



Week 2 - Term 1

Important Dates

Year 1 Incursion
Tuesday 1 March

Ash Wednesday
Wednesday 2 March

Swimming Trials
Friday 4 March

**SACPSSA Cricket
Carnival**
Wednesday 9 March

Pupil Free Day
Friday 11 March

Adelaide Cup
Monday 14 March

**SACPSSA Swimming
Carnival**
Wednesday 23 March

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

It has been a different beginning to the school year than we had all imagined, or hoped for! I want to congratulate all children and families in Reception and year one who have been able to return to school on site. Their first few days have been full of wonder and excitement and we are so pleased to have these children and families amongst us for the first time! I would also like to acknowledge

those children of essential workers who have been attending school over the past 2 weeks, but still working 'remotely' with their teachers. While it hasn't exactly been the beginning they were hoping for either, they have worked positively and productively throughout.

Throughout the pandemic I have been amazed by the courage, resilience and agility of our wonderful teaching staff. Their passion for their work and 100% commitment to the learning and well-being of the children is simply outstanding and along with our health workers, they are the true heroes of this unprecedented period of time in our history. As families would be aware, the requirements of teachers in regard to health and safety of themselves and others are considerable and it truly inspires me every day to see them go about their work with the best interests of children at the forefront.

St Francis School takes the care, health and wellbeing of all community members very seriously. As parents would be aware, we are operating under some fairly stringent protocols regarding covid 19. I ask all families to support us in adhering to these protocols. If your child becomes unwell with covid, or becomes a close contact of a covid positive person, it is vital that you provide us with as much information as possible, to assist us in responding appropriately at school. If your child is a close contact outside of the school environment, and has to go into isolation, we ask that you provide us with details of a negative RAT or PCR test as soon as possible. If they test positive to covid-19 and have been at school during an infectious period, we have to enact a number of protocols, in order to minimise transmission, and every piece of timely information is important to us. Thankyou for your support.

Given the number of communications required recently, it was quite providential that we initiated the Schoolzine app-SZapp-late last year! Thanks to all families who have connected to the app. From now on, this will be the primary place to get important information and updates regarding St Francis School. If you haven't already, please prioritise downloading the app!

On the SZapp on Tuesday afternoon, you will have seen an invitation to become your child's class parent representative for 2022. Research tells us that parents being actively involved in their child's education is one of the biggest influencing factors in their success - both from a learning and a wellbeing perspective. Acting as a class parent rep is a fantastic way to demonstrate your active involvement to your child! As class parent rep, you have the opportunity to support our P&F as they go about their vocation. You can also organise social interactions for families in the class group, thus strengthening the relationship with the teacher and the school. Please give strong consideration to supporting your child and the school by becoming a class parent rep. There is a nomination form on the app.

During a normal school year, we would host welcome back functions for families, as well as information evenings for each class. We did have a date in the school calendar for this event, however the hybrid beginning to the school year, coupled with protocols in place for schools means we can't host these activities on site at present. With this in mind, we have decided to reschedule information evenings for class groups to online forums, using Microsoft teams. Given the extra preparation required, these information evenings have been postponed for a week, and will now take place on Tuesday 22nd February at 5pm. An information sheet and accompanying invitation will be sent in due course, and I warmly invite all families to join the online meetings to hear from our teaching staff regarding your children's' classes for 2022. We sincerely hope that we can return to face-to-face gatherings as soon as possible.

Have a great week everyone!

God bless,

Phil

FROM THE DEPUTY

Repeated from week 2

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2022 school year. It has been wonderful to see our Reception and Year 1 students make such an independent start to the year and we look forward to welcoming the rest of our students back next week. We pray that the year is rewarding and filled with many friendships, new experiences and enjoyment.

Would you know what to do?

As part of WHS, the school practises either a lock in or an emergency evacuation each term. At some time in the future, we may practise these while parents are still present on school grounds. Would you know what to do?

Emergency Evacuation –**Continuous** sounding of the bell. We all meet on the oval and a roll call is taken.

Emergency Lock in– **Continuous wailing** bell will sound. Go to the nearest room, regardless of whether this is your child's classroom or not. Once everyone is safely inside, the teacher will then follow our site's lock-in procedures.

Your safety is important to us. If you have any questions regarding either of these procedures, please feel free to speak to me or any of the teachers.

Parking

The safety of students is of paramount importance to us and while parking is difficult at any school, if we all follow the school procedures, we decrease the chances of accidents occurring. I ask that you to share the following information with all families and friends who may come to drop off or collect your child/ren.

- Kiss and Drop Zone located in Arcoona Ave and at the front of the Church on Henley Beach Road
- The car park is only for staff parking and for students with a disability
- Please observe the parking signs on Arcoona Ave – Parking Officers frequently patrol this area and will issue fines
- **Signs around our school**
- Periodically, traffic inspectors from the city of West Torrens check that local drivers are following traffic rules around our school. Breaking these rules may result in a fine.

Here are some reminders for you.



No Stopping

- To 'stop' a vehicle means to stop and remain stationary for even a short period of 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.



No Parking

- You must not park your vehicle in an area where a 'No Parking' sign applies, unless: you are dropping off or picking up passengers or goods you do not leave the vehicle unattended - that is, move more than three metres away and you complete the dropping off or picking up as soon as possible - in any case, within two minutes.
- Please note: A 'No Standing' sign has the same meaning as a 'No Stopping' sign.
- Always use the crossing



God Bless

Nives Kresevic

APRIM

Religious Education



“A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.”

- St. Francis of Assisi

Welcome to the start of a New School Year!

I am excited to be a part of the St Francis community. The school staff have been very welcoming. It has been wonderful to meet and speak with the many children who beam with enthusiasm when telling me what they love about St Francis. As the restrictions ease for schools, I look forward to meeting the rest of the school community. If you see me on yard duty, please come and introduce yourself.

Last Sunday we heard about Jesus calling his first disciples. Fishermen, among them Simon Peter. Even though they had been out all night and caught nothing Jesus urged them to cast out their nets again. “Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets” (5:4-5). We know what happened next – nets so full that they begin to break, boats so full of fish that they begin to sink. We are called to trust again, at a time when there is uncertainty, restrictions imposed and families stretched, Jesus is gently calling us “don’t worry I have something better planned for you just go into the deep”.

Beginning of Year Prayer

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen

Class Masses and Liturgy of the Word

We are looking forward to resuming Class Masses and Liturgies in the near future. Further information will be posted once details are confirmed.

Dates for your diary

Ash Wednesday 2nd March, Feast of St Joseph March 19th

Palm Sunday April 10th, Good Friday April 15th

Whether you are an existing student or new to our school community, there is a great deal of exciting learning taking place this year!

"Let us rejoice and thank God for giving us such solid proofs of his love." Mary MacKillop 1877

Wishing all a peaceful and enjoyable year

God Bless

Angela De Nadai

Assistant Principal: Religious Identity and Mission

P.E/SPORT

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the school year and the beginning of another exciting year of school sport. Whilst we are beginning the year a little different to how we would normally be, we are still very excited to be able to offer your child the opportunity to participate in various team sports that we have on offer.

The other exciting part of 2022 is the new way to nominate and register your child to play in a school team.

Please click on the "Sport" tile on the home page of the SZapp, then click on the team sport you wish to sign up for and then fill in all fields required and make your payment via the QKR app and it is as simple as that.

Once teams are finalised and team helpers have been locked in I will make contact with all families with future information.

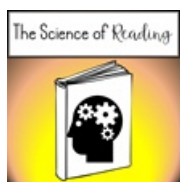
Due to the governments restrictions on the commencement of school sports the seasons are all looking to begin in week 5 of term 1. This timeline remains uncertain at present and so we will keep you regularly informed. The nomination forms still need to be completed by you before the due dates to secure your child's place in the team.

Along with the team sports on offer you would have also received a notification on SZapp yesterday relating to our School Swimming Trials. If your child is in Years 3-6 and are a competent swimmer please make sure you complete a nomination form before the due date.

James Daley

Sports Coordinator

LITERACY @ ST FRANCIS



At St Francis School, we are deeply committed to delivering quality education that equips every child with the ability to read, which means that every child who comes to St Francis School will leave us as a successful reader.

As educators, we are continually learning and expanding our knowledge of best practice. Late last year, during the holidays and at the start of this school year, the staff of St Francis have engaged specialists in the teaching of reading to work with us in understanding the 'Science of Reading'. This title is an umbrella term that encompasses the research that informs us how children learn to read and how best to teach reading.

Our learning as a staff has been tremendous, as we look at the teaching of reading through an evidence-based lens and change our practices to suit what we know works best for students. So, if your family has been a part of St Francis community for some time, you will notice some changes in how we teach reading this year. If you are new to the school, jump on board! It's an exciting time for us, as we align our instruction with the Science of Reading!

One big change for all classes is our designated Literacy morning sessions throughout the school. Each class will engage in structured reading and writing lessons each morning which will include phonology and morphology lessons (except if they are scheduled to have specialist lessons). For this reason, we ask that you ensure that your child arrive at school on time so as not to miss out on important instructional time.

Another change is our Early Intervention room and teacher. We are lucky enough to have Sarah Battistella join our staff this year to work with a Year 1 class 2 days a week and to run our intervention for 2 days a week. Sarah will be teaching a structured, synthetic phonics program: Playberry in the intervention room. You might notice when you are able to come back into school, the big Spelling Rules poster on the window!



As the Literacy Coordinator this year, I have been given time to work with staff to help implement new practices and refine our teaching based on The Science of Reading. I'm very excited about my new role and intend to keep up communication with you about what is happening in the Science of Reading space at St Francis School. There certainly are exciting times ahead.

Keep on reading!

Christie-Lee Hansberry

Literacy Coordinator