



St Francis Xavier Catholic School

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

No.2 Term 1 Rāpare-Thursday 24th Hui-tanguru February 2022

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of our School,
I've just been for a walk around the playground and have been having conversations with some of the children. The children I spoke to are having a great time and are really enjoying the opportunity to play in areas that they don't normally play in. This is mainly because the school is still divided into two bubbles and there is more space for them to explore.

On another positive note, this week the Year 6 children have been busy applying for various leadership roles in our school. This is a move away from our Whanau Leader system and an opportunity for children to apply for roles that they are interested in. I have been extremely impressed with the thought and quality of writing in their letters of application. The children were open about their strengths and made a considerable effort to explain why they would be great in a particular role. Well done to our Year 6 students.

Meet the Teacher Conversations: Like many schools, we will be changing the way that we meet with you to introduce ourselves and have a conversation about your child/ren. This year you will be invited to request a phone conversation with your child's teacher instead of coming into the school for a face to face discussion. Limiting exposure to the Covid virus and its variants will help us all to keep safe. If you have any questions about how your child is settling into the year, or if you would like to share any information about your child, then you are encouraged to book in on the "School Interview" website and request a time for a phone conversation.

The link is here: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/> See details below on how to make a booking. Your child's teacher will then phone you at the time you have requested, on the phone number that you have provided.

We also encourage you to read the Student Summary sheet that teachers have prepared for you and we request that you return to us the completed Student Information Letter.

Please check the current contact details we have for you and update any new email, address or emergency contact details where needed.

PARENT TEACHER MEET AND GREET PHONE CALL

February: Monday 28th

March: Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd, Monday 7th & Thursday 10th

Appointments can be made online.

Go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Enter the booking code: (r26yz) case sensitive

Follow the instructions.

If you have any problems or need help booking an appointment please ring the school office.

Farewell

Staffing:

As you are aware Mrs Jakicevich leaves at the end of the week to begin her study.

We wish her all the very best.

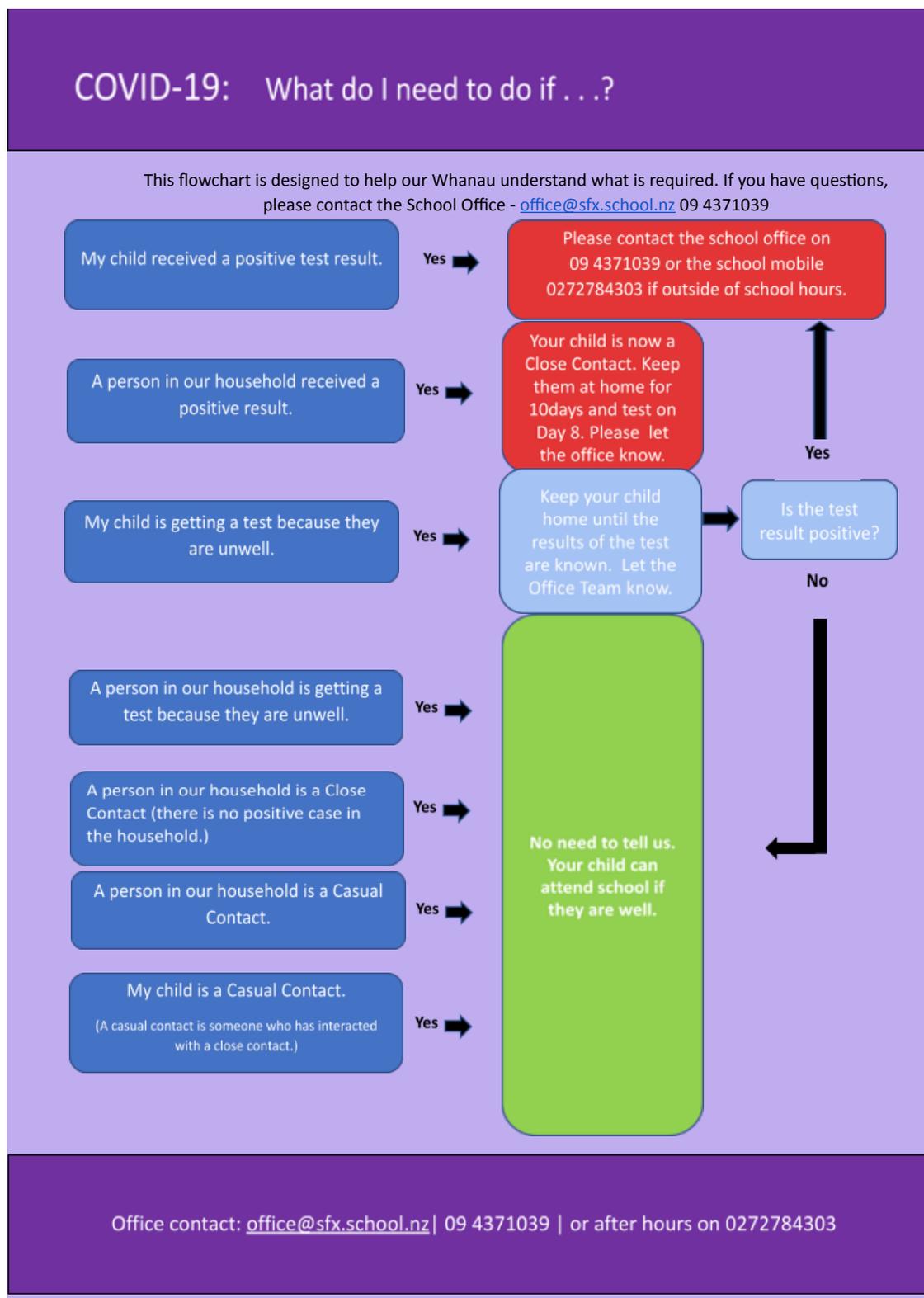
Mrs Jabbar, one of our support staff members, also leaves on Friday. Jayne has been a wonderful Teacher Aide for the past six years and has been a great support for so many students.

She now moves into an exciting new job and we wish her every success.

Covid: The Covid requirements are changing quickly and it is sometimes difficult to keep up to date with these changes. However, we are very fortunate, so far, not to have any Covid cases at school. The children have been amazing and the mask wearing is now an accepted part of school life for our Year 4-6 students.

To help you make sense of the school requirements see the flowchart below. Please read carefully and keep in mind that this will possibly change when we move to Phase 3.

When we do move to Phase 3 the two boxes on the bottom left are likely to change and we will then provide a revised flowchart.



Craig McKernan
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Sunday's Readings: (*Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time*)

Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6: 39-45

Thought for the Week:

"He who slings mud generally loses ground" Zechariah 8:16,17 (a) Here is your part. Tell the truth. Be fair.
Live at peace with everyone. Don't plot harm to others.

Our School Charism

The Charism of our school is the missionary zeal of both Saint Francis Xavier, our school patron saint, and St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop) who carried the Word of God to distant lands.

St Francis Xavier, a 'Man of God', had the passion and energy to proclaim the gospel of Christ to all people. He had a unique desire to evangelise and worked tirelessly for others.

It is the faith and life example of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop), who founded the religious order of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. The main principles of her Order arose from her respect for human dignity.

St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop's) Charism is a gift of the spirit which is characterised by:

Listening to God's call.

Making room for all.

Having an attitude of gratitude.

Doing your bit.

The school community, take on the responsibility of following the examples of St Francis Xavier and St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop).

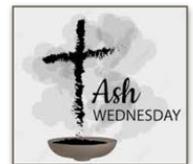


Ash Wednesday

We will be celebrating Ash Wednesday with liturgies outside in Whanau, weather permitting, or in classes if it is raining, on **Wednesday 2nd March**.

Why we place cold ashes on our forehead.

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.

First Communion and Sacramental Programme 2022

Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist. For baptised children who will be 8 years of age, or older by Easter Sunday 2022 (17 April). Enrolment forms are available from the Parish Office. The programme will begin shortly. Parents who have already enrolled will be contacted before the programme starting. Please contact the Parish Office for information. Thank you.

Yours in Christ

Mrs Maria Wilson

DRS – Director of Religious Studies

Second-Hand Uniforms Available

We currently have a lot of school fleeces available in sizes 4, 6 and 10.

If you would like a good quality fleece please notify Ms Dean jennie@sfx.school.nz or fill out a uniform request slip from the office. There are also other uniform items available.

We ask for a small donation.

Please, please PLEASE label all uniform items, including sandals.

It would also be very helpful if lunch boxes and drink bottles were named.



Welcome to Rhea Daly, Arkey Openiano, Lucy Ross and Amelia Tony who started in our school recently.

WHANAU NAMES

This year, we have decided to change the names of the Whanau groups to reflect the new Local Curriculum. It is our goal for children to know more about local landmarks, histories and significant events of the past. We want children to build a sense of belonging and connectedness to the Whangarei area, and also increase their knowledge of the landmarks that form part of our school pepeha.

Ko Parihaka te maunga

Ko Hatea te awa

Our new Whanau names are Parihaka, Hatea, Manaia, Kauika and Pukenui.

We will include information about each of these places in the school newsletter in the coming weeks.

Kauika Whanau

Rooms 13,14,15,16

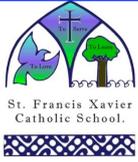
Our Whanau is named after the Kauika Pā which is in the Upper Avenues/ Woodhill area. The pā is situated on the ridgeline of Western Hills, at the western arm of te ngahere o Pukenui (Pukenui forest).

This range of tree-covered hills is a dominant feature of Whangarei.

The pā had 2 fortified areas, spreading across 1 km and interconnected with intensive terracing, storage pits and house sites.

It was the pā site of Te Parawhau, the mana whenua of this area. It was part of a defence system built at the end of a steep ridge overlooking Whangarei.





SCHOOL EVENTS

Dates and times for events are subject to change.

Please check this fortnightly newsletter for any changes.

February

24th		Student Summary and Information Letter sent home	
25th	Swimming	Room 18 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 13 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 1 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 22 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
28th		Meet and Greet Phone Conversations	

March

1st	Swimming	Room 18 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 13 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 1 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 22 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
2nd		Ash Wednesday Meet and Greet Phone Conversations	
3rd		Meet and Greet Phone Conversations	
4th	Swimming	Room 18 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 13 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 1 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 22 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
7th		Meet and Greet Phone Conversations	
8th		Waitangi Trip for Yr 5/6 - Rooms 1 & 16	
9th		Waitangi Trip for Yr 5/6 - Rooms 12 & 18	
10th		Waitangi Trip for Yr 5/6 - Rooms 13 & 22	
10th		Meet and Greet Phone Conversations	
11th	Swimming	Room 18 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 13 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 1 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 22 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
15th	Swimming	Room 18 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 13 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 1 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 16 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 22 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 12 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
18th	Swimming	Room 17 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 15 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 19 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 4 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 23 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 11 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
22nd	Swimming	Room 17 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 15 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 19 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 4 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 23 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 11 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
23rd	Swimming	Room 17 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 15 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 19 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 4 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 23 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 11 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
29th	Swimming	Room 17 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 15 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 19 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 4 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 23 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 11 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am

School Accounts 2022

On Friday we emailed out all the school accounts for the year. Many thanks to all those who have paid their child/ren's school attendance dues and donations in full or have started regular payments. If you haven't received your school account please check your spam or junk folder, alternatively give us a ring. Perhaps your details have changed, and we have the wrong email.

Unfortunately on your school invoice/statement we allocated GST against the donations. This was incorrect and there should be NO GST. We have asked our student management system provider to correct this. The amounts are still the same, Special Character at \$50.00 and Proprietors Capital is \$35.00.

Please if you are experiencing any financial difficulties at any time during this year, please come and see me, so that we can discuss a confidential arrangement. My door is always open.

Many thanks,

Deborah Rudolph
Office Manager

GIRLS AND WOMENS ONLY

5-A-SIDE TWILIGHT FOOTBALL

MONDAYS, 7TH TO 28TH MARCH 2022

5.00PM - 6.15PM

TIKIPUNGA SPORTS PARK, REED STREET, TIKIPUNGA

**FOR ALL FEMALE PLAYERS AGED 9YRS AND OLDER
(BORN 2013 OR EARLIER)**

**DEADLINE FOR PLAYER REGISTRATIONS IS
5.00PM, FRIDAY 4TH MARCH**

PLEASE CONTACT dave.alabaster@nff.org.nz