Eternal Life

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. John 15:9-17

For God So Loved the World

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who came to us as a little Child one of us, flesh and blood to share in our humanity; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who came to us as Carpenter and yet in whose creative hands a world was fashioned; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who came to us as Fisherman and yet pointed to a harvest that was yet to come; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who came to us as Teacher and opened eyes to truths that only the poor could understand; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who came to us as healer and opened hearts to the reality of wholeness; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who came to us as prophet, priest and king and yet humbled himself to take our place upon the cross; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who came to us as servant and revealed to us the extent of his Father’s love for human kind; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who rose from the ignominy of a sinner’s death to the triumph of a Saviour’s resurrection; for God so loved the world.

ALL: That all might have eternal life. Amen.

Key Dates

This Week

Tuesday, 12 May:
School Board Meeting 7pm

Tuesday, 12 May;
Wednesday, 13 May
Thursday, 14 May
NAPLAN

Friday, 15 May
First Holy Communion and Confirmation
St Mary’s Catholic Church
7.00 pm

Coming up

Monday, 8 June
Queens Birthday Public Holiday

Wednesday, 10 June
PSG Meetings

Tuesday, 16 June
School Board

Monday, 22 June
School Closure Day – Staff Planning

Friday, 26 June
Last day of Term 2
Dear Parents and Friends of St Francis

Last week Veronica Williams and myself attended a Professional Learning Network for Leaders Conference held in Wangaratta. All primary Principals and Deputy Principals from across the diocese were gathered to listen and learn from Dr Julia Atkin, an independent education and learning consultant who has worked with educators in Australia and internationally. For over twenty Dr Julia has focused reflection and dialogue around two key questions: What is powerful learning? And what is powerful to learn? Both Veronica and I were challenged on many fronts regarding our own learning and how we can best integrate this to our school setting. The main focus for the two days was to consider our school community and as educators what do we consider to be our core beliefs and values. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on these and to explore whether our existing school identity and mission statements are still relevant and will sufficiently lead us into the future.

On Tuesday we presented this to our staff and spent time discussing our own personal beliefs and values regarding education at St Francis and stacking these up against our current vision and mission statements. It was reassuring for all of us to see that what we truly believe is what we are actually trying to achieve here at school. Taking into consideration all members of our community, our commitment was to continue to revisit our core beliefs and values and always consider these when deciding to implement new programs, initiatives or current trends or practices. If we consider something doesn’t suit our school or sits well with our beliefs and values we won’t do it. In other words, just because the school down the road is doing it doesn’t mean we have to. But rest assured though that our practices and programs are the best in the business and are educationally current, and we will continue to be proactive and inclusive when making decisions regarding your child’s education. Occasionally we need to get out of our comfort zones, try something different and lead by example whilst staying ‘true’ to our core beliefs and values. I have included in this week’s newsletter a copy of our Identity Statement, Graduate Outcomes and vision (belief) statements for you to read and to consider. I would certainly value your thoughts or feedback regarding these.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Chris Summers

St Francis Identity Statement:

St Francis Catholic School, in the Franciscan tradition, educates the whole child for today and tomorrow.

Our school community believes learning is natural, creative and ongoing and provides opportunity for every child to excel.

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

St Francis School endeavours to educate students who:

- Are committed to developing their spirituality.
- Strive for personal excellence.
- Have respect for themselves, others and the environment.
- Are motivated to take an active role in society.
- Are passionate and skilled independent learners.
VISION STATEMENTS:
We strive to be a community where we live:

PEACE AND JOY
Embracing our Catholic Identity through the fostering of Christian values. Nurturing a welcoming, compassionate and caring environment that draws together children, parents, teachers and community.

INTEGRITY
Developing a sense of responsibility and self-esteem in each individual.

JUSTICE
Building and nurturing a stimulating learning community where all are supported in reaching their full potential.

CREATION
Respecting and taking action to sustain our natural environment.

Grandparents Day Success
Our grandparent’s day was another wonderful example of our community coming together to support our children and school. Thank you to all grandparents, mums / dads, aunts / uncles, nonnas and nunnu’s and na’s and pa’s who were able to be part of this special day. Our children thoroughly loved having you here especially being able to show you around their classrooms and to meet their teachers. We had a beautiful mass to begin our day. Thank you to Veronica Williams for organising our service and to Fr Chris for presiding at mass. A big thanks also to Tam Perry, Betty Guerra and to all of the students who brought food and served tea and coffee. We had a fantastic day.

Mother’s Day Stall
Thank you to Bronwyn Bramwell and her wonderful team of helpers for organising and running such a successful event. After expenses we hope to have raised approximately $450.00 for the school. An exact figure will be included in next week’s newsletter. Thank you to everyone who purchased an item.

Sacrament Students
Best wishes to all of our students who are making their sacraments this Friday. We continue to pray for:

Mia Bell, Ella Bryant, Darcy Conroy, Mikaela Daniel, Grace McKeown, Ben Nave, Shannyn Pengilly, Hayley Wigmore and Emily Woods.
Thank you to Veronica Williams and Anna Newman who have prepared the students for this very important component of their faith journey.

**Winter Sports Report**
Friday the 8th of May, the year 5/6 students at St. Francis participated in the Winter sports. The year 5/6 boys played softball and the 5/6 girls played netball. Mr Ross and Mrs Williams followed along as we went to Strathmerton Football and netball grounds. We versed Strathmerton Primary School. The softballer’s had an excellent day as they got the win so did the year five netball team. Unfortunately the year six netball team lost by 11 goals. Well done year 5/6 students. You all played very well! By Indiya Parker

On Friday the 8th of May. Grade 5 and 6 went to Strathmerton to play winter school sports. In the Grade five team we won by 19 points; the score was 20-1. Erin H was shooting great in her first competitive netball shooting 3 goals It was also Jasmine’s first game, she played WA, WD and GD. She was an awesome defender. Ebony was like a little pocket rocket, she was shooting awesomely shooting about 9 goals and was always finding space. By Ella Johns

On Friday the 8th of May Grade 5/6 went to Strathmerton to play Softball and Netball. The Softballers were supposed to play football but Strathmerton did not have a footy team. The Grade 6 team lost by 11 points and the grade 5 team won by 19 points and the softball won by a few runs. Aaron and Wade volunteered to go on the other team because Strathmerton were short on numbers. By Jake Brown

**Student Teacher ~ Joel Hildebrand**
We welcome Joel Hildebrand to our school community for the next 3 weeks. Joel is the older brother to Chloe in Grade 1 and Bethany in Grade 3. Joel is completing his bachelor of education at LaTrobe University in Bendigo. Joel will complete his placement in the 5/6 Learning Community.

**Glee Club is about to become the “Funky Moves Club”**
Glee Club is having a “make over”! Students are really enjoying the freedom of doing their own dancing whilst also participating in fun dances such as the Hokey Pokey and limbo. Lonky will still be supervising the students and playing all the latest tunes (and some oldies…they loved “You’re the Voice” last week!) for the students to strut their stuff! So any students who wish to join the “Funky Moves Club” are more than welcome. For the students safety there are a few rules that they need to abide by:

- no running, no cartwheels, no handstands;
- respecting other participants and their space;
- students will need to sign in each week to the Funky Moves Club;
- if a student wishes to leave the library they will not be readmitted during that lunch time.

These rules are simply to ensure the safety of all students and to ensure that staff are aware of which students are in the library with Lonky.

**Naplan ~ For information:** [http://www.nap.edu.au/](http://www.nap.edu.au/)
Best wishes to all year 3 and 5 students who have commenced Naplan testing today. Please remember Naplan is just one form of assessment our school uses to assess our students academic development. If you would like further information regarding your child’s development please contact their classroom teacher.
Cardinal Wilfred Napier OFM
Cardinal Wilfred Napier OFM has been appointed by Pope Francis to his Council for Economic Affairs and as one of four Presidents of the 2015 Synod on the Family.

We are very lucky to have the opportunity to listen to and meet Cardinal Wilfrid Napier OFM. For further information please see the flyer opposite.

Over the next few weeks we will be including tips for parents to deal with children’s behaviour. As parents we cannot predict our children’s behaviour and sometimes the causes for inappropriate behaviour may be in what we are doing or failing to do.

Sometimes, when tasks and schedules get overwhelming, it’s helpful to make a to-do list to make things feel more manageable and focused. If your children’s behaviour problems have you feeling overwhelmed and not knowing what to do first, start with these 10 tips for better behaviour.

**1. Invest in one-on-one time with kids daily.** By far, the best thing you can do to improve your children’s behaviour is spending time with them individually every day, giving them the positive attention and emotional connection they’re hard-wired to need. When they don’t have that positive attention, they will seek out attention in negative ways, and consequences and other discipline methods won’t work. Aim for 10-15 minutes a day per child and you’ll see measurable improvement almost immediately.

(Source: http://www.positiveparentingsolutions.com/parenting/start-10-tips-better-behavior)

**2. Get serious about sleep.** Think of how you feel when you’re overtired – cranky, irritable, your head and stomach hurt. It’s the same for kids, and most toddlers up to teens get far less sleep than their growing bodies need. Teens even need more sleep than some younger kids – so consult your family physician about the hours of sleep your kids need by age. If your child has a sleep deficit, try moving up bedtime by 10 minutes every few nights. A well-rested kid is a well-behaved kid and can function better throughout the day, including school.

The Term Ahead...
This term is a busy and productive term educationally, socially and spiritually for students, teachers and parents. There is much on the horizon and there is much to look forward to. Some of the bigger immediate events happening this term include:

~ 12th May School Board Meeting
~ 15th May Eucharist / Confirmation ~ Bishop Les will be in our Parish
This week, our Positive Behaviour Blitz is Responsibility. Responsibility is the ability to look after a person or thing and being prepared to take the blame if something goes wrong. It is an indication of maturity, reliability and trustworthiness. It also includes the ability to take on duties, or be the instigator of a task or project. In its simplest form, responsibility means “making your own decisions”.

In Week 4 our Social Skills Blitz was around Perseverance. The following students were nominated by their peers as displaying positive behaviour last week:

Matilda Flenley, Charlotte Whyte, Ella Johns, Wade Tuddenham, Ella Bryant, Payton Johns and Shontay McCabe-Jackson

The winner of our Care Box this week is Josh Woods for being caring and kind to other students

Congratulations

Interschool Cross Country
On Wednesday, 6 May 2015 a number of our students participated in the interschool cross country run at Shepparton. Results as follows:

Will Sheehan 12/13 boys Blue 9th;
Charlie Sheehan 9/10 boys Blue 2nd;
Oliver Sheehan 9/10 boys Green 1st;
Jake Brown 12/13 boys Red 4th;
Max Frostick 9/10 boys Green 2nd;
Ned Bramwell 9/10 boys Red 1st;
Mak Hindmarsh 11 boys Blue 6th;
Sara Kolundzija 12/13 Girls Blue 7th;
Indiya Parker 12/13 Red 1st;
Emily Woods 9/10 Girls Green 1st
St Francis Catholic Primary School acknowledges the Bangarang and Yorta Yorta people, the traditional custodians of the land on which our school is situated. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.