



From our Principal, Jason Mittiga

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe we only have one week of school left for 2023. It has been a wonderful year with us being able to host so many more events!

Last week it was great to hold our Twilight Christmas Concert, St Francis Xavier's Feast Day and the Colour Explosion School Fun Run. Our community spirit was in full swing, and we should all be proud of the children and how they presented themselves.

Yesterday we celebrated our End of Year Mass with Fr Manu and it was a lovely celebration to end the year with. The children were reverent and made the occasion special for all gathered in the Sacred space.

I would like to thank Fr Manu, Mikal Howard, staff, School Board, parents and students for all of their support throughout the year. It has been another challenging year with COVID, particularly in the first two terms. I would like to thank you all for your understanding and patience. I am hoping next year will be more smooth sailing and that COVID is a thing of the past. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support throughout 2022, and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Please enjoy our last eNews for 2023.

Important information for 2023

End of Day Finishing Time in 2023

As from next year, school will finish at **3:05pm**. Our school day requires adjustment in accordance with the new Enterprise Agreement. Please note that teachers will remain on duty at the gates until 3:30pm.

When will school commence in 2023?

We will commence school on **Tuesday, 31st January**.

When are our Pupil Free Days in 2023?

Term 1 - Friday, 10th March

Term 2 - Friday, 9th June

Term 3 - Monday, 24th July

Term 3 - Friday, 8th September

When does school finish for all students in 2023?

All students will finish school on **Wednesday, 13th December**.

Meet the Teacher

Tuesday, 24th January (ONE day only)

You will receive information in the New Year about how to book for Meet the Teacher. Please note that whilst we encourage families to book in for "Meet the Teacher", this is not compulsory. Due to other beginning of year commitments, teachers are only available on 24th January for Meet the Teacher appointments.

Staffing News

STAFF BABIES

Over the last couple of weeks, two staff members have welcomed babies into their families. Sarah Wildy welcomed a baby boy called Rowan, and Scott Hughes welcomed a baby boy called Jordan. Please join me in congratulating Sarah, Scott and their families.

FAREWELLS

Each year at this time we find ourselves farewelling staff. This year we say goodbye to Katrina Brown, Karen Putnik, Luke Ferguson, Sonya Carroll, Donny Calabria and Bronte Platt, as well as Celine Barr who is taking leave for one year.

In addition, Deb Griffiths and Janette Burchell are also retiring from OSHC, and we wish them all the very best for their well-deserved rest!

We thank all staff who are leaving, and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

WELCOME

In 2023 we welcome:

Reception Teachers: Ashlee McCarthy, Victoria Szilassy and Malissa Jones

Year 4: Meaghan McCarthy

Year 5: Jane Glasson, Jarred Kelly

OHSC: Tasharni Nienaber - Director, Charlotte Cottrell - Assistant Director

2023 STAFFING

Room 01, RE, Ashlee McCarthy (1.0 M - F)

Room 02, RE, Victoria Szilassy (1.0 M - F)

Room 03, RE, Malissa Jones (1.0 M - F)

Room 06, Year 1, Julia De Nitto (0.5 M - W even) Jody Miskov (0.5 M - W odd)

Room 07, Year 1, Gail Macnamara (0.6 M - W) Selina Barona (0.4 Th - F)

Room 08, Year 1, Vanessa Marusic (0.6 W - F) Elaine Amos (0.4 M - Tu)

Room 09, Year 1, Anita Gagliardi (0.8 M, Tu, Th, F) Rita Buonsanto (0.2 W)

Room 10, Year 2, Melinda Whitford (0.8 M - Th) Roma Chiera-Garnelli (0.2 F)

Room 11, Year 2, Karen Luhrs (1.0 M - F)

Room 12, Year 3, Anita Doecke (0.6 M - W) Olivia Sloan (0.4 Th - F)

Room 13, Year 3, Lucy White (1.0 M - F)

Room 14, Year 3, Maria Lupone (1.0 M - F)

Room 15, Year 4, Damien Stagg (1.0 M - F)

Room 16, Year 4, Michelle Williams (0.6 M - W) Meaghan McCarthy (0.4 Th - F)

Room 17, Year 4, Jane Hamdorf (0.6 W - F) Meaghan McCarthy (0.4 M - Tu)

Room 18, Year 5, Jane Glasson (1.0 M - F)

Room 19, Year 5, Jarred Kelly (0.6 M - W) Maria Panagiotopoulos (0.4 Th - F)

Room 20, Year 5, Ian Denham (0.8 M - Th) Lisa Karanicolou (0.2 F)

Room 22, Year 6, Elisa Chillingworth (1.0 M - F)

Room 23, Year 6, Nathan Bruce-Gordon (1.0 M - F)

Specialists

Languages, Roma Chiera-Garnelli (0.6 M - W)

Music, Rosemarie Villano (0.8 Tu - F)

Physical Education, Scott Hughes (0.8 Tu - F)

Leadership

Principal, Jason Mittiga (1.0 M - F)

Deputy Principal, Greg Esposito (1.0 M - F)

APRIM, Rosanna Samarzia (0.6)

Curriculum

Leader of Learning, Lisa Karanicolou (0.8 M - Th)

ESO's / Other

Curriculum, Cathy Agostinelli

Curriculum, Cathy Turner

ICT, Chris Whalan

Curious Xavier's, Christine Ferguson

Grounds, Colin Amos

Counsellor, Daphne Vassiliou

Administration, Enza Messina

Curriculum, Giulia Canala

Library, Jan Wedmid

Library & Curriculum, Lynda Reiss

Curriculum & Playgroup, Marian Mullen

Curriculum & Music, Mel Ainslie

Administration, Nicky Dnistriansky

Curriculum & Playgroup, Paula Simionato

Curriculum & Playgroup, Rita Centofanti

Curriculum, Sam Purnell

Administration, Sue Sumsion

Curriculum, Uniform & Sport, Tania Krawczyk

Curriculum, Taylor Krawczyk

Grounds, Tony Thacker

Administration, Vickie Ivancic

OSHC

Director, Tasharni Nienaber (M - F)

Assistant Director, Charlotte Cottrell (M - F)

Wright Volunteer of the Year Award



Last Friday we presented the Wright Volunteer of the Year Award to Sharon and Peter Freeth. Below is a summary of just SOME of the work they have done at SFX over the years!

- Sharon worked at SFX for 20+ years
- Sharon was Chairperson of the LAP Association
- Sharon was like the school seamstress - always did the sewing for Wakakiri, school concerts, and other school events.
- Peter served on the School Board for 8 Years
- Peter was the MC at the School fete for "years"
- Peter is a LAP volunteer
- Peter has been instrumental in many community school events

Sharon and Peter's 3 children - Kerri-Anne, Christine and Lauren all attended SFX, and all three now work in Education!

I would like to sincerely congratulate Sharon and Peter, and thank Blair Boyer for coming along to present the Award.

Year 6 Graduation

Next week we have our Year 6 Graduation and I would like to farewell our Year 6 students. It will be an emotional week for our Year 6 children and families, but a happy one as they embark on high school and leave St Francis with memories of the good times and friendships they have built.

I would also like to take this opportunity to farewell all other students and families who will be leaving SFX at the end of the year. We wish you all the best.

2022 PE Week Dinner and Awards Night

Recently the 2022 PE Week Dinner and Awards Night was held, and we were delighted that two of our staff were recognised for their outstanding effort:

Celine Barr

Celine was recognised for the time and effort she has dedicated to improving the lives of students through daily physical activity at our school. Our community also recognised the significant role Celine has played in coordinating, coaching and supporting students as part of the SFX extra-curricular sports program. In addition, Celine held a position on the SACPSSA Executive for nine years from 1993 to 2001 in the role of Volleyball Carnival Coordinator. Celine's commitment to learning by movement has ensured another generation of students have developed the competence and confidence to be lifelong participants of physical activity.



Ian Denham

Ian is recognised by all members of our community as an educator that truly values the holistic development of his students. Ian understands the role that movement plays in developing healthy and physically active individuals and he has consistently modelled learning by movement throughout his time at SFX. Notably, Ian was instrumental in developing the 'SFX Lake Run' – an annual long-distance running event. Ian's significant contribution to the school's extracurricular sports program and his work 'beyond the classroom' has been pivotal in improving student outcomes - physically, socially, and academically.

Congratulations to both Ian and Celine on their well-deserved Awards.



09.12.22

From our Leader of Learning, Lisa Karanicolou

We are also preparing for NAPLAN for our Year 3 and Year 5 students. The testing weeks are Weeks 7 and 8 this term. Teachers in those year levels will be sending home support material.

Our main focus for the next two years is Mathematics. We have teachers who will be attending professional learning with Assessment Mapping and

Pedagogies for Effective Teaching of Mathematics in Junior Primary. In Middle Primary, some teachers will undergo professional learning in Rich Mathematical Approaches which is a collaboration with CESA and the University of South Australia's Mathematics Faculty.

We are also developing STRETCH Mathematics programs and hope to share more information throughout the year.

Our Year 3 and Year 4 students will be invited to participate in the Children's University Adelaide educational experience. This program develops resilience, optimism and confidence through self-directed learning beyond the classroom. It fosters student agency by encouraging students to try new activities, discover new passions, visit new places and have fun. When completed the program, students are recognised for their achievements through the award of formal certificates and graduation at Adelaide University.

09.12.22

Restorative Practices at SFX - Scott Hughes (Physical Education & Student Wellbeing Support)

RP posits that people are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make and sustain positive changes when those in positions of authority do things *with* them as opposed to *to* them or *for* them. In accepting this, when addressing incidents of harm or conflict, we seek to focus primarily on relationships and secondarily on rules. We give voice to the person harmed, give voice to the person who caused the harm, engage in collaborative problem-solving, encourage and nurture responsibility, empower change and personal growth, and plan for restoration. Our staff are prepared for this because we accept that conflict is a normal by-product of human relationships. By proactively building trusting and supportive classroom communities, and by working restoratively with your children when the need arises, we are fostering an environment where your children feel safe and secure, and are able to be the best versions of themselves.

For more on student wellbeing at SFX, you can visit our website: <https://www.sfx.catholic.edu.au/why-our-school/student-wellbeing>

For more on our use of RP at SFX, you can view our policy on our website:

https://www.sfx.catholic.edu.au/_files/f/21105/Restorative_Practices_Procedure_Document.pdf

School Uniform

After a 2 year phase-out period, in 2023, all students at SFX will be wearing the new active uniform. Please refer to the [Belgravia Apparel Uniform Shop](#) website for uniform items available for purchase.

FROM OUR ACTING APRIM, ROSANNA SAMARZIA

St Francis Xavier's Feast Day Liturgy



Last Friday we gathered in prayer as a community to celebrate St Francis Xavier's Feast Day. St Francis Xavier was one of the first Jesuits who devoted his life to preaching the good news of Jesus Christ to many around the world. Francis Xavier's Feast on 3rd December falls at the beginning of Advent. His work as a missionary should help us ponder our missionary duty, especially as we

contemplate this penitential and preparational season.

Thank you to Year 6 leaders, Sofia, Hudson, Jensen, Ashlee and Sienna, who led an entertaining reflection with Mr Mittiga about the life of St Francis Xavier.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Thank you! The generosity of the SFX community has been overwhelming in our lead up to Christmas and I would like to thank all of you who have supported the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Your donations of food and gifts will help to provide hope and joy for local people at Christmas time.

TTG Parish Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve:

6:00pm - Children's Mass at both St David's and Our Lady of Hope

8:00pm - St David's

11:30pm - Carols followed by Midnight Mass at St David's

Christmas Day:

9:00am - Our Lady of Hope

10:30am - St David's

PARA HILLS MODBURY CATHOLIC PARISH

St John XXIII Church
50 Reservoir Rd
Hope Valley



Holy Trinity Church
171 Kesters Road
Para Hills

Advent and Christmas Mass Times

Weekday Masses will continue at regular times

Reconciliation will be available during Advent on Saturdays following 9.15am Mass at Holy Trinity and from 5.15pm prior to 6pm Mass at St John XXIII.

Day	Date	Mass & Location	Time
Sunday	27 th November	1 st Sunday of Advent – Masses at usual times	
Sunday	4 th December	2 nd Sunday of Advent—Masses at usual times Volunteers Weekend—Cuppas after Mass	
Tuesday	6 th December	Cluster Reconciliation—St Pius X Dernancourt	7.00pm
Thursday	8 ^h December	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary- St John XXIII	9.15am
Sunday	11 th December	3 rd Sunday of Advent —Masses at usual times Blessing of Cribs	
Tuesday	13 th December	Anointing of the Sick—St John XXIII	9.15am
Wednesday	14 th December	Anointing of the Sick—Holy Trinity	7.00pm
Sunday	18 th December	4 th Sunday of Advent – Masses at usual times	
Saturday	24 th December	Christmas Vigil Mass – Holy Trinity	6.30pm
		Christmas Vigil Mass – St John XXIII	8.30pm
		Christmas Midnight Mass – St John XXIII	12.00am
Sunday	25 th December	Christmas Day Mass – St John XXIII	8.00am
		Christmas Day Mass – Holy Trinity	10.00am
Monday	26 th December	Mass – St John XXIII	9.15am
Tuesday	27 th December	Mass – St John XXIII	9.15am
Sunday	1 st January	Masses as usual—HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!	
Tuesday	24 th January	Parish Office Reopens	9.00am

Sustainability Committee

2022 has been an exciting year at SFX and saw the formation of the Sustainability Committee. This Committee consists of teaching staff, members of leadership, finance, grounds staff, Year 6 Eco-warriors, parents and grandparents. Our aim has been to work together with the wider school community to support and promote Sustainability Commitments at SFX with a future goal to promote zero waste and nurture the world God created.

For the first time at SFX, we have challenged students and staff to reduce their use of soft plastics through the use of Nude Foods or recycle their wastes through new soft plastics collection bins. With the help of the Year 6 Eco-warriors, we have already collected more than 30 large garbage bags which have then been taken to soft plastics collection centres and recycled.

With our continued commitment to helping those other than ourselves, the SFX community has continued to collect bread tags for the organisation 'Bread Tags for Wheelchairs' after becoming an official collection centre in 2021. Through this organisation, bread tags are recycled to make other products such as boards, bowls, pens which are sold and profits used to provide wheelchairs for disadvantaged people, mainly in South Africa.

The Sustainability Committee has also worked closely with Rory's to provide sustainably resourced and recyclable packaging for school lunch orders, helping to reduce the waste produced at SFX.

As we continue to work towards our goal of becoming a Nude Food School in 2023, we wish to take this opportunity to thank the community for their continued support in producing Nude Food and wrapper free lunch boxes, and for choosing to recycle their waste appropriately. We are grateful for the commitment so many members of the SFX community have shown to reducing waste and supporting recycling initiatives both within the school and the wider community and look forward to working together into 2023.

Merry Christmas



I pray that as we begin school holidays, you enjoy your time with those who are precious to you and that you return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together in 2023. I would like to wish everyone in the school community many blessings this Christmas season. May your days be merry and bright with the light of God's love.

