Dear parents and friends,

Listening to and reading some of the stories students have been sharing about their Easter weekend it sounds as if families made the most of an extra few days and got away to spend time together. It also sounds like the Easter bunny was very generous to many of the children. These are always important times to make the most of, especially while children are still young. We all know that time passes very quickly and we can easily get caught up in the business of life. Then before we know it the children have grown up and the chances to build relationships with them have gone. To take some time out and spend together, making memories that you can all look back on, is really special and it’s great to hear how excited the students are when they tell you about a special weekend they have had.

But why wait until we have a special weekend? We need to be building relationships with our children everyday. Parents often comment that their children never tell them much about their day at school. However, they aren’t making the time with the child to sit down or do an activity together, ask questions and listen. Make the child feel comfortable to talk, confident that you will listen and for that time together that they have your full attention and feel appreciated. When you ask them questions about their day, ask questions that are open ended, not closed with a short answer. For example, instead of asking “Did you have a good day?”, ask “What was the best thing about your day?” or “What did you learn today?” These questions make your child give you more information. It may take a few days for your child to come around and open up, but if you stick at it, make it a routine, show them that you care and you really are interested, you will be surprised at how much they tell you and how close you will become.

Teachers have been giving great feedback on the meetings they have been having with parents about student progress over the past few weeks. All parents are urged that if you have not had a meeting with your child’s teacher or got a meeting booked, that you contact them and make a time to meet, even if it is in the first few weeks of next term. These are important one-on-one meetings, where you can discuss your child’s progress, goals for the year and issues they may be having. It is so essential that both you as a parent and the class teacher are on the same page and working together to provide the best education possible for your child.

Last week we drew the winners of our Easter Egg Raffle. Lots of families were able to enjoy the many prizes that were handed out. Again a big thank you to the P&F and their helpers who did up raffle books and egg baskets, and to all the families who sold tickets. The final amount raised was $3888.85. A great effort.

This week order forms for school photos will be coming home. There is information about the order forms later in the newsletter. Parents please note that our photo days are the first two days that students return to school next term as Monday is a public holiday and Tuesday is a pupil free day. All students need to wear full school uniform, dress for girls and greys for boys, on both days.

As you read this newsletter this afternoon, our interschool swimming team will be competing against four other schools at the Aquarena. We wish them all the best and hope they make it four in a row. We look forward to letting everyone know the results in next week’s newsletter.

Congratulations to the Manado family on the arrival of Shekhina Leti born on Good Friday, baby sister to Moawhane in 2S and Zhamita in PPM.

Lastly, the school community would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Roxanne, Paul and Ava Di Loreto on the loss of their father and grandfather.

God bless,
Murray Gardiner
Principal
RE NEWS

RELIGION CORNER

Alleluia
In Sunday’s Gospel we heard the story of Easter Sunday. While it was still dark, early on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. She ran to get Peter and John. "They have taken the Lord from the tomb!" she said. Peter and John ran to the tomb, saw the linen wrappings on the ground and believed.

The Easter Season Begins! The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus is the climax of the Church’s life marking Christ’s victory over sin and death. The season of Easter extends for 50 days from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday.

Why do we do that?
Mass on Sundays. On Sundays we celebrate Christ’s resurrection from the dead. According to the biblical story, on the seventh day God rested having finished creating the world. Christians mark the ‘new creation’: the renewal of the world through Christ’s loving sacrifice. Traditionally Christians approach this day as a day of worship and celebration, resting from work and focusing on their faith community and family.

Project Compassion
As the season of Lent has now finished our fundraising for Project Compassion has now come to an end also. We ask all families to return their project compassion money boxes to school, whether they are full or not. The school will then pass the money on to Caritas.

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

2016 SCHOOL PHOTOS - WEDNESDAY 27th APRIL and THURSDAY 28th APRIL

Personalised Envelopes have been sent home to parents. PLEASE NOTE You now have the option of placing your photo order ONLINE instead of filling the pre-paid envelope, refer to your child’s personalized envelope for details about ordering online, or phone MSP Photography on 08 9342 3465 if you have any queries.

If you are placing your order through the pre-paid envelope please make sure that your child brings the envelope to school on photo day to hand to the photographer, otherwise your order will be missed. NOTE: If you have placed your order online, you DO NOT need to bring in your envelope to hand to the photographer.

If you wish to purchase a family photo, please come to the administration office to collect a Family envelope. Family Photos will be scheduled before school on each photography day. On delivery of the school photos the family photos will be left at reception for parents to collect, they will not be sent home with the children. NOTE: Family photos cannot be ordered online.

NO CHANGE will be given so please ensure correct money is enclosed in your envelope. We now offer online ordering for your convenience. Payment for photos can be made by cash, cheque or money order in your prepaid envelope or via your Credit Card for Online Purchases only.

All children will have an individual portrait taken whether purchasing photos or not for the school database. If you have not placed an order on photo day you can still ORDER ONLINE up to 14 days after the last photo day. If you wish to place an order and it is after the 14 day period please phone MSP Photography on 08 9342 3465. PLEASE NOTE: Orders placed after the 14 day period will incur late fees.

All children will have the opportunity to purchase Specialist Group photos, once the photos have been delivered to the school, at $25.00 each. The photos will be available to view and order online up to 2 weeks after the delivery of our photos for ordering. The school will send out details in the newsletter with instructions once the photos are available for order. Any Special Orders placed after the due date (featured in the second newsletter) will incur late fees. All Special orders will be sent directly to the parents address and not to the school.

MERIT CERTIFICATES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN AT THE ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 1st APRIL 2016

PPM Atharv Achar, Aloka Weaver  
1J Ryan Lynam, Miles Bunter, Luca Priolo  
2S David Philip, Hudson Morgan, Murphie Tiran  
3M Keziah Philip, Kaley Lynam, Tom Sorgiovanni  
4C Jarrad Burton, Ella Wilkins  
5BH Jasmine Amos, Jayden Augustson  
6K Perth Chaiart, Charlotte Drage

PPR Thomas Murszewski, Juliette Lewis
1L Meg Correy, Miley Williams, Ashleigh Jones
2W Casey Donohoe, Dylan Lang, Max De San Miguel
3SH Jordan Price, Saskia Newman, Bella Watson
4N Campbell Surtees, Samuel Scarpuzza
5GO Liam Mariani, Jaxson Bryant
6P Luke Davidson, Lani Wyatt

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH AWARDS

Congratulations to Clare Gardiner and Thomas Gray for being selected Aussies of the Month in February. Well done!
ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE: If you're on Facebook we wish to advise you the school has its own page which is regularly updated with various information. https://www.facebook.com/sfxpsg/?ref=bookmarks

LIBRARY - BOOK WORMS

BOOKWORMS

Bookworms have had a terrific term of reading and sharing books on Thursday mornings.

Next term, the Year 3 & 4 children will have the opportunity to join Bookworms on Thursday mornings from 8.10—8.30am. Please see Mrs Moffat or Mrs Boxall for more details.

Year 5 & 6 students will come again in Term Three.

LITERACY NEWS

LITERACY HINTS

Talking is essential to connect prior knowledge to new texts. When we introduce new texts in a classroom, we always talk about the front cover and make text predictions. We then try to connect main ideas and vocabulary to children's experiences or knowledge. This week, during a guided reading activity, some children could not articulate the jobs their parents do. Can yours?

P & F NEWS

RECYCLED UNIFORM SHOP: Please come down to the Uniform shop, next to the Multi Purpose room to grab yourself a bargain! Open on Mondays from 2.30—3.00pm and Thursday from 8.45—9.15am. For more information contact Suzie Halden on 0427 871 152.

COMMUNITY / SPORT NEWS

CROQUET

Thank you to the Geraldton Croquet Club for hosting Year 6 classes for croquet clinics for the past two weeks. The participation and manners of the Year 6 participants was outstanding. The Croquet Club is beginning coaching sessions for children next term.

NEW! 5 week training/games sessions for 12-16 year olds starting—Wednesday 8th May after school from 3.30—5.00pm. Must book, $20 for five sessions.

Want to find out more? Contact Kay Chynoweth, Sport Promotion Coordinator kaychynoweth@hotmail.com or phone 99383619 or 0407 196 621.

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following students who had a birthday this week:

Shaun Kaunda, Lochlin Hay, Jesse Marwood and Makenzie O’Neill.
A small glimpse of the upper primary art work. Art pieces shown are: Toucans in oil pastels, line art creating trees, Van Gogh’s Starry Night and line landscapes.

Art.
"SKILLS WITH FRILLS" FEMALE SOCCER PROGRAM

10 week program
Females 9 - 15 years
Starts Tuesday 7th June 2016
4.30pm - 6.00pm
Wonthella Park
Cost: $100
(includes training strip, ball, string bag)

"MINI ROOS" KICK OFF PROGRAM

8 week program
Boys and Girls 4 years (or turning 4)
Starts Monday 2nd June 2016
4.00pm - 4.45pm
Wonthella Park
Cost: $50
(includes Mini Roos Pack)

Register Today Via Email
Tanya.Amaru@Sportshouse.net.au
P: 99552189 M: 0417070971

Register Today www.miniroos.com.au

THE FUN GAME FOR ALL!

Soccer Girls Rule! Soccer Girl

THE FUN GAME FOR ALL!

Soccer