Term 4, November 2026

ST FRANCIS XAVIER COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

admin@sfx.wa.edu.au



LEADING COMMUNITY

JUSTINE SMITH - PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we move through Week 5 of Term 4, it is hard to believe how quickly the year is drawing to a close. While there are still many exciting learning opportunities, celebrations and events ahead of us, this time of year also provides an opportunity to slow down, reflect on our achievements, and finish the year with purpose, gratitude and joy.

Our students have continued to demonstrate resilience, confidence and a commitment to their learning throughout the year. Classrooms remain vibrant places where curiosity, creativity and meaningful learning take place each day. I encourage our students to remain focused on their learning goals and make the most of every opportunity between now and the end of the school year.

An important focus for the remainder of the year is helping our students continue to develop resilience and independence. Whether it is persevering with a challenging task, solving a problem independently, managing friendships, taking responsibility for learning, or stepping outside their comfort zone, these skills play a vital role in preparing children for future success. As educators and parents, we know that growth often comes from navigating challenges, and we remain committed to supporting students as they build confidence, adaptability and self-belief.

As a school community, our priorities for the remainder of the term include:

- **Maintaining a strong focus on learning -** While the end of the year brings many special events, quality teaching and learning remains our priority. Every day counts, and meaningful learning experiences continue right through to the last week of school.
- **Supporting student wellbeing -** We recognise that the final weeks of the year can be both exciting and challenging. Staff continue to monitor student wellbeing closely and provide support where needed.
- **Celebrating growth and achievement -** We look forward to acknowledging the academic, sporting, creative and personal achievements of our students through upcoming assemblies, performances and end-of-year celebrations.
- **Fostering resilience and independence -** We will continue providing opportunities for students to challenge themselves, take ownership of their learning, make responsible choices and develop confidence in their own abilities. These important life skills help prepare them not only for the next school year but for life beyond the classroom.



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

BILL BRADLEY

LEADING COMMUNITY

JUSTINE SMITH - PRINCIPAL

- **Encouraging positive relationships -** Respect, kindness and compassion remain at the heart of our school culture. We encourage students to continue demonstrating these values in their interactions with others.
- **Promoting strong attendance -** Regular attendance remains important throughout Term 4 and ensures students continue to benefit from valuable learning opportunities and end-of-year activities.
- **Preparing students for their next stage of learning -** Whether students are moving to a new year level, a new classroom or a new school, we are working to support a smooth and positive transition.

Digital Technology

As research continues to evolve regarding the impact of digital technologies on children's learning, attention and wellbeing, we remain committed to a proactive and balanced approach. While digital tools can enrich learning by enhancing engagement, creativity and understanding, their use must be purposeful and intentional. We will continue to carefully guide the implementation of technology within classrooms, ensuring it supports educational outcomes while maintaining a healthy balance with explicit teaching, critical thinking, collaboration, discussion, hands-on experiences and meaningful social interaction.

2027 Planning

As we continue to plan for the 2027 school year, we kindly ask families to notify the school as soon as possible if their child or children will not be returning to St Francis Xavier Primary School in 2027. Having accurate enrolment information assists us greatly with class planning, staffing allocations and resource preparation for next year. Please advise the School Office by email or phone as soon as possible

Parents/Caregivers are welcome to submit written requests regarding their child's class placement for 2027 via email. While we will carefully consider all requests, please understand that not all requests can be accommodated. Many factors are taken into account when creating class groups, including the academic, social and wellbeing needs of all students. Our aim is to create balanced learning environments where every child can thrive. We appreciate your understanding and trust in the professional judgement of our staff as we undertake this important process.

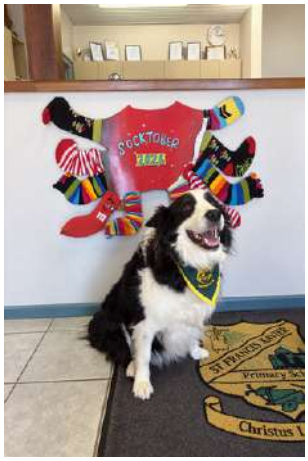
As we enter the second half of the term, I encourage families to take time to enjoy the many special moments that accompany this season. School life is busy, and it is often in the everyday moments of learning, friendship and growth that we see our students flourish most.

Thank you for your ongoing support, partnership and trust throughout the year. Together, we continue to create a learning environment where every child is known, valued and encouraged to be the best version of themselves.

May God continue to bless our students, staff and families as we journey through the remainder of this school year.

Justine Smith





'If we want children to flourish, to become truly empowered, then let us allow them to love the earth them to save it'.

David Sobel

LEADING COMMUNITY

JUSTINE SMITH - PRINCIPAL

Early Years Area Busy Bee

Thank you to our wonderful parents and staff who came along and helped work on several projects in the Early Years Area. New fruit and vegetables were planted, the cubby was brightened up with a new coat of paint, toy and equipment sheds were cleaned and re-organised, sandpits raked, mud kitchens cleaned and native plants were added to out beautiful space.

Thank you Mrs Fosbery, Mr and Mrs Love, Mr Clune, Mrs France, Mrs Nguyen, Mrs Beaver, Mrs Hosking, Mr Place, Miss Smith, Mrs Keefe, Mrs Valenti and Mr Francis for all your hard work! It was very much appreciated.

We look forward to making this an annual event with a change of date next year to the end of term 3! Let's make this a bigger and better school community event in 2027.













'If we want children to flourish, to become truly empowered, then let us allow them to love the earth before we ask them to save it'.

David Sobel

A FAITH COMMUNITY

SIMON PLACE - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Socktober

Our recent Socktober event was a wonderful success, bringing together fun, creativity and a spirit of generosity. Students showed incredible imagination with their colourful and crazy socks, brightening the day with their creative designs and enthusiastic participation.

The money raised will support the important work of Catholic Mission in Malawi, helping to make a positive difference in the lives of children and families in need.

Students also enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of soccer-themed activities and games in their factions. A special thank you to our fantastic faction leaders, whose enthusiasm and leadership helped make the event such an enjoyable experience for everyone.

Thank you to our school community for supporting this worthwhile cause and helping to make Socktober a memorable event for all.






All Saint's Day

Following our whole-school All Saints' Day liturgy, students had the opportunity to learn about a variety of saints and discover what made them special. Through engaging classroom activities and discussions, students explored the lives of these holy men and women, reflecting on their faith, courage, kindness and commitment to following Jesus. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to recognise that saints are ordinary people who used their gifts in extraordinary ways to make a difference in the world.




Christian Service

As a Catholic school, we strive to provide meaningful opportunities for students to live out their faith through service to others. Recently, our students have embraced two wonderful Christian Service initiatives: creating beautiful Christmas cards for Centacare and supporting our ongoing food collection drive for FoodBank.

For both projects, students took time to discuss why people may need support and how even small acts of kindness can make a significant difference. They approached each task with enthusiasm, compassion and a genuine desire to help others.

We are incredibly proud of the care and thought that students put into their Christmas cards and the generosity shown through the food donations received so far. We hope that these gifts of kindness will bring joy, comfort and hope to many people during the Christmas season and remind them that they are valued and cared for within our wider community.






Staff Retreat

At the beginning of the term, our staff came together for a retreat day focused on deepening our understanding of the rich heritage of our school. The day provided an opportunity to explore the story of the Presentation Sisters and the inspiring life and mission of their founder, Nano Nagle.

Through reflection and learning, staff renewed their appreciation of Nano Nagle's vision of faith, service and education for those most in need. As we continue to be guided by her example, students will also have the opportunity next week to learn more about the remarkable life and works of Nano Nagle and the lasting impact she continues to have on Catholic education today.





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

Mathematics Spotlight

At St Francis Xavier, we are committed to developing confident and capable mathematicians through engaging, hands-on learning experiences. This year, our Kindergarten to Year 2 students have participated in the Early Years Numeracy Project (EYNP), which focuses on building strong mathematical foundations through practical activities, mathematical discussions, and the use of concrete materials. By exploring number concepts in meaningful and interactive ways, students have strengthened their understanding while developing confidence and enjoyment in mathematics.









One wonderful example of collaboration across year levels recently saw our Year 5 students working alongside their Year 1 buddies to create beaded counting strings. These resources will be used by our Year 3 classes to support number knowledge, counting, place value, and computation strategies. The project not only provided authentic mathematical learning opportunities for the students creating the strings but also demonstrated the power of students contributing to the learning of others





In the middle and upper primary years, we have also been excited to pilot the Lighthouse Mathematics Project in 3 Gold and 5 Green. This initiative encourages students to develop deeper mathematical thinking by exploring rich tasks, investigating multiple solution pathways, and engaging in meaningful mathematical discussions. Rather than focusing solely on finding the correct answer, students are encouraged to explain their reasoning, justify their thinking, and learn from the strategies of their peers. The project is helping to foster collaboration, problem-solving skills, resilience and confidence, while providing valuable insights into how students think about mathematics.





Looking ahead

As we move through to the second half of Term 4, our students continue to engage in rich and meaningful learning experiences. While much of the year has been spent introducing new concepts and skills, this time of year provides valuable opportunities for students to consolidate their learning, reflect on their progress, and celebrate their growth.

Across all year levels, teachers are supporting students to make connections between what they have learned and how they can apply this knowledge in different contexts. Students are also developing important learning habits and personal qualities such as resilience, independence, collaboration, and perseverance, which will support them well into the future.

We encourage families to continue prioritising attendance, home reading, and positive learning routines as every school day remains an important opportunity for growth. Together, we can help students finish the year feeling confident, successful, and ready for the exciting challenges that await them in 2027.

Belinda Hosking

ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN FOR 2028 & BEYOND

WE ARE TAKING ENROLMENTS FOR 2028 AND BEYOND



PLACES ARE FILLING FAST FOR 2028 & 2029 FOR BOTH THE 3YO PROGRAM & KINDERGARTEN



IF YOU INTEND TO ENROL SIBLINGS AND/OR KNOW OF ANYONE WHO IS LOOKING TO ENROL, PLEASE COLLECT AN ENROLMENT PACK ASAP

ONLINE ENQUIRIES HTTPS://SFX.WA.EDU.AU/PARENT-PORTAL/ENROLMENTS/

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK FAIR 2026







The Book Fair is a wonderful way to celebrate reading & earn valuable resources for our school library

More books means more choice, which means kids get to read the books they want to read. The right book can ignite a passion for reading





Reading expands the mind and nourishes the imagination

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME AND SUPPORTED THE FAIR

CANTEEN NEWS



OUR SCHOOL CANTEEN IS LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS

OUR CURRENT VOLUNTEERS HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD FOR MANY YEARS AND ARE WELL OVERDUE FOR A WELL EARNED BREAK

IF YOU HAVE SOME TIME TO SPARE BETWEEN 9AM AND 12:30PM ON ANY MONDAY, TUESDAY WEDNESDAY OR FRIDAY
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

PLEASE CONTACT ADMIN ON 9923 5800 OR EMAIL ADMIN@SFX.WA.EDU.AU

We ♡ our Volunteers

P&F NEWS

Our school has been asked to circulate the information below regarding the Catholic School Parents Australia (CSPA) 2026 Parent Survey on Student Wellbeing and Learning, that is being conducted by CSPA and the University of New England. Those interested in participating can click the link in the notice below for more information, and for contact details of the research team should you have any questions.

National Parent Survey!

The CSPA 2026 Parent Survey on Student Wellbeing and Learning is interested in the perspectives of parents/carers of one or more children who attend a Catholic School in Australia. Parents/carers who would like to share their views on existing and emerging concerns and interests they may have in relation to their child/children's wellbeing and learning are invited to consider completing this anonymous, confidential, and completely voluntary online survey. More information about the study, how to have any questions answered and how to participate can be found using the link below. Thank you for your interest!

https://unesurveys.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bDFBiwnMuAjB0Ue

This project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of New England (Approval No. HE-2026-3196-6429, Valid to 18/12/2026)

une University of New England

Catholic School Parents AUSTRALIA

IMPORTANT DATES

2027 Term Dates

	First Day of Term	Last Day of Term
Term 1	Thursday 28 January 2027 (Monday 25 January for staff)	Friday 9 April 2027
Term 2	Tuesday 27 April 2027 (ANZAC Day observance on Monday 26 April 2027)	Friday 25 June 2027 (Monday 28 June for Staff)
Term 3	Monday 19 July 2027	Friday 24 September 2027
Term 4	Monday 11 October 2027	Years K-10: Friday 10 December 2027 (Friday 17 December for staff)



COMMUNITY NEWS

one Central Health

AUTISM ASSESSMENT CONCERNS?

Are you still deciding whether an assessment for Autism is the "right" next step for your child?



FREE INTAKE SESSIONS AVAILABLE

Call us to book your complimentary 30-min Autism intake appointment today, and talk through your concerns with a clinician from our Autism Assessment team.

We discuss your child's behaviour and communication, answer your questions, and provide clear clinical guidance on whether an Autism assessment is required or not.

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LOCATIONS

Balcatta
Unit 24/257
Balcatta Rd,
Balcatta
WA 6021

South Lake
Unit 9/752
North Lake Rd,
South Lake
WA 6164

one Central Health

(08) 9344-1318

www.onecentralhealth.com.au

admin@onecentralhealth.com.au

St Lawrence Fundraiser

ITALIAN DINNER

At the Catholic Center of Geraldton

20th November 2026 | Starts at 6pm

11 Maitland St, 6530 Geraldton

Entrée

- Selection of meats, cheeses, olives and biscuits
- Arancini
- Bruschetta

Main

- Crumbed beef or chicken schnitzel
- Spaghetti bolognese
- Fettuccine
- Lasagna
- Pasta puttanesca
- Pizzas
- Fish
- Garden salads

Dessert

- Fresh fruit
- Tiramisu
- Italian biscuits





Soft drinks for sale

Bring your own alcohol

Price

Kids under five	5 – 12	13 and above
Free	$25 each	$50 each

Pre purchase tickets for catering numbers by **15th November**

Contact Jane 0427 273 729

FREE EVENT

Desert Blue Connect

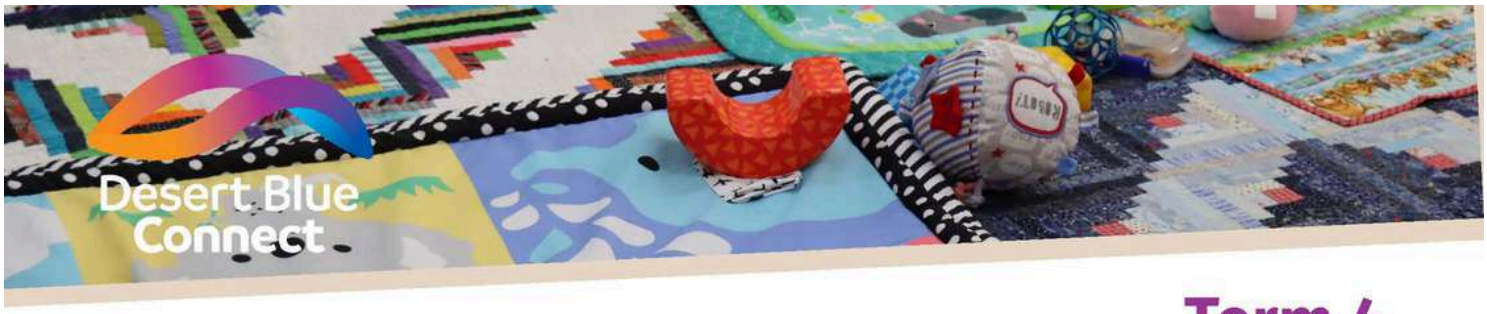
MUM'S WELLBEING EXPO 2026

19TH NOVEMBER | 9AM-12.30 PM | QEII CENTRE, GERALDTON

ABOUT THE EXPO

A dedicated day to raise awareness of perinatal anxiety and depression, connecting mothers with community services and providing valuable wellbeing information. This years theme is "what you need when you need it".

- Wellbeing activities for mothers
- Children's activities
- Community organisations and local business stalls
- Health representatives
- Playgroup and childcare representatives
- Mother's wellbeing stalls
- Free morning tea



MUM'S GROUP

Term 4 Timetable 2026

21 October – Cancer Council & morning tea

Information and support for mums, including screening.

28 October – Mum & Bubs yoga

Learn gentle yoga techniques with Cath Dalle from Mindful body.

4 November – Work & study post maternity

JobLink will share support and options for returning to work or study after maternity leave.

11 November – Coral Coast music session

A relaxed morning to play, connect and enjoy a sing song with Coral Coast music.

18 November – No Session today

No Mums & Bubs session this week. We'll be hosting our Mums Wellbeing Expo tomorrow, please visit us.

19 November - Mum's Wellbeing Expo 2026, QEII Centre Geraldton, 9am -12.30pm

25 November – Rhyme Time

Enjoy stories and fun at DBC with Geraldton Library.

2 December – Mat Motion Pilates

Gentle Pilates and movement for mums and bubs.

9 December – HIPPY

Learn about HIPPY and the support available for families.

16 December – Christmas Photoshoot 🎄

Make a Christmas bauble and capture some festive photos with your little one.

To register for the group please scan the QR code or contact via
P: 9964 2742 E: email ci@desertblueconnect.org.au

Desert Blue Connect



WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

Term 4 Timetable 2026

22 October – Cancer Council

Come along for an informative and relaxed session about cancer awareness, prevention and wellbeing.

29 October – Session TBC

Something fun is in the works, details coming soon!

5 November – Food show & share

Bring along an interesting or favourite recipe to share! We'll swap ideas, have a chat and make something together.

12 November – Life in Rhythm with Belinda Chambers

Join Belinda from Life in Rhythm for a relaxing wellbeing session exploring ways to support your body and mind.

19 November – No Session this week, visit us at the Mum's Wellbeing Expo 2026 at QEII Geraldton.

No Women's Social this week, we are hosting a Mum's Wellbeing Expo 2026 at the QEII.

26 November – KHY Therapies art session

Get creative, have some fun and enjoy a relaxing art activity with KHY Therapies.

3 December – Mindfulness with Cath Dalle

Slow down, take a breath and enjoy some time to relax and recharge.

10 December – Christmas gifting

Get creative and make some lovely little Christmas gifts to give or keep!

17 December – Christmas cards & hot chocolate 🎄

Spread some Christmas cheer by making cards for the residents of Nazareth Care Home, with a delicious hot chocolate to enjoy.

To register for the group please scan the QR code or call us on 9964 2742 or email us at ci@desertblueconnect.org.au

Desert Blue Connect



MORE DETAILS ON THE NEXT PAGE

GBRJDC 2026/27 Willocks Surf Summer Series! 🏄‍♀️🌊
Memberships and registration for our first event are now OPEN!
🏄‍♀️ Register: www.liveheats.com/gbr
🌊 GBRJDC MEMBERSHIP — $75
Membership includes a $50 Willocks Welcome Voucher to use with our major sponsor, Willocks. 🎉
GBRJDC is all about giving local young surfers the opportunity to develop their surfing, build confidence, learn sportsmanship, make friendships and, most importantly, have fun in a supportive community environment.
🏄‍♀️ 2026/27 SUMMER SERIES DATES
📅 Sunday, 8 November 2026 — Season Opener
📅 Sunday, 6 December 2026
📅 Sunday, 7 February 2027
📅 Saturday, 13 March 2027 — Grand Final & Blue Heelers Wind-Up 🏆🤙
Our Blue Heelers wind-up will be a fantastic celebration of the season, bringing our young surfers, families, volunteers and supporters together to celebrate everyone's achievements.
☀️ MORE FOR OUR MEMBERS
👕 Sun Smart GBRJDC Long Sleeve Shirts — back by popular demand!
🦈 Shark Eyes — special wholesale pricing for GBRJDC members to help our young surfers feel safer and more confident in the water.
🏆 Divisional Sponsorship Opportunities — we still have limited opportunities for local businesses to support our young surfers and our club.