



St Francis Xavier Catholic School



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

No.5 Term 1 Wednesday 3rd April 2024

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

PTFA Easter Raffle

Thank you to all those families who supported our Easter Raffle. There was an amazing response and our fabulous PTFA were able to create over 30 Easter baskets as prizes, so lots of winners!. We raised \$4,700 and sold over 2,500 tickets! That is an amazing response from our community. As I said to our students at the Easter draw, we are all winners, as the money raised goes back to our school for resources and for student learning. Thanks again to our PTFA team for their work and organisation on this.



Shout Out and Thanks

I would like to acknowledge and thank the following groups for their support and help with making some much needed new picnic tables for our school spaces.

Menzshed Whangarei Carters Whangarei Bunnings Whangarei

Carters supplied the wood for the project, Bunnings contributed to the building materials, and our Menzshed Whangarei made us the tables. Fantastic.



School Facebook Page

We now have an official school Facebook page! This is a place to see what is happening in our school and our celebrations, also for reminders for such things as newsletters and upcoming events. Please follow and like our page.

Go to Facebook and search St Francis Xavier Catholic School-Whangarei.

Like and follow our page for updates.



Royal Commission of Inquiry - Update

- The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care is nearing completion after 6 years of work. The Inquiry's website is www.abuseincare.org.nz
- The Commission's Final Report will be published soon. The Report was expected at the end of March 2024, but its public release may be delayed by weeks or even a month or two. More information will be made available to you at the time of the release of the Report.
- Te Rōpū Tautoko is the organisation formed to coordinate and manage cooperation between the Commission and the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand, as represented by the Catholic Bishops and the Congregational Leaders of Aotearoa New Zealand. Te Rōpū Tautoko are keeping Church leaders informed of progress. You can visit the website at www.tautoko.catholic.org.nz
- The Catholic Church supports the need for the Inquiry and the Catholic community is ready to receive the final report.
- The upcoming final report will contain difficult material that is important to acknowledge and address.
- Reflecting on the final report will enable us to consider further developments that could be implemented in our faith communities to further improve contemporary church safeguarding practices.
- The Safeguarding Culture Standards of the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand continue to guide faith communities in ensuring safe environments for all people.

See more about the standards here: www.safeguarding.catholic.org.nz

Holiday Reading

As the term comes to an end we hope all our students and their families get a well deserved rest. Please do encourage your child to read over the holidays. Reading reduces stress, improves concentration and memory, increases vocabulary expansion and strengthens writing ability, as well as increasing knowledge, imagination and creativity.

If your child has a significant accomplishment that you are happy to share please email me with a short description and photo.

principal@sfx.school.nz

Examples; obtaining a level in martial arts or dance, or a significant placing in a solo sport, art award, drama or music achievement or performance. It is great to hear what students in our school are doing outside of school.

Bernadette Hall

Principal

Religious Education

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

This Sunday’s Readings: Second Sunday of Easter(Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Acts 4: 32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31

EasterThought For The Day:

“I am the Resurrection and the Life. Those who believe in me, though they may die, they shall live.

And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.” John 11: 25-26

Classes Attending a Tuesday Mass at 9:00: If you can, you are welcome to come and join your child’s class when they attend Mass on a Tuesday morning.

Week 10 - Easter Tuesday	No school	
Week 11 - 9th April	Hatea Whanau Room 1 Room 2 Room 3 Room 4	Yr 5&6 Viv Clegg Yr 2 Whaea Jacqui Yr 3&4 Deb Crook Yr 3&4 Maria Wilson



Ready the Way: -Sacramental Programme 2024: To prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Eucharist. Enrolment forms are available from the Parish Office. Registrations close on Thursday 11 April. Information and Orientation meeting for all the Parents/ Guardians on Friday 3 May at 7 pm here in our Church. This will explain the requirements of the programme and the Kaupapa (purpose). (Parents only please) The programme starts: on Sunday 12 May 2024 at 10 am Mass at Saint Francis Xavier Church for parents and children, followed by a preparation session in St Joseph's Room at St Francis Xavier Catholic School. Age Guideline: A candidate should be 8 years old to start the programme.

Mother’s Day Liturgy: Our Mother’s Day Liturgy will be on **Friday the 10th May at 1:30pm** in the church. Mothers, please come and join us as we thank God for the wonderful gift of you, our mothers.



Daylight Savings: Daylight savings ends at 3am on Sunday 7th April. Turn your clocks back 1 hour. St Francis Xavier Church Saturday Vigil Mass will return to the time of 5pm after Sunday 7th April when Standard Time begins. Please note: 5pm Vigil Mass will be from Saturday 13th April.

Yours in Christ
Mrs Maria Wilson
DRS – Director of Religious Studies

School Accounts

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 or alternatively give us a ring.

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. Please don't leave paying this to the last minute or until the Auckland Catholic Diocese contacts you. My door is always open.

Many thanks.

Deborah Rudolph
Office Manager

Congratulations

These children who were baptised by Father Brian on Easter Sunday. It was a beautiful Mass and the children were just wonderful.

Isla Aydon
Percy Bristowe
Rithy Chhor
Blessing Chkasha
Emmanuel Chingorivo
Aroha de Geest
Flynn Henderson
Thabo Masuku
Cloud Nicholson
Cater Shoebridge
Osiris Tolhopf
Liam Whitehouse
Lucy Whitehouse



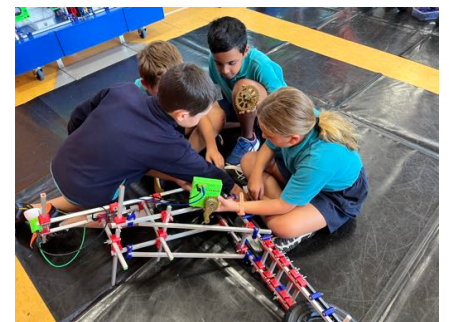
Congratulations to Ms Dean, who was received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday night. Every blessing to you, Ms Dean!

Sacramental Programme

If you and your children are interested in receiving the Sacraments of First Eucharist, First Reconciliation and Confirmation, please collect a registration form from Mrs J or the parish office. This programme will begin next term. Mrs Webber, Miss Barber or Mrs J are happy to answer any of your questions about the programme.

This week's student space is brought to us by ... Mrs Gunson, Mr Kini and their EPRO8 team.

The teams competed a couple of weeks ago at Whangarei Intermediate. The competition was high. Our students showed perseverance, tolerance and collaboration skills. Big thanks to Mrs Gunson and Mr Kini for fostering a passion for engineering and making these opportunities for our tamariki happen. Our two teams placed; SFX Angels 2nd and the SFX Saints 5th. Fantastic! Our SFX Angels also came 2nd in the regional finals. Well done children.





SCHOOL EVENTS:

APRIL

- 12th 1:30pm School Assembly - Whole school attending
- 12th 2:50pm End of Term 1
- 29th 8:45am Start of Term 2

MAY

- 12th 1:30pm Mothers Day Liturgy - Whole school attending
- 15th Rooms 17 & 19 trip to Goat Island
- 16th Rooms 11 & 4 trip to Goat Island
- 17th Rooms 3, 15 & 23 trip to Goat Island
- 17th 1:30pm School Assembly - Whole school attending
- 24th 6:30pm PTFA Quiz Night

JUNE

- 3rd Kings Birthday - School closed



Kia ora from the Library!

We've had a great start to the year with over 4,000 books issued! It is wonderful to see that children still love reading books despite how much technology is available to them. Graphic novels have become increasingly popular and we continue to build on that section.

Please continue to encourage your children to read over the school holidays.

We have some fantastic books coming from the National Library arriving before the end of term, which will also be available to take out over the holidays. Our public library is also a great resource for books during the holidays and they run free school holiday programmes.

We are very grateful for the support of our Principal and PTFA. With many school libraries closing to make room for classrooms, we are so fortunate to have their support so our children can continue to have access to new and exciting books.

Wishing everyone a great holiday break and looking forward to some great reading in Term 2!

Denise & Nikki

WPSSA Swimming Champs

On Wednesday 13th March our swim team competed at the WPSSA Swim Champs. We had a wonderful morning with our swimmers facing stiff competition in the pool. Our team competed very well with many finishing in the top ten for their events.

The following swimmers finished in the top three for their event.

*Jayden Dong - 1st - Year 5 Boys Backstroke
Olivia MacPherson - 2nd - Year 5 Girls Backstroke
Harry Chapman - 3rd - Year 5 Boys Freestyle*

These children would normally go on to compete at the Northland Swimming Champs in Dargaville. Unfortunately, the event is not being held this year.

Many thanks to the fabulous parents who helped and supported our team at the champs. Your support was very much appreciated.

Congratulations to all our swimmers!



TIME TO DITCH THE TRAINING WHEELS!

FREE SESSION FOR ANYONE WANTING TO TEACH THEIR TAMARIKI TO RIDE A BIKE
WHERE: BIKE PARK, DAVE CULHAM DRIVE
WHEN: 3:30-5PM 5TH APRIL

WHAT: TIPS, TRICKS, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR TAMARIKI
BUILD THIS VALUABLE LIFE SKILL

WHY: BUILDS CONFIDENCE, INDEPENDANCE, SKILL FOR LIFE

