



Message from Jason Mittiga, Principal

CONDOLENCES... I start this Newsletter, on behalf of the SFX community, extending our sincere condolences to the Kilpatrick family. As many of you would be aware, Tim, proud father of Catherine in Year 6, and husband of Diane, sadly passed on Father's Day. To Diane, Catherine and extended family, you are in our thoughts and prayers at this very difficult time.

It has been another busy term, with the children working hard in all curriculum areas. With COVID-19 restrictions slowly lifting, it has been pleasing to see volunteers welcomed back into the school to help in classrooms and on excursions. Your support during these uncertain times has been very much appreciated.

This week we have seen the **Senior Festival Choir** perform at the Entertainment Centre. What a pleasure it was to see the children perform on the big stage! Well done to Sarah Wildy and all of the performers - you should be very proud of yourselves.

The **Year 5** and **Year 6 STEM Exhibition** was also held this week, and it was brilliant! The children displayed their work for families and the wider community, and it was clear how much effort was put into their designs. The **Year 5 STEM Design Challenge** - Design and make a living pod to support a human colony and withstand environmental conditions; The **Year 6 STEM Design Challenge** - To create a driverless vehicle using a Sphero Robot that can enter a Global crisis situation.

If that wasn't enough happening in the last week of term, the Reception to Year 5 students also had their school disco and casual day!

INDEPENDENCE DAY will be on a **Thursday** next term, and we encourage families to not come into the grounds on this day. The children have responded well to entering and leaving the school by themselves, and it has been wonderful to see this growth in

independence and resilience.

The **CITY TO BAY** is on Sunday, 7th November, and we are entering a school team. We would love as many people as possible from the SFX community to join us for a fun day! Please [register your interest](#) and complete payment. Happy Running!

DATES: The following are some key Term 4 dates. Please refer to our [2021 Calendar & Parent Handbook](#) for additions and amendments, and where required, further details will be communicated via email / Seesaw:

Monday, 11th October	Pupil Free Day
Tuesday, 12th October	First day of Term 4
Wednesday, 20th October	School Photos
Saturday, 23rd October	Family Mass at St John XXIII, 6pm
Wednesday, 27th October	Music Cabaret Evening
Thursday, 28th October	Sports Day
Sunday, 7th November	City to Bay
Friday, 12th November	Colour Explosion Fun Run
Thursday, 25th November	Twilight Christmas Concert
Friday, 3rd December	St Francis Xavier's Feast Day
Thursday, 9th December	Last day of term

Have a wonderful holiday break with your family and friends, and we will see you all back at school on **Tuesday, 12th October**.

Attendance at School - Did you know?

We have noticed an increase in the number of children getting picked up early from school each day, and in addition, a number of children that regularly arrive late.

Research has shown that there is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement. Those students who are in attendance are more likely to experience success at school. Did you know...

- Missing one day a week of school from Reception to Year 10 means missing two years and one term of schooling.
- Being half an hour late to school each day from Reception to Year 10 equals missing one year and one and a half terms of schooling.
- Patterns of attendance/absence are set up in the early years of schooling.
- Students who are frequently absent from school are over represented in the juvenile justice system.
- Poor attendance makes it difficult for students to form positive relationships with their peers.
- Research shows that students who are often absent from school are likely to earn less than their peers as adults.

(Source: Information for Parents/Caregivers- Attendance Improvement Package)

Whilst we understand that there are some occasions that cannot be avoided, please help us in ensuring your child arrives at school in ample time to commence their learning at 8:50am, and remains at school until learning concludes each day at 3:15pm.

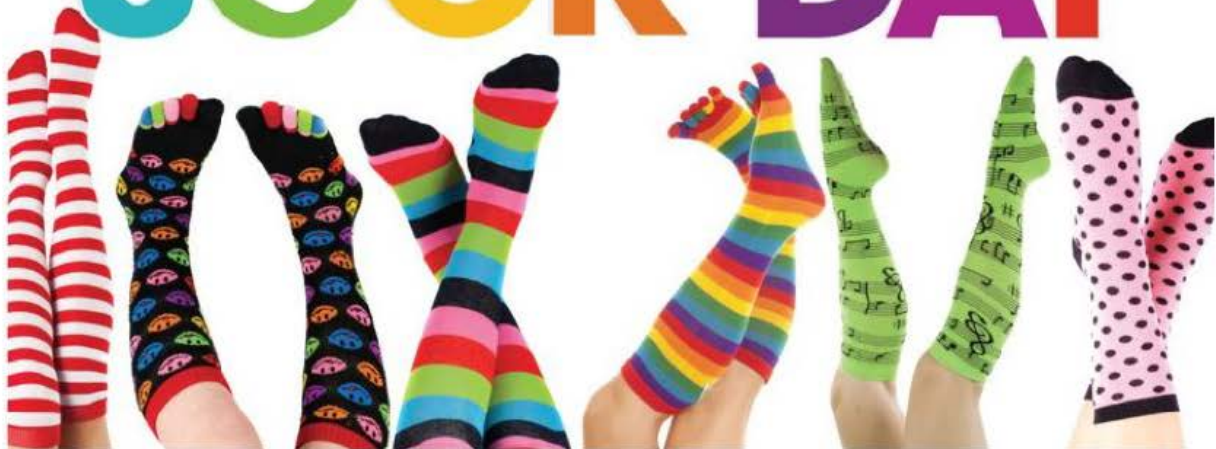


Friday 15th October, Week 1



SOCKING IT FOR POVERTY

SOCK DAY



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Reach out. Give life.

Come to school wearing odd socks.

A gold coin donation for wearing odd socks will go to Catholic Mission. Catholic Mission supports many programs reaching out to those in need around the world.

On the first Friday back next term, **Friday, 15th October**, we will be having a day called '**Socking it for Poverty**'.

Students can come to school wearing odd socks to support Catholic Mission, and we ask that students wearing odd socks please bring in a **gold coin donation**.

Thank you in advance for your support.

23.09.21

RELIGION

catholic education south australia

FAITH FACTS

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY...

Mary is an important figure for Catholic people?

Family Faith Formation Team

MADE IN Canva

Liturgical Events and Celebrations

October is World Mission Month. Inspired by Acts 4:20, 'For we cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard', Pope Francis encourages us this World Mission Month to "be actively engaged in this mission."

In support of World Mission Month, as previously mentioned, our school has organised a '**Socking it for Poverty**' day. We are asking

that the students and staff wear odd socks on **Friday, 15th October**, with a gold coin donation to raise money for Catholic Charities.

Working with the Para Hills / Modbury Parish, St John XXIII we have organised a **Family Mass** for our community on **Saturday, 23rd October** at 6:00pm at St John XXIII Church (50 Reservoir Road, Hope Valley). The Mass is an opportunity for families to gather in reflection and prayer.

Students will also have the opportunity to participate in the Mass by taking on a reading role. At SFX we believe in giving the students opportunities to develop spiritually. We look forward to the opportunity to celebrate Mass with you and your family.

Sacramental Program 2021-2022

St David's Parish: The students of the St David's Parish Sacramental Program have begun their sacramental journey with a successful workshop run by the Sacramental team at the Parish. Parents and children were invited to participate in the workshop with the Sacramental team who worked with families to unpack the meaning of reconciliation. It was inspiring to hear from two students who were a part of the Sacramental Program last year and how they felt about receiving the sacraments.

Presentation of students to the Parish - Weekend Masses 16th & 17th October
Reconciliation - 19th October, 6:00pm at St David's Parish

St John XXIII - Para Hills / Modbury: The students of the St John XXIII Para Hills / Modbury Parish have also begun their sacramental journey with another successful first workshop. The students also worked with the Sacramental team, discussing what God and the church meant to them. The children also toured around the church and were given explanations into the symbols and rituals of the Catholic faith. The students will participate in another workshop next month.

Important Dates!

Please refer to our [2021 Calendar & Parent Handbook](#) to keep up to date on calendar changes and additions.
