



St. Francis of Assisi Primary School
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26th July, 2021 Newsletter No. 1

Dear Parents,

It has been difficult to design and plan for Remote Learning when we are notified that Remote Learning will continue from Tuesday to Tuesday. So, to help teachers consistently plan we have decided to provide Remote Learning on a weekly basis. (Monday – Friday). When lockdown is finished, we will begin onsite teaching again.

This week, students from Years Prep-Six will continue to engage in a daily whole-class Google Meet check-in each morning. Years 3-6 students will engage in a daily Google Meet session at 8.45 am each morning and our Prep-2 students will logon for their daily session at 9.15am each morning. Teachers will complete the roll at this time and explain the Literacy tasks for the morning.

Teachers will then run a second whole-class Google Meet check-in at 11.30 am (Prep - 2) and 12 pm (Years 3–6). Teachers will use this next session to explain the assigned Maths, RE/Inquiry tasks for the afternoon and answer any possible questions. Both the morning and afternoon check-ins will run for approximately 30 minutes.

On top of the two daily Google Meets the teachers will also provide students with one Literacy and one Maths Focus Group throughout the week. Teachers communicated Focus Group Google Meet codes last Friday.

If you have any questions related to our Home Learning practices, please contact your child's classroom teacher or Christina Padula via email at christina.padula@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au.

If you are having any technical difficulties, please contact Andrea Dato via email at adato@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you for working in partnership with us during this challenging and uncertain time.

PARENT / TEACHER / STUDENT INTERVIEWS TO BE CONDUCTED VIA GOOGLE MEET ON TUESDAY JULY 27.

As you may be aware, our lockdown has now been extended until Tuesday, 27th July.

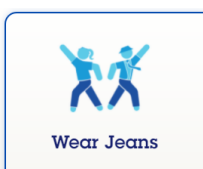
We had scheduled a School Closure Day to conduct Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews on Wednesday, 28th July. We will now be conducting these via Google Meet on **Tuesday, 27th July from 11 am - 8 pm**. This means that interviews will be conducted remotely. We have changed this date so that if we are permitted to return to onsite learning on Wednesday, we can have the children back at school.

We ask that parents, where possible, keep their original interview booking time for Tuesday, 27th July.

If you would like to view your interview booking time please visit the website – www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the school booking code **yyduq**.

Today, **Monday, 26th July**, your child's teacher will send you an email containing the Google Meet link so that you can access the Parent/Teacher/Student Interview at your scheduled meeting time.

Home Learning tasks will still be made available for Tuesday, 27th July, but please be aware that teachers will not be conducting Google Meet sessions or check-ins with the students on this day, as they will be conducting interviews all day.



JEANS 4 GENES DAY

On Friday 30th July we will be hosting Jeans 4 Genes day. Students are invited to wear jeans on this day together with their school top and appropriate footwear. We ask that each student make a gold coin donation. All money raised goes towards helping children affected by a life-altering genetic disorder.

A MESSAGE FOR PARENTS OF PREP 2022 STUDENTS

Due to the current lockdown we are unfortunately going to have to cancel our Prep 2022 Interviews that were scheduled for **Tuesday, 27th and Wednesday 28th July**.

On **Wednesday, 4th August**, we will be emailing a link to a Google Form for our Prep 2022 parents to complete. The information gathered from this Google Form will assist us in formulating the Prep 2022 class groups. We will also be emailing out a timeline that will outline Orientation dates, beginning of school year dates etc.

We appreciate your ongoing support and look forward to meeting our Prep 2022 students in October at Orientation.

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA (NCCD) AT ST. FRANCIS

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data? Schools must now complete the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on school students every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or 'help' at school.

Many students who need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety). Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the child's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD. Our Privacy and Collection policies have recently been updated to cover the collection of this information. The Policies are available on our school website. For more information, please see the flyer elsewhere to the newsletter.

YEAR 5 CAMP DATES

At the moment, it is up in the air, whether our Year 5 students will be going to camp NEXT Week of this term.

This week we will continue organising ourselves to go on camp unless we hear otherwise.

Fingers crossed that our Year 5 students get the opportunity to go on their first camp.

Below are the dates when our Year 5's head off and return:

Year 5A, 5F and 5T leave on the 2nd August and return on the 4th August.

Year 5H, 5K and 5P leave on the 4th August and return on the 6th August.

Any students who require medication while away on camp are to see the following teacher:

Camp 1: 5A, 5F and 5T: Need to see Mrs. Veronica Spiteri at 8.15 am on Monday, 2nd August outside the school office.

Camp 2: 5H, 5K and 5P: Need to see Mrs. Grace Lucic at 8.15 am on Wednesday, 4th August outside the school office.

As the children may be tired from Camp 1, they may start school at 11.30 am on Thursday, 5th August. If your Year 5 child needs to come to school at 9 am, they are to go to the Year 5 building where they will be supervised by a teacher. If they arrive after 11.10 am they may go directly to their classroom.

100 DAYS FOR OUR PREP STUDENTS

This will be happening on Thursday, 12th August. To celebrate the children are asked to dress up as though they are 100 years old. The children will participate in a variety of activities within their classroom. A note will go home in the coming weeks.

ASSEMBLIES FOR TERM 3

At the moment we haven't scheduled any Year Level Assemblies. I am hoping that we will have the opportunity to have these running as the term continues .

JUNIOR AND SENIOR SCHOOL SPORTS CARNIVAL

I have postponed setting a date for these two events as I am conscious of everything being organised and then cancelled. When circumstances are more settled, and the warmer weather is upon us we will organise the Sports Carnivals. I would like to make the events available so parents can attend.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION – EARLY NOTICE

This year's graduation for our Year 6 students is scheduled for Friday, 10th December. We will have the Year 6 Graduation Mass in the morning at our church and then our Year 6 Graduation Dinner in the evening at Casa D'Abruzzo. Mark this date in your diary.

YEAR 3 - FIRST EUCHARIST 2021 UPDATE

The dates set for our First Eucharist celebrations are:

Year 3C: Friday, 22nd October at 6 pm

Year 3D: Saturday, 23rd October at 11 am

Year 3M: Saturday, 23rd October at 1 pm

Year 3R: Saturday, 23rd October at 3 pm

Year 3S: Sunday, 24th October at 1 pm

Year 3K: Sunday, 24th October at 3 pm

We apologise for this change of date and any inconvenience this may cause; however, we believe that rescheduling these masses to October will provide us with the greatest chance of celebrating these wonderful sacramental events with substantial numbers of family and friends being permitted in the church.

YEAR 6 CONFIRMATION UPDATE

The dates and classes allocated for our Confirmation Masses are as follows:

Year 6G: Friday, 27th August at 7 pm

Year 6O: Saturday, 28th August at 11 am

Year 6J: Saturday, 28th August at 1 pm

Year 6M: Saturday, 28th August at 3 pm

Year 6W: Sunday, 29th August at 1 pm

Year 6F: Sunday, 29th August at 3 pm

I realise this could be an inconvenience to some of you, but we are doing our best to cater for as many people as we can attending the ceremonies.

CSEF (CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND) - HAS BEEN EXTENDED

If you hold a valid means tested health care card or are a foster parent, you may be eligible for Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF). The annual CSEF amount for primary school students is \$125. The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion expenses for the benefit of eligible students. The card must be valid as at **12th July, 2021**. Parents can obtain a form from the school office or download a form from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. The school can receive applications until Friday 13th August, 2021. The school also requires a copy of your current health care card.

KEY ENROLMENT DATES FOR YEAR 5 STUDENTS IN 2021 - CATHOLIC SECONDARY COLLEGE ENROLMENT (STUDENTS STARTING YEAR 7 IN 2023)

If your child is currently in Year 5 (2021) now is the time to enrol for a place at a CATHOLIC secondary college for the 2023 academic year. Below are some important dates to be aware of:

Key Enrolment Dates for our current YEAR 5 students (2021) for Catholic Secondary Enrolment

- ◆ **Term 1** - January 2021: Applications open for Year 5 students commencing Year 7 in 2023
- ◆ **Term 3 - 20th August 2021: APPLICATIONS CLOSE**
- ◆ **Term 3** - 3rd September 2021: Principals exchange a full list of applications with neighbouring colleges, including parish of residence
- ◆ **Term 3** - 17th September 2021: Principals exchange a full list of applications with neighbouring colleges, identifying proposed offers and non offers
- ◆ **Term 4** - 22nd October 2021: Offers posted to prospective Year 7, 2023 applicants
- ◆ **Term 4** - 12th November 2021: Final date for families to accept offer made by the school.

Should you wish to enrol your child in a government secondary school, this will be facilitated through the transition coordinator in 2022 when your child is in Year 6.

For transition enquiries please email (Brooke Brennan, Transition Coordinator)
bbrennan@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au and she will be happy to assist you.

God bless



Mark Basile
Principal

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schools must now complete the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)* every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or “help” at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Who is counted in the data collection?

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA) and it can include many students.
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student’s learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to the student.

What does the word ‘disability’ mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a

student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the student's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

What sort of help does the school give students?

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

How will the NCCD be different this year?

All schools have been counting students in the NCCD since 2015. The government will use the NCCD data as part of the funding to schools.

What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the government. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?

Amendments were made to the [Australian Education Act 2013](#) and [Australian Education Regulation 2013](#)). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child.

Where can I find out more?

Please contact your child's school if you have further questions about the NCCD and/or refer to the national [NCCD Portal](#).



*Mark Your
Calendar*

CALENDAR DATES FOR THE NEXT FORTNIGHT

Wednesday July 28	Maths Olympiad
Friday July 30	Jeans for Genes Day
Friday July 30	Year 6 Debating
Monday August 2	Years 5A, 5F & 5T to Camp
Monday August 2	Year 2 'Mrs Sargood' Incursion
Wednesday August 4	Year 5H, 5K & 5P to Camp
Wednesday August 4	Year 5A, 5F & 5T return from Camp
Friday August 6	Year 5H, 5K & 5P return from Camp

**Print this page and place it on
your fridge**

Learning and Teaching

Welcome to Term Three!

Welcome to Term Three! We hope that you found the Semester One Summary Report informative. We look forward to discussing your child's progress in Week 3 on Tuesday 27th July at our Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews.

Term Three hopes to be action-packed with many rich, engaging learning opportunities and experiences for our students.

Over the coming weeks, our students will engage in the following learning experiences:

Prep	Mill Park Victoria Police Visit (Incursion) Kew Traffic School 100 Days of Prep Celebration
Year One	Sustainable House Building Week Science Experiment Week (Energy Sources)
Year Two	Mrs Sargood Incursion Time Capsule- Inquiry Action
Year Three	Science Mad About Science Incursion Science Presentations
Year Four	Sovereign Hill Excursion
Year Five	Camp to Phillip Island Bunnings Incursion Scienceworks Excursion Wonder of Living Information Evening
Year Six	The Smoothie Bar Business and Economics Incursion Confirmation Retreat Day Confirmation Masses Wonder of Living Information Evening

We will also be celebrating Father's Day and Multicultural Day as a school community.

Just like our students, our teachers also have a busy term ahead. This term, our teachers will be engaging in a series of Professional Development Workshops that aim to further enhance their pedagogical practice. These workshops include Pedagogy of Encounter, Talk for Writing, High Impact Teaching Strategies, Growth Coaching, Godly Play, Synthetic Phonics and Behaviour Management. Furthermore, we will continue to implement our Case Management Approach in Term Three. Teams will continue to identify two students from each year level to collaboratively analyse, discuss and monitor to ensure growth and progress.

We look forward to a productive term ahead.

If you have any queries or questions about the learning and teaching practices at St Francis, please feel free to contact me on (03) 9407 3100 or via email at christina.padula@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au

Christina Padula
Learning and Teaching Leader

Wellbeing News

Helpful Hints for Parents to Keep E-Stress Under Control

Coping with 'e-stress' is a constant challenge for parents- especially trying to keep up with the millions of e-mails that seem to multiply before our very eyes! The demands on our time to read, reply to & act upon e-mails can seem to overwhelm us at times which can leave us both frustrated and exhausted. Then there is the constant challenge of monitoring and moderating the use of devices by our children. Sometimes the e-stress that we experience can be reduced by following a few helpful tips.

1. Avoid sending email when emotionally upset, frustrated or overwhelmed.

We need to consider how, when and why we are using e-mail. Whilst it can be an effective communication method if used well, if it is used poorly, it can escalate issues, leave people feeling devalued, communicate unintended sentiments or send regrettable messages. Remember that a face-to-face conversation is the best form of communication. If that's not possible, use email to set up a telephone call to clarify the situation or address the concern in a respectful manner.

Think before you write, not when you write – ensure that the messages you send are both dignified and courteous. Sometimes if you are feeling highly emotional about an issue, it is better to wait a little while before composing and sending an e-mail.

2. Avoid sending unnecessary emails.

Be discerning with the number of emails that you send. There may be an opportunity to speak with the person in a day or two instead of communicating electronically. Having patience can often result in improved outcomes and less time being spent on screens can give you more time to relax.

3. Setting reasonable boundaries for screen time.

As a family unit, it is important to be connected and close. For this to happen we need to make time for one another and interact socially on a regular basis. Being surrounded by a multitude of screens and electronic devices can sometimes create a challenge to enjoy any 'family time' where people can share stories of the day, re-connect with each other, offer support, and rekindle the simple joy of being a family.

An idea suggested to me recently was for families to establish a routine of EVERYONE (even mum and dad) putting ALL devices on charge before coming to the dinner table for the evening meal and leaving them there until the next morning. This results in family members having the time and opportunity to interact and spend time with one another. It also improves the quality of sleep and helps people wake up feeling more refreshed and energised.

I hope these ideas provide some valuable insights to consider in order to help your family stay happy and well in these busy times.

God Bless.

*John Dwyer,
Deputy Principal / Religious Education Leader*

News from around the Grades

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

On Tuesday July 13th, our Year 6 Captains, along with our Year 5 and 6 Class Captains, F.I.R.E Carriers and selected students from our Year 4 classes participated in a student leadership incursion with Unleashing Personal Potential. This workshop was aimed at helping our Primary Leaders have a positive impact for the remainder of 2021 after a challenging year and half within our schools. They learnt about how Leadership is all about serving and supporting others, lifting others up and having a positive impact on those around us in our community. They learnt that sometimes even leaders can struggle with this task as they don't have the proper resources, frameworks or guidance. Jamie and Gilbert from UPP lead them through a process of learning what leadership is all about, how to run a project from start to finish, how to communicate with your community and, most importantly, how to have a positive impact in the world. The students thoroughly enjoyed their day and were fantastic representatives for our school. Students will now continue to work together under 3 group themes to help improve our school. They will focus on:

OUR STUDENTS - What can we do to make the lives of St Francis students better?

OUR SCHOOL - What can we do to make our school a cleaner, more sustainable and environmentally friendly place?

OUR COMMUNITY - How can we connect, include and interact with members of our St Francis community and parish?

We can not wait to see what exciting initiatives our student leaders have in store for the remainder of the year and I look forward to continuing to work with them.

Brooke Brennan
Maths Leader / Student Leadership

Pupil of the Week

Prep	Alexander Y	(PK)
Year 1	Archie B	(1H)
Year 2	Nicholas V	(2V)
Year 3	Allegra T	(3R)
Year 4	Rizza P	(4N)
Year 5	Olivia B	(5T)
Year 6	Joseph A	(6G)

Keys To Life Award

Prep	Naomi C (PK)	for Getting Along
Year 1	Alexandra M (1H)	for Getting Along
Year 2	Nicolas D (2V)	for Confidence
Year 3	Isaac S (3R)	for Confidence
Year 4	Evan P (4S)	for Persistence
Year 5	Veronica B (5F)	for Organisation & Confidence
Year 6	Jamie M (6G)	for Resilience

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Prep A	Charlie C	For her enthusiasm towards her learning and for trying her best to use her time efficiently in the classroom. Keep it up, Charlie!
Prep F	Gianluca F	For sharing his ideas during class discussions with confidence.
Prep K	Frances G	For endeavoring to improve her handwriting style during every Writing lesson. Well done, Frances!
Prep N	Stephanie S	For adding detail to her recount piece about the holidays.
Prep S	Jack Z	For being an inclusive member of Prep S.
Prep T	Marcus B	For his improvement in listening skills. Amazing, keep it up!
Prep U	Eden D	For sounding out words when reading and writing. Well done, Eden!
Prep W	Scarlett O	For trying to sound out the letters in her words while reading. Well done, Scarlett!
Year 1A	Winnie F	For her wonderful insights during class discussions. Well done, Winnie!
Year 1B	Noah R	For a great start to Term 3. Keep up the fantastic work Noah!
Year 1F	Christina G	For displaying a positive mindset when attempting new challenges. Well done, Christina!
Year 1H	Theo L	For working hard during learning times. Well done, Theo!
Year 1M	Gabriel B	For using dialogue to make his holiday recount interesting. Well done!
Year 1S	Giorgia S	For her enthusiasm when sharing her learning with others. Well done, Giorgia!
Year 1V	Caroline H	For being an attentive listener and completing all set tasks in an allocated time frame. Well done!
Year 2B	Lucas T	For having a positive attitude to his learning. Well done!
Year 2G	Senaya F	For always working quietly and trying her best. Well done!
Year 2I	Caitlin D	For participating in whole class discussions, sharing her ideas with others. Well done!
Year 2J	Sinan D	For working hard and always trying his best. Well done, Sinan!
Year 2P	Mia B	For showing a deep level of thinking during maths. Keep it up!
Year 2V	Dylan A	For being a hardworking and organised student who takes pride in the presentation of his work. Well done, Dylan!
Year 3C	Adreela A	For being a friendly and welcoming class member and always being helpful to others.
Year 3D	Anastasia E	For being a helpful, caring and considerate member of the class. Well done, Anastasia!
Year 3K	Maxwell L	For a great start to Term 3. Well done!
Year 3M	Charlotte M	For always persisting with tasks and putting effort into all of her work. Well done, Charlotte!
Year 3R	Nicholas S	For taking risks during Maths. Fantastic!
Year 3S	Sofia P	For demonstrating impressive inferencing skills. Well done, Sofia!
Year 4A	Orlando D	For showing initiative to make good choices and work independently. Keep it up!
Year 4C	Rhea G	For her fantastic work ethic. Keep it up!
Year 4D	Sebastian D	For working hard during Writing Focus Groups. Well done and keep it up!
Year 4J	Xavier B	For a positive start to Term 3. Well done!
Year 4N	Scarlett R	For sharing her ideas during the class discussion about homophones. Well done!
Year 4S	Marcus D	For his focus and effort during learning tasks.
Year 5A	Saoirsa V	For a positive start to Term 3. Keep up the great work!
Year 5F	Sienna K	For showing a determined attitude toward getting her work done to her very best standard.
Year 5H	Aidan P	For showing improved concentration when completing independent tasks. Keep it up!
Year 5K	Isabella R	For sharing her thinking during class discussions.
Year 5P	Deanna A	For always being a courteous class member and consistently applying herself to set tasks.
Year 5T	Anastasia P	For staying focused and on task during classroom activities.
Year 6F	Xavier R	For demonstrating confidence when leading whole class discussions during Reading and Inquiry lessons. Well done, Xavier!
Year 6G	Chloe K	For sharing fantastic insights during class discussions. Keep it up!
Year 6J	Monica C	For always being prepared for learning and completing work to the best of her ability.
Year 6M	Christian M	For working hard to achieve personal goals and for assisting the teacher without being asked.
Year 6O	Domenica B	For showing confidence to participate in classroom discussions.
Year 6W	Ann R	For always being a cooperative and hardworking class member.