



# St Francis Xavier Catholic School

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

No. 1 Term 4 Rāpare-Thursday 28th Whiringa-ā-nuku - October 2021

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of our School,

*Socrates said, "The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."*

We know that Covid has brought many new challenges and we are going to have to rethink some of our old practices and implement some new ones. While studying Educational Leadership a few years ago, I distinctly recall the expression "There is no change without turbulence". Right now we are experiencing both turbulence and the need to change.

What we know is that it will happen, it will be disruptive but as Christians we live in "Hope" that we will see the rewards and we will be happy.

I encourage you to give hope to your children, let them hear laughter, joy and experience your love for them. This is also one of our goals for the remainder of 2021.

## **School Cancellations and Postponements:**

There are many end of year events that will be affected by the Covid Level 2 restrictions and we are planning alternatives.

Please note the following update:

- Northern Region Surf Lifesaving have cancelled the Beach Ed programme for Year 5/6 children this year.
- The Year 3/4 Paddleboarding has been cancelled by the operators. We are attempting to find an alternate programme.
- The Junior School Nativity has been cancelled for 2021 as we are not allowed to have more than 100 people in the Church.
- Yr 4-6 WPSSA Athletics is cancelled.

## **Staff Only Day Reminder:**

**School will be closed for instruction on Monday, November the 15th.** Please do not send your child to school on that day. ALL Staff will be completing and refreshing their First Aid qualifications.

## **Class Placements 2022:**

Each year a huge amount of time is given to the placement of children for the following school year. Placing your child in a class that will help them to learn and reach their full potential is our goal. Consideration is always given to the intellectual, social, spiritual, physical and emotional development of the children.

The Senior Leadership team takes this responsibility very seriously and we do our very best to match your child's learning needs with the teacher and peers where they will achieve their best. I ask that you recognise the experience of the senior teachers and their ability to place children accordingly. If you are aware of any circumstances that may affect our decision-making please advise either your child's teacher, Mrs Jakicevich or Mrs Balks before Friday the 5th of November. Please note that the final decision regarding your child's placement rests with the school. Once the school year starts your child will not be moved.

If your child is not returning to St Francis Xavier Catholic School in 2022, then please advise us as soon as possible.

## **School Organisation 2022:**

Next year we will be operating Year 3/4 composite classrooms. This enables us to have slightly lower class sizes. The Board of Trustees has agreed to fund additional teacher hours to support the learning opportunities for students at this level of the school. This effectively improves the student/teacher ratio even further.

## **Contact Tracing:**

Please note that you are required to **scan or sign** in when entering a school site. However, staff will no longer be standing at the school gate reminding you to do so. This practice should be common-nature to all of us by now. If you are remaining on the school grounds, other than to drop off or collect your child, please sign in at the school office for health and safety requirements. We also ask that you wear a face mask.

## **End of School Day:**

School closes at 2:50pm each day. Please avoid removing your child from class prior to the bell time as this is disruptive to the teacher and those children who are remaining.

Craig McKernan - Principal

# Religious Education

*This Sunday's Reading: Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Deuteronomy 6:2-6, Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 12:28-34

## October is the Month of the Rosary

Due to Alert Level 2 restrictions we are unable to meet in the church as a school, therefore the Rosary is being prayed in classrooms. **Rosary beads can be purchased from the school office for \$1.50.**

## Bring a Can Non-Uniform Day

Our bring a can non-uniform day is on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November**. Non-uniform days are when children may wear regular clothes instead of their school uniform to school, for a donation. This time we are requesting an item of non-perishable food. These will be given to St Vincent de Paul and Soul Food.

## Family/Whanau Books

Just a little reminder about the Family/Whanau Books, a fabulous resource book for families that explains what we are teaching in the Religious Education Programme from Year 1 to Year 6.

This resource is available online at Faith Alive website - outside the password by clicking on the Family tab.

Please keep checking the events sheet in the newsletter to keep up to date with postponements or cancellations.

Yours in Christ

*Mrs. Maria Wilson*

DRS-Director of Religious Education



Welcome to the following students who started in our school recently...

Adone Aby, Laine Buchanan, Dajjah Deeming, Darron Gineesh, Cristina Hoyles,

Ellazei Iorangi-Clark, Anthony Mao, Maia Patelesio, Nate Paterson, George Ruatu,

Antonio Tinto, Jorah Tom, Oliver Van Den Broek, Helen Vipin and Jaqueline Vipin.

## School Timetable

### Morning session

**8:45am – 10:25am**

### Morning tea

**10:25am – 10.50am**

### Mid-morning session

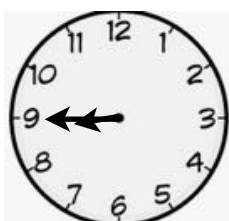
**10.50am – 12:30pm**

### Lunch break

**12:30pm – 1:20pm**

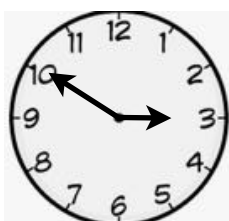
### Afternoon session

**1:20pm – 2:50pm**



## Please Note:

Morning classes begin at **8:45 am**. It is essential for your child/children to be at school ready to start their learning day before the bell rings.



Classes end at **2.50pm**. **Children need to be collected by 3.15pm** unless they are with their parents, attending the After School Care programme or attending sports practice.

## Uniform News



There are already 6 unnamed sweatshirts in the lost property this term. We are only in week 2. One is brand new!

By the beginning of next week (week 3) we all need to be in full summer uniform.

This means we put our socks and shoes away and wear black sandals to school. Our sandals must have a back strap. Hats must be worn during break times. No hat, no play.

Our long trousers are not part of our summer uniform. Shorts, skirts, or our checked tunic must be worn during the summer terms.

There are a number of uniform items available through our PTFA uniform pool.

Please fill in a form at the office or email me directly [glenys@sfx.school.nz](mailto:glenys@sfx.school.nz) with your child's name, size, class number and the items they require. A small koha (donation) is appreciated.

**Please remember to name all uniform items, lunch boxes and drink bottles.**



## SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

We are nearly at the end of Term 4, so we would like to please ask families that your school account is paid by the 1st of December 2021.

Thank you to our families who have already paid their account in full, or have a regular payment in place.

This is a friendly reminder from the Auckland Diocese for parents and caregivers of students who will be leaving St Francis Xavier Catholic School at the end of this year; Attendance Dues must be paid in full by 1st December 2021. Families who have an on-going AP are exempt from this date but must commit to continuing payments until the account is paid. Unfortunately failure to pay the account or make contact with either Carol Krebs at the Auckland Diocese 09 3603069 or Deborah Rudolph, School Office Manager, to arrange alternative methods of payment, may result in the overdue account being sent to Debtworks NZ Ltd for default listing at credit reporting agencies.

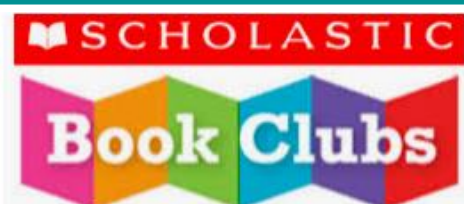
Deborah Rudolph - *Office Manager*

## Parent Health and Education Survey

Every two years our school consults with the school community on aspects of the Health and Physical Education curriculum. Our health and PE programmes are all underpinned by our school's special character. "Don't you realise that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God?" Corinthians 6:9

We would appreciate your feedback on the importance of aspects of the Health and PE by completing a survey via the following link.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciFqFDluRLea4h\\_c8IPTsyclUTjcXPDVReapy12PMEZNOiBw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciFqFDluRLea4h_c8IPTsyclUTjcXPDVReapy12PMEZNOiBw/viewform)



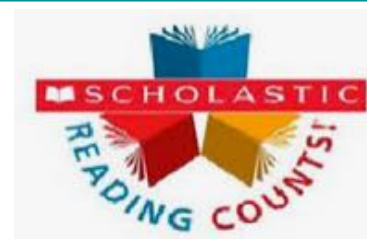
**Orders must be placed by the 3rd of November.**

Cash: Complete the order form with your child's full name and room number clearly written on the top. Please pay the exact amount of your cash order as any change

(usually loose coins) often gets lost on the way home.

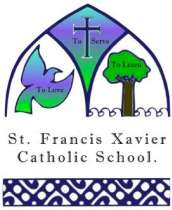
Credit Card: You can place an online order at [scholastic.co.nz/LOOP](http://scholastic.co.nz/LOOP) or download the LOOP app. Your order will be electronically linked to the rest of the school's order and you do not need to complete a paper order form.

Credit Voucher: You can use your credit voucher either online or via a paper order form.





**Brown paper bags are needed!**  
**Do you have any (nice) brown supermarket bags at home?**  
**Mrs J would really appreciate some. Thank you!**



## SCHOOL EVENTS

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

### **November**

1st	All Saints Day
2nd	All Souls Day
9th 9am	Room 13 trip to Marine Reserve
10th 9am	Room 17 trip to Marine Reserve
10th 7pm	PTFA Gala Meeting
11th 9am	Room 23 trip to Marine Reserve
12th	No Uniform Day - Non-uniform days are when children may wear regular clothes instead of uniform to school, for a donation of an item of non-perishable food
<b>15th</b>	<b>Teacher Only Day - Closed for instruction</b>
17th	PTFA Sausage Sizzle \$2 (Please place your order with the class teacher at the start of the day.)
19th	SFX Athletics - Yr 4 - 6
22nd 1:30pm	He Kakāno Programme - Session 1&2 Room 9 <b>(Monday)</b>
23rd 1:30pm	He Kakāno Programme - Session 1&2 Room 10 <b>(Tuesday)</b>
24th	Vision & Hearing
25th & 26th	Yr 6 Retreat
30th 1:30pm	He Kakāno Programme - Session 3&4 Room 9 <b>(Tuesday)</b>
30th 9am	Rooms 4, 11 & 16 trip to AH Reed Park

### **December**

1st 1:30pm	He Kakāno Programme - Session 3&4 Room 10 <b>(Wednesday)</b>
1st, 2nd & 3rd	Yr 3 & 4 EOTC
3rd	Saint Francis Xavier Feast Day
6th 9:15am	Leavers Mass
9th 9:15am	Final Whole School Assembly for the year
9th	Reports sent home
9th 5pm	Choir Loop Challenge
14th	Last day of Term 4