

# St Francis Xavier Primary School

December 2022  
Volume 11

## From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents and caregivers

How awesome are the students! Last night's Christmas Concert was a wonderful finale to the school year. I am exceptionally proud to be part of the St Francis Xavier School Community.

As we conclude the 2022 school year, I wish to acknowledge staff that work in education, especially the dedicated and committed teachers who serve the St Francis Xavier School Community. 2022 offered significant and in some ways, distant, challenges for staff. The challenges of providing online learning to absent students, covering staff shortages of over 25%, managing their own health and their families whilst always ensuring exemplary learning opportunities continued to be provided to students at school.

These seem like distant memories.

I am extremely proud of the commitment, dedication, and service of the staff towards the students. As a Christ Centred and Child Focused learning community, this was exemplified through the actions of our staff and I am extremely grateful.

We also have many staff departing this year. Some undertaking travel, some relocating to family whilst others expanding their own educational learning journey. We all play a part in the story of St Francis Xavier and I thank all staff personally for their efforts.

Firstly, Mrs Walsh who departs on Maternity leave. I wish Demi and the family the best and look forward to the birth of their child.

Demie Mayall, Kelsey Stribbling, Emily Probert and Grace Jones are all travelling or returning home in 2023. Lisa Dunn (maternity leave), Sue Schneider, Alisha Wyatt, Jayne Shepherd and Michael Patrick have all accepted positions in other domains of education and I look forward to seeing their contributions.

Peta Turner, after 22 years of teaching at St Francis Xavier, retired mid-year. Peta's knowledge and pastoral care enabled her to successfully facilitate our support and tutoring programs for many students. She continues to be greatly missed as both teacher and colleague.

Melinda Jupp, after 22 years of service in various teaching positions and leadership roles, including Assistant Principal. From Early Childhood to Upper Primary teaching, Melinda's agility made her an asset to our school, positively impacting students' learning. Melinda takes on a new opportunity at St Mary's in Northampton.

And Murray Gardiner, also after 22 of service, is moving on. Murray originally joined the school as a classroom teacher before undertaking Physical Education roles, the last 19 as the Assistant Principal. Murray's faith, relationship with students, and teaching practice has positively impacted many families throughout his time. Mr Gardiner joins Nagle Catholic College as the Director of Faith and Identity in 2023.

I thank the departing staff for their contributions and service to the students in their care and wish them well on their respective journeys.

Included in this newsletter is staffing for 2023. As previously communicated, staffing has been unique, with shortages experienced nationally. I am pleased that the 2023 staff at St Francis Xavier are committed and passionate to continue and focus on Francis Xavier's greatest asset, the students.

As the 2022 school year closes, I thank all families for the opportunity and privilege to lead the school community. I also thank you for your ongoing support of our school. I look forward to continuing to work with the Staff to develop a school community that encompasses the needs of students, exceeds the expectations of parents and reflects the values of the Church.

God Bless

*Ben Doyle*

## Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all the students who participated in this year's Premier's Reading Challenge. Special congratulations to Max and Ivy Brose and Sanuth Witharana who achieved their reading goal!

The Challenge encouraged students to read more books and enjoy reading. We can all play an important role in encouraging students to develop a love of reading. Here are some tips that can help with this:

- make time to read each day - make sure this time is fun and exciting
- suggest books, authors or themes your children may enjoy
- re-tell stories that you have enjoyed

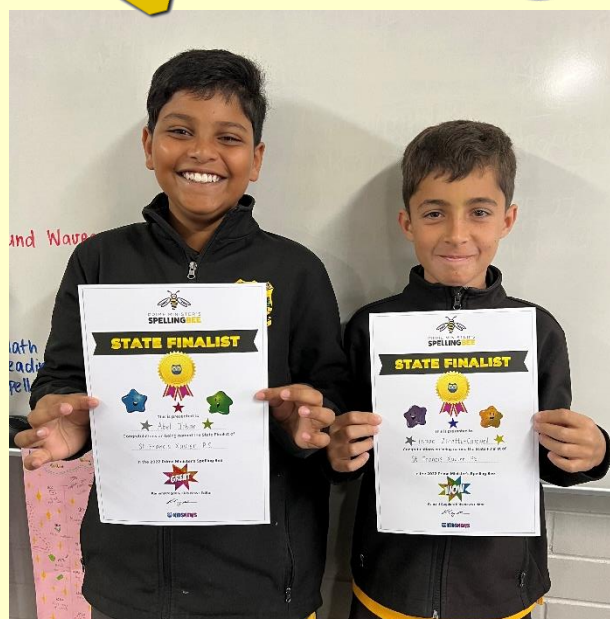
## Prime Minister's Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Abel and Izaak in Year 4 who made the State Finals of the competition. Students were given 30 random words and had 25 seconds to spell each word.

While students may not be familiar with all the words they are asked to spell, they were encouraged to expand their vocabularies and encourage them to continue reading.

## Try Audiobooks

Audiobooks are an effective strategy to help children connect with words and literature. Children can engage with the material in a way that is more entertaining and less stressful. [Geraldton Public Library](#) have a wide variety of audiobooks available for your children to use. A great alternative when being on a device!



## Advent

The Church season of Advent consists of the four weeks leading up to Christmas as a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus and is one of the most important seasons of the Church year. As a school we have started to celebrate this season over the past two weeks.

Advent means waiting, coming and expectation. We wait in expectation to celebrate and remember Jesus' birth, just like we remember our own birthday. There are several symbols and images we use to help us prepare during Advent, such as an Advent calendar, the Jesse Tree, Advent wreath, Advent candles and the colour purple. Each week also has a different theme to focus on: Hope, Peace, Joy & Love.

Sometimes in the lead up to Christmas we become focused on buying presents, parties, catching up with people and buying food etc. This year let us keep our focus on preparing ourselves with time for prayer and reflection.



## Christmas in Our Parish

### Children's Nativity Play for Christmas

The Parish are providing an opportunity for children to be involved in the Christmas Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. They are looking for children to perform in the Christmas Nativity Play and to sing in a children's choir. If your child can participate please register at the Parish Office at the Catholic Centre. They will give you information on rehearsal dates.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2022				
Churches	Christmas Eve (Saturday)			Christmas Morning
	Vigil	Carols	Night	
SFX Cathedral	6pm	9:30pm	10pm	7:30 & 9:30
St John's Rangeway	6pm			8:30am
St Peter's Greenough				8:00am
St Lawrence's Church Bluff Point	6pm (Under cover area)	10:30pm	11pm	9:00am
Kalbarri				11:30am
<b>SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION</b>				
SFX Cathedral	13th Dec	Tuesday		7:00pm

No Evening Mass

### Congratulations

### CHRIST Awards

Brydon Fehlauer, Ryan Joseph, Dior Potiuch, Addison Littlely, Cooper Hosking, Beejay Johnson-Kishere, Jacob Burns, Jayden Baynes, Lachlan Boynton, Skyla Praprotnik, Atharv Achar, Jaida Clark, Kerollos Shalaby, Atikus Olman, Angelina Johnson, Amy Conn, Georgia Crothers, Adelaide Royce.



*Murray Gardiner*

Assistant Principal  
Faith & Wellbeing

This week we are focussing on:

## COMPASSION



## ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL 2023 STAFFING

Role	Teachers	Teaching Assistants
<b>Principal</b>	Ben Doyle	
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	Judi Hollands	
<b>3YO Kindergarten</b>	Natassja Beaver	Priscilla Townsend
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Michele Russell	Kim Keefe Tegan Shea
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Beth Gaudio	Sue Miragliotta Alicia Worthington Marnie Bombara (Split)
<b>Pre-Primary</b>	Cassandra Cohen	Haylee Farrell Leanne Orlando (split)
<b>Pre-Primary</b>	Kelly Commisso	Senna Crowe
<b>Year 1</b>	Sarah Wheeldon	Lisa Sage (Tues - Thurs) Tegan Shea (M&F)
<b>Year 1</b>	Samantha Bone	Kerryn McKenna Elizabeth Cook (Mon-Wed Split)
<b>Year 2</b>	Darlene Levett	Sue Horton (Mon-Wed) Elizabeth Cook (Thurs & Fri)
<b>Year 2</b>	Sarah D'Mello	Michelle Burke (Tues - Thurs) Rebecca Ferguson (Mon & Fri)
<b>Year 3</b>	Belinda Hosking	
<b>Year 3</b>	Isabelle Perks	
<b>Year 4</b>	Leanne Voss	Jo McGuire
<b>Year 5</b>	Gemma Clarkson	Rebecca Ferguson (Tues - Thurs)
<b>Year 5</b>	Mila Hendren-Krippner	Michelle Barley (PM)
<b>Year 6</b>	Mia Quarrington-Rhodes	
<b>Year 6</b>	Airlie Bochat	
<b>Pinch Hitter</b>	Megan Drennan	
<b>Disabilities and Support</b>	Judi Hollands Natassja Beaver (Tues - Thurs) Renee Clark Michelle Barley (AM)	
<b>STEM</b>	Peta Stokes (Mon-Wed TBC) Karen Valenti (Tues - Thurs)	
<b>Music</b>	Josh Gibson & Alyce Brook	
<b>Physical Education</b>	Dion Anthony	
<b>LOTE</b>	Michele Russell (Mon & Fri)	
<b>KT Release</b>	Holly Crudeli & Rianna Cross (Tue & Thurs)	
<b>Play Group</b>	Lara Harris	
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES</b>		
<b>Administration Officers</b>	Jane Quarrington - Finance Michelle Lingius - Finance Jody Swinburn- Reception Amanda Tubby - Enrolments	
<b>Library Technician</b>	Debbie Boxall	
<b>ICT Technician</b>	Greg Hollands (Wednesday and Thursday)	
<b>Canteen</b>	Sharon Sontag (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)	
<b>Grounds</b>	Brett Miller, Lino Andreoli (Casual)	

Please Note; although every effort to ensure accuracy was made, staffing is subject to change.