

ST. FRANCIS OF THE FIELDS

Newsletter No. 9 – May 25, 2023

(Term 2 - Week 5)

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

"To Live, Learn and Grow in God's Love"

Reminders

Friday 26 May PUPIL FREE DAY - Staff Maths Conference National Sorry Day 2024 Enrolments Close Monday 29 May Yr 3 Bowls Clinic Tuesday 30 May Michael Carr-Gregg - Parent information evening @ 7pm Sacramental Information night @ St Therese's @ 7pm Wednesday 31 May Palmers Gym – Yr 2 Yr4 Bowls Clinic Thursday 1 June Palmers Gym - Fdn - Yr 1 Yr 5 Bowls Clinic Sacramental Information night @ St Joseph's @ 7pm Friday 2 June Yr 4 Unit Mass @ 11.45am Monday 5 June Yr 3 Bowls Clinic Tuesday 6 June Regional Cross Country Wednesday 7 June Palmers Gym - Yr 2 Yr 4 Bowls Clinic Thursday 8 June Palmers Gym – Fdn – Yr 1 Yr 5 Bowls Clinic P&F Meeting @ 7.30pm Friday 9 June 2P &2HL Mass @ 11.45am Assembly @ 2.45pm Monday 12 June King's Birthday Holiday



Tuckshop 2023 – Term 2 Week 5 Thurs 18 May NO TUCKSHOP Fridav 19 Mav PUPIL FREE DAY Week 6 Thurs 1 June 12.30 - 3pm Marnie O'Bree Friday 2 June 12.30 - 3pm Bek Stevens

Bree Bortolotto Joelene McSwain Kate Fitzgibbon Chantelle Flynn

Thurs 8 June 12.30 - 3pm Bec O'Sullivan Friday 9 June 12.30 - 3pm Renee Jet Bec Foster Chantal Bennallack

Week 7

Weekend Maintenance

27-28 May Coultas (Fdn BW), Webster (6R) **3-6 June** O'Sullivan (5D), Norman (6W) **10-11 Jun** Wright (5ZC), Stuart (3M) 17-18 Jun Loorham (3GB), Hand (4FT) 24-26 Jun TERM 2 Holidays 1-2 July TERM 2 Holidays 15-16 July Butcher (3M), Arundell (4FT), Millar (5K) 24-25 July Stubbins (3C), Purvis (4Z)

"True progress quietly and persistently moves along without notice."



Dear Families,

During the week I was thinking of Helen McCarthy, our music teacher, who died recently. Helen courageously spoke her mind about injustices and then proceeded with action to support social injustice.

As I was reflecting about Helen I listened to a song about Standing up and being more. The following lyrics pretty well sum up what I hope for each child, teacher and parent at St. Francis of the Fields. I am hopeful that I/we have the courage to be a voice for the downtrodden, the broken and the marginalised, just as Helen was.

Can you give to others just a little? *Can you give to them your time and care?* Can you give yourself to something greater? Stand up! Generosity! Can you be a voice in the throng of this world? Can you be a voice to those with none? *Can you be a voice for the lost and hurting? Stand up! Empathy!*



Shed closed

Today we celebrated the life of Helen McCarthy (a former music teacher) with a funeral service in the shed. The shed was her "stage" so it was very appropriate that so many could gather to honor her memory.

We are also holding the Mathematics Conference at our school on Friday (Pupil Free Day) - hence the need for the shed to be closed from Wednesday. The shed will be returned to normal use from Monday morning.

Keeping our community safe - COVID

We have had over 120 students away each day this week with a variety of illnesses - flu, gastro and covid.

I am grateful to those parents who have kept their unwell child/ren at home as they are protecting the rest of the community - your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

As a community we need to ensure the health and safety of our children and staff. To assist please do the following:

- 1. If your child is unwell please keep your children at home.
- 2. If your child has covid symptoms please use a RAT test to check for covid.

Where a student or staff member is identified as a positive case, please take the following steps:

- 1. Parents/carers should inform the school by phone or written notification if a student tests positive to COVID-19 (via a PCR or rapid antigen test).
- 2. Students and staff who report a positive result are recommended to isolate for a minimum of 5 days and not attend school until their symptoms have resolved.

2024 Enrolment Process

Please note that enrolments will close on Friday 26 May. TOMORROW! If you do not have your child enrolled by this date it is likely you will miss out.

Enrolment application forms can be accessed on our school website. School Website link

Uniform Changeover REPEAT

All students are required to be in the Winter Uniform. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform. This means NO netball or football hoodies are to be worn to school.

Term 2 Dates

Monday 12 June King's Birthday Holiday

Shed Unavailability

Please note the shed will be unavailable for training use over the following dates due to the Pupil Free Day - Staff Maths Conference :

- Thursday 25 May
- Friday 26 May

We appreciate your understanding with this inconvenience.

Assembly

5W will lead our next school assembly on Friday 9 June from 2.45pm in the Shed. All parents, grandparents and guardians are most welcome to attend.

Christ has no hands but yours.

Jun Molawy

Tim Moloney Principal



ENROLMENTS



Pastoral Wellbeing...



"I need a volunteer!" is always a statement that guarantees most people will suddenly stare at their shoes or the ceiling. But when I add the statement "And they need to be the fittest and healthiest human specimen in the room", most people feel immediately safe. "I'm off the hook," they think as they immediately scan the room for someone to dob in.

Invariably a health nut is volunteered by his or her colleagues, and reluctantly they walk to the front of the room, climb the stairs to the stage, and await what they assume is going to be the most embarrassing part of their day.

I ask their name, highlight their obvious fitness and physical capacity, and then ask if they'll assist with an exercise. An uncertain nod follows which I take as enthusiastic consent! And then... I hold out a broom handle.

"Fit person", I say to them. "I'm going to hold this broom handle horizontally. I want you to back up over there, take a run-up, and show this entire crowd that you have the physical capacity to jump over the bar. Will you do that?"

They look at me hesitatingly.

I smile, crouch down, and hold out the broom handle about 10-15 cms off the ground.

"Do you think you can clear this?" I ask.

The crowd starts stamping their feet and clapping. The health-nut "volunteer" takes a few steps before stepping nonchalantly over the bar. The crowd claps politely. The volunteer looks embarrassed. And I quiz them on the experience.

"How do you feel?" is my first question. They shrug. They always do. It seems pointless. Embarrassing.

My next question is more pointed.

"Every time I do this activity, my volunteer essentially steps over the bar. It's only 10cm high. But you only cleared it by a couple of centimeters. I know, and you know, that you could have jumped much higher. MUCH HIGHER. Why did you only just get over it?"

The response is always the same. Every time. I've done this with CEO's, Sales Managers, random people in an audience, teachers, parents, medical practitioners. Every single time they say the same thing: It's all you asked me to do. I pause when they say this. I let it sink in. I repeat it back to them. "It's all I asked you to do." Isn't that how so many people live their lives? We do the bare minimum. We just get by. We clear the bar that someone else has put in our way, but only to the level that they ask. Why do more?

It's at this point that I ask my final question. "How did you feel when you cleared the bar?"

They always shrug their shoulders. They didn't feel anything. There was nothing aspirational or motivational about clearing the bar when it was placed below their knees.

"Let's do it once more. This time, though, I want you to tell me where we should set the bar. Let's see how high you can really jump."

Usually, my volunteer asks me to hold the broom handle around waist height. They step to the wings of the stage to get a run-up. The crowd starts to cheer with a level of excitement we definitely didn't see the first time. And then...

They run. They leap. They clear the bar. The crowd goes wild.

And you can see, simply by watching the body language, that this fabulous fit person feels like they achieved something. Their chest puffs out. They can't wipe the smile from their face. They are beaming. It feels like a real accomplishment.

Just one simple idea:

Don't just clear the bar that someone else sets for you. Set your own bar. Push your limits. And feel the difference it makes in your life.

Regards, Grace Scalora - Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing





Empower confidence.





A PRESENTATION FEATURING OR MICHAEL CARR-GREGG Building Happy and Resilient Young People

Parents and caregivers attending this presentation by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg can expect to gain a deeper understanding of the various factors that contribute to their child's happiness and resilience.

Dr Carr-Gregg is a well-respected child and adolescent psychologist, and his presentation will draw on his years of experience working with young people and their families. He will provide practical advice on how parents can support their children's mental health and help them develop the skills they need to navigate life's challenges with confidence and optimism.

Dr Carr Gregg will cover a range of items related to young people's mental health, including the importance of positive relationships, self-esteem and coping strategies. He will discuss the impact of social media and technology, and provide guidance on how parents can help their children navigate the digital world safely. Dr Carr Gregg's presentation will be informative, engaging, and highly relevant to parents who are looking for ways to support their child's emotional wellbeing.

Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, parents and caregivers can expect to leave this presentation with a better understanding of their child's needs and practical strategies they can use to build happy and resilient young people.

Join us at this special presentation and empower your confidence!

SUITABLE FOR: Parents, grandparents and caregivers DURATION: 45 minute presentation followed by 15 minutes question time

DATE: TUESDAY 30 May, 2023

PER ADULT



TIME: AEST 7.00pm - 8.00pm



VENUE: St Francis of the Fields Community Centre

Tickets on sale now! Please purchase through CDF Pay

WHO IS PRESENTING?

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is one of Australia's highest profile psychologists, author, broadcaster and specialist in parenting, children, adolescents and mental health. He wrote his PhD at the University of NSW on adolescents with cancer and in 1985, he founded the world's first national teenage cancer patients support group, Canteen. He has been part of SchoolTV since its launch in 2016 and also works in private practice in Melbourne. He is the Commonwealth Government representative on the Board of the Australian Children's Television Foundation and is the Consultant Psychologist to Australian Boarding Schools Association.

RE News..... National Sorry Day - 26 May & National Reconciliation Week - 27 May-3 June



The theme for National Reconciliation Week 2023, Be a Voice for Generations, encourages all Australians to be a voice for reconciliation in tangible ways in our everyday lives - where we live, work and socialise.

For the work of generations past, and the benefit of generations future, let's choose to create a more just, equitable and reconciled country for all.

The St Francis of the Fields FIRE Carriers have planned a great National Reconciliation Week for

2023. They are certainly being a voice for generations and setting a great example for our community.

On Thursday 1 June, our FIRE Carriers will visit the Assisi Kindergarten to read Aboriginal Children's picture books with the kinder children and share an Aboriginal Art activity.

Friday 2 June: We are very fortunate to have Troy Firebrace and Michael Chisolm join us for our Friday activities.

- 10:00 am We welcome the Assisi Kindergarten to our school to read Aboriginal Children's picture books with the kinder children and share an Aboriginal Art activity.
- 12:00 pm The FIRE Carriers will lead a liturgy of the Word for our Year 5 & 6 classes. All families are welcome to join us at the meeting circle in the OASIS Garden.
- 12:30-1:30 pm The FIRE Carriers and Earthcare Team will attend the First Nations Perspective on Caring for Country workshop. All are welcome to join us in the OASIS room for this workshop.
- 12.30pm Year 4 Unit National Reconciliation Week Mass in the shed
- 2:25-3:10 pm The FIRE Carriers will visit the F-Year 4 Classes to read Aboriginal Children's picture books with the students and to share with the students who they worked with Troy Firebrace to create the Aboriginal Art Mural that is currently being painted on the new Senior Learning Centre.

On Friday 2 June, the FIRE Carriers will lead an awareness and fundraiser for Opening the Doors Foundation. Students can wear the colours of the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander flags and bring along a gold coin to donate to this very worthy foundation.



The Opening the Doors Foundation is an Aboriginal-led community organisation supporting educational opportunities for Aboriginal children. The Foundation enables Aboriginal students to participate fully and equally in education and supports their families to make their own choices about their children's future. The Foundation believes that consistent support for self-determination is key to raising the dreams and aspirations of the next generation.

Please contact Lisa Hitchcock if you would like any further information.

A Prayer for Reconciliation

Creator God.

You made all people with equal dignity and in your image of love. Help us to honour the First Peoples of Australia and to grow in understanding of the gift they are to all in this country. We thank you for the care of the First Nations People who walked our land. We ask for justice and healing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People from the pain and loss they have experienced from colonisation. We ask for the Spirit to guide us as we walk with our brothers and sisters in reconciliation, may we become a new voice for truth and love, so that we will dwell together in peace in this land.

Amen.



The Australian Aboriginal Flag

Fdn - Yr2 Mother's Day Mass

The F-2 students and teachers did an amazing job planning, and preparing such a beautiful Mass to celebrate our mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and all those people who have a mothering role



in our lives. The F-2 students led our singing and were such reverent readers and completed all their roles with such joy and happiness. Thank you to Fr Jinjo who celebrated our Mass.



Our guests enjoyed the delicious scones, jam and cream that Fiona and her team prepared for a special morning tea.



Thank you to all of our families that were able to join us. The students were so happy to be able to present to you their beautiful portraits as a special gift. A super big thank you to Miss Parker for creating such a special reflection video for all our F-2 students and their families.

Sacramental Program - Confirmation and First Eucharist

The Sacramental Program to prepare students from Grade 3 onwards for Confirmation and First Eucharist will commence next week with Parent Information Nights on Tuesday, 30 May at 7 pm St Therese's Church, Kennington and Thursday, 1 June at 7 pm at St Joseph's Church, Axe Creek. Please note - parents only need to attend on information night.

We warmly welcome Sally Jennings as our new Sacramental Parish Coordinator. It will be wonderful to have Sally on this sacramental journey as we support our families to prepare the children for Confirmation and First Eucharist.

Please contact Sally Jennings at <u>kpsacraments@outlook.com</u> or Lisa Hitchcock at school if you would like further information or you would like your child to participate in the program.



Loving God, Pour out your blessing Upon our beloved children, As we begin this time of Sacramental preparation They may grow closer to you, And come to know your special love for them. May this time of preparation be a time of blessing For our families and our community, And unite us all in your great love. Amen.

Laudato Si Week 2023

The theme for Laudator Si Week 2023 is "Hope for the Earth. Hope for Humanity".

This week at St Francis of the Fields we have joined Catholic communities around the world in celebrating Laudato Si' Week. The newly formed Earthcare Team launched our Laudato Si Week Launch at Assembly last Friday.

All students have been participating in environmental data collection to help our Earthcare Team develop a student-led action plan to improve our biodiversity. Each day they have been gathering data by doing a native animal audit and rubbish audit. The Earthcare Team will use that data to lead an action plan to improve our biodiversity.

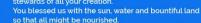
Thank you to 6W and Mr Walsh for the amazing posters for Laudato Si Week.

The film "<u>The Letter</u>," which tells the story of four "social poets" affected first-hand by the climate crisis who travelled to Rome to meet Pope Francis, is available to watch here - "<u>The Letter</u>".

Our Earthcare Team was formed to help make our work in caring for creation even stronger. The Year 6 Catholic Identity Student Leaders and the Green Team have joined together with teachers and parents to meet each Friday to learn more about caring for our common home, as Pope Francis calls us to do, and work on all of our great sustainability projects. We would love to have more parents join us.

Please contact Mrs Hitchcock or Mr Butcher if you would like further information or would like to join our Earthcare Team.





Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we may attend to your gift of creation. Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us, but to all of your creatures and to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.



Be present to those in need in these trying times, especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind.

Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope and fraternity so that we may experience a true conversion of the heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic. Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the common good.

needed in search of the common good, Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected and interdependent,

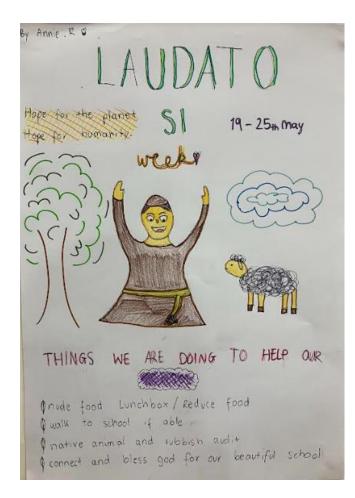
Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.

Under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, we make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

LAUDATO SI'

WEEK 2023







Lisa Hitchcock Catholic Identity Leader

Parish News.....

2023 Sacramental Program - Confirmation and First Eucharist.

Harry N

The Sacramental preparation program for Confirmation and First Eucharist for 2023 will be taking place during Terms 2 and 3.

Information nights will take place soon -

- St Therese's, Kennington: Tues 30th May, 7pm •
- St Joseph's, Axe Creek: Thurs 1st June, 7pm •

Further details will be emailed to the families who completed their Sacrament of Reconciliation during Term 4, 2022.

For any other children in Grade 3 and above who would like to enquire about enrolment in the Sacramental program, please contact Parish Sacramental Coordinator, Sally Jennings at Parish Office: Ph 5443 3052 or email: kpsacraments@outlook.com

YMCA – After School Care

Unfortunately, again due to low numbers, YMCA ASC will not be operating their full day care program for our Pupil Free Day tomorrow, Friday 26 May.

The YMCA operates an After-School Care Program at St Francis of the Fields Primary School. The program operates every school day for children aged 5-12 years. The YMCA also provides care on days of school closure.

Families can contact the service on 0459 988 313 or visit 'My Family Lounge' where you can register your child in advance for any bookings. any questions please contact stfrancis@ymca.org.au.



9



RANCIS FIELDS Connecting with nature each day Expressing our gratitude to God for beautiful school enviroment

NUDE Bring a nude food lunchbox

Put any rubbish in the right bin Use our school resourses

Only bring food you will eat to prevent food waste Walk to school if you are able

A native animal audit A rubbish audit

Oasis News.... Worn Farms



This week we received our new Worm Farm from the Greater City of Bendigo. This fits perfectly in line with all the hard work the students and members of The Green Team have been working on this year.

We now have a working system to rapidly break down our food waste and turn it into organic hummus for the garden.



I want to say thank you the The Greater City of Bendigo and Teleah Thorne for coming up with the idea. Great job!

Winter Garden Planting

Some of the Grade 4 students have been working really hard to get all of our Winter Produce into the garden. We have picked the remaining Egg Plants and have just finished sowing all the lettuce and brassicas.



River Detectives

This term the students in Grade 4 have been testing the quality of the water in Emu Creek and Sheepwash Creek. We are testing the Phosphorus levels, PH, Turbidity, temperature and clarity of the water. Our creeks are in very good condition at the moment thanks to all our volunteers in the area.







PE News.....

SSV State Basketball Team Trials

On Monday 15th of May, Jed Willis, Tate Kanzamar, Harry Freeman, Harper Gordan, Etta Place and Sienna Raco participated in the first and second round of tryouts for the SSV Basketball team. There were students from Loddon, Mallee and Hume districts in attendance. Tate, Sienna and Harper were selected to advance to the final Victorian School Sports Basketball Selection Camp to be held over two days in Melbourne in June. A fantastic achievement by all of our students who represented our school so wonderfully.

We are very proud of all six of our students for their efforts. Wishing Tate, Harper and Sienna all the best in the final stage of the try out!

SSV State Girls Netball Team Trials

Sienna Raco has been busy clocking up miles in the car, as she then took a trip to Shepparton for the 2nd stage trial for the SSV Netball team on Thursday 18th of May. She did an exceptional job and was asked to head to Melbourne in mid June to participate in the final stage of the trials. Well done Sienna, you have done a wonderful job making it through to the final stage in 2 sports!!

SSV State Boys & Girls Football Team Trials



Ava Hope and Etta Place trialled for the SSV girls footy team on Friday 19th of May, they both played very well and had a great time with so many other talented girls! Jed Willis and Archer Horan also trialled for the SSV footy team in the second stage on Monday 22nd of May. Both doing a wonderful job and competing brilliantly, we are very proud of you all. Congratulations to Jed, who will now head to Melbourne this Sunday for the 3rd stage trial! Good Luck Jed!!

The girls are both eagerly awaiting their result and hope to hear in the coming days if they have progressed.

Mother's Day Classic

On Mother's day, we had a number of students, parents and teachers run or walk in the Mother's Day Classic. It was great to see Miss Dillon, Mrs O'Connor and Mrs Osborne give the 8km a go & Mr Moloney even broke out in a fast paced walk! Congratulations to all involved and a special mention to Jed Willis for taking out the 4km run!

Tennis

Over the Easter school holidays I competed in the Swan Hill Tennis Tournament. It went for five days. I came into the tournament as the first seed, which means I was the top player in my age group for this tournament. Overall I came first in my age group.

Now I am currently competing in a tennis competition at the Bendigo Tennis Centre that runs over four weeks. It's just been the first week and I won my doubles and singles games. Even though it is only a fun competition, it is still quite competitive and I'm excited about the next three weeks.

Written by Jade Hayward



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Judo Grading

Congratulations to the following children who passed and achieved new grading levels with the Judo Bendigo Club:

Grace Lunney Yellow-Orange-Black Belt Leo Kirke White-Yellow Belt

Missing Year 6 Sporting Team uniforms:

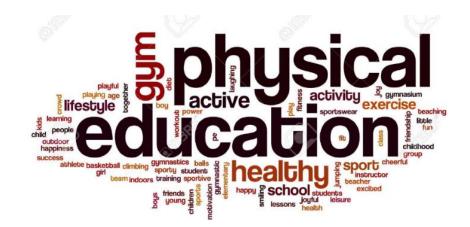
If you have seen any of these items around the house from older siblings that may have represented our school, we would love to get our hands on them. If found, please return to Mrs Coates.



Sporting News

Parents, if you news that should be shared in the newsletter, please let me know by emailing dcoates@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au or sending it directly through to newsletter@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au

Danielle Coates & Shannon Dillon PE Coordinators





Frank's Little Friends Playgroup

Every Tuesday during school term. 9:30am - 11am. Gathering in the Community Centre Please see our FB group "Franks Little Friends" for updates. All welcome!



Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is now cashless. All in-store payments are to be made using EFTPOS.

To assist the Uniform Shop staff, when ordering uniform online, **please add your child's name and class** in the 'Any Notes' section when you are selecting items. This cannot be done at the payment stage of the order.

Orders will be processed on Monday's, Wednesday's & Friday's.

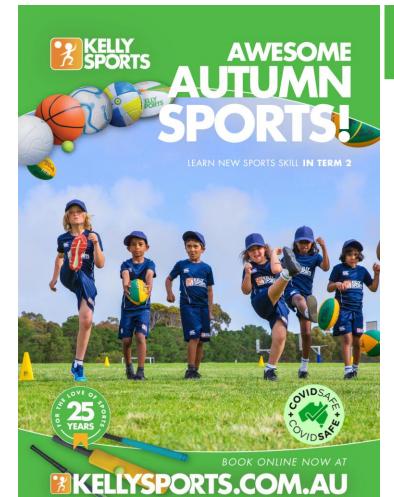
Opening hours – Monday 8.30 - 9.30am Wednesday 2.30 – 3.30pm Friday 8.30 – 9.30am



Community News....







<text>

LEARN NEW SKILLS, MAKE NEW FRIENDS & HAVE LOTS OF FUN

· Experienced coaching

- · Play & learn as a team
- · Ages 6 12 years old

Sign up & receive a Kelly
 Sports basketball

CALL: 0428 326 924

EMAIL : beau@kellysports.com.au MORE CONTACT INFO: Facebook: Kelly Sports Bendigo | Bendigo Futsal www.kellysports.com.au/bendigo

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

MULTI-SPORT

Programmes run weekly on one day a week for one hour.

This term we will focus on the following sports:

 Soccer 	🗸 AFL	🗸 Basketball	🗸 Golf
🗸 Rugby	🗸 Tennis	🗸 Netball	 Athletics

This weekly programme gives children skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings – giving them confidence to join sports clubs and teams in the future.

For Prep – Year 6 students.

4 WEEKS REMAINING - \$64!

Sign up anytime, and only pay for the weeks remaining in the t

School: St Francis of the Fields Primary School Day: Friday's Start Date: 2nd June End Date: 24th June Time: 3:30pm - 4:30pm

LOOKING FOR MORE KELLY SPORTS ACTION?

All upcoming holiday program details are now available online, with booking discounts available until June 11.

Website:	kellysports.com.au/bendigo	
Contact:	Beau Cross	
Email:	beau@kellysports.com.au	
Phone:	0428 326 924	
Facebook:	Kelly Sports Bendigo	



