Dear Parents,

**BEING PART OF THE P & F**

St Francis Xavier is fortunate to be supported by a motivated P&F Committee. Although the Committee is usually referred to as the P & F, every parent and carer at St Francis is a member of the Parents and Friends group by virtue of their child’s enrolment. The role of the P & F Committee is to support the whole school community in building partnerships between staff and parents. Parents can support their children’s education in many ways. Seeing their parents supporting their school and being a part of its community helps to give children a sense of the importance of their education.

Being a part of a vital and positive Parents and Friends group not only helps to achieve this but also has the potential to establish lifelong friendships. Please consider attending our P & F meetings if possible and assisting at one of the events organised for the school by the P & F Committee. You will not regret it.

Our first P & F meeting this term is Wednesday at 6:00pm in the staff room. Hope to see you there.

Have a wonderful weekend,

God Bless,

**Olivia Rostirolla**

Assistant Principal Religious Education — Karen Gaviglio

**Mother’s Day Liturgy**

Please join us on Friday 11 May to celebrate our Mother’s Day Liturgy. Year 2 will lead us through this prayer celebration. Through Mary, our mother, we thank and celebrate the amazing role all mothers have in our lives.

**Date:** Friday 11 May  
**Time:** 9 am  
**Place:** St Francis Xavier Church

You are all welcome to morning tea in the hall after the liturgy, generously organised by our P&F. Could you please advise if you would be attending this morning tea to assist us in catering for this event. Thanks.

Mother’s Day Liturgy Morning Tea—Friday 11 May

Number of Adults attending .................

Please return to the office by Tuesday 8 May. Thank you.
Sacramental Program

Thank you Fr Don for visiting our students preparing for their Sacraments this week. We value your time and knowledge in guiding the children to a deeper understanding of the sacraments.

Now that we have finished our Confirmation preparation, next week we begin our workshops to prepare the students to receive Eucharist. This weekend at our parish mass, the students, parents and parishioners will commit to this program through our Rite of Enrolment.

Rite of Enrolment Mass for Eucharist
Date & Time: Sunday: 29 April 9 am parish Mass
Place: St Francis Xavier Church

Official Opening and Blessing—New Buildings

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 Brieffies

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.
Assistant Principal Administration — Mary Oxenham

School Safety Procedures for Before and After School

Our first priority is always the safety of our students and it is important for us to reiterate our procedures on a regular basis. With this in mind, and with the construction of our new senior playground, we thought we would go through our before and after school expectations again. Firstly, we do not allow any students to play on the play equipment either before or after school. This includes both the Prep Playground and the new Senior Playground.

In order to meet our duty of care requirements, a staff member/s (not a parent) must be in a supervisory capacity, if students are playing on the playgrounds.

Before school, we have one teacher on duty in the UCA (undercover area) at 8.15am to supervise students walking safely to class and students playing handball. (Which is the only game students are to play before school) There are no teachers supervising in either of our playgrounds, or on our ovals.

After school, we have two teachers on duty in the Pick Up Zone, one teacher on Bus Duty and one teacher supervising the UCA to ensure students are being safe while waiting to attend OHSC (after school care) or to be collected by parents.

Students are not to play with any sports equipment before or after school on the school grounds, unless a teacher, an OHSC carer or a sporting coach is supervising them, in an organised coaching session. (As mentioned above, students can play handball after the 8.15am bell)

After school, we have a 3.15pm bell. This is to signify that all students should have vacated the school premises before this bell rings, unless they are attending a coaching/drama session, homework club or after school care.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Wednesday 25th April was Anzac Day. This is a special day to remember the courageous actions undertaken by the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps during the First World War. We remember all who lost their lives through wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. A sincere thank you to the parents, students and staff of St Francis Xavier who represented our school respectfully at the Anzac Day March on Wednesday. We were very impressed at the number of students who came along to the March and extremely proud of the way they honoured our defence forces.
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.

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

School Disco

TONIGHT!
(Friday 27th April, 2018)

DISCO
FRIDAY 27 APRIL, 2018
Theme: “FLUORO”
Prep—Year 6
TIME: 6.00pm—7.30pm
ENTRY FEE: $5.00
WHERE: Undercover area

Lucky Door, Raffles, Best Dressed, Food & Drinks & Glow items on sale.
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
St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School
Casual Assistant Outside School Hours Care

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and enthusiastic persons for this position. Applicants who are able to commit to Wednesday afternoons and relief work as well as additional hours leading into the end of term vacation care periods are encouraged to apply.

The successful applicants 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:-
Corner of Bridge Road and MacKenzie Streets, West Mackay.

For further information, please contact:

The Principal, Olivia Rostirolla, St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School,
phone: (07) 4951 1861 or email: sfxm@rok.catholic.edu.au

Applications close—Friday 11th May

Catholic Education is committed to best practice in student protection policies and procedures.

Our school exist not to be different, but to make a difference.

All families invited!
P & F MEETING
Wednesday 2 May
6.00pm
Staffroom

Your continued support is always appreciated.
On Wednesday 9 May the P & F will be holding the Mother’s Day Stall. If you are able to assist in setting up, running the stall or packing up the stall, please indicate your availability and return the form below to the school by Wednesday 2 May. Even if you can only give an hour of your time, we would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you, P & F

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**MOTHER’S DAY STALL HELP**

Name: .......................... Grade Eldest Child: ..........................

Phone: ................................

I can help on Wednesday 9 May in the Hall:

Setting Up 8.15AM: (YES) (NO)

Helping on the Stall-indicate time available: (YES) (NO)

Time Available: ..........................

Packing up the Stall at end of day: (YES) (NO)

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Students of the Week

Children receiving happygrams this week are— Emily Boettcher, Quinn Hawkin, Corby Gravino, Ella DiFilippo, Nash Ferris, Charlotte Finch, Elijah Clarke, Gemma Gravino, Ava Schaper, Nathan Klein, Edward Bailey, Cooper Currie, Kyan Alty, Maddison Grima, Braeden Sturdy, Sophie Cruickshank, Dusty Hallam, Charlize West, Emma Finch, Abbey Morris and Breanna Paskins.