year children. If you wish to have your child participate in this vision screening program, please complete and sign the consent form sent home with your child and return this to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible. You will be advised in writing of the outcome of your child’s screening.

Please note that if your child has had a vision assessment in the past 12 months it is not necessary for him/her to participate in this screening program. If this is the case, please complete the consent form and indicate that you do not wish for your child to participate, and ensure that you follow the schedule of reviews recommended by your eye health professional.

**Primary School Nurse Health Readiness Program**
**Child and Youth Community Health Services**
**Children’s Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service**
Sport Development Opportunities

Hoops program
The hoops program, a basketball development opportunity for all students of all abilities, will once again be running at our school during afternoon tea break on Mondays. If you would like your child to participate, please see Heather in the office for a permission form.

Rookies to Reds
Rookies to Reds is a development program for students wishing to learn skills in Rugby Union. The sessions will run on a Tuesday afternoon after school. Please see Heather in the office if you have not yet received a note and you would like your child to participate – there are no restrictions on ability level or age. All are welcome to join!!

Community News

Position Vacant
MacKillop Catholic Primary School, Andergrove

Groundsperson 30 hrs per week
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and enthusiastic persons for this Term Time contract position (30 HPW). The successful applicant will have appropriate experience and an understanding of and a commitment to the ethos of Catholic education.

A Working with Children Check (WWCC) and eligibility for a Suitability Notice will also be required.

Application packages can be obtained from the school office or our school website at www.mnmrok.catholic.edu.au under the Forms and Policies tab. Completed applications are to be emailed to The Principal, Allison Blakey, at Allison_Blakey@rok.catholic.edu.au or dropped to the school office at 20 Nadarmi Drive, Andergrove.

For further information, please contact:
The Principal, Mrs Allison Blakey, MacKillop Catholic Primary School
phone: (07) 4955 3600 or email: Allison_Blakey@rok.catholic.edu.au

Applications close 3pm, Thursday 26 April 2018.

Catholic Education is committed to best practice in student and protection policies and procedures and is an equal opportunity employer.
We are hoping to place another order for our Volunteer Polos this year for parents to purchase. These can be worn when you volunteer or attend school events and functions. The cost of these polos are $43. We have sample shirts in the office to try on for sizing. If you wish to purchase a St Francis Xavier Supporters polo, please complete the slip below and return to the office with money enclosed ASAP.

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NAME: ..................................................

I would like to purchase a St Francis Xavier supporter’s polo and have enclosed $43.00.

Size: (Please Circle)  S  M  L  XL  XXL

SIGNED: .............................................