



Term 2 May 2026

ST FRANCIS XAVIER COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

admin@sfx.wa.edu.au



LEADING COMMUNITY

JUSTINE SMITH - PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we move further into Term 2, Week 5 provides a valuable opportunity to reflect on the strong learning and community connections that continue to grow across our school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful school community for the strong sense of **teamwork** that underpins everything we do. At St Francis Xavier, we know that the best outcomes for our children occur when school and home work in partnership. Your commitment to open communication, mutual respect, and ongoing support truly makes a difference. Together, we are creating a learning environment where every child can thrive, feel valued, and achieve their potential.

A Strong Focus on Numeracy

This year, we continue to prioritise numeracy across all year levels. Building confident, capable mathematicians begins from the earliest years, and I am pleased to share that our Early Years teachers are actively involved in the CEWA Early Years Numeracy Project.

This initiative supports teachers to deepen their understanding of how young children develop mathematical thinking. It focuses on evidence-based teaching strategies that strengthen foundational concepts such as number sense, patterns, measurement, and problem-solving. Through professional learning, collaboration, and classroom-based inquiry, our teachers are refining their practice to ensure that every child is supported to develop strong numeracy skills from the very beginning.

The benefits of this project are significant. Students are engaging with numeracy in more meaningful, hands-on ways, building confidence, and developing a positive mindset towards mathematics. It also ensures continuity of learning as students progress through the school, creating a strong foundation for future success.

Early Learning at St Francis Xavier

Our 3-Year-Old Program remains an integral part of our school community. We are proud of the nurturing and engaging start it provides for our youngest learners, and I would like to reassure families that this program will continue as usual into 2026.



"LEADERSHIP IS UNLOCKING PEOPLE'S POTENTIAL TO BECOME BETTER."

BILL BRADLEY

LEADING COMMUNITY

JUSTINE SMITH - PRINCIPAL

5-day Kindergarten

Looking ahead, we are also exploring the possibility of introducing a 5-day Kindergarten program in 2028. As part of this process, we will be seeking input from families. A parent survey will be sent out shortly to gauge interest and collect valuable feedback. Your voice will play an important role in informing future planning, and I encourage families to take part. Such a development would require capital planning and works and we are currently seeking further information and quotes.

Living Laudato Si'

As a Catholic school, we are guided by Pope Francis' message in Laudato Si', which calls us to care for our common home. Laudato Si' ("Praise Be to You") is a letter written by Pope Francis in 2015 that calls us to care for the Earth—our "common home". This teaching reminds us of our responsibility to look after the environment, use resources wisely, and live sustainably.

For families, supporting Laudato Si' can be as simple as:

- Encouraging children to reduce waste and recycle
- Being mindful of water and energy use at home
- Spending time in nature and appreciating God's creation
- Making small, sustainable choices in daily life



By working together, we can help our children develop a deep respect for the world around them and an understanding of their role in caring for it.

Thank you once again for your continued support, partnership, and trust. The strength of our community lies in our shared commitment to our children's education and wellbeing. When we work together, with clear communication, respect, and a shared purpose, we create something truly special.

Wishing you all a positive and productive remainder of the term.

Justine Smith



'Families are the compass that guides us. They are the inspiration to reach great heights, and our comfort when we occasionally falter'

Brad Henry

A FAITH COMMUNITY

SIMON PLACE - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Big Walk for Water: Fundraising with Purpose and Fun

Our recent fundraiser in support of Caritas Australia and Project Compassion was a wonderful afternoon that combined fun, community spirit and a powerful message of social justice. With this year's theme, The Big Walk for Water, students took part in a circuit walk around the school, moving together between four engaging activities: the sponge relay, cup challenge, holy tube fill and an obstacle race.



Each activity highlighted, in a hands-on way, the challenges faced by communities around the world who do not have easy access to clean, running water.

The afternoon was blessed with glorious sunshine, and the energy and enthusiasm were evident as students competed alongside their buddies within our four factions.



Laughter, encouragement and teamwork filled the school grounds as everyone embraced the challenge and purpose of the day. The event was a fantastic opportunity to raise both funds and awareness, while also living out our values of compassion and solidarity.

In addition to the Big Walk for Water activities, we also raised funds through the Containers for Change scheme. Students across the school were encouraged to collect and deposit bottles, cans and juice boxes into the marked bins—an initiative that was met with great enthusiasm. A special thank you to Mr Francis for his assistance with the collection and return of the containers. Thanks to the generosity and effort of our school community, we raised in excess of \$800 for Caritas and Project Compassion. This outstanding result will help support vital projects that provide access to clean water and improved living conditions for those most in need. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this event such a memorable and meaningful success



Preparing for First Eucharist

Our Year 4 students are currently preparing for an important milestone in their faith journey as they prepare to receive their First Eucharist later this term. This is a significant and sacred step, as the children learn more deeply about the meaning of the Mass and the gift of the Body of Christ.

Through prayer, reflection and learning, students are growing in their understanding of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist and what it means to be fully welcomed to the table of the Lord. We ask our school community to keep our Year 4 children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Body of Christ for the first time.

Simon Place



"FAITH IS TAKING THE FIRST STEP EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T SEE THE WHOLE STAIRCASE."

MARTIN LUTHER KING

A LEARNING COMMUNITY

BELINDA HOSKING - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

It has been a busy and engaging time at our school, with students participating in a range of meaningful experiences beyond the classroom. Recent highlights have included a football carnival, Earth Day activities, organ lessons, and our ANZAC Day commemoration.

Football Carnival

The recent football carnival was a fantastic opportunity for our Year 6 girls to demonstrate teamwork, sportsmanship, and perseverance. The students enthusiastically participated, supported one another, and represented our school with pride. Events like this not only build physical skills, but also foster a strong sense of community and fair play.



Earth Day

Earth Day provided a valuable chance for our Pre-Primary students to deepen their understanding of environmental responsibility. Through a range of activities, students explored ways to care for our planet and reflected on how their everyday choices can make a positive impact. It was encouraging to see such thoughtful engagement with sustainability and stewardship.



Organ Lessons

Recently, some of our piano students were lucky enough to visit the Cathedral to take part in pipe organ lessons with Miss J. The lessons enhanced the students knowledge of the piano and allowed them to explore the different sounds and how these resonate in a large space. Did you know the the organ is the only musical instrument which is a machine!

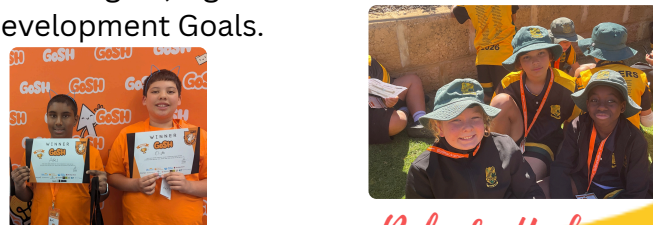


ANZAC Day Prayer Service

The school community came together to commemorate ANZAC Day with respect and reverence. Students engaged in activities that helped them understand the significance of this important day, honouring the service and sacrifice of those who have served. It was a meaningful opportunity for reflection and learning about our shared history. Our Head Boy and Head Girl proudly represented St Francis Xavier Primary at the local ANZAC service.

GoShowcase

Year 5 and 6 classes attended the full-scale production aimed at Schools and Regions packed with tech demos, stories of disruptive-innovation and hands-on activities. Day One was a major, youth-led event featuring industry experts, emerging technologies, hands-on innovation activities and stories of disruptive innovation. Day Two - The GoSHackathon - was an out of school competition where students were able to register in teams to develop innovative solutions to problems specific to their region, grounded in the Sustainable Development Goals.



Belinda Hosking

LIBRARY NEWS

Each year, National Simultaneous Storyline (NSS) is held around Australia. NSS is a wide group reading and literacy event, where schools, libraries and other institutions gather school-age children together to read the same chosen picture book at the same time



On Wednesday May 27, the school will join millions of children, parents, teachers and library lovers across Australia & New Zealand at 10am (AWST) or 12pm (AEST) to read *Luna Roo: the Kangaroo Baller* – written by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd, and illustrated by Jake Minton

Luna Roo the Kangaroo Baller is an Australian children's picture book about a young kangaroo named Luna who becomes the rookie Captain of "FC Outback" in a big football (soccer) match against "Bush United."



The story follows Luna as she deals with nerves, self-doubt, and tough opponents – including animal players like snakes and spider goalkeeper – while learning to trust herself and work with her teammates. This is a wonderful story, with themes of: **Courage, Teamwork, Perseverance, and Believing in yourself**

Every time there is a theme such as ANZAC day or NSS, Mrs Boxall makes the most amazing displays. How good does the Luna Roo display look

CANTEEN NEWS

DID YOU KNOW?

All Meals, Muffins, Pizza & more are made right here in the kitchen at St Francis Xavier!

Gluten Free is available.

Cut off time for this is 7am on the day of order

*to prevent cross contamination

All other orders cut off time is 9am via Quickcliq

<https://sfx.wa.edu.au/canteen/>

3 Year Olds are Welcome to order their lunch

**No recess orders

Volunteers are always required and the children love to see family members helping.

See details below

If you, or a family member, has a little spare time on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and/or a Friday and would like to volunteer a few hours please contact the office on 9923 5800 or email admin@sfx.wa.edu.au



P&F NEWS

The P&F volunteers have had a busy start to Term 2 with the rescheduled Early-Years Disco in Week 2, Meeting and Mother's Day gifts in Week 3 and on Friday the Annual Quiz Night was a great success!

Thank you to Gift-A-Cookie for delivering 500 decorated cookies in time for our Mother's Day gift, we hope most of you got to see and even eat them!



Naughties and Nineties Quiz Night was a great success! The Geraldton Golf Club and their clubhouse kitchen set us up for an easy Friday night event. The leading table changed with each round between the likes of Smelly Cats, Clueless, Happy Gilmores, Yummy Mummies and You're a Quizzard, Harry.



It came down to the last round as a decider; Clueless & Confused missing out by half a point to The Titanic Swim Team! A huge thank you to those that dressed up in their vintage-best and came out for the night



Also a huge thank you to Casa Dolce Restaurant and Café, Coastside Plumbing and Gas, Craft and Creations Geraldton, Figs and Dragons Nursery, Total Uniforms, Fitzies at Ibis Styles, The Mad Mexican Restaurant and Beached Barrel.



Following from our recent meeting, we are looking for three or four volunteers to assist with distributing donuts & sweet treats at the newly renamed Buddies & Bites Picnic 2:00-3:00pm Wednesday in Week 11. We may need back up in case of sickness at the wintery end of a long term.



We are also seeking new faces to volunteer at the Athletics Carnival P&F Sausage Sizzle in Term 3. We assure you that you will not miss your child's events especially if we have more volunteers.



This might also suit a Grandparent or Aunty/Uncle that isn't juggling work, small children and watching events. If you know someone who might be interested in helping for an hour or so, can you please put them in touch with the P&F committee via email or facebook.



Our private facebook page is growing (currently 79), we use this to remind about events, give insider tips about what is going on at school, recognise businesses that support our community and to call out for volunteers. We encourage everyone to join <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1LmmZeHpTj/> the success of our events depends upon sharing the load and our community staying informed



Upcoming Events:
 Week 11: Wednesday Buddies & Bites Picnic
 Week 3, Term 3: Tuesday Morning Coffee Mixer and P&F Evening Meeting.
 Contact Us:
 Email: pandf@sfx.wa.edu.au
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1LmmZeHpTj/>

COMMUNITY NEWS



AGM

Annual General Meeting Catholic School Parents WA Inc.

23rd June 2026

Our 2026 AGM will take place online via Teams on 23rd June 2026 at 6pm. Please contact admin@csp.wa.edu.au to receive the AGM Teams link.



Australian Library and Information Association

JOIN US AT THE
GERALDTON REGIONAL LIBRARY
TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME!



WEDNESDAY 27 MAY 2026



10:00 AM ~ 10:45 AM

SUITABLE FOR PRESCHOOL AGED CHILDREN.
FREE EVENT. BOOKINGS VIA HUMANITIX.



NATIONAL
SIMULTANEOUS
STORYTIME



LUNA
ROO

the
KANGAROO BALLER



27 May 2026

www.alia.org.au/nss #LibraryStorytime

ADAM JACKSON ADRIAN LLOYD JAKE A MINTON