



# NEWSLETTER

## SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL WE WILL:

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

| Mercy Values   | SFX Virtues | SFX Vision                    | SFX Mission       |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Community      | Love        | Spirit filled faith community | Celebrate life    |
| Spirituality   | Faith       | Nurture the Catholic faith    | Witness our faith |
| Social Justice | Mercy       | Fullness of life              | Live the Gospel   |
| Service        | Excellence  | Pursue excellence in learning | Learn             |

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2022

Catholic Social Teaching    Mercy Charism    Spelling    Reading    Wellbeing and Sustainability

## Term 4 Week 2

Dear Parents/Care Givers,

Jesus, therefore, seeing his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing by, said to his mother: **"Woman, behold thy son."** Then, he said to the disciple, **"Behold thy mother"**.  
 John 19: 25 - 27

When Jesus utters these words while he's hanging on the cross, he gave his mother to John and in turn Mary became the mother of all the living. It is from this moment on that the Catholic Church esteems Mary with great respect and admiration **because she is our mother**.

Mary is greatly revered in the Catholic faith and for Catholic Christians, October is known as the month of the Rosary – a special prayer dedicated to our mother Mary. Current scholarship traces the development of the Rosary to the High Middle Ages period. When the Christians won the victory over the Moslem Turks in Lepanto on October 7, 1571, Pope St. Pius V instituted the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary the following year. He and all Christians had prayed the Rosary for victory.



Each day during this month of the Rosary, our school is led by selected classes to pray a decade of the Rosary. The leaders cite a special intention and we all join in prayer.

Maybe you might like to do something similar at home??

### 2023 Finance Secretary

If you have not heard already, Pauline Hyde, our amazing Finance Secretary, is resigning next year and moving to Brisbane. I have tried to bribe her to stay, but unfortunately family comes first. We will farewell Pauline at the end of the year. Following is the link for the position if you or know of anyone who might wish to apply.

<https://applynow.net.au/jobs/CER432-finance-secretary-st-francis-xavier-catholic-primary-school>

### Farewell to...

Alana Williams, our Prep W teacher, who is leaving us next Tuesday to begin her maternity leave. We wish Alana and Ben all the very best for the birth of their first little bundle of joy. We pray all goes well.

## Class Placements 2023

It is that time of the year where we once again begin the process of formulating our class lists for next year. Our process is a very thorough one and our decisions for placing children in certain classes are not made lightly. When allocating children, the following factors are considered.

- male to female ratio
- friendships
- academic achievements
- behaviour
- special needs
- even class sizes

I invite parents to write to me expressing any factors or considerations that you believe may help in the planning of the classes for your child. As such, I would ask for this input to be made over the next week so that all details are in by this **Friday, 11 November**. Please note that this information forms only one part of our process and I cannot guarantee that every request can be met.

It is our professional responsibility to place the children where we believe their educational needs can be best met. I would also ask that parents **not** nominate specific teachers as our staffing (i.e., teacher placements) can, and will change from the current year levels. All class placement details need to be either emailed to me or sent to our office in written form addressed to me. Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

## Recognise this Person???



Rugby league legend, Indigenous role model and former Queenslander of the Year, Johnathan Thurston has been announced as the **first ambassador for community disaster preparedness program** Get Ready Queensland. This is a year-round program helping all Queenslanders be prepared for natural disasters. The Get Ready Schools competition which some of our students entered, helps children learn about common disasters in Queensland and how to prepare for them in a creative and fun way. We were one of forty schools who entered and, drum roll please, we were the lucky winners of a visit from Johnathan Thurston himself. The date for the visit is yet to be announced. Stay tuned as you will be most welcome to come

along if you can.

## Tuckshop Volunteers

We continue to struggle to find enough volunteers for our Tuckshop days. Thursday and Friday are two of our busiest times. If you are able to give a couple of hours and are not sure how or who to contact, just call or email Fiona our wonderful convenor, on the following...

School number and you will be put through – 49511861 or her email –

[fiona\\_horsfall@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:fiona_horsfall@rok.catholic.edu.au)

**Thank you so much** to all those parents who were able to make a donation to the Mackay Hospital Foundation fundraiser. The children loved the dress up and we raised \$1275. This will now be matched by another donor.



Have a wonderful weekend.  
God Bless.  
Olivia

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SFX IN TERM 4?

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 17 October  | School Captain speeches – 9:00am   |
| 18 October  | House Captain nominees announced<br>Board Meeting  |
| 21 October  | Socktober Mission Fundraiser – gold coin<br>Swimming continues   |
| 24 October  | House Captain speeches – 9:00am  |
| 28 October  | World Teachers' Day<br>Swimming continues<br><b>Day for Daniel</b>   |
| 31 October  | Cultural, MJR and Reef Guardian leaders announced  |
| 1 November  | All Saints' Day<br>Melbourne Cup   |
| 2 November  | All Souls' Day   |
| 3 November  | 2023 Prep transition session (9:00am – 10am)   |
| 4 November  | Swimming continues   |
| 10 November | Prep transition session  |
| 11 November | Remembrance Day Liturgy – (time to be determined)<br>Swimming continues  |
| 15 November | Final Board meeting  |
| 16 November | Seniors' morning tea   |
| 17 November | Prep transition session  |
| 18 November | House Day<br>Swimming continues  |
| 22 November | SFX Awards Ceremony – 9:00am   |
| 23 November | Prep Information session – 6:00pm<br>Prep Book Pack pick up  |
| 24 November | Prep Orientation morning – 9:00am – 10:30am<br>Whole school transition morning<br>Year 6 Mercy and CMC Orientation |
| 25 November | Year 6 end of Primary School celebration (evening – time to be determined)   |
| 28 November | Moving day for those teachers moving classes<br>Year 1 – 6 Book Pack pick up                                       |
| 29 November | Christmas Play<br>Year 1 – 6 Book Pack pick up   |
| 30 November | Report Cards available on Parent Lounge at 4:00pm<br>SFX Christmas carols – 6:00pm                                 |
| 1 December  | End of year mass in the church at 9:00am   |
| 2 December  | Farewell to Year 6 and final assembly 11:30am in hall.<br>Children welcome to go home early.                       |

**LAST DAY OF 2022 SCHOOL YEAR**

## FROM THE APRE



### WELCOME CIRCLE

A part of the welcome circle that is being conducted in classrooms every morning, is the positive primer. Positive primers are activities that prime students' brains for engaged, creative and flexible thinking. Starting a lesson or school day with a positive primer invests in student connection, collaboration and enjoyment.

This term in Year 4, the students have been rostered on to bring a positive primer to start the day. This could be a funny video, a game or activity that has everyone involved and laughing to start the day.



## FROM THE APA



### Parents are asked not to park in the Staff Carpark

We have noticed lately that some parents are using the staff carpark to either drop their children to school in the morning or collect them in the afternoon.

### We ask that you do not park in the staff carpark.

We have 65 staff and only 28 carparks, so most of our staff are required to park on the streets surrounding the school.

We have OHSC educators who begin work in the early afternoon and so use the car parks vacated by the ancillary staff who finish prior to 3pm. We also have cleaning staff who begin in the early afternoon. Our cleaning staff and OHSC educators often work into the hours of darkness and so for their safety, we want them to be able to park as close to the school buildings as possible.

So, please we ask that you park on the streets around the school. Thank you for your support in this matter, it is greatly appreciated.

## FROM THE APC

### BOOKLISTS ~ 2023



**Booklists will be handed out to students on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October.** Mackay School Supplies will open their shop and website on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October.** Book packs may be ordered online as per instructions outlined on the front page of the booklists. Purchasing book list requirements through the school, ensures that your child will have the correct items and material. If you wish to utilise this year's book pack service, you may either order online or use the hard copy handed out to the students. **All orders need to be placed by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October.** Years 1 – 6 Book Pack collection will be early in

Week 9. Further details will be in the newsletter, later this term.

2023 Prep Book Packs will be available on the Parent Information Night and Orientation Day. Further details on collection procedures will be outlined in a newsletter closer to the collection date.

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What to do with the list...

If you choose to order on-line the following instructions will guide you through the process.

- 1) Enter <https://mackayschoolsupplies.com.au/> into a web search engine (Google Chrome is the best platform)
- 2) Scroll and select St Francis Xavier
- 3) This will bring up all the booklists for each year level. Click on the appropriate Year level for 2020
- 4) Select the items you wish to order. **Please note: items from home/previous years are also noted on the list.**
- 5) You will need to ZERO any items that you DON'T wish to purchase. If you wish to purchase extras these are on a separate list, you will find them if you scroll down further.
- 6) Proceed to checkout - payment methods include Visa or MasterCard.

If you choose to use the traditional paper method, a collection box in the office will be available.

- + Please select the items you wish to purchase.
- + Please complete your order form carefully and **keep a copy** as a record of what you have ordered.
- + Unless indicated, please ensure your child's name is clearly marked on all items.
- + Payment methods include cash, cheques made payable to **Mackay School Supplies**, Visa or MasterCard.
- + **IF PAYING CASH PLEASE ENSURE EXACT MONEY IS ENCLOSED, NO CHANGE WILL BE GIVEN.**



*Mercy*

*Awards*

*Love*

*Mercy*

*Faith*

*Excellence*

Term 4 Week 2 Awardees



## TERM 4 CLASS CAPTAINS



## A MASSIVE CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Learnie Scott who competed at the Qld State titles this week. She has placed 2nd in Long Jump and has now been selected to represent QLD at the National Titles. Keep an eye on this young lady, I foresee Olympics in her future?!



## ART COMPETITION WINNERS AND RUNNERS UP



People's Choice  
Runners up

- Cooper Gray-Knight with *'1950's Lamborghini'*  
- Travis Benfer & Sophie Parrish

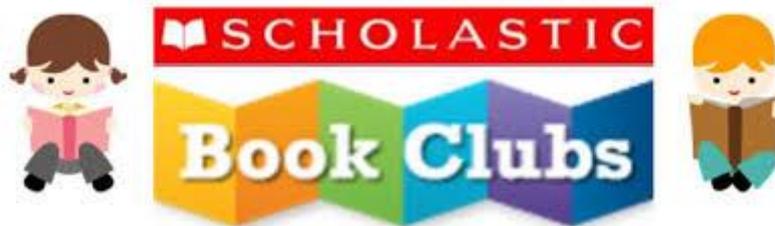
Principal's Choice  
Runners up

- Penny Butterworth with *'In the Gum Trees'*  
- Jake Gemmell & Celestine Matala

Judge's Choice  
Runners up

- Georgina Clemente (absent) with *'The Lights'*  
- Olivia Gow & Zoe Hargreaves

## LIBRARY NEWS



### Scholastic Book Club- issue 7 out now

Book Club provides a fun and convenient way of bringing the best in children's literature into your home. It's packed full of exciting books from best-selling authors, popular titles and series that kids love, as well as products and books that make perfect gifts for younger siblings who may not be at school yet.

Ordering from Book Club is easy—simply go online and place your order or hand your student order form and payment into the library (correct change would be appreciated) and then Scholastic's 'book elves' take care of the rest. Before you know it, your child will have a lovely surprise to take home once their order is delivered to their classroom.

When ordering from Book Club, you are not only helping your children, but you are also helping your school—20% of your spend goes back to your school in valuable Scholastic Rewards, which are used to buy classroom/library resources. This will be our final issue for the year.

Orders for issue 7 will close 3pm Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

For more information about Scholastic and Book Club, visit [www.scholastic.com.au](http://www.scholastic.com.au) or see me in the library before school.

Thanks

Stacey McSherry

Library Co-Ordinator

# Term 4 House Point Winners

Travis Benfer, Rory Coburn  
and Levi Bradshaw



## DID YOU KNOW

St Vincent de Paul Members in Mackay visit people who are in the watchhouse, and those in nursing homes. Want to join in? Email or QR code: [naomi.pettett@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:naomi.pettett@svdpqld.org.au)



# IGNITE A PASSION FOR THE GAME!

Find your closest centre today.

[play.afl/auskick](http://play.afl/auskick)

only \$80

## St Francis Primary

**STARTS** | Friday 21st October  
**Location** | St Francis School Oval  
**TIME** | 3:00pm - 4:00pm  
**DURATION** | Six Weeks  
**CONTACT** | Lachlan Sosinski  
M | 0477 964 508  
E | [lachlan.sosinski@afl.com.au](mailto:lachlan.sosinski@afl.com.au)

SCAN TO REGISTER!

## MEET THE PLAYERS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2022 FROM 11AM TO 1PM  
IN-STORE AT INTERSPORT MACKAY

TAHLIA MCGRATH  
 JESSICA JONASSEN  
 AMELIA KERR  
 TESS FLINTOFF  
 ANNABEL SUTHERLAND  
 JOSIE DOOLEY

INTERSPORT MACKAY - GREENFIELDS BOULEVARD - MOUNT PLEASANT

# TEEN SHED MACKAY

COMING SOON

## TEENS HANG OUT SPACE

Get ready for the creation of Teen Shed Mackay, a space just for Teens to come and hang out and just be. Created by them for them.

Follow us on facebook, insta and tictok to keep up to date on whats happening in and around the Teen Shed.

If your a teen, parent or a community member and would like to be apart of the Teen Shed please contact us.

[teenshedmackay@gmail.com](mailto:teenshedmackay@gmail.com)  
 socials: [teenshedmackay](https://www.facebook.com/teenshedmackay)

- Indoor/Outdoor Activities
- Adventures
- Games
- Discos
- Workshops
- Clubs
- Chill out zones
- Café
- Life Skill Development
- Community involvement
- School Holiday Programs
- and more