



## Important Dates

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**NAPLAN Starts**  
Tuesday 11 May

**Finance Meeting**  
6:30pm  
Monday 17 May

**School Board**  
Meeting 7:30pm  
Monday 17 May

**NAPLAN Finish**  
Friday 21 May

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## Principals Message

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

A warm welcome back to term 2! I have had a great first week, here at St Francis. It has been a delight to meet and spend time with the children, getting to know them, and the school staff have been very welcoming and supportive. I feel blessed to be a part of this wonderful community and I am excited about building on our successes together, into the future.

Tri-skills commences next week. This is an excellent all round Physical Education program involving Dance, Gymnastics and Tabloid sports. It is a great addition to the Physical Education curriculum, and I am sure the children will very much enjoy the experience! My thanks to James Daley for coordinating these activities.

NAPLAN national testing will take place during weeks 3 and 4 this term. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy.

It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress. Children have been preparing for the tests through engagement in the curriculum process, as well as familiarising themselves with the form and structure of the tests.

After the test regime interruption in 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the tests will recommence this year in the online format many schools engaged with during 2019.

My thanks to Nives Kresevic and all the year 3 and 5 teachers for their diligence in preparing for the NAPLAN tests.

We hope to have the results of the assessments during term 3, which will allow us to reflect on and respond to the results to ensure the continued learning progress of the children.

During the holiday break, Australians paused on ANZAC Day to remember all those courageous men and women who gave their lives in the service of our nation.

My thanks and congratulations to Audrey Fisher and Zane Bowbridge who represented St Francis at the Hilton RSL Dawn service.

I am very much looking forward to meeting you all as the term progresses!

God bless,

Phil

## ANZAC Day







Welcome back to the blessings of a new term, full of hope, challenges and achievements.

#### ANZAC DAY

Audrey Fisher and Zane Bowbridge represented St Francis School at the Hilton RSL Dawn Service.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15: 12-13

Anzac Day is not about glorifying war; it is about commemorating the defence of national ideals and values and the formation of our national identity.

To die for a cause is heroic; to die for peace is greater still, but to live in peace is the greatest hope of all.

ANZAC Day is a call to do life differently.

We must as a nation, continue to look after and support families who have lost loved ones in all circumstances and those who survived and are still suffering.

May the memory of those who have given so much, inspire us to be peacemakers in our world.

***Lest we forget.***

***Lest we forget the living too.***

**Peace and blessings of the Easter season**

**Helen Wilsdon-Smith APRIM/School Chaplain**

## Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir



Each year St. Francis School participates in the Catholic Schools Music Festival. The festival is made up of approximately 65 Catholic Primary Schools with over 2000 students participating in a massed choir.

This year we are fortunate to have 23 Year 5 students as part of the choir.

The choir have a weekly practice where we rehearse the festival choir repertoire as well as other songs that we perform at school events.

Congratulations to all students involved.



#### Combined Strings Ensemble

Congratulations to the following students who have joined the Combined Schools String Ensemble: Sarah C, Sienna R, Carissa S, Siena P and Michael P.

The ensemble is directed by our strings teacher, Nikki von Bertouch.

They rehearse weekly at St Michael's College and perform at various events throughout the year.

Well done to you all!

Yours in Music

**Olivia Bozzon**

**Perfroming Arts**

## FROM THE DEPUTY

### National Assessment Program

#### Literacy and Numeracy

#### NAPLAN 11th-21st May

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The tests assess Literacy and Numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

This year, the students will complete their NAPLAN tests online via a laptop. To get an idea of what the tests look like, visit the public demonstration site <https://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

If you have a child in Years 3 or 5, the dates for NAPLAN this year are:

11th May	12th May	13th May	14th May
Y3 Writing	Y5 Writing	Y3 Reading	Yr 5 Reading
17th May	18th May	19th May	
Y3 & 5 Lang	Y5 Numeracy	Y3 Numeracy	

Please note that dates may be subject to change and there is the possibility of catch up if absent

Later this year, parents will receive a report providing an overall picture of their child's achievement in the NAPLAN tests. These reports provide parents and teachers with an understanding of how individual students were performing at the time of the tests.

Their achievements are reported on a development scale, as well as against the school and the national average.

It is important to remember that NAPLAN provides only a snap shot of your child's skills and knowledge in Numeracy and Literacy.

At St Francis, we use a broad range of tools to assess how well your child is currently achieving, and just as importantly directing their next steps in learning.

Some of these assessments include:

- **Staff Observations and anecdotal Records**
- **SeeSaw**
- **Reflective practices, learning journals and conferencing with students**
- **Early Years Assessment in English including Phonological awareness and Numeracy**
- **Early years baseline assessment -BASE**
- **Diagnostic Standardised Tests**
- **ACER Testing- PAT Math and Reading**
- **Running Records**
- **Self and Peer Assessments**

The advantage of these tests and observations is that teachers do not have to wait for an extended period for results. Reporting or feedback is available immediately. These types of assessments provide staff with information about where each student is at and informs the next steps in their learning.

Sent home last term and accompanying this newsletter is a flyer from ACARA detailing some important information about NAPLAN and a Privacy Collection notice.

I encourage you to have a read and speak to your child's class teacher, Phil or myself if you have any further queries or concerns.

Further information can be found at:

<https://nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

**God Bless**

**Nives Kresevic**

## P.E SPORT

### School Soccer Season

Thank you to all those families who have signed up their child/ren to participate in this year's soccer season. The first round will commence on Saturday 8th May. All final team information, including game times, COVID safe practices and venue locations will be forwarded to you at the beginning of week 2. We wish all students who are playing this season all the very best in their first games. A big thank you to all of the team coaches, team managers and team COVID marshals who will be volunteering their time, effort and



commitment to help make sure our students can have the most enjoyment possible while playing school soccer.

### **School Basketball and Netball**

For our families involved in our school basketball and netball teams your season will continue to operate as normal this term. Please keep a close eye on the Sports Fix App for all game times, venues locations and any changes that may have occurred to the programs. Good luck to all those players for the final term of the Season 1 program.

### **Sporting School Program**

In the coming weeks information will be sent home to families about sporting opportunities for students who may wish to take part in some FREE 4 week sporting programs conducted after school. This terms sports are Netball and Basketball. Please keep an eye out on Seesaw for this information.

**James Daley - Sports Coordinator**

## **NEW PARKING CONDITIONS ON FRANCISCAN AVE**

Please be aware that new signage indicates

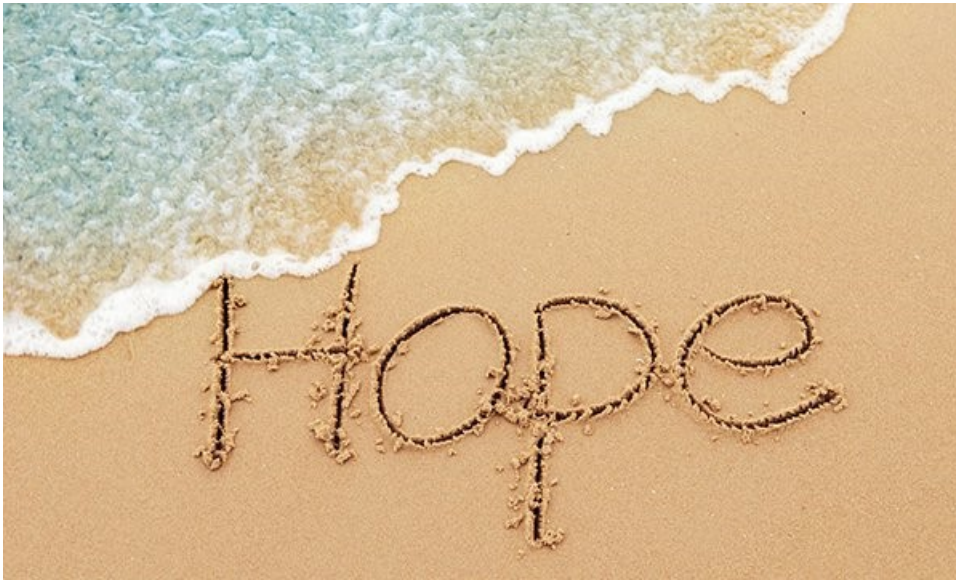
'No Stopping' on Franciscan Avenue by the back gate/Nursing home curve.

To 'stop' a vehicle, means to stop and remain stationary for even a short time.

You must not stop or park your vehicle in any area where a 'No Stopping' sign or a continuous yellow edge line applies, even to pick up or set down passengers or goods.

Adherence to this signage will provide greater flow for school traffic and greater safety for students entering/exiting the school gate.





The great paradox is that the most fragile yet powerful of human emotions is – **HOPE**

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## JUST A REMINDER

If your child is showing any signs of illness,

Please keep them home for the day.

Including mild symptoms of a runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever & shortness of breath.

We encourage students to wash their hands often,

As good hygiene is one of the best ways to help

Avoid the spread of germs.

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