Dear Parents and Friends

What ingredients make a good school? You might answer modern resources, quality facilities and effective teaching pedagogy. All of these make up characteristics of good schools, but an essential, yet immeasurable ingredient is the people within schools. St Francis Xavier is extremely blessed to have a dedicated and committed staff as part of its fabric.

In particular, I would like to acknowledge and offer my sincere thanks to Mr Murray Gardiner and his leadership within the school. As Principal last term Murray’s leadership, dedication and support of students, staff and parents has ensured St Francis Xavier School is and continues to be in a position to offer an educational program for all students. His personal knowledge of students as individuals and commitment to the mission of the school is exemplary and the community is blessed to have him at St Francis Xavier. With people like Mr Gardiner I am sure St Francis Xavier is not just a good school but a great school.

This week Year 6 students preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation will be participating in preparation evenings as well as a commitment mass this weekend. As a community we pray for our young people’s faith development that the Holy Spirit will guide them to grow and love like Christ taught us.

Please be aware the Confirmation Commitment Masses are being held in St John’s Church as the Cathedral is closed.

Over the weekend, Mr Jordan Andreotta From Nagle Catholic College completed a healthy eating mural around the school canteen. For those parents who have not viewed the artwork I encourage you to stop in and see the new addition to St Francis Xavier. Thank you Mr Andreotta.

Last week the school placed an announcement regarding parking at QEI2. I sincerely thank the speed that the City of Greater Geraldton responded to our community needs. The City has been a longtime supporter of St Francis Xavier Primary School through the provisions of parking bays at drop off and pick up times. As a community we are very fortunate for this support and I request parents acknowledge this by parking within the permitted bays and designated times. The information from the City is printed below.

**QEI CENTRE CARPARK PARKING AREA:**

The City of Greater Geraldton is pleased to advise that the City has in place an agreement with St Francis Xavier Primary School in relation to parking at the QEI Centre. The agreement allows for the ‘drop off and pick up’ parking for parents within the first two rows between 8:15am – 9:15am and 2:30pm – 3:30pm, adjacent to Maitland Street. Unfortunately, there have been incidents where parents have remained parked in the area for longer than the agreed time, causing disadvantage to senior citizens utilizing the facility.

The City looks forward to continuing to support St Francis Xavier Primary School whilst ensuring facilities are available and utilized by all members of the Geraldton community.

**Merit certificates will be awarded to the following children at the assembly on Friday 6th May 2016**

**PPM:** Cody Aham and Penny Wilkins

1J: Emily Kirby and Mark Wells

2S: Moawhana Manado and Caye McKeeman

3M: Saxon Bibe, Josh Papertalk

4C: Airlie Smith, Grace Arthurs, Tayla Blakemore

5BH: Bella Filgate, Jake Giles & Will MacKay

6K: Nikyala Burton, Ben Dyer & Diaz Potich

**PPR:** Ava Halden and Luke Gardiner

1L: Alexis McPherson and Kalani Augustson

2W: Dora Burns and Michar Michar

3SH: Heidi Correy, Zeke Kuser

4N: Lawson Kinshola, Kate Berrigan, Caitlin Wheeldon

5GO: Jack Amos, Jayden Carroll, Nicolas Doyle

6P: Beau Grimley, Taj Scott & Ben Warr
Year 2S is Different!

This term we have focused our learning in Health on the book ‘Willow’ by Denise Brennan-Nelson.

This heartfelt book encourages individuality and kindness by introducing young Willow—She doesn’t colour inside the lines, she breaks crayons, and she sees pink trees and blue apples. As a class we discussed how Willow’s art was able to make Miss Hawthorne feel excited and positive. Through art we explored what makes us happy!

What makes Year 2S happy!