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NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL WE WILL:

Learn, Love, Live The Gospel, Witness Our Faith & Celebrate Life

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2026

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT, PRIORITIES and GOALS 2026

Friday 31 July 2026
Week 3

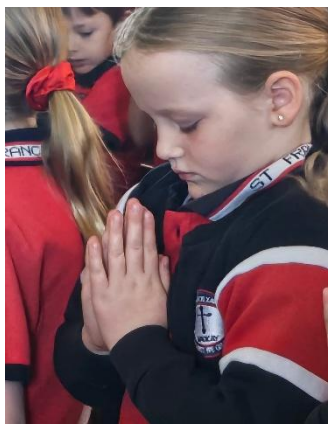
Dear Families and Friends of our School Community,

On Friday, our whole school gathered for a special liturgy to celebrate Catholic Education in Australia and more than 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia and more than 200 years of Catholic schooling.

Inspired by this year's theme, Shine Your Light, Ms Gaviglio encouraged our students and staff to let their light shine brightly here at St Francis Xavier. This message was also reflected in the Gospel reading, reminding us not to hide our light, but to use our gifts to bring kindness, hope and joy to others.

Following the liturgy, students shared morning tea with their pastoral groups and enjoyed the beautiful sunshine in the church oval.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make this celebration so meaningful.



With warmest regards,

Karen Gaviglio ~ Acting APRE

WHAT'S HAPPENING – TERM 3 Week 4 & Week 5

Term 3 Week 4

SFX ART COMPETITION continues

Mon 3 Aug: » Assembly ~ 8.30am

Wed 5 Aug: » Parish Mass ~ 8.30am

» Adventures of Figaro Performance (Yrs 3-6)

Thurs 6 Aug: » CMC Visiting Year 1 (Reading)

Fri 7 Aug: » HOUSE DAY

» Assembly ~ 8.30am

» St Mary of the Cross Liturgy ~ 1.45pm

(led by Yr 4)

» DISCO- 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Term 3 Week 5

SFX ART COMPETITION continues

Mon 10 Aug: » Assembly ~ 8.30am

» Deadly Choices ~ 10.45am

Wed 12 Aug: » Parish Mass ~ 8.30am

Thurs 13 Aug: » Year 1 Excursion (Botanical Gardens)

» CMC Visiting Year 1 (Reading)

Fri 14 Aug: » Assembly ~ 8.30am

» PASTORAL GROUPS -1.30pm

FROM OUR APRE

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This year, Catholic Education Week centres around the theme: **Share your light, inspire others**. All students, staff and school communities are asked to recognise their gifts and share them generously.

Please see some of the activities we have been involved with this week to celebrate our wonderful Catholic Schools.

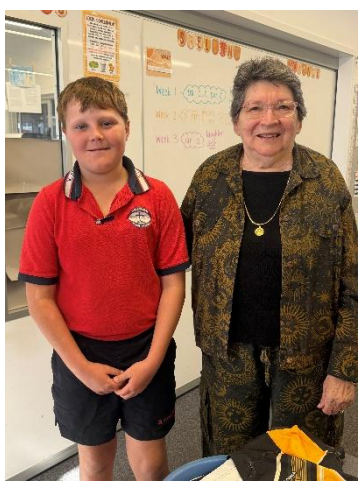
LINKS WITH OUR PARISH

We welcomed parishioners from St Francis Xavier Parish into our Year 6 classrooms following our Parish Mass.

The classroom visit provided a special opportunity for our parish community to see firsthand the wonderful work being undertaken by our Year 6 students. Our students truly shone their light as they explained their projects, reflected on their learning and engaged in meaningful conversations with our visitors.

Following the classroom showcase, Year 6 students and parishioners enjoyed morning tea together outside the church where many stories were shared.

A sincere thank you to Mrs Horsfall for providing a delicious morning tea, and to our parishioners for joining us and helping make the occasion so special. We are grateful for your support and the important role you play in our faith community.

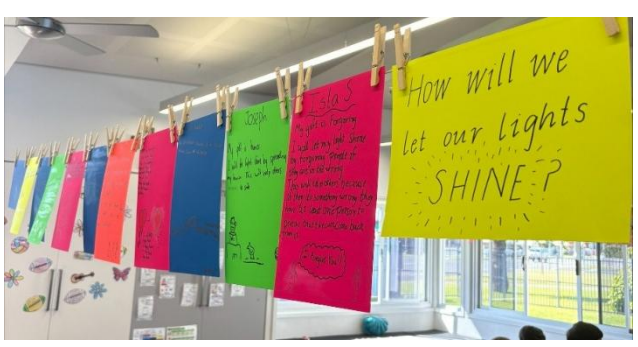


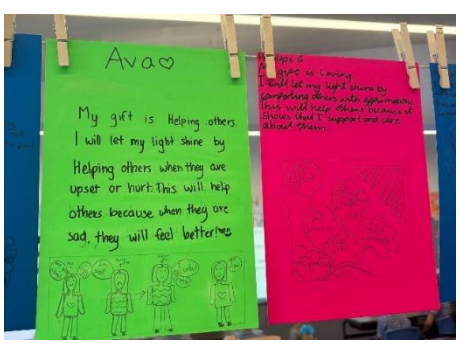
CLASS ACTIVITIES

Year 5RG created lanterns with messages that reflect this year's Catholic Education Week theme, "Share Your Light, Inspire Others".

Through their thoughtful words and creative designs, the students have shared messages of how we can share our light and inspire others.

Thank you, Year 5RG, for shining your light and inspiring others.





FROM OUR APA

CYBER SAFETY VISIT: ThinkUKnow

Last week, students in Grades 3-6 participated in essential cyber safety sessions presented by Sergeant Stephen, Miss Jessica, Sergeant Michelle, and Miss Abby.

Using the ThinkUKnow program, these dedicated police officers delivered practical advice on navigating the digital world safely. They covered key topics including:

- Protecting Private Data: What personal information should never be shared online.
- Online Anonymity: Understanding that people online are not always who they claim to be.
- Responding to Threats: Real-world examples of digital risks and the exact steps students should take if they encounter a problem.

Continuing the Conversation at Home

We encourage parents to keep the conversation going at home. Your child's ability to trust you without fear of losing device privileges is essential if they ever encounter trouble online.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Sergeant Stephen, Miss Jessica, Sergeant Michelle, and Miss Abby for volunteering their time and expertise.

The ThinkUKnow program was developed by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in partnership with state police and industry partners. For guidance on talking to your child about online safety, additional resources and fact sheets and current digital threats, please visit www.thinkuknow.org.au/resources-tab/parents-and-carers.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER
IN CHRIST WE GROW

ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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PO Box 5495 MMC QLD 4741
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IN CHRIST WE GROW

21.07.2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Families are reminded that any planned absence of more than 10 consecutive school days requires a formal application for an exemption from compulsory schooling.

Parents and carers must complete the required application form and submit it to the Principal before the absence begins. Wherever possible, the form should be provided at least 14 days before the proposed leave.

The application asks families to provide:

- the dates and reason for the absence
- information about how the student will remain connected to their learning
- any relevant supporting documentation
- details of arrangements for completing or maintaining classwork.

The Principal will consider each application in line with legislative and Catholic Education requirements. Families will then be advised whether the absence has been approved as a reasonable excuse.

Absences of 10 school days or fewer should continue to be communicated to the school through the usual attendance procedures.

Please contact the school office if you require a copy of the application form or assistance with the process.

Kind regards,

Mrs Suzette Windridge
Assistant Principal – Administration

Entry forms available from the office.

FROM OUR APC

St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School

Improvement Plan

The school improvement plan is a response to the school's self-assessment of the four Dimensions of the School Improvement Framework (SIF):

- Catholic Identity
- Effective Teaching & Learning
- Pastoral Support & Wellbeing
- Leadership, Partnerships & Resourcing

A range of school data is utilised to inform the school improvement plan.

1. Catholic Identity			2. Effective Teaching and Learning (SIT Domains 2,5,6,7,8)		
PRIORITY	**GOAL**	**TARGET**	**PRIORITY**	**GOAL**	**TARGET**
To enhance and develop teachers' knowledge, understanding and implementation of the Religious Curriculum.	To provide a variety of assessment modes for all learning cycles in the Religion Curriculum that allow students to demonstrate evidence of learning in ways that align with their strengths.	By the end of 2026, multimodal opportunities will be applied to 50% of the assessment tasks.	To create a culture of data informed practices where every student is engaged and learning successfully in their own ways.	To improve achievement and learning in writing.	Decrease % of Year 5 matched students in bottom 2 bands for writing.
3. Pastoral Support and Wellbeing (SIT Domain 3)			**4. Leadership, Partnerships and Resourcing** (SIT Domains 1,4,9)		
PRIORITY	**GOAL**	**TARGET**	**PRIORITY**	**GOAL**	**TARGET**
To implement wellbeing strategies that benefit the whole school community.	To improve the engagement levels of students and their readiness to learn.	By the end of 2026, improve the engagement levels of students to 64% to meet the norm from the "Tell Them From Me" survey.	To promote community partnerships that enhance student learning.	To empower students to actively participate in community-based initiatives through student voice.	By the end of 2026, all students have had the opportunity to engage in community-based initiatives.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS FOR PREP – YEAR 6

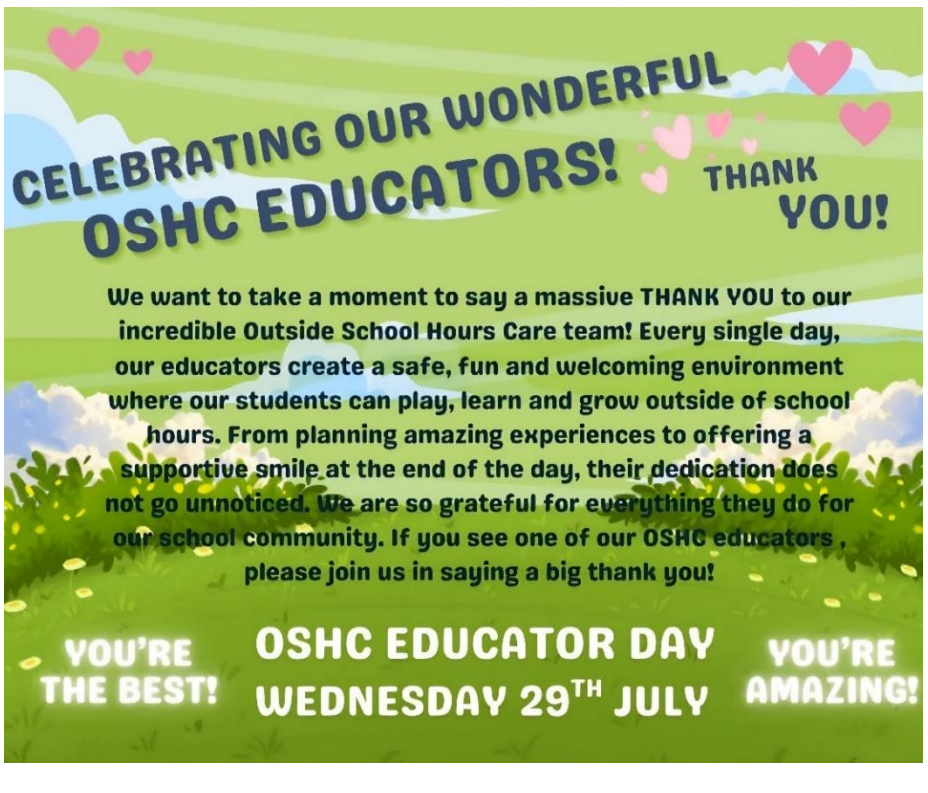
Prep - Year 6 teachers will be holding their Parent/Teacher Interviews in weeks 8 - 10 of Term 3. The interviews will be 10mins long. All appointment times will be booked through Parent Lounge/Parent Orbit.

Please check to make sure you are able to access Parent Lounge/Parent Orbit before the interview dates. If you are having issues with this, please speak to Leigh Batchelor in our administration office.

Once you have selected your interview time, I encourage you to record this somewhere important, so you arrive at your child's interview at the correct time. If you need to check the time that you have selected, you are able to log in to Parent Lounge/Parent Orbit and click on the Parent Teacher Interviews tab and your interview times will be displayed on the screen.

Please remember that interviews are organised so parents and teachers can chat about each child's progress and challenges. It is encouraged that your child is not present in the classroom whilst the interview is taking place. Either arrange for them to be cared for or they will be required to sit quietly outside of the classroom – no playgrounds or other school areas are to be used.

Parent Lounge/Parent Orbit – Open for bookings: beginning of Week 6 to the end of Week 7



VISIT FROM CMC

Another unforgettable Friday activity at St Francis Xavier!
We were so lucky to host the incredibly talented students from Catherine McAuley College! Our students were completely spellbound from start to finish as they were treated to a sensational lineup of performances.

» The **Concert Band** had everyone on the edge of their seats with epic renditions of the James Bond theme and Colliding Visions.
» The **Dance Team** brought high energy and smiles with their jazz routine and a creative Master Chef dance/cook-off!
» **The McAuley Voices Choir** blew us away with their stunning harmonies.
» **McAuley Pulse Drum Corp** brought the thunder with an electric drum medley that had everyone moving!

A massive thank you to the staff and students from Catherine McAuley College for sharing your talents with us.

HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR PARENT HELPERS

We want to send a massive THANK YOU to the incredible parents and Mrs Goody, who came in and rolled up their sleeves to put together all the brand-new furniture for our new Prep & OSHC wing!

From flat-packs to finished spaces, your had work and wonder community spirit made a huge job fly by. Thanks to your effort, our little Preppies and OSHC kids have a welcoming space ready to go.
We are so grateful for your help-we truly couldn't have done it without our fantastic SFX parent community.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN YEAR ONE

This term, Year 1 students are exploring procedural writing by learning how to write clear instructions that explain how to do or make something. As part of 1B's learning, students gathered ingredients, followed a sequence of steps and made delicious chocolate balls. We enjoyed eating our finished creations! This practical activity helped to bring our procedural writing to life and allowed students to see how written instructions are used in everyday situations. Eating yummy treats is an added bonus!
Throughout the term, students will choose their own procedure and present it to the class, explaining how to make or create something. We cannot wait to see the wonderful procedures students choose and for our exploration of procedural test to continue!

Mrs Bray – Year 1 Teacher

NATIONAL TREE DAY

Our Earthcare Leaders and Term 2 Class Captains spent time at Glenfields Park planting native trees and caring for our local environment. National Tree Day is all about giving back to nature, restoring local ecosystems, and helping create greener, healthier spaces for native wildlife and our community to enjoy. It was wonderful seeing everyone working together and doing their bit for Mackay. We're so proud of how our student leaders represented our school. A big thank you to the teachers and helpers who came along to support the outing and help make it all happen.

CONGRATULATIONS

Huge congratulations to Eva, who took home a High Achievers Award for her incredible artwork at the recent Mackay Show! We are so proud of your hard work and talent – keep shining and keep being creative!

Mercy Awards

Love Faith

Mercy Excellence

AWARDEES: Term 3

Week 2 & Week 3

CLASS CAPTAINS ~ TERM 3

World DUCHENNE AWARENESS Day

World Duchenne Awareness Day is a global initiative introduced by Pope Francis in 2014.

It is held on 7th September to honour those living with Duchenne and to unite the world in raising awareness, understanding and hope for a cure.

WEAR YELLOW!

Join us by wearing yellow on **Monday 7th September** to show your support and help brighten the future!

On **Monday 7th September**, we are selling vanilla cupcakes with yellow icing for **$2.50** each to raise awareness for the annual World Duchenne Awareness Day. We will enjoy the cupcakes in the afternoon tea break on Monday.

Simply select the Special event tab on Monday 7th Sept then click on the "snacks" menu to find the yummy treat.

Orders close Friday 4th September.

TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER. ★ TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Uniform solutions will have a pop-up shop at school on

Friday 7th August from 8.00am.

They will only have sale items available, these are Red Polos, House Polos and Sport shorts.

Uniform Solutions

ST FRANCIS XAVIER

20% OFF

SPORTS AND HOUSE POLOS

SPORT SHORTS

SALE STARTS 1ST OF AUGUST AND ENDS 26TH OF SEPTEMBER

DON'T MISS OUT!!