



St Francis Xavier Catholic School

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

No.4 Term 1 Wednesday 22nd March 2023



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of our School,

We love challenges at St Francis Xavier. Challenges can teach us a lot about life. They teach us to persevere, to have tolerance, to respect, to love, to show kindness, to listen to God's call, to maintain self control, to celebrate joy, to find inner peace, to think of others, and to find gentleness. All of these build the special character in all our students.

Here are a few challenges that some of our children have faced this term and some that are yet to come for some of our children.

Kawau Island Camp:

Our Year 5 and 6 students are getting ready for their camp at Camp Bentzon.

We have the first camp leaving in week 9 and our second camp in week 10.

The children are looking forward to experiencing archery, bivouac building, raft building, kayaking, confidence courses, wharf jumping and orienteering. Camp Bentzon is a great place for children to discover the great outdoors. A lot of preparation goes into our camps and I would like to acknowledge Glenys Jakicevich and all the Year 5 and 6 teachers for all their work and organisation. Thank you to the parent helpers for your willingness to attend and to help at camp. We simply can not do it without you. We would like to also thank the PTFA who have donated \$15,000 which has reduced the cost of camp to \$130 per student.

EPRO 8:

At St Francis Xavier we take part in the EPro8 Challenge event every year. It is an inter-school science and engineering competition. Students participate in a series of events: firstly within their school and then inter-school. These events are designed to promote science, engineering and problem solving. Last week we had 4 teams take part. We were very successful within school and for the inter school competition. Well done to all children involved and a special thank you to Jane Gunson for the organisation and Brad Kini for being their star coach.

Interschool Winning Teams 2023

1st Place SFX Team 4

Hamish Lenssen , Rhydah Davis, James Buxton
and Tobias Pai

Third Place SFX Team 3

Lashani Thiruchchelvam, Sofia Guglielmetti ,
Gavin Mauhay and Frankie Dong

Well done to all other competitors who took part - Lottie Dickson, Aiden Thorburn, Adam Frazerhurst, Aviana MacKay, Aibel Diju, Alfie Anderson, Milla Lovell and Zoey Adams.

Term 2:

Term 2 begins on Wednesday the 26th of April as we have a Staff Only day on the 24th of April and following that day is Anzac Day on the 25th of April.

Mathathon Term 2 Challenge:

Last year we held a Mathathon. It was very successful. We saw children working hard to achieve the basic facts they need to know at each year level. As this event was a hit we are going to hold another Mathathon next term. At the start of the term your child's class teacher will send out the information packs. This year the PTFA are helping with extending the amount of exciting spot prizes so watch this space to see what they will be.



Wedding Blessings:

Wedding blessings to Sam Diamond, our room 7 teacher who is getting married to Kyle Hobson this weekend. Enjoy your special day.

Jennie Dean - Acting Principal

Religious Education

"...no eyes has seen, no ears has heard, no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love Him"
1 Corinthians 2:9

This Sunday's Readings: (Fifth Sunday of Lent)

Ezekiel 37: 12-14; Romans 8: 8-11; John 11: 1-45

Thought For The Week:

Give up complaining - focus on gratitude. Give up pessimism - become an optimist.
Give up discouragement - be full of hope. Give up bitterness - turn to forgiveness.
Give up harsh judgement - think kindly thoughts.

Non Uniform Day

Thank you very much!

We raised \$791.00 for the Cyclone Relief. The money will be sent to the Catholic Caring Foundation.

Lent

This past Sunday was Laetare Sunday, and we're halfway through Lent already!

Laetare Sunday is the fourth Sunday in the season of Lent, in the Catholic liturgical calendar. Traditionally, this Sunday has been a day of celebration within the period of Lent.

Holy Week

As part of our Holy Week celebration, the children will be offered a hot cross bun at interval on Thursday. If your child has any food allergies or does not want to receive a hot cross bun at interval, please inform your child's teacher.

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 this Sunday, 26th March at 10:00am. Hatea Whanau (Rooms 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be participating).
ALL ARE WELCOME.

Yours in Christ

Mrs Maria Wilson

DRS - Director of Religious Studies



Update Contact Details



Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who up-dated their contact details at our parent/teacher/student interviews earlier this term.

If you have had a change of personal, residential, employment, emergency contact or email details and did not complete the paperwork at the interviews, please contact the school office to update these as soon as possible.

PTFA Sausage Sizzle

The next PTFA is this **Friday 24th March**.

Sausages are \$2 each, please give the money to your class teacher before 9am on Friday morning. All sausages are generously donated by Whangarei Gourmet Meats.

If anyone is interested in joining the sausage sizzle team we would love to hear from you! It is a lovely way to meet other parents from the school and contribute to our biggest fundraiser which directly benefits our children. Please contact Lisa on 0210678076 if you would like to help out.



Senior Swimming Sports

We had a wonderful morning at our Senior Swimming Sports at Pompallier Catholic College on Tuesday 7 March with much fun and competition in the pool. Our Year 5 and 6 children elected to enter competition or non-competition (splash n' dash) events for breaststroke, backstroke and freestyle. Every swimmer earned whanau points for each event they entered. The top two timed swimmers for each year group and stroke went on to compete at the WPSSA Swimming Champs at Whangarei Intermediate last Wednesday, 15 March. A fabulous effort from all our swimmers.

Here are the results from our Senior Swimming Sports.

	Year 5 Boys	Year 5 Girls	Year 6 Boys	Year 6 Girls
BACKSTROKE				
1st	Jacob Haines	Imogen Gillespie	Alfie Anderson	Ana Tamboer
2nd	Asher Te Ao	Winnie Johnston-McCluskey	Oliver Runciman	Lottie Dickson
3rd	Oliver Maich-Jewell	Amani-Lyn Collins	Xander Garmson	Mikaela Davis
BREASTSTROKE				
1st	Taniora Stevens	Imogen Gillespie	Caleb Milne	Ana Tamboer
2nd	Asher Te Ao	Winnie Johnston-McCluskey	James Buxton	Lottie Dickson
3rd	Jacob Haines	Georgia Lovell		Raina Gillespie
FREESTYLE				
1st	Taniora Stevens	Imogen Gillespie	Teddy Anderson	Ana Tamboer
2nd	Jack Ratu	Harper Wall	Alfie Anderson	Lottie Dickson
3rd	Brooklyn Markwick	Maia Cuddy	Oliver Runciman	Raina Gillespie

We are still waiting for the official results for the WPSSA Swimming Champs. Many thanks to the fabulous parents who helped with our swimming sports and the WPSSA champs. Your support is very much appreciated.

Congratulations to all our swimmers!



School Accounts

Thank you to those families who have paid all or part of their school account so far. We appreciate your prompt payment.

If you have yet to make an instalment, it is not too late to set up an automatic payment plan. A reminder that Attendance Dues should be paid in line with the school year e.g. a quarter paid per term. All school accounts should be settled before the end of the school year.

For those parents who will be attending either of the two Yr 5 & 6 camps, and have yet to pay parent camp donation, please do so as soon as possible. If you pay online, please state your child's name and include the word 'camp' for this payment so it is not allocated to the school account. Thank you to all those who have given their \$130 donation towards the children camp costs.

Should you have any queries regarding your school account please come in and see me. We can organise a payment plan to suit your personal situation. You can email me at office@sfx.school.nz or ring on 4371039 to arrange an appointment or just drop by, my door is always open. We can have a cuppa and discuss your situation. All communications are strictly confidential.

Deborah Rudolph - Office Manager



Welcome to
Edwin Geo and
Margo Triedente
who have
started at our
school this
fortnight.



SCHOOL EVENTS

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

March

23rd	5:30pm	Board of Trustees Meeting in Staffroom	
24th		Sausage Sizzle- \$2 Please place your order with the class teacher at the start of the day	
27th		Rooms 15, 19 & 23 Hatea Loop Walk	
28th to 31st		Camp 1	
28th	Swimming	Room 17 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 4 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 11 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 23 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 15 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 19 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am
29th	1:30 - 2:30pm	He Kākano Programme - Session 3	
31st	Swimming	Room 17 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 4 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 11 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 23 Leave at 9:30am Lesson at 9:45am Room 15 Leave at 10:30am Lesson at 10:45am Room 19 Leave at 11:30am Lesson at 11:45am

April

3rd	12:pm	Chrism Mass
3rd to 6th		Camp 2
5th		Easter Mass (to be confirmed)
6th		Holy Thursday
6th	2:50pm	End of Term 1

Community Market Day for Ukraine

25th March in Parish Hall 8:30am - 1pm

Responding to Pope Francis' call to us to help the people of Ukraine, the Parish Pastoral Council are organising a Market Day fundraiser for Ukraine. We are inviting suggestions of Art for Sale, Stall, Entertainment and any other suggestions of ways we can raise funds to help support the people of Ukraine. Please call the Parish Office if you have ideas or initiatives you are willing to contribute on 4377902.

Children's Medication

If your child requires any form of medication to be administered at school during school hours please **do not** send the medication in with your child. A parent or caregiver must complete a form at the office allowing our staff members to administer the medication.



THANK YOU

A big thank you to all our whānau who park in and around the Vege twins and Percy St after school. Things have been a lot safer for our

children of late as parents become aware of safe parking. Choosing to park at the Marist Clubrooms/Hockey has really helped decrease congestion on Percy St.

Friendly reminder-it is an offence to park on the yellow lines on Percy St, and we ask you not to park on these lines.



Citizens Advice Bureau

Tē Pou Whakawhirinaki o Aotearoa

69 Bank St, 2nd Floor, Whangarei
09 4388046
whangarei@cab.org.nz

Citizens Advice Bureau offer free, confidential and independent information and advice so that people know and understand their rights.



KEEN TO PLAY RUGBY, HOCKEY OR FOOTBALL THIS YEAR? REGISTER FOR MARIST SPORTS CLUB asap! VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS.



www.facebook.com/MaristWhangarei



MARIST SPORTS CLUB



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