



# St Francis Xavier Catholic School

To Love, To Learn and To Serve  
Kia Aroha, Kia Akona, Kia Aro Atu

#2 Term 1, 20th February 2025



## Principal's Message

Kia ora, Hello, Malo e lelei, Talofa, Habari, Sawadee, Kia orana, Dia duit, Halo, Ma muka chini, Kumusta, Nǎn hǎo, Guten tag, Namaste, Ciao, Bula, Konnichiwa, Buongiorno, Goedendag, Annyeonghaseyo!

Senior classes have started their swimming lessons. We are fortunate we can supply this activity for our students. Living in Aotearoa where our country is surrounded by water, it is imperative that every child knows about keeping safe in and near water.

Later in the term our seniors will also be on camp, so this is a great time to solidify those skills. Please ensure your child is taking the opportunity at school to swim on their swimming days.

On the 4th March 3:30-6:00pm we have our open night. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to learn a little more about your child's classroom programme, classroom expectations and get to meet members of your PTFA. The PTFA organises fundraising for our school activities and resources. Please do meet them on the 4th March and see how you may be able to help your child's school. See more information in this newsletter.

Last week I got to attend the Dedication Mass in Auckland for all Catholic schools in our Diocese. It was a wonderful Mass and great to have a start to the year where we came together as Catholic schools.

Nga mihi nui,  
*Bernadette Hall -Principal*

## This week's student space:

This week we acknowledge our Tuakana Teina Time which had Manaia whānau participating on Tuesday.

Their learning revolved around group problem solving activities, music and dance and learning about the concepts of art design.



## Vision Statement

*"Uniting through Christ, Embracing Mana, Enhancing Futures."*

## Religious Education

**This Sunday's Reading: (Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time)**

1 Samuel 26:22, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38

**Thought for the Week:**

"Thank God for what we have, TRUST God for what you need."



### Ash Wednesday

We will be celebrating Ash Wednesday with a Mass, on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March** at **9:00 am** in the church. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Why do we place cold ashes on our foreheads?**

Ash Wednesday begins Lent, a time when we stop and assess how we're doing in our walk with God.

Lent helps us identify spiritual areas in which we can grow and sinful areas that we need to avoid. To repent, put simply, means to turn *away* from sin and turn *toward* God. We use ashes as an outward expression of our need to begin again.

### Lent

Lent (which begins on Ash Wednesday) is a time for renewal and preparing for Easter. The children will be discussing the season of Lent and talking about Lenten promises. A good way to remind your child(ren) about these Lenten discussions is to ask them questions about them.

### Faith Fact: The season of Lent

The season of Lent is one of the two Penitential seasons of the year. It starts with Ash Wednesday and lasts forty days, finishing in Holy Week. It is a time for fasting, prayer and almsgiving. Lent allows people to reflect on their lives and identify what they need to change. It is a season of preparation for the feast of Jesus' Resurrection which is the greatest feast in the Church's calendar.

### Family Masses

During the year, Whanau will be rostered to participate in Family Masses on Sunday at 10:00 am. These Whanau Masses have been a success in recent years and it is a beautiful way of coming together as a school and Parish whanau to celebrate the Eucharist.

Our next Family Mass is on **Sunday, 23rd February** at 10:00 am. Parihaka Whanau (Rooms 22, 21, 23 and 10) will participate.

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

Yours in Christ

*Mrs Maria Wilson*

DRS – Director of Religious Studies



*to Siddhartha Ares, Anna Rose Binoj, Dylan Cairlan,  
Johan Josemon, Gideon Wood and Oakah Wycliffe  
who have started at our school recently.*

*We hope that you are enjoying your  
new school and community.*

## Motto

*To Love, To Learn, To Serve - Kia Aroha, Kia Akona, Kia Aro Atu*



## Hockey Car Park

Please note that the week of **23rd February to the 2nd March(next week)** the Hockey car park will be full due to the Hockey Master's being held here in Whangarei. This will affect us for afternoon pick ups.

**We strongly recommend you make other arrangements for that week. Please let your children know these changes also.**

## Have your details changed?

Has your place of work, address or contact details changed?? It is vital that we have your correct, up to date contact details in our system in case of any illness or emergency.

You can either call the school office: 09 4371039

email the office: [rachel@sfx.school.nz](mailto:rachel@sfx.school.nz) or [melanie@sfx.school.nz](mailto:melanie@sfx.school.nz)

or go to our website: [www.sfx.school.nz](http://www.sfx.school.nz) click on Information, online forms, update contact details.

## Year 5 & 6 Parents

There will be a Camp Meeting soon **Thursday, March 6th at 5:15pm** in the St Joesph's Room for all parents of our year 5 and 6 pupils.

Come along and hear all about the upcoming Camp Bentzon on Kawau Island.

***Camp parents: please make sure you attend this meeting as you will receive important information about being a camp helper.***

Thank you to those parents who have been selected to go to camp that have brought in their vetting forms. However to enable us to process them through to the Police Vetting Service we do require 2 forms of identification: normally passport, drivers licence or birth certificates. Please ensure these are brought in at the same time, by the parent who is completing the forms, as we cannot begin the process without the two forms of identification. We need to get the checks back before the camps start. Many thanks!

## Accounts

Last week we emailed out the school accounts for the year. Many thanks to those of you who have already made payments in full or have started automatic payments. Please check your spam or junk mail if you haven't received an account for you child/ren or let us know in the office. If you are experiencing any financial difficulties now or through the year, please let us know and come have a chat with either Mrs Deborah Rudolph, Office Manager, Mrs Bernadette Hall, Principal or if you prefer to have a chat with our Parish Priest, Father Brian.

## Sausage Sizzle

This Friday we will have our first sausage sizzle for the term. The cost is \$2:00 per sausage. Children are to place their order with their teacher at the start of the day. Cash only.

We would like to thank Whangarei Gourmet Meats for supplying the sausages, our parent helpers and our PTFA.

## School Uniform

Please name ALL of your child's uniform. We currently have a roll of 475 students in our school! If shoes, hats, clothes etc are not named we have no idea what belongs to who. If your child comes home accidentally with an article of clothing which has someone else's name in it, please return it to the school office.



### Uniform Regulations



The following sets out the regulation uniform for students attending St Francis Xavier Catholic School.

**GIRLS**  
St Francis Xavier regulation summer dress or navy skirt or navy shorts  
Jade monogrammed polo shirt. Long-sleeved polo and long pants may be worn in winter months.

**BOYS**  
St Francis Xavier regulation blue shorts  
Jade monogrammed polo shirt. Long-sleeved polo and long pants may be worn in winter months.

**SUMMER FOOTWEAR**  
The sandals must be plain black with a back strap, NOT sparkly or coloured. Velcro or buckle fastenings are acceptable. JANDALS AND CROCS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

**WINTER FOOTWEAR**  
Navy knee-high socks, and polishable closed-toe shoes - must be plain black, NOT sparkly, coloured, or labelled with coloured branding or words. Velcro, lace-up or buckle fastenings are acceptable.

**HATS**  
Regulation bucket sunhat must be worn in terms 1 and 4.

**PE UNIFORM**  
School PE t-shirt and plain black shorts or bike shorts are required of all students. These must be brought to school every day.

**JEWELLERY**  
Earrings - studs only.  
Necklace - taonga or small cross on a plain chain only.

**HAIRBANDS AND TIES**  
Navy or black bands, ties or ribbons. Scrunchies made from school uniform material.

**NAIL POLISH**  
Only clear nail polish without any shimmer may be worn on fingernails and toenails.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure their children are correctly dressed.

**Please ensure your child's clothing is named.**





# St Francis Xavier Catholic School

## Open Afternoon



Nau Mai Haere Mai  
Let's Connect!

**Tuesday, 4th March, 3:30pm to 6pm**

*Nau Mai, Haere Mai!*

We are thrilled to welcome our whānau and families to school for our Open Day on Tuesday, 4th March, from 3:30pm to 6:00pm. Come and join us for an afternoon of fun, exploration, and connection. Visit your child's classroom, chat with their teachers, connect with other parents, explore our amazing play spaces, and discover the exciting learning opportunities we offer. Don't forget to stop by the PTFA tent and to learn about how you can get involved! Pick up a coffee from the Cafe Latino van at the same time!

*We look forward to seeing you.*

### **What to Expect:**

- **Classroom Visits:** Come and see your child's classroom.
- **Teacher Meet & Greet:** We are looking forward to meeting you.
- **Play Space Exploration:** Come and see our wonderful play spaces and our beautiful areas for prayer.
- **PTFA Tent:** Our Parents, Teachers, Friends Association will be available to answer any questions you might have. We are looking for new members to join this fun and friendly group who do so much for our school.

മാർച്ച് 4 ചൊവ്വാഴ്ച വൈകുന്നേരം 3:30 മുതൽ 6:00 വരെ നടക്കുന്ന Open Day-യിലേക്ക് താങ്കളെ കുടുംബമായി സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്യുന്നു.

നിങ്ങളുടെ കുട്ടിയുടെ classroom സന്ദർശിക്കുവാനും, അവരുടെ അദ്ധ്യാപകരെ കാണുവാനും, മറ്റ് രക്ഷകർത്താക്കളെ പരിചയപ്പെടുവാനും, പുതിയ പഠനരീതികൾ മനസ്സിലാക്കുവാനും ഈ അവസരം വിനിയോഗിക്കണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.



# SCHOOL EVENTS

Dates and times for events are subject to change.  
Please check this fortnightly newsletter for any changes.

## February

20th	9am	SFX Swimming Sports - Yrs 5&6 - held at Pomapaplier Catholic College
21st	Swimming	Room 22 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am      Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 1 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am      Room 18 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am      Room 4 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
<b>21st</b>	<b>8:45am</b>	<b>Sausage Sizzle \$2:00 - Place your order with your class teacher at the start of the day</b>
25th	Swimming	Room 22 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am      Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 1 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am      Room 18 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am      Room 4 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
28th	Swimming	Room 22 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am      Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 1 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am      Room 18 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am      Room 4 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
28th	1:30pm	Whole School Assembly - Pukenui whanau leading

## March

4th	Swimming	Room 22 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am      Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 1 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am      Room 18 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am      Room 4 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
4th	3:30-6pm	Meet the Teacher Open Evening
5th	9:00am	Ash Wednesday Mass - Whole school attending
6th	5:15pm	Year 5&6 Camp Meeting - St Joe's Room
7th	Swimming	Room 22 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am      Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 1 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am      Room 18 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am      Room 4 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
10th	9:15-10:20am	He Kākano Programme - Session one
11th	Swimming	Year 3&4
12th		WPSSA Swim Champs
12th	7pm	P.T.F.A Meeting - held in Staffroom
14th	Swimming	Year 3&4
<b>14th</b>	<b>8:45am</b>	<b>Sausage Sizzle \$2:00 - Place your order with your class teacher at the start of the day</b>
17th	9:15-10:20am	He Kākano Programme - Session two
18th	Swimming	Year 3&4
20th	5:45pm	Board of Trustees Meeting - held in Staffroom
21st	Swimming	Year 3&4
24th	9:15-10:20am	He Kākano Programme - Session three
25th	Swimming	Year 3&4
<b>28th</b>	<b>8:45am</b>	<b>Sausage Sizzle \$2:00 - Place your order with your class teacher at the start of the day</b>
28th	1:30pm	Whole School Assembly - Hatea Whanau leading
28th	Swimming	Year 3&4

## April

1st to 4th		Camp 1 Yr 5&6 - Rooms 1, 12 & 16
1st	Swimming	Year 3&4
4th	Swimming	Year 3&4
7th to 10th		Camp 2 Yr 5&6 - Rooms 4, 18 & 22
11th		Last day of Term 1

## SAUSAGE SIZZLE!

DATE: **This Friday - 21st February**

**\$2.00**  
PER SAUSAGE

Please pay your teacher the correct money at the start of the day.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PTFA & WHANGAREI GOURMET MEATS!