Dear Parents,

On Sunday we celebrate Mother’s Day, a very important day in the year’s calendar. I say this because of the special attention given to mothers on this particular day. However, mothers should be celebrated every day because of the very important role they play in their children’s lives and hence their important role in society. I would go so far as to say that the role of mothers is the most important role in society. With this importance of course comes great responsibility, which is perhaps a scary thought! The way in which you bring up your children has a great effect on them and on each of us who come into contact with them. Your children are the backbone of our society for the next generation. My experience as a teacher, for longer than I like to admit these days, is that children who are brought up in loving homes where they have definite boundaries, where parents are consistent and fair and where they are taught how to respect every other person, are a joy to teach in school and have a profound effect on teachers and their school friends. I have come across many beautiful children like this and I thank God for their gift to me. I also thank God for the homes that have helped to shape them. I suppose my challenge to each of you is to reflect on the way in which you look after your children. Are you consistent in the way you discipline them? Are you the decision maker in the home or do you allow your children to decide for you? Each of us needs to reflect on what we do each day. None of us is perfect and there is always room for improvement. My prayer for you is that Mary who raised Jesus will be with you in his great and important role you have. My own mother had great devotion to Mary and spent many moments in prayer to her. She was a great mother to my siblings and me and I still thank God for her. May each of you be blessed in your role as mothers and enjoy your children every day.  Blessings on you and your families.

Have a wonderful Mothers’ Day weekend,

God Bless

Olivia
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
NAPLAN  In 2018, students in Year 3 and 5 will sit the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests on Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 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.

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.

| Name: ________________________________ | Contact phone number: __________________________ |
| I can assist on (please circle): | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY |
**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.

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**House Spirit Day**

House Spirit Day for this term will be held on Friday 18 May.

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 shirt may wear their sports uniform. House shirts are only available from Uniform Solutions.

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**Book Swap**

St Francis Xavier is a school that continually encourages its students to read. This term, we would like to continue with this event—“The St Francis Xavier Book Swap”. Many children have tens and sometimes hundreds of books at home that they have read over and over again. Why not swap them for other books, without having to pay a cent. In Week 6 commencing the 21 May, the Student Council will have a stall ready to collect all books, give students a book buck for every book they wish to swap and allow them to find new stories to read.
School Photos  
WEDNESDAY 23 MAY  

FORMAL UNIFORM to be worn on your child/ren’s photo day. To order a sibling photo, please collect a Sibling Order Envelope from the school office. Please return all photo order forms on or before photo day.

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**Staff line-up for their flu needles**

On Wednesday, most of our staff lined up to have our flu needles. Thank you so much to Mrs Argent, who organises this for our staff each year. It is really important, particularly if you are in contact with many people in our daily lives, as we are at school. We are very grateful to Catholic Education Office for covering the cost of the staff vaccinations. Everyone received a lollipop and a pat on the back for not crying, too loudly!!!

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**Mother’s Day Stall**

Well, there certainly was some “Big Business” happening at school on Wednesday. Our Mums are going to be surprised with some fabulous gifts on Sunday. Thank you so much to our P & F and all the mums who came along to help on the stall. We have some very happy customers!
St Francis Xavier rugby league team hit back on Wednesday afternoon as they put on a dominating display of both attack and defence against a robust Eimeo Road team. Our coach Kerrie Day could not ask for anything more from the boys and congratulated them on a 12 all draw. Parents, friends and supporters are always welcome.
Mark this date on your calendar!

Now here's an opportunity you can't afford to miss! With all the stress in our world today, it is essential that we give our children strategies to deal with life, in a resilient manner. We hope you are free to come along to our library on Monday 21 May 6.45pm—8.15pm. This should be a most worthwhile presentation by Prof. Marr Sanders.

AMAZING LOVING STRONG HAPPY SELFLESS GRACEFUL
DISPLAY BOARD IN THE OFFICE

Thank you our beautiful Year 2 students for their display in the office, dedicated to their mums. What a truly lovely way to show their love for their mums.

MOTHER'S DAY LITURGY

It was standing room only in the church today for our Mothers' Day Prayer Celebration. Thank you to our Year 2 students, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Mully and Ms Rimmington for providing us with such a beautiful dedication to our mothers. God bless all mothers and thank you for all your selfless acts. Know that you are appreciated and greatly loved. Happy Mother's Day for Sunday. We hope you are all spoiled rotten by your families.

MOTHER'S DAY MORNING TEA
Come join us on the 8th, 9th and 10th June at the Mackay Leisure Centre for a fun filled squash camp. Featuring; “Lisa Camilleri and Brad Hindle” both international ranked squash players and coaches.

To register your interest or get more information please contact Susan Palmer on 0423 200 348

Squash is a fast paced ball game that is said to be the ‘healthiest sport’, according to Forbes Magazine. A great game to get fit, be social and best of all you can play any time of the day; rain, hail or shine.

Give it a go! Come along to the clinics for some fun and an exciting introduction to squash or learn how to improve your game. The clinic is for junior and adults – beginners to advanced.

COME TRY SQUASH!
This December come join us at our BEGINNER’S SQUASH CAMP

Never played? That’s alright! Give it a go this June 8th – 10th at our fun filled squash clinics.

We cater for all levels of juniors and adults / beginners to advanced. It’s a perfect opportunity for you to get active and involved - and bad weather is no excuse! Squash is the perfect indoor sport to keep you and your kids fit and healthy.

WHEN: 3 day camp 11th-13th December 2017

COST: to be advised

WHERE: Mackay Leisure Centre

To register your interest or for more information please contact Susan Palmer on 0423 200 348