Dear Parents,

Catholics honour Mary in the month of May and ask for her intercession and prayers on their behalf. We know that the Blessed Mother played an essential role in salvation history. Her wholehearted generous ‘yes’ enabled the Holy Spirit to work in her to bring about the birth of the Son of God. When Mary’s Son, Jesus, hung on the cross, he gave the world the great gift of His Mother when He said, “Here is your mother.” Sometime in this month of May, take a few moments to plan a way to honour Mary; maybe planting a flower garden, praying the rosary together or talking about what makes Mary such a special part of our faith traditions.

DISCO

A very big thank you must go to all those wonderful people in our school community who worked hard to bring about such a successful school disco last Friday. Thank you firstly to the P & F – in particular, Tracy Anderson and Melissa Figlia who set up prior to the event as well as helped clean up with all the wonderful tuckshop helpers afterwards. Thank you also to our staff, particularly Ms Rutland for organising the music and playing DJ as well as all those who gave up a Friday evening to supervise the children and lastly thank you to all the parents who helped in the tuckshop ensuring the children were fed and re-energised!

HAVE YOUR SAY ON CYBERBULLYING

Many parents and teachers are concerned about cyberbullying. It is a serious problem that can hurt young people, families and school communities. Cyberbullying is also a complex problem that is often invisible to parents and teachers.

In February, the Premier appointed a group of Queenslanders who are passionate about stopping cyberbullying of young people. The Queensland Anti-Cyberbullying Taskforce is chaired by well-known author and commentator, Madonna King, and includes members with knowledge and expertise in education, youth health and wellbeing, law, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, disability and families.

The Taskforce needs your help to develop a framework for Queensland to help reduce cyberbullying of young people. They want to hear from parents, carers, students, teachers and other experts in schools. In particular, the Taskforce wants to hear about your ideas to:

- prevent or reduce cyberbullying
- support people affected by cyberbullying of young people.

How to have your say

Email the Taskforce at antibullyingtaskforce@premiers.qld.gov.au

Upload your ideas as a submission on the Taskforce website https://qld.gov.au/cyberbullyingtaskforce

Come to a public forum in 12 Queensland locations including Brisbane, Cairns, Rockhampton and Charleville. For information about forums visit https://qld.gov.au/cyberbullyingtaskforce

Everyone can be part of the stand against cyberbullying. Ms King and the Taskforce members look forward to hearing from you.

Have a wonderful long weekend,
God Bless

Olivia
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:** 9.00 am  
**Place:** St Francis Xavier Church

You are all welcome to stay for 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 in catering for this event. Thanks.

**Mother’s Day Liturgy Morning Tea—Friday 11 May**

Number of Adults attending Morning Tea: ............

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

**Official Opening and Blessing—New Buildings**

Official Opening and Blessing of  
St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School  
and Kindergarten  

25th May at 9.30am

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.

Richard Scholes Crazy World of Science: Wild Weather
Yesterday the children were delighted by the spectacular science demonstration performed by Richard Scholes. It was an entertaining and mind-blowing show that visibly revealed a range of weather phenomena. We encourage you to ask your students about some of the interesting experiments that were performed!

Athletics Carnival
Yes, it is that time of year again when we start preparing for the SFX Athletics Carnival. This year we will run events over two days, Thursday the 7th June and Friday the 8th June.
Thursday the 7th of June will see students 10-12 years competing in high jump, long jump and the 1500m. The 1500m is a new event to primary school competition and if you have a child in this age group, who is interested in participating, we strongly recommend they start training now. Thursday’s competition will also include the Junior carnival. Students in Years Prep -3 will participate in modified athletics events and sprint races. The day will conclude with novelty events involving Students, Parents and Teachers – so bring your running shoes!
On Friday the 8th, students in Years 4-6 will be bused out to Slade Point oval for the senior carnival. Students will participate in discus, shot put, 800m, 200m, 100m and relays.
Next week nomination/permission forms for the Years 4-6 students will be text to parents. These forms will need to be completed by Tuesday 15th May, so that timetables for events can be finalised.

ATHLETICS HELPERS
If you are able to assist with the carnival, please complete the form below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: ..................................................</th>
<th>Contact phone number: .....................................</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I can assist on (please circle): THURSDAY FRIDAY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HUGE THANK YOU
A HUGE thank you to our wonderful families and friends for your generous support to our school, by bringing in lots & lots of Coles Sports for Schools docket. With the amount of docket we received, we will be able to order lots of sporting equipment for our students.

Thank you for your fantastic support.
Julie-anne Brieffies—APC
We have been extremely lucky to have some wonderful neighbours surrounding our school grounds. It is important that we are able to reciprocate and be mindful of the road rules too. We have had a complaint from one of our neighbours in McKenzie Street. She advises that parents from our school are continually parking across her driveway. She was unable to leave her property this morning, due to a car parked in her driveway. On Wednesday, she could not drive into her driveway again, due to a car parked across it. This is in breach of the road rules. We understand that our school is a very busy place both before and after school, but we ask that you adhere to the road rules. Thank you.

News from the P & F Meeting—Wednesday 2 May, 2018

Last Friday, we held our first disco for the year and from all feedback it appears to have been a huge success. A big thank you to our wonderful staff for their help, and to all those parents who were able to lend a hand on the night. Seeing the kids have such a good time makes all the hard work worth it!

We held our first meeting for Term 2 on Wednesday night, and we appointed a new Secretary to the P & F executive. We sadly said goodbye to Krysten Butcher who was appointed earlier in the year, and welcomed Melissa Figlia to this role.

Next week, we have our Mother’s Day stall on Wednesday. The students always enjoy buying mum or their love one a gift, and we have some fantastic selections this year.

On Friday, we will be catering for a morning tea for all mums, after the Mother’s Day Liturgy. We hope as many mums and grandmothers as possible, can come along and enjoy the morning.

We are in the early stages of planning our first ever “Twilight Christmas Market Night” which is very exciting and something we anticipate will be a lovely night of markets, rides and entertainment for the whole family. Come along to our next meeting or contact one of us to be involved in this exciting event.

For many attending a meeting is difficult for various reasons, and as a P & F, we are constantly looking at ways for parents to be able to provide their thoughts/ideas and feedback in other ways. Please feel free to contact any of us at any time outside of meetings. We would love to hear from you all.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, 5 June at 6.00pm in the staffroom and a request for agenda items will be made prior to this night.

Look forward to seeing or hearing from as many of you as we can soon.

Kind Regards,

St Francis Xavier P & F Executive

Thank you for your continued support!
St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School Community
is pleased to invite

St Francis Xavier Parents and Friends

to the

Official Blessing and Opening of St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School
Kindergarten and Classrooms

blessed by

Most Reverend Michael McCarthy DD
Bishop of Rockhampton,

opened by

Mr George Christensen MP
Federal Member for Dawson

and

Leesa M Jeffcoat AM
Diocesan Director Catholic Education

on

Friday, 25 May 2018
9:30am

The ceremony will take place in the St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School
assembly area with afternoon tea to follow in the Hall.

RSVP 14 May, 2018
Phone 49 511861
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.

**MSP SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER PHOTO DAY – WEDNESDAY 23 MAY**

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**A NOTE FROM YOUR SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER**

School photos are almost upon us again! The school has engaged MSP Photography to create our school records this year and you are invited to purchase prints of your child.

On photo day, **every student will be photographed** regardless of whether you are purchasing or not.

Your child will bring home a personalised order envelope from the photographers. Please take care to read and follow all the instructions carefully. This will ensure your order is processed smoothly and efficiently and will help you to avoid any late fees.

You will have the option to order online or with cash in your student’s envelope. Please take care to follow the instructions carefully.

Additional order envelopes are available from the school office for **separated parents, blended families and grandparents**. You will need to collect these on or before photo day and give it to the photographer on photo day. Be sure to write “Mum’s order” or “Dad’s order” on top of your envelope.

To order a sibling photo, please collect Sibling Order Envelope from the school office on or before photo day, or order it online at **least 24 hours in advance**. Please note: **Sibling photos are only for siblings who all attend the school.**

If your child has been photographed in a special group (ie sports team or leadership team), order envelopes will be available in the weeks following photo day. Please watch this newsletter for information when they will be available.

As school staff are unable to help with photography enquiries or payments, please direct your questions and comments directly to MSP Photography by phoning 4921 3355.

Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to a great photo day.
HOCKEY NEWS

Last Saturday, our St Francis Xavier Hockey teams participated in a March Past to recognise the start of the 2018 hockey season as well as present our Heather Hicks (Admin) with Life Membership. Congratulations Heather for all your work, time and commitment to school hockey and St Francis Xavier hockey. We have a total of 7 teams taking the fields this year. 1 x U11 boys; 1 x U11 girls; 2 x U9 mixed and 3 x U7 mixed teams. A HUGE thank you to all the coaches, supporters for another positive year of hockey.
MOTHER’S DAY STALL

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

______________________________
MOTHER’S DAY STALL HELPERS

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)
Calling all female students in year 4, 5 & 6 who are wanting to play Rugby League.

A two week skills/games afternoon (Wednesday 9th & 16th May) for any girls who wish to play or try Rugby League. These sessions are will be a skills/come and try clinic to begin and finishing off with some modified games. Open to any girls in grade 4, 5 & 6 this year. Students can come as individuals or teams. All sessions facilitated by NRL Game Development Staff in a safe, fun and controlled environment.

For more information please contact:

NRL Game Development Officers (Mackay)

Melinda McLeod (0417 234 796) or Jim Lappin (0402 892 833)