



St Francis Xavier Catholic School

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

No.2 Term 1 Wednesday 21st February 2024



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of our School,

Principal Message

Kia ora, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Habari, Hello, Sawadee, Kia orana, Dia duit, Ma muka chini, Kumusta, Namaste, Annyeonghaseyo!

It is great to see our students wearing their school hats and playing safe in the sun. Our seniors have begun their swimming programme. It is very important that students have plenty of water during the day. A good tip is to add some ice cubes or keep water bottles in the fridge overnight.

Our amazing **PTFA is meeting at 7pm tonight in the staffroom.** Everyone is welcome and supper is provided. Please forward this on to any school parents or caregivers who may be interested in coming, and bring them along with you. Our PTFA do amazing things for our school and help with fundraising for resources that are much needed for our school and students. They would love to see new faces!

Our teaching staff attended literacy professional development on Monday. This was a great opportunity to learn about current pedagogy and look into best fit literacy additions for our students. Our support staff all attended their refresher First Aid course, which is fantastic.

Students have begun their Lenten focus and are learning about renewing their promises. Lent is about prayer, fasting and almsgiving (giving to others in some way). Lent is a 40 day season that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by almsgiving and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptised into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

Last week Maria Wilson, our DRS and myself attended the Dedication Mass for the Auckland Diocese at Christ the King Parish Auckland. It was a wonderful opportunity to catch up with our fellow Catholic schools and their staff and the great team in the Diocese. Bishop Steve delivered a great homily that spoke about our choices during Lent, and to be more at peace and appreciative of what and who we have in our lives.

Parking and pick ups. The church car park gets very busy. So we strongly encourage our parents and caregivers to utilise the Marist carpark. We are fortunate to have this accessible for our use. Students are brought across after school by a teacher, to the car park and supervised until picked up, please be at the Marist carpark no later than 3.15pm. If any later, your child/ren will be brought back to school to be collected at the school office. This reduces congestion at the church car park, saves parents and caregivers time as the students are brought to them and they don't have to wait for a park, and helps students to stay safe.

Have a great rest of the week everyone.

Bernadette Hall
Principal

PARENT, STUDENT, TEACHER MEET AND GREET

Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th February 1.30pm - 6.00pm

This meet and greet involves the student, parent and teacher. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher together and get to know each other better. Each interview is 15 minutes and parents and children are encouraged to attend.

Classes will end at the earlier time of 1.15pm on these days.

Appointments can be made online.

Go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz Enter the booking code: **2nvwr** Follow the instructions

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

Religious Education

“God saw all that He made and it was very good” Genesis 1:31

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

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

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 judgments—think kindly thoughts.

Ash Wednesday

We celebrated Ash Wednesday with a Mass, what a wonderful way to begin our Lenten journey.

Lent

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

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, 26th March at 10:00 am**. 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

World Day of Prayer Friday March 1st

**2024 Theme is 'I Beg You... Bear With
One Another in Love'**

Eccemuncial service at our Church at 10am. All welcome, there will be a cup of tea afterwards in the Parish Hall.

School Timetable

8.15am	Classrooms Open
8.45am - 10.25am	Morning Session
10.25am - 10.50am	Morning Tea
10.50am - 12.30pm	Mid-morning Session
12.30pm - 1.20pm	Lunch break
1.20pm - 2.50pm	Afternoon Session

Welcome to all the new students and their families to our school. We hope that you are enjoying your new school and community.



Our new students are Ahaana Amal, Eva Aneesh, Helena Antogin, Falcon Bishop, Setheka Chea, Adam Jobin, Isla Keenan, Jollienne Mangoroban, Thabo Masuku, Moana Olsen, John Orappankal, Johaan Orappankal Joy, Tiffany Rangihuna, Kiwi Sngoun.

Unwell children

Last week, we experienced a growing number of students becoming unwell at school. We are also aware of COVID remaining in our community. Please remain vigilant in following normal healthy protocols, such as washing hands and covering coughs.

If your child is sick, we ask you to please keep them at home until they are fully recovered. If your child has COVID, we strongly recommend they stay at home for at least 5 days, returning when they are well and ready for learning. Many thanks.

Phones at school

You may be aware that the "Phones Away for the Day" must be in place in all NZ schools by the start of Term 2. This will make minimal difference to our current procedures and policies. At St Francis Xavier Catholic School, we have always had the rule that students who bring phones and smart watches to school must hand them in to the office as soon as they arrive at school. The children can then collect them as they leave for the day.

If parents need to communicate with their children, they must go through the office staff.

Our office staff are brilliant at taking messages and passing them on.

School Accounts 2024

On Thursday 8th Feb we emailed out all of 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 address. 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

PTFA NEWS

Please join us for our first meeting of 2024 **This Wednesday 21 February** at 7pm in the staffroom. Come along and hear what we have planned for fundraising ideas for this year. Supper provided, all welcome.

Book Fair

Thanks to everyone's purchases from our Book Fair in Term 4 2023 the school has received:

\$642.60

This will be used for purchases of books and resources for the children.

Whangarei Life Education

You can help them get a share of \$100k, by voting.

It is really simple, download the free app, (<https://onegoodkiwi.nz/ios> OR <https://onegoodkiwi.nz/android>) and using the green tokens, vote for Whangarei Life Education Trust! Voting is open until the end of February. They would really appreciate it!



MARIST RUGBY
PARK AVENUE, KENSINGTON

Saturday Rugby- Register NOW!!

Time to start registering for the upcoming rugby season.

Grades from: Under 5's to Under 13's.
New Players Welcome.

Registration day: 17th March- 9am-12pm

Meet and Greet: 21st March- 4pm- 6pm

New to Marist- We will need to see a copy of your birth certificate.

Any questions: Contact Shelley on 027 228 7987
or email: maristrugbywhangarei@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.sporty.co.nz/maristrugbywhangarei/Home>



Girls Rippa Tournament

Location: Northland Clubrooms at Pohu Island, Riverside Drive.

When: Sunday 24th March
Grades: Looking for players for U7, U10 & U13 teams



2024 MUSTER DAY

Sunday 3 March 2024 @
Marist Club Rooms

9am - 10.30am: Ages 4 - 8
11am - 12.30pm: Ages 9 - 12
1pm - 2.30pm: Ages 13+

Players come ready [including water bottle and sun screen] for some fun drills and games with Northland FC coaches for the day. Parents meetings will be held for the first 30 minutes of each session to discuss plans for the year and answer any questions you might have.

More information including registration info/links:
<https://www.sporty.co.nz/marist>
www.facebook.com/Marist-Football-Whangarei-127652507925371/



SOCCER REGISTRATION IS
OPEN!

SFX/Marist Netball 2024 Years 1-6

The netball season is about to start again. Fees are likely to be around \$90:00 (to be confirmed). The netball season usually begins at the start of Term 2 (to be confirmed). If you would like your child to play netball this season please register online as soon as possible, via the Sporty website; www.sporty.co.nz/clubs. We usually only have 1 team at each year group and they fill up very quickly. Y1/2 teams will play on Monday afternoons, Y3-6 teams play matches on Saturday mornings. To enable us to run lots of teams for your children, we must have coaches and managers for each team and for this we need your help parents. We cannot do this without you. Feel free to email or call me with any queries

- Pamela 0275983222 peterandpamelaplus4@gmail.com or ask Mrs Clegg at school.

Address: 1 Percy Street, Whangarei 0112

Phone: 09-4371039

Cellphone: 027 2784303

Email Office Manager: office@sfx.school.nz

Website: sfx.school.nz

Email Absences: absent@sfx.school.nz



SCHOOL EVENTS

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

February

21st	7pm	PTFA Meeting in Staffroom	
23rd	Swimming	Room 18 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 16 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 13 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 1 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
27th	Swimming	Room 18 Leave at 9:00am Lesson at 9:15am Room 16 Leave at 10:00am Lesson at 10:15am Room 13 Leave at 11:00am Lesson at 11:15am	Room 1 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 & 29th	1:15 - 6pm	Teacher, Parent, Student Meet and Greet.	
29th		Year 5 & 6 Swimming Sports at Pompallier Collage	

March

1st	1.30pm	School Assembly - Whole school attending	
1st	Swimming	Room 23 Leave at 8.45am Lesson at 9:00am Room 3 Leave at 9.45am Lesson at 10:00am Room 19 Leave at 10.45am Lesson at 11:00am Room 11 Leave at 11.45am Lesson at 12.00pm	Room 17 Leave at 9:15am Lesson at 9:30am Room 15 Leave at 10:15am Lesson at 10:30am Room 4 Leave at 11:15am Lesson at 11:30am
4th		Year 5/6 Waitangi Trip	
5th	Swimming	Room 23 Leave at 8.45am Lesson at 9:00am Room 3 Leave at 9.45am Lesson at 10:00am Room 19 Leave at 10.45am Lesson at 11:00am Room 11 Leave at 11.45am Lesson at 12.00pm	Room 17 Leave at 9:15am Lesson at 9:30am Room 15 Leave at 10:15am Lesson at 10:30am Room 4 Leave at 11:15am Lesson at 11:30am
6th		Year 5/6 Waitangi Trip	
6th		Vision / Hearing	
6th	1:30 - 2:30pm	He Kākano Programme - Session 1	
8th	Swimming	Room 23 Leave at 8.45am Lesson at 9:00am Room 3 Leave at 9.45am Lesson at 10:00am Room 19 Leave at 10.45am Lesson at 11:00am Room 11 Leave at 11.45am Lesson at 12.00pm	Room 17 Leave at 9:15am Lesson at 9:30am Room 15 Leave at 10:15am Lesson at 10:30am Room 4 Leave at 11:15am Lesson at 11:30am
12th	Swimming	Room 23 Leave at 8.45am Lesson at 9:00am Room 3 Leave at 9.45am Lesson at 10:00am Room 19 Leave at 10.45am Lesson at 11:00am Room 11 Leave at 11.45am Lesson at 12.00pm	Room 17 Leave at 9:15am Lesson at 9:30am Room 15 Leave at 10:15am Lesson at 10:30am Room 4 Leave at 11:15am Lesson at 11:30am
13th	1:30 - 2:30pm	He Kākano Programme - Session 2	
15th	Swimming	Room 23 Leave at 8.45am Lesson at 9:00am Room 3 Leave at 9.45am Lesson at 10:00am Room 19 Leave at 10.45am Lesson at 11:00am Room 11 Leave at 11.45am Lesson at 12.00pm	Room 17 Leave at 9:15am Lesson at 9:30am Room 15 Leave at 10:15am Lesson at 10:30am Room 4 Leave at 11:15am Lesson at 11:30am
19th	Swimming	Room 23 Leave at 8.45am Lesson at 9:00am Room 3 Leave at 9.45am Lesson at 10:00am Room 19 Leave at 10.45am Lesson at 11:00am Room 11 Leave at 11.45am Lesson at 12.00pm	Room 17 Leave at 9:15am Lesson at 9:30am Room 15 Leave at 10:15am Lesson at 10:30am Room 4 Leave at 11:15am Lesson at 11:30am
19th	7pm	PTFA Meeting and Parent Evening in the Staffroom	
20th	1:30 - 2:30pm	He Kākano Programme - Session 3	
21st		EPro 8 Competition	
21st	5.45pm	Board of Trustees Meeting in Staffroom	
25th	12noon	Chrism Mass	
28th		Holy Thursday	
29th		Good Friday - School closed	

April

1st		Easter Monday - School closed	
2nd		Easter Tuesday - School closed	
12th	1.30pm	School Assembly - Whole school attending	
12th	2.50pm	End of Term 1	