



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 5th August 2024
Term 3 Week 4

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Term 3 (10 weeks)

Mon 15th Jul – Fri 20th Sep

Friday 16th August

2.40pm Assembly led by
FTW

Friday 23rd August

Book Week Parade
2.40pm Assembly led by FGI

Friday 30th August

Fathers/Special Friends Day
Liturgy
6.30pm Trivia Night in Gym

Friday 6th September

2.40pm Assembly led by
4BO

Friday 13th September

2.40pm Assembly led by
3DW

Term 4 (11 weeks)

Mon 7th Oct – Fri 20th Dec

Friday 11th October

Start of Term/Mercy Day
Mass

Friday 18th October

2.40pm Assembly led by 2JS

Friday 25th October

2.40pm Assembly led by
1MV

Friday 1st November

2.40pm Assembly led by
5JW

Monday 4th November

Student Free Day

Tuesday 5th November

Melbourne Cup Holiday

Friday 8th November

2.40pm Assembly led by 6ZA

Friday 15th November

2.40pm Assembly led by 2RR

Wed 27th & Thurs 28th Nov

Please note corrected dates
Year 5 Camp

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Many of our students have been enjoying the Olympics over the past week. Each day I am presented with great recounts of the events in Paris as the children share highlights of the previous day's medal count. Occasions such as this remind our children to aim high and to strive to reach their goals, just as our Olympians are doing in Paris.

At school we teach the children to have a go, to try their best and to show what it means to be a fair and just person. These skills are covered in sports lessons weekly, but they are also covered in all other subjects too. Mastering new skills is rarely easy. Practice can be hard and there is never any guarantee of a win. With persistence though, we hone our skills and success can take many forms. Over time our children come to learn that excellence can mean different things and that our attitude counts more than anything else.

We don't know what the future may hold for the children in our care. The future Olympians are in our schools across the Country today as are the future musicians, scientists, teachers and leaders. With this in mind we work tirelessly each day to build capacity in our students and who knows where the future may lead?

God bless,

Mark Hogbin



Feast of St. Mary of the Cross Mackillop



Across Australia we celebrate the feast of St. Mary Mackillop on Thursday 8 August. St. Mary Mackillop was no stranger to our diocese as she spent her life working to educate the children of the new colony. As founder of the Josephite order, St. Mary Mackillop's legacy continues today and the sisters of St. Joseph work throughout Australia and New Zealand to educate for peace and justice in our world.

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THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday August 4, 2024 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Gospel: John 6:24-35 They saw that Jesus and his disciples had left. Then they got into the boats and went to Capernaum to look for Jesus. They found him on the west side of the lake and asked, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus answered, "I tell you for certain that you are not looking for me because you saw the miracles, but because you ate all the food you wanted. Don't work for food that spoils. Work for food that gives eternal life. The Son of Man will give you this food, because God the Father has given him the right to do so." "What exactly does God want us to do?" the people asked. Jesus answered, "God wants you to have faith in the one he sent." They replied, "What miracle will you work, so that we can have faith in you? What will you do? For example, when our ancestors were in the desert, they were given manna to eat. It happened just as the Scriptures say, 'God gave them bread from heaven to eat.' Jesus then told them, "I tell you for certain that Moses wasn't the one who gave you bread from heaven. My Father is the one who gives you the true bread from heaven. And the bread that God gives is the one who came down from heaven to give life to the world." The people said, "Sir, give us this bread and don't ever stop!" Jesus replied: I am the bread that gives life! No one who comes to me will ever be hungry. No one who has faith in me will ever be thirsty. *(Gospel passage taken from CEV)*

Our Challenge: How will we be "nourished" by the Word of God?



Bravehearts Visit

Last week, our children in Foundation, Year One and Two were visited by Ditto and his Keep Safe Adventure Show. It was a fun, energetic performance of song and dance which taught us about personal safety and protective behaviour.

We talked about:

- Differentiating 'yes' and 'no' feelings
- Recognising the bodies 'warning signs'
- Identifying 'private parts' and 'privacy'
- Identify language and feelings associated with secrets
- Reinforcing that there is no secret that children cannot tell someone

Parents/Carers Information

To access a free Parents/Carers Information Guide which gives an overview of the show and the topics discussed and to help answer any questions you may have about the show, please click here [DITTO INFORMATION GUIDE](#)

If you would like to learn more about how to talk to your child about personal safety, download Bravehearts' FREE PERSONAL SAFETY PARENTS AND CARERS GUIDE from the Bravehearts website. Just go to:

bravehearts.org.au/personalsafety.



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Christine Meneely, Religious Education Leader

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Child Safe Standard 2: Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.

We talk about and prioritise our students' wellbeing, but sometimes as adults we disregard our own wellbeing. Taking time for yourself is not selfish - everyone needs space to unwind and feel at ease. We've all heard the saying "you can't pour from an empty cup!"

It can be hard to balance the many demands of work, school and in some instances parenting but engaging in self-care has been proven to reduce anxiety and depression, reduce stress, improve concentration, minimise frustration, increase happiness and improve energy levels.

Looking after yourself includes looking after your relationships, your health and your wellbeing. Self-care is a very good way for adults to ensure their own needs are being met and because self-care and mental health are connected, disregarding one can have a bad impact on the other. Self-care looks distinct to everyone and it's important to experiment and work out which strategies work best for you. Factoring in daily time or activities for yourself will allow you to enjoy the excellent moments in life more and find courage during difficult times. Looking after yourself physically, emotionally and mentally will in turn assist our children to grow and thrive.

In the SFX [SchoolTV](#) Website, there is a Mental Health Series of articles. Mental health refers to an individual's emotional, psychological and social well being. It can have an impact on a child's ability to function in daily life affecting how they think, feel and act. Many factors contribute to a child's mental health such as biological factors, life experiences, as well as family history. It is important at every stage of life, from childhood, to adolescence, through to adulthood.



Sending cheers your way,

Gemma Johnson, **Wellbeing Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

Ballarat Catholic Primary Schools Athletics

Congratulations and good luck to the 48 students across Yr 3-6 that will be representing SFX at this week's Ballarat Catholic Primary Schools Athletics Day. We know that they will try their best in their events and represent both themselves and our school well.

Term 3 Calendar:

- Week 4 - Monday Aug 5th - Ballarat Catholic Primary Schools Athletics @ Llanberris (selected students from Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6)
- Week 6 - Friday Aug 23rd - Division Basketball @ Selkirk Stadium (selected students from Yr 5/6)
- Week 8 - Friday Sep 6th - Interschool Sport ALL Yr 5/6 @ St James
- Week 9 - Thursday Sep 12th - Division Athletics @ Llanberris (qualifiers from BCPS Aths- Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Term 4:

- Week 1 - Monday Oct 7th - Friday Oct 11th - Swimming Program Yr 1 & 2
- Week 1 - Friday Oct 11th - Regional Athletics @ Llanberris (Qualifiers from Division Aths- Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6)
- Week 2 - Friday Oct 18th - Golf Tournament @ Mt Xavier Golf Club (selected students from Yr 4, 5 & 6)
- Week 4 - Wednesday Oct 30th - Eureka Division Cricket @ TBC (selected students from Yr 5/6)
- Week 4 - Friday Nov 1st - Junior Sports Day @ Russell Square (All students from F - Yr 2)
- Week 6 - Friday Nov 15th - Interschool Sport ALL Yr 5/6 v St Alipius

SFX Football Jumpers, Singlets & Netball dresses/bibs

If you have any SFX Football jumpers, singlets or netball dresses/bibs at home could you please return them to Mr Down, Mr Carroll or drop into the office.

Have a great week.

Shaun Carroll, SFX Sport Coordinator



Parents' & Friends' News

Hot lunches: Each Friday we require a minimum of 5 volunteers to help pack our hot lunches for an hour, 11am to 12noon. Please sign up here if you are free to help.

[Hot Lunches](#)
signup.com



Attachments

ASSEMBLY AWARDS 2nd August Hosted by 1EM Theme: Hospitality.

We welcome and include others. Hospitality means welcoming other people to a home, business or school. We show hospitality because Jesus teaches us to include everyone and show them they are welcome.

FLH	Maple Toohey & Jasper Govan	4GH	Sadie Ruxton and Lucy Bromley
FGJ	Harry Jolly & Hadley Cheeseman	4ML	Logan Psimaris and Kayden Finley
FTW	Bob Nunn & Jude Toohey	4BO	Betsy Nicholson and Chloe Wilson
FMM	Harvey Banwell & Will Nicholls	5CC	Hamish Lloyd and Sophie White
1JS	Charlie Ryan & Annie Ludbrook	5MA	Thomas Kierce and Angus Burbridge
1EM	Penny Carrick & Frankie Richards	5JW	Audrey Lynch and Ivy Miles
1MV	Cruz Raine & Zaeli Page	6PB	Milla Alford and Sahara Henjak
2RR	Tom Maher and Harper Gull	6ZA	Jessica Youl & Harper Lourey
2CK	Damilare Baruwa and Harvey Kersley	6MM	Chloe Flynn and Henry Warr
2JS	Edie Giles and Paityn Grant	EE	
3JE	Malo Hansen and Byron Toohey	PA	Harriet LeGrand and Cooper Daly 6PB for their wonderful efforts in performing arts
3JV	Patrick Ludbrook and Lyla Nestor	VA	Laine Anwyl, Orion Morton & Isla-Rose Block (6ZA)
3DW	Casey Hartup and Sophie Olechnowicz	PE	Oscar Johnson & Hazel Martin
		Tch	Jackson Roberts (4BO) James Cyples (3JV)
Principal's Award: Howard Latchford for always including others and showing great consideration for other people's feelings.			

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JUMP ROPE for HEART



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am excited to announce that we are participating in Jump Rope for Heart this term – a fantastic fundraising and physical activity program by the Heart Foundation.

By participating in Jump Rope for Heart this term, I'm expecting to get our students moving. We'll have skipping ropes available on the school grounds and are encouraging everyone to help raise funds for lifesaving research and support programs.

Over the coming weeks your child will learn new skills, increase their physical activity, and learn about heart health. And the program will end with our school wide 'Jump Off Day' where your child gets to show off their new skipping skills to their friends.

When you register your child online, you'll get access to additional skipping resources to help give your child a great reason to get away from the screens and get outdoors. Register and create your own secure webpage at www.jumprope.org.au/parents.

By signing up online, you and your child/ren can:

- Easily raise funds online.
- Track skipping skills progress and earn virtual badges along the way.
- Post updates to your page so family and friends can follow their progress.
- Access additional skipping resources.

Your child has a 'Parent and Guardian Guide' flyer to take home, which includes further information on the program. If you didn't receive this, visit www.jumprope.org.au/parents for all the information that you need.

Thank you for getting involved in Jump Rope for Heart!

Yours sincerely,

Olivia Hayward on behalf of the SFXcelling team
Jump Rope for Heart Coordinator

4th August 2024

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I am the living bread come down from heaven"



▶ **SS PETER & PAULS**
701 FISKEN ST
BUNINYONG 3357



▶ **ST ALIPIUS**
82 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350



▶ **PARISH OFFICE**
84 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350
PH 5332 6611
OPEN TUE – FRI
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tue 5:30 PM,

Wed – Fri 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

10:30 AM (2nd & 4th)

Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2nd & 4th)

10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 7

Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge this land's traditional owners and custodians and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed:

Maureen Brandenburg, Bob Salazar (Philippines)

Anniversaries:

Margaret Dunn

Unwell: Socorro De Chavez

Shelley Pawang, Peter

McLachlan, Sarah

McLachlan, Carole

Simmons

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

PARISH VISION

The combined communities of St Alipius Parish reach out in the spirit of faith, hope, love, and acceptance, as God calls us to in the gospels.

PARISH MISSION

Our mission in the Parish of St Alipius is to actively engage and serve our combined communities, embodying the teachings of the Gospel. Strengthened in the spirit of faith, hope, love acceptance and Mercy, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment. Guided by God's call to service, we aim to build strong connections, provide spiritual nourishment, promote social justice, and offer support to individuals and families in their journey of faith. Through our dedicated interactions, we seek to deepen our relationships with God, inspire transformation, and make a positive impact in the lives of those we encounter, spreading God's love and compassion to all.

Community
Remember Revitalise
Hope

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our planned giving program. Your generosity is appreciated.

Supporting our parish priests	\$892
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$343.80

UPCOMING EVENTS

Leadership Formation Session
10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, 4 August, Buninyong

Trivia Night
6:30PM for 7PM start, 30 August, Parish Hall

BISHOP PAUL VISITING

As part of the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat, Bishop Paul is visiting each of the 29 parishes of the Diocese. He will celebrate the Masses in our Parish on the weekend of September 14th – 15th with 6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Alipius and 9.00am Sunday Mass at Ballarat East and 10.30am Mass at Buninyong. How might we recognise this visit of Bishop Paul to our Parish? Please forward your suggestions to the Parish Office in the coming weeks.

ANNIVERSARY PREPARATION

In December 2024 the 170th anniversary of Eureka and the 150th of the opening of the current St Alipius Church will be acknowledged. As a parish we will recognise these anniversaries on Saturday December 14th with the 6.00pm Vigil Mass followed by a byo picnic in the Church grounds. Do you have photos, stories or both which might be of interest to fellow parishioners? If so remember that we are looking to collect these as we plan an event to recognise 150 years of our church. Whether from Ballarat East, Buninyong or Clarendon we are keen to gather as many stories and photos as we can to share with those who attend this function, but we cannot do it without your help. Next meeting is on Sunday 11th August in the hall at 3 PM.

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH

In preparation for the Ballarat Diocesan Assembly (November 15th - 16th), formation gatherings are being held to inform and explore the focus of the Diocesan Assembly. Each of the 29 parishes of the Diocese will be invited to nominate two delegates to attend the Assembly that will be held at Federation University, Mt Clear.

Pope Francis is providing leadership for a synodal Church and the Plenary Council of the Australian Church has recognised that the practice of synodality requires greater transparency in decision making, with the appropriate participation of all the baptised, giving witness to the equal dignity of women and men. The Plenary Council has affirmed a culture of synodality for parishes and dioceses, where healthy and fruitful relationships between clergy and laity "recognise different but complementary charisms and opportunities for co-responsibility", and desire "consultative and collaborative approaches to governance at all levels in the Church." The emphasis on listening and discernment for a synodal Church reveals how the People of God may be more centred on Christ, build healthy and respectful relationships amongst ourselves, and be effective missionary disciples in the Spirit.

Members of our Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council and Liturgy team have all been invited to attend, together with all interested parishioners. Please register to attend one of the formation gatherings to be held on Sunday August 4th from 12 Noon at Ss Peter & Paul Church Buninyong (following 10.30am Mass), and also on Tuesday August 13th from 5.00pm at OLHC Church Gillies St Wendouree.

Please register your attendance with Jane Collins in the Pastoral Ministry Office,
jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au

SAFETRAC MODULE

There are still several people who have not completed their Safetrac module. If you are having issues completing this please contact the office as it is well overdue.

BAPTISMS

York James & Navy William Hutchison-Liston
Children of Joshua Liston and Maddison Hutchison

*The church gives faith to your children through
Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.*
Pope Francis

SAVE THE DATE

Diocesan Social Justice Commission Reflection Day

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all to a Reflection Day, in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2024-2025, "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World" on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 10.00am - 2.30pm at Ss Michael and John's Horsham Parish Centre. Facilitator for the day is writer and educator, Michael McGirr. Further details to come. Registration will be required to attend. Save the date flyer available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/ballarat-diocesan-social-justice-commission-reflection-day-with-michael-mcgirr-saturday-september-7-2024/>

PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Catholic Social Services Victoria has published a brochure, "Let's build respectful communities" for parishes across Victoria that provides information about recognising, responding to, and preventing domestic violence, as well as further resources for those seeking help. The brochure forms part of CSSV's ongoing work within the Catholic community to build capacity for the prevention of family and domestic violence. For more information and to download the brochure, go to the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/prevention-of-domestic-violence-against-women/>

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR RCIA

Are you someone or do you know someone who... Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For information please contact Dallas 0412 532 572, Kevin 0421 959 960 or the Parish Office on (03) 5332 6611.

PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

Thursday August 8 is the Feast Day of St. Mary of the Cross Mackillop. A prayer for her Feast Day is below:

God, through the intercession of Mary MacKillop, we pray that the fire of your compassion will ignite many hearts.

May Mary's attentiveness to your dream inspire us. May her energy to overcome injustice empower us. May we, like her, make manifest your Presence in our troubled world.

We pray that the beacon of her holiness shine as a blessing for the universal Church and our world.

We make this prayer in Jesus' name.
Amen.

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Plans are in place for another trivia night in our parish. It will be held on August 30th, doors open from 6:30 PM for a 7:00 PM start. If anyone has or knows of someone who may be in a position to donate an item for a raffle to be held on the night, please contact the parish office. Tables of 8 can be booked through the parish office. Tickets are \$15 per person. BYO drinks and nibbles.

Life-Sustaining Bread

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The question of the crowds "Rabbi, when did you come *here*?" has to do with time and place. They address Jesus as teacher, as one who can lead his questioners from one physical and metaphorical place to another. His response to their question introduces a discussion about bread. This opens up for readers through the ages a whole world of earth activity, of sun and soil and seed and plant, a world of planting and harvesting, of processing and cooking. We have become so familiar with many of the sayings of Jesus that we can easily fail to notice the earth elements or the constructed environment in the text and treat them simply as backdrop for human activity rather than as having value in themselves. Jesus' claim "I am the bread of life" invites us to consider bread as matter essential to life as well as a metaphor for God's incarnate Word. It invites us to consider what both material and symbolic dimensions of the statement might mean for living a gospel way of life.

We might note the close attention in this passage to the material and social context of Jesus' words. Boats, a town (Capernaum), the sea (of Galilee), the land on the "other side" all feature in this text. For those who have visited Galilee and seen the first century boat preserved in Kibbutz Ginnosar, reference to boats might evoke the diversity of wooden materials used in boat construction, in this case mostly oak and cedar. It might also alert us to the human communities that interacted with the material world to build the boats so integral to the life of the lake communities. Those who have seen images of Capernaum will be aware of the basalt building materials used in the construction of the houses and might be led to wonder at the extraordinary processes of rock formation. The Sea of Galilee has agency in so many gospel stories. Here it is mentioned in passing, but must not be ignored, especially as we become aware of how perilously endangered it has become since its

waters have been exploited for irrigation over several decades. The "other side" evokes the rich agricultural land generally referred to as the "bread-basket" of the region. Mention of the crowd introduces children as well as women and men searching for Jesus. In other words, the text invites us into the whole Galilean world encoded in the text. Ironically, the words of the Johannine Jesus with their focus on the symbolic meaning of the bread turn his questioners away from the physical, material Earth elements that constitute both bread and flesh. Pope Francis invites us again and again to value and respect the material world. In these troubled times when the riches of the planet are concentrated in the hands of so few, those hungering for life sustaining bread can rightly expect to find their hunger satisfied by the disciples of the one who claims to be the "bread of life".

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
EXODUS 16:2-4, 12-15
EPHESIANS 4:17, 20-24
JOHN 6:24-35

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
KING 19:4-8
EPHESIANS 4:30-5:2
JOHN 6:41-51



**COME SEE THE
AFL PREMIERSHIP
CUP & PLAYERS**

Here's your chance to have a photo with the AFL, AFLW, VFL and VFLW Premiership Cups & players as they visit regional rebel stores.

BRETT DELEDIO
REBEL SHEPPARTON - 5 AUGUST 4:30 - 5:30PM

BRAD SEWELL
REBEL BALLARAT - 6 AUGUST 4:30 - 5:30PM

BEN CUNNINGTON
REBEL WARRNAMBOOL - 7 AUGUST 4:30 - 5:30PM

JOEL SELWOOD
REBEL GEELONG - 8 AUGUST 3 - 4PM

Plus, you can enter the draw to

WIN A \$500 GIFT CARD

for your local club or school.

rebel PROUD PARTNERS OF  



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS AFTER SCHOOL *care program*

We cater to the needs of all children and offer a range of activities including sports, games, arts and crafts, cooking, creative and expressive arts such as drama, singing and dancing, board games and puzzles and much more. We also provide healthy and delicious snacks.

For more information call 0491 743 126
or visit yballarat.org.au

