

St Francis Newsletter

Dear Families,

We come to the conclusion of another extraordinary school year, a year nothing short of remarkable, with countless achievements, memorable experiences, and tremendous growth for each and every one of us.

St Francis Primary exists for our students. I'd like to express my gratitude to our exceptional students. Each day is filled with enthusiasm, curiosity, and an unwavering dedication to learning. From the youngest ones who have taken their first steps into this marvellous journey, to the confident and knowledgeable leaders we see before us, they are the heartbeat of our school community. Their incredible achievements in academics, sports, arts, and community service have inspired us all.

To our remarkable team of teachers and staff, I extend my deepest appreciation for their determined commitment and tireless efforts to nurture our students' growth. Their passion, creativity, and dedication have undoubtedly created a learning environment that is second to none. Our staff go above and beyond to foster a sense of belonging, encouraging our students to explore their talents, overcome challenges, and become the best person they can be.

Of course, we cannot overlook the remarkable support we have received from our parents and families. Your trust, involvement, and encouragement have been instrumental in our students' achievements. Each year our school depends on parents to volunteer their time, organise social events, support classroom programs and the like. I thank our St Francis Community Advisory Group who have worked tirelessly together with a firm focus on community involvement and future school improvement.

I congratulate our graduating students who move on to the next phase of their learning journey. I have appreciated the children's efforts as remarkable student leaders, who have risen to every challenge they have been given. I wish them the very best for the future. We also say goodbye at the end of this year to a number of families leaving the school after their children graduate and others moving to new schools. Many thanks to these families for their contributions and commitment to St Francis Primary School.

We look forward to new challenges, new learning and the new opportunities that the new year will offer. I wish all our families a safe and Merry Christmas.

Matt Knight

Calendar

TERM 4

Fri 15th December

- Term 4 concludes - students finish @ 3:20pm

TERM 1 - 2024

Mon 29th Jan

- Staff return

Tue 30th Jan

- Term 1 begins - All students return
- Foundation finishes at 1:15pm

Wed 31st Jan

- Foundation finishes at 1:15pm

Thu 1st Feb

- Foundation students full day.



Dear Lord,

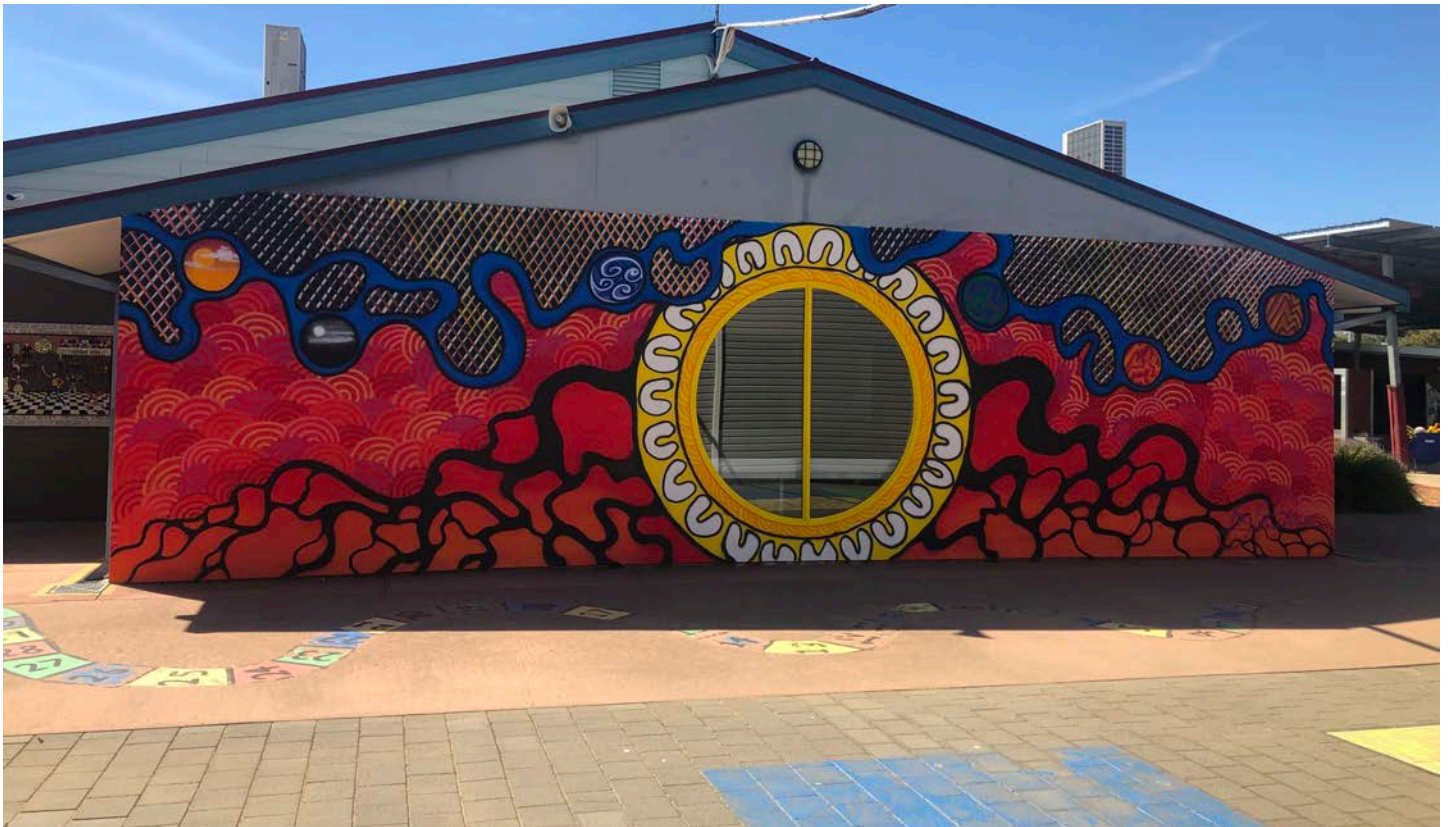
We pray for all families during the season of Christmas. May they share love, company and happiness together. May the time be relaxing and allow everyone the opportunity to rejuvenate ready for 2024.

Amen

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and pay respect to
the Yorta Yorta Nation as the original
and ongoing custodians of this land we
meet on.

We commit ourselves to actively work
alongside Aboriginal people for
reconciliation and justice.



STAFFING 2024

We are happy to announce that there are no changes to our staffing for the 2024 school year. We look forward to successfully working with families again next year as we continue to educate your children.

Classroom Teachers

Foundation: Malinda Rankin and Fiona Baker
Grade 1/2: Megan Flynn
Grade 2/3: Danae Manners and Lisa Ewer
Grade 4/5: Katie Crowder (Katie Barnes)
Grade 5/6: Carolyn Brooks

Specialists Teachers:

Visual Art & Library: Fiona Baker
Science: Lisa Ewer
Physical Education: Darren Ogier
SAKG: Kerry Conroy

Learning Support: Cheryl Appleby, Kylie Richards
Sasha Lewis & Sarah Gillespie

Wellbeing Officer: Lorraine Bain

**Mental Health in
Primary Leader:** Darren Ogier

Finance & Admin: Robyn Parker
Deputy Principal: Veronica Williams
Principal: Matt Knight

SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

The December 2023 statements for school fees & levies have been emailed to families. Please check your statement and contact the office if you have any questions.

It is expected that all school fees and levies are finalised this year.

The school provides a variety of options for payment of school fees and levies - in full at the start of the school year / part payment at the start of each school term / by direct debit – weekly, fortnightly, or monthly / by direct payment into the school bank account or by regular payments at the school office by cash or EFTPOS. You can even pay over the phone if you wish.

It is important that payment of school fees and levies are honoured and prompt payment is much appreciated. However, if you are experiencing difficulty meeting your obligation for payment, please contact the school to arrange a time to discuss this with Mr Matt Knight.

The 2024 Fee Schedule is attached to the newsletter for families.

2024 SCHOOL & HOUSE CAPTAINS

This week we congratulated our 2024 Grade 6 students on becoming the St Francis 2024 School and House Captains. The successful candidates are:

School Captains	House Captains		
Jordyn Rudd Georgia Smith Charlie Rankin Pippa Bourke	Walsh (Blue) Abbie McNair Tanner Quinn	Keily (Red) Curtis Morgan	Banyard (Yellow) Thomas Nuttall Javier Meyland

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

We welcome any second hand uniform donations from families whose children are finishing with St Francis this year. Uniforms can be dropped off in the administration office.

Community News

UNDERA-KHANA

COME & TRY DAY

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER

ENTRY LEVEL MOTORCYCLE EVENTS THAT ARE
FUN, SAFE & EDUCATIONAL

Ages 4 – 16years

NO LICENCE NEEDED

9am – 1pm
(BBQ lunch & drinks available)

UNDERA PARK SPEEDWAY COMPLEX
1915 ECHUCA ROAD UNDERA

BYO CHILD, MOTORBIKE, HELMET, BOOTS & SAFETY GEAR

Proudly brought to you
by the Goulburn Valley
Motor Cycle Club Inc



Info / Rob – 0419 142 297

Please join us at

Yalca North Christmas Tree

Friday 15th December
6:00 Pm

Stan Brown Pavilion, Yalca North

A community event, all welcome to come along and celebrate

Exciting New Games for the kids—Bring Bathers

Bring a plate of supper to share

Tea and coffee supplied (BYO other drinks)

Lucky door prizes

Visit from Santa



* gift to value of \$10 make sure name is clear to read. If you have any questions please message the Yalca North community FB page



St Francis Primary School Nathalia

Chapel Street (PO Box 66) Nathalia VIC 3638
Tel: 5866 2271 Fax: 5866 2136
ABN: 54 412 713 465



St Francis will provide a child safe environment where all children have the right to be treated with respect and will be protected from harm.

School Fees Schedule 2024

The School Fee Structure has been set for 2024. It includes School Fees (per family) and a Capital & Maintenance Levy (per family). Student Levies are structured according to year level and include: a Curriculum & Information Communication Technology (ICT) Levy and a Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy.

In 2024 the Family school fees increased by \$1.99 per week (40 week school year). The levies for students account for Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program and senior class activities (e.g. Winter Sports).

FAMILY SCHOOL FEES / LEVY STRUCTURE	
	Family Fees
School Fees	1330.00
Capital & Maintenance Levy	240.00
Total	1570.00

STUDENT LEVY STRUCTURE							
	Prep	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Curriculum & ICT Levy	\$490.00	\$490.00	\$490.00	\$490.00	\$715.00	\$715.00	\$715.00
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00				
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 1 night Camp)				\$300.00			
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 1 night Camp)					\$300.00		
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 3 night Camp)						\$450.00	
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 3 night Camp)							\$450.00
TOTAL	\$640.00	\$640.00	\$640.00	\$790.00	\$1015.00	\$1155.00	\$1155.00

School Banking Details: BSB - 083 543 Account No. – 479763404 Reference: Student Name
Fee invoices will be sent at the beginning of the school year.
EFTPOS available at Admin Office

CURRICULUM & ICT LEVY

This levy covers part of the cost of supplies and resources for classrooms and specialist classes, e.g. Art, H&PE, Library, Italian. This levy also provides resources for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) and BluEarth programs.

Additionally, it also assists the school to provide iPads for use across the school. The levy is higher for students in Grades 4, 5 & 6, as students have their own iPads for school. Costs for inter school Winter Sports and Swimming programs are also included in this levy.

CAMP, SPORT, EXCURSION & OTHER LEVY

This levy covers part of the costs associated with the provision of Camps, Excursions and Physical Education Programs. Interschool sports with our school cluster (including bus expenses) are included in this fee also.

CAMPS

The cost of camps are subsidised by the school. This is to ensure that all students have the opportunity to participate in this valuable experience.

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

The range of educational opportunities and experiences has been offered within the context of our budgeting. It will therefore be important that payment of fees and levies are honoured. We are very aware of the rising costs for families and this is given careful consideration in the process of setting school fees and levies. However due to Government school funding agreements, there is an expectation that Catholic school communities contribute to the cost of education.

In order to assist families, we encouraged payment via direct debit. This allows for regular payments to be made equally over the 40 school weeks. Direct debit request forms are available from the office or the school website.

Please note: If your current payment arrangement is direct debit you will receive a letter shortly with your revised payment amount for the 2024 school year.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

All fees and levies for the year will be billed at the start of the school year. Families will receive a school fee statement in early February 2024. The school provides a number of options for the payment of school fees and levies.

Payment in Full: – Fees paid in full at the beginning of the school year.

Payment per Term: – Fees paid at the beginning of each term with the final payment due at the start of 4th Term 2024.

EFTPOS: – Payments can be made at the office using your debit or credit card.

Direct Debit: – Payments made weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly from your nominated bank account. Please collect from the office or download a direct debit request form.

Direct Credit: – Payments may be made directly to the school bank account via online banking.

St. Francis' School - National Australia Bank, BSB: 083-543, Account No: 47976-3404. Please use the student name as a reference.

If you have any questions regarding school fees, levies or payment options please contact the office.