

ST. FRANCIS OF THE FIELDS

Newsletter No. 1 – January 20, 2021

(Term 1 – Week 1)

The Jaara people are the traditional custodians of the land on which we live. They have lived here for thousands of years. We commit to working for Reconciliation and justice for all Aboriginal people and to learning more about the Jaara people.

“To Live, Learn and Grow in God’s Love”

Reminders

Friday January 29

- Foundation attend 9am - 12.30pm
- Swimming Yr 3 - 6

Monday February 1

- Swimming Yr 3 - 6
- Foundation attend full day 9am – 3.20pm
- Learning Conversations

Tuesday February 2

- Foundation attend full day 9am – 3.20pm
- Learning Conversations

Wednesday February 3

- Swimming Yr 3 - 6
- Foundation Rest Day**
- Learning Conversations



Thursday February 4

- Foundation attend full day 9am – 3.20pm
- Community Cuppa @ Strath Bakery – 9am
- Learning Conversations

Friday February 5

- Foundation attend full day 9am – 3.20pm
- Swimming Yr 3 - 6

Wednesday February 10

- Foundation Rest Day**
- St Francis Yr 3-6 Swimming Sports @ Bendigo East Pool
- School Board @ 7.30pm

Thursday February 11

- School Welcome Mass 9.30am
- P&F Meeting @ 7.30pm

Friday February 12

- PUPIL FREE DAY** - MAI Assessments

Saturday February 13

- MARONG CUP**



Tuesday February 16

- Shrove Tuesday
- Burning of the Palms 10.30am
- Catholic Swimming Sports @ Bendigo East Pool

Wednesday February 17

- Foundation Rest Day**
- Ash Wednesday Liturgy 11am

Friday February 19

- PUPIL FREE DAY** - MAI Assessments

Tuckshop 2021

Week 1 –
Friday January 29

Week 2 –
Thursday February 4
Friday February 5

Week 3 –
Thursday February 11
Friday February 12 – Pupil Free Day

“For it is in giving that we receive.” St Francis of Assisi



Dear Families,

It was just lovely to see our students, staff and parents greeting each other with so much enthusiasm and energy this morning. I thank our parents for dropping our children at the outside door of each classroom. Thank you for helping keep our children, staff and each other safe.

Fr. Andrew (Happy Birthday for today!) and our staff welcome all new and existing families to St. Francis of the Field’s School family.



We pray that you will find St. Francis a place where “You Live, Learn and Grow in God’s love”.

I share with you the following reflection:

Ever wondered why migrating geese fly in a V formation? Each goose which flaps its wings creates an upward lift for the goose that follows. When all the geese do their part the whole flock has a 71% greater flying range than if each bird was to fly alone.

The geese really have something when it comes to a community functioning for the benefit of all its members. Each person in the community whether they be student, parent, teacher or priest is a unique person, individual in the specific gifts each had been given.

The differences in people give richness to expression of the community. However, the efficiency of the community depends very much on how these differences can be brought together for the benefit of the whole group.

Working together and then setting course in the one direction will be essential to this community’s ongoing growth and development.



Welcome

We warmly welcome our new staff.

Welcome to:

- Marg Brohm, our new F-2 Learning & Teaching Literacy;
- Carol Sing (Teacher Aide - Year 2),
- Ashlea Gladman (Teacher Aide - Foundation),
- Liam Tonzing (Teacher Aide - Year 5).

Welcome back to:

- Bernard Kerrins (5K),
- Danielle Coates (PE),
- Anna Sier (FWS),
- Jenna Anderson (1SA) and
- Tania Rusbridge (Music).

We also wish the following staff members all the best in their new roles:

- Alicia Guild: Yr. 3-6 Learning & Teaching: Literacy
- Matt Butcher: Environmental & Sustainability

We hope you enjoy your time at St. Francis of the Fields.

2020 St. Francis of the Fields staff:

Parish Priest

Principal
Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing
Foundation A
Foundation B
Foundation M
Foundation WS
Yr. 1 C
Yr. 1 M
Yr. 1 R
Yr. 1 SA
Yr. 2 D
Yr. 2 M
Yr. 2 P
Yr. 2 S
Yr. 3 B
Yr. 3 GE
Yr. 3 H
Yr. 3 L
Yr. 4 H
Yr. 4 JM
Yr. 4 Z
Yr. 5 D
Yr. 5 HM
Yr. 5 K
Yr. 5 W
Yr. 6 D
Yr. 6 FM
Yr. 6 T
Yr. 6 W

Administration / Finance
Administration / Finance
Administration / Secretary
Administration / Secretary
Reading Recovery
Music
Art & Craft
Librarian/Technology
Indonesian
OASIS

- Fr Andrew Fewings

- Tim Moloney
- Grace Scalora
- Andie Muscatello
- Ash Barbetti
- Morgan Maud
- Kate Williams & Anna Sier
- Amy Curnow
- Sam Muscatello
- Craig Ryan
- Ange Simpson & Jenna Anderson
- Felicity Davis
- Jacob Morrissey
- Brylie Parker
- Natalie Shearer
- Hilary Bottcher
- Kate Gundry & Jan Eaton
- Joshua Hann
- Julie Langdon
- Gabrielle Hudson
- Emma Jensen & Naomi McGregor
- Rhys Zera
- Dave Waters
- Lisa Hitchcock & Bianca Metherell
- Bernard Kerrins
- Ella Wales
- John Deane
- Donna Freeman & Naomi McGregor
- Cameron Taylor
- Darby Walsh

- Lorraine Cummins
- Deb McDermott
- Michelle Janssen
- Stephanie Wade
- Bernadette Sporn
- Jenni Heinrich, Tania Rusbridge & Susan Steele
- Carmel Fitzgerald
- Margaret Hand
- Jacqueline Pethybridge
- Matt Butcher

Learning Diversity	-	Linda Cartwright
Catholic Identity	-	Lisa Hitchcock
Learning & Teaching: Numeracy (P-2)	-	Kate Ellis
Learning & Teaching: Numeracy (3-6)	-	Amy Delaney
Learning & Teaching: Literacy (Fdn-2)	-	Marg Brohm
Learning & Teaching: Literacy (3-6)	-	Alicia Guild
Phys Ed Teacher/Coordinator	-	Danielle Coates
O.H & S	-	Peter Florence
Classroom POL Release	-	Cherise Le Brocq-Joppich
Teacher Aides	-	Annette Exell
	-	Jenny Hann
	-	Kathy Tucker
	-	Kate Zealley
	-	Ashlea Gladman
	-	Carol Sing
	-	Liam Tonzing
	-	Katrina Evans
	-	Kerry Bone
	-	Hayley Mills
School Chaplain & Counsellor	-	Maree O'Connor
Tuckshop	-	Fiona Thompson & Donna Stebbins
Maintenance	-	Shane Owins
Maintenance Assistant	-	Gerrard Keogh
Farming	-	Doug Chappel

Opening School Mass

With Covid regulations limiting the number of people attending large gatherings we are required to change our Welcoming Mass time from the evening to Thursday 11 February at 9.30am.

Unfortunately, parents will be unable to attend the Welcoming Mass due to Covid density requirements. This also means that we will no longer hold our School BBQ on Thursday evening. My apologies.

Calendar

I have included the Term 1 calendar so that all students, parents and teachers can coordinate upcoming events.



Parents & Friends Meeting



This year we are holding our Learning Conversations next week to help reconnect after a challenging 2020. This means a clash with our Parents & Friends meeting on Thursday 4 February. We will now hold our P & F meeting on Thursday 11 February at 7.30pm. The meeting will be held in the staff room. If we have more than 20 parents attend we will move to a larger room to accommodate social distancing.

Please come along and help with our school community building.

Forms to be returned to school via PAM (Parent Access Module)

- Photo Permission Form
- Update Medical and Emergency contact details
- Updated Asthma Plan (for those students who need one)
- Anaphylaxis plan (for those students who need a plan)



If you have not yet completed any of the forms listed above on PAM (where applicable), please complete using these instructions.

- Please enter this URL into your browser - <https://pam.sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au>
 - Click on the 'Forgot Password?' link and follow the prompts. (Please take note of your username in the email which will be sent to you with the next link)
- Excursion permission forms can be found under 'School Activities'.

Marong Cup - Saturday 13 February from 11.00am



A reminder that the Marong Cup will be held on Saturday 13 February. This is the first fundraiser of the school year – we normally receive approximately \$5,000 donation from the Marong Cup Committee in return for our parents working for a short period of time on a stall. Due to Covid regulations our food stalls have been cancelled.

However, we do need 8 parent volunteers (4 x 2hr shift from 1.00 - 3.00pm or 3.00 - 5.00pm) to act as Social Distance Marshalls around the entry gates, bars and food outlets, just to remind people to observe social distancing rules. This should not be an onerous job and the people will be given a briefing by the BJC beforehand. Please notify the office if you are able to volunteer as a marshall by emailing office@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au or call on 5439 3191.

Please note the race day will proceed but will be vastly different due to COVID-19 restrictions. The changes include:

- No kids activity area (so no wristband sales at school)
- No musical entertainment
- No Schools Race this year
- Admission only by pre-booked ticket with BJC and will be allocated a specific seat in the grandstand or an area.
- There will not be any sitting on the lawn area and no one will be permitted to just roam around the grounds
- No tickets sold at the gate
- No tickets sold at schools
- A reduced number of volunteers still needed – school reps will have details
- Volunteers will need to sign in at the front entrance and get a wristband to enable entry to the racecourse
- Volunteers working on the day will not be able to take children (unless they have pre booked a seat) and must leave the course following their shift unless they have purchased a ticket.

Despite these rather onerous conditions, we are fortunate that the event can still be held and due to the generosity of our sponsors, we think that schools will still get a reasonable distribution from the day, so it is important that we do get enough volunteers, otherwise we will have to pay the BJC to employ extra staff.

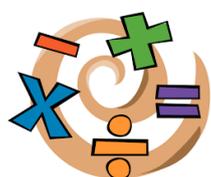
Christ has no hands but yours.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Moloney".

Tim Moloney
Principal



Maths Assessment Interviews



Bookings are now open for the MAI Maths Assessment Interviews being held on the Pupil Free Days - Friday 12 & Friday 19 February. Please see the flyer, later in the newsletter, for the booking code and information.

Kate Ellis & Amy Delaney

Pastoral Wellbeing



This year our Pastoral Wellbeing Team consists of 4 members.

Mrs Maree O'Connor - School Chaplain

moconnor@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



- Home & School Liaison Programs – Grief, Family Support, Separation, School Issues.
- Seasons for Growth facilitator.
- Vital connection between home and school.
- Assisting with transition for new families to St. Francis of the Fields

Mrs Linda Cartwright - Learning Support

lcartwright@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



- Coordinates Special Education for our school.
- Program Support Group Meetings (PSG's – once a term),
- Supports students and teachers with Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs) for individual children.
- Provide support to teachers & families for students at need/risk in mainstream classroom.

Ms Grace Scalora - Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing

gscalora@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



- Coordinates whole school program – Positive Behaviours Intervention Support (PBIS) Program which includes our 4 school expectations, (Be your Best, Be Safe, Respect for All, Respect for Environment).
- Oversees wellbeing programs across school – supports parents, students and teachers.
- Coordinates the Engagement of Volunteers.
- Implementing Policies and developing Social Emotional Programs/Learning.

Mr Tim Moloney - Principal and member of the team.

tmoloney@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



- Supports all students, staff and families to be successful in the school setting.

What are our school beliefs about student wellbeing?

As a school we are responsible for catering for student's academic, social and emotional needs. We teach our students about safe and responsible behaviour to ensure they have the skills to self manage in the wider world. Our aim is for our students to leave at the end of Grade 6 being both independent and likeable.

Our team meets fortnightly. The purpose of our meetings is to provide ongoing support for our students, parents and teachers. Our aim is to make sure that all our students are successful in every part of their school life.

Over the coming weeks, information about our goals for Pastoral Wellbeing will be communicated with our school community. We hope that this gives all our families a clear understanding of what our goals and hopes are for the 2021 school year. .

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns.

Grace Scalora
Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing



Swimming in 2020

Hoping you've all had a great holiday and enjoyed the warm weather with your families. The Year 3-6 children have their swimming lessons beginning tomorrow, Friday 29 Jan.

Year 3-6 swimming lesson dates:

Friday 29 January
Monday 1 February
Wednesday 3 February
Friday 5 February



School Swimming Lesson Timetable 2021:

**6D parents please note, John will be able to let you know when your child will be attending their lesson.*

Grades	Depart school	Lesson Time 40mins	Return to school
4 H & 6 W 6 D X 10 children	9.00am	9.40 – 10.20am	11.00am
4 JM & 6 6 D X 6 children	9.40am	10.20 - 1.00am	11.40am
4 Z & 6 FM 6 D X 6 children	10.20am	11.00 -11.40am	12.20pm
5 W & 3 GE	11.00am	11.40 - 12.20pm	1.00pm
5 K & 3 B	11.40am	12.20 -1.00pm	1.40pm
5 HM & 3 H	12.20pm	1.00 - 1.40pm	2.20pm
5 W & 3 L	1.00pm	1.40 - 2.20pm	3.00pm

What to wear and what to bring for swimming lessons: Sports uniform to school, bathers, towel, hairbrush, thongs to wear to the pool (**these are not allowed in the school playground**), plastic bag to put wet bathers in, goggles if your child usually wears them. The children wear their bathers to the pool and get changed at the pool after their lesson.

What they will do: At the swimming lessons students will participate in 4 X 40 minute swimming sessions. Children will be swimming in ability levels supervised by qualified AustSwim Teachers from the Peter Krenz Leisure Centre.

The aims of these excursions: To learn about water safety, improve swimming stroke technique and participate in the school swimming sports.

Year 3-6 school swimming sports: Wednesday 10 Feb

The day begins at 9.30am and will conclude at approximately 1.30pm. This will take place at Bendigo East Pool.

Depending on Covid -19 regulations we would love as many people there as possible to cheer our children on. As it stands today, the guidelines allow spectators, you must however, follow the pool's protocol and give your name and contact details upon entering.

What to wear and what to bring for the swimming sports: Sports uniform to school/ house colour appropriate sun safe clothing, hat, sunscreen, bathers, towel, hairbrush, thongs to wear to the pool (**these are not allowed in the school playground**), plastic bag to put wet bathers in, goggles if your child usually wears them, fruit, snacks, lunch, water bottle.

What they will do: The children will be invited to swim freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and invitational butterfly. They can choose between the distances of 25m kickboard, 25m and 50m. Events will be discussed and finalised during the swimming lessons in 2021.

The aims of these excursions: To have a fun day with peers, enjoy the events, participate and do their best!

Coffee Storm will be at the pool for your convenience.



Some other important dates to be mindful of in 2021:

Catholic Swimming Sports: Tuesday 16 February

Please note, year 3's are **ONLY eligible for 3 individual events- 50m freestyle, breaststroke & backstroke. They may be used in the 9-12/13 years medley & open age group relays, should they have the fastest time. They will not take the place of 10 years individual events or 10 years age group specific relays. Please contact me with any questions around this.*

Divisional Swimming Championships: Friday 5 March

Regional Swimming Championships (Swan Hill): Thursday 18 March

State Swimming Championships (Melbourne): Thursday 22 April

Whole School Cross Country: Thursday 29 April

Division Cross Country (3-6's): Wednesday 5 May TBC

Regional Cross Country (St Arnaud): Tuesday 1 June

State Cross Country (Melbourne): Thursday 15 July

School Athletics Sports (3-6's): Wednesday 4 August

Catholic Athletics Championships (3-6's): Thursday 19 August

Please note, year 3's are **ONLY eligible for 4 events- Shot put, Long jump, 100m & hurdles.*

Divisional Athletics Championships: Monday 13 September

School Athletic Sports (Foundation- Year 2) on the oval 9.15-11am: Friday 29/10

State Athletics Championships: Thursday 11 November

SCHOOL SPORTING TEAMS: Please be mindful when your child is selected in a sporting team, it is then expected that they attend all training sessions and follow on events. Much organisation goes into these events and the focus is always to give the children the best opportunity to succeed.

Danielle Coates, PE Teacher

Weekend maintenance – Please return slips!

Today, your child received a blue form for our School Weekend Maintenance Program. Please return your blue slip by Thursday 11 February and indicate if you would like to be included on the roster **or** if you wish to pay the \$60 levy.

The roster will be prepared and sent to families when all slips have been received.

If any families would like to be rostered on for the weekends of 6/7 Feb and 13/14 Feb, could you please email Steph Wade – swade@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



Tuckshop News.....

Tuckshop will be operating tomorrow, Friday 29 January. Children attending swimming lessons will have their orders delivered either before or after their lesson time.

Reusable tuckshop bags are our preferred option for tuckshop. These are available to order through CDF Pay.





Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents,

MAI Maths Assessments will be held for all students on **Friday 12 February and Friday 19 February, 2021.**

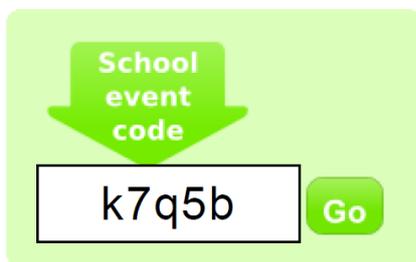
MAI Maths Assessments consist of hands-on assessment tasks where students demonstrate mathematical understanding and strategies for solving tasks.

You can now book an interview time that suits **YOU BEST.**

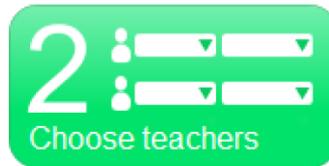
Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS OPEN Thursday 28 January at 4.00pm.

BOOKINGS CLOSE Wednesday 10 February at 9.00am.



Enter THIS school event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

If you have more than one child, parents are encouraged to book their children in at the same time for their assessments, where possible.

This booking is for your child only to attend. This is a fun, hands-on assessment for the classroom teacher to determine future Maths learning for your child.

Please deliver your child to their 2021 classroom for their MAI Maths Assessment. You are invited to make your way to the shed for a tea or coffee while this assessment takes place.

For parents who don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones please contact your child's teacher to arrange a suitable time. Numeracy Assessments are approximately 30 minutes.

Parents can change their booking any time, prior to the closing time, by revisiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their time after the closing date should contact their child's teacher directly.

ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL CALENDAR - Term 1: 2021

Updated 5/02/2020	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1	Jan-25	Jan-26 Australia Day Public Holiday	Jan-27 Teachers return for 2020 school year Staff First Aid @ 10.30am Staff Meeting	Jan-28 Fr. Andrew's Birthday Students commence Term 1 Foundation attend 9am-12.30pm	Jan-29 Foundation attend 9am-12.30pm Yr 3 – 6 Swimming Tuckshop	Jan-30	Jan-31
Week 2	Feb-1 Learning Conversations Foundation start full days with Wednesday as a rest day Yr 3 – 6 Swimming	Feb-2 Learning Conversations PLC Meeting	Feb-3 Learning Conversations Foundation rest day Yr 3 – 6 Swimming	Feb-4 Learning Conversations Community Cuppa @ 9.00am @ Strath Bakery Tuckshop	Feb-5 Yr 3 – 6 Swimming Tuckshop	Feb-6	Feb-7
Week 3	Feb-8	Feb-9 PLC Meeting	Feb-10 Foundation rest day Yr3-6 St Francis Swimming Sports @ Bendigo East Pool School Board 7.30pm Staff Meeting	Feb-11 Newsletter Day Tuckshop Welcome Mass @ 9.30am P&F Meeting 7.30pm	Feb-12 (PUPIL FREE DAY) Maths Assessment Interview Testing	Feb-13 MARONG CUP 	Feb-14
Week 4	Feb-15	Feb-16 Shrove Tuesday Burning of the Palms @ 10.30am Catholic Swimming Sports @ Bgo East Pool PLC Meeting	Feb-17 Ash Wednesday Liturgy @ 11.00am Foundation rest day	Feb-18 Newsletter Day Tuckshop	Feb-19 (PUPIL FREE DAY) MAI Testing	Feb-20	Feb-21 1st Sunday of Lent
Week 5	Feb-22	Feb-23 PLC Meeting	Feb-24 Foundation rest day Staff Meeting	Feb-25 Newsletter Day Tuckshop	Feb-26 Mass @ 11.45am Assembly 2.45pm Tuckshop	Feb-27	Feb-28 2nd Sunday of Lent
Week 6	Mar-1	Mar-2 PLC Meeting	Mar-3 Foundation rest day	Mar-4 Newsletter Day Tuckshop	Mar-5 Mass @ 11.45am Tuckshop Division Swimming	Mar-6	Mar-7 3rd Sunday of Lent
Week 7	Mar-8 Labour Day Weekend (Public Holiday)	Mar-9 Foundation start attending school full time PLC Meeting	Mar-10 School Photos  Staff Meeting	Mar-11 School Photos Newsletter Day Tuckshop	Mar-12 Mass @ 11.45am Assembly 2.45pm Tuckshop	Mar-13 St. Patrick's Day	Mar-14 4th Sunday of Lent
Week 8	Mar-15	Mar-16 PLC Meeting	Mar-17 Reconciliation Yr 4 - 6 @ 2.30pm School Board and P&F AGM 7.30pm	Mar-18 Newsletter Day Tuckshop Region Swimming – Swan Hill	Mar-19 Mass @ 11.45am Tuckshop	Mar-20	Mar-21 5th Sunday of Lent
Week 9	Mar-22	Mar-23 PLC Meeting	Mar-24 Reconciliation Yr 4 - 6 @ 2.30pm Staff Meeting	Mar-25 Year 4 Camp Newsletter Day Tuckshop	Mar-26 Mass @ 11.45am Year 4 Camp Tuckshop	Mar-27	Mar-28 Palm Sunday
Week 10	Mar-29	Mar-30 PLC Meeting	Mar-31	Apr-1 Tuckshop End Term 1 (2.30pm)	Apr-2 Good Friday	Apr-3 Daylight Savings finishes ...	Apr-4 Easter Sunday Put clock back one hour
	Apr-5 Easter Monday	Apr-6	Apr-7	Apr-8	Apr-9	Apr-10	Apr-11
Holidays	Apr-12	Apr-13	Apr-14	Apr-15	Apr-16	Apr-17	Apr-18