



Important Dates

Pupil Free Day
Friday 7 June 2024

King's Birthday
Monday 10 June 2024

**SACPSSA
Basketball Carnival**
Thursday 13 June 2024

Principals Tour
Friday 14 June 2024

P&F Meeting
Monday 17 June 2024

R-4 Disco
Friday 28 June 2024

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

It's hard to believe we are now into the second half of term 2! Our hard working teachers are busily preparing semester one reports. This is a complex and time consuming process of analysing student data (as well as collecting up to date data that demonstrates progress from term 1) moderating student work samples and ensuring accuracy of reporting of progress against the achievement standards of the

Australian Curriculum. Families will by now know that reports will be delivered via SEQTA Engage from this semester onwards. If you haven't already created an account, please do so before the end of term! Reports will be available to families at the end of term 2.

Last week, we celebrated and acknowledged Reconciliation Week. National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The theme of this year's Reconciliation Week is 'Now more than ever.' At our official launch, we gathered in circles and Kaurua elder Karl Telfer led us in a ceremony to acknowledge the development of our school's Acknowledgement of Country and the launch of our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) We concluded the launch with a smoking ceremony.

On Monday and Tuesday our year 4 students attended camp at Aldinga scrub. Our camps program is a very important part of school life at St Francis and all students are expected to attend. Camps are an excellent way of learning beyond the classroom, developing resilience and social skills, and enhancing independence. My sincere thanks to our 8 intrepid staff who attended and led the students during the camp activities-I think everyone would've slept well on Tuesday evening! Our year 5 students will have their camp in term 3 and we are all looking forward to it.

This Friday, while students enjoy a pupil free day, our staff will be engaging in professional learning. Our focus is "The Writing Revolution." The Writing Revolution provides teachers with an evidence-based and proven instructional methodology for teaching writing. The methodology rests on explicit, carefully sequenced instruction, building from sentences to compositions. This methodology enhances our already strong Literacy program and is very closely aligned with the overall 'Science of Learning' body of work. I want to again acknowledge our outstanding educators, who give so much of themselves in continual improvement in order to provide your children with the best and most evidence informed learning opportunities.

While it may not appear as if too much is happening with the restoration of the building precinct, plenty has been happening behind the scenes and we are hopeful of further space and access being available very soon – hopefully by June 17. I continue to be grateful for your patience and forbearance in managing the final stages of the process. Families may have seen some new signage at the Henley Beach entrance to the parish and school precinct. Very soon, we will have a highly visible digital display space to promote the many blessings of our school and parish!

Have a great long weekend everyone and we will see you all next Tuesday.

**God bless,
Phil Schultz.**

FROM THE DEPUTY

Yr 4 Camp Aldinga

This week, the Year 4 students attended their first overnight camp experience at Aldinga Scrub. This camp had an Indigenous focus and the activities centred around traditional practices, games and stories.

They were blessed with clear but cold weather and it was wonderful to see the student's enthusiasm and willingness to participate in all things, especially if it was something they had never tried before. Our thanks also to the Year 4 teachers, Mr Daley and Mrs Smith for making this a memorable experience.

Year 4 camp was a great experience for us because we got to understand the difference between our life and Aboriginal and Torrance Strait Islanders lives and how to care for nature. Mia and Maggie - 4MS

The place we went to for camp was Aldinga Scrub it was woman's country. It was so much fun with two days jam packed with activities, and we saw a lot of wild kangaroos! The food was awesome with lots of servings. We went on a bush walk and tried bushtucker. Olivia and Ruby 4MS.

Nives Kresevic

Year 4 Camp



CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Winter Appeal

We are receiving some wonderful donations for the Winter Appeal. On the second day of the appeal, an anonymous family donated a box full of new adult thermal beanies, scarves, and warmers – thank you for your generosity!

The Year 4 & 3 classes are also making blankets to donate.



A reminder of items to donate in **adult sizes**:

- Raincoats, Jackets, Gloves, Scarves, Hats, Track, pants, Socks, Small umbrellas

The greatest need is for Blankets and Sleeping Bags

Reconciliation

Congratulations to all Year 4 students who received the Rite of Reconciliation for the first time last week. Please keep the students and families in your prayers.

Well Being

Grow Your Mind - Through the program students have been discovering how the brain helps with their learning. Animals have been used to explain the brain's responses to various emotions. They have been learning strategies to help calm "The Guard Dog" Amygdala when they are anxious or upset.



Action for Happiness – Joyful June

As you read each June action, I encourage you to read it through the eyes of a loving Christian.

As Pope Francis writes in his encyclical, *Evangelii Gaudium* ('**Joy of the Gospel**')

I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord" (#3).



God Bless

Angela De Nadai

Assistant Principal: Religious Identity and Mission

MARTIAN EXPLORERS!

Friday 17th of May and Friday 24th of May, the students of 5CA and 5FM embarked on an out-of-this-world adventure at Hamilton Secondary College's Martian Landscape Simulation. The facility features an immersive, hands-on learning experience, complete with a simulated Martian crater and landscape divided into seven different geological zones, a Mission Control Room, a Briefing Room, and a space laboratory.

The day began with an audio-visual experience in the Briefing Room, where students watched an introductory video about the challenges of establishing a human presence on Mars. Then, the real fun began! Students took on the roles of astronauts and scientists, working in teams to explore the simulated Martian terrain. Donning full space suits, the "astronauts" ventured onto the Mars surface, collecting samples from the diverse geological zones, while their "scientist" teammates monitored data and problem-solved from Mission Control.

The facility's design replicates real-life Martian explorations, with the crater serving as a prime location for gathering samples, just as NASA sends probes to land in craters on the Red Planet. Through this engaging simulation, students gained invaluable insights into the complexities and excitement of space exploration. It was truly a day out of this world!

Early next term, 5MB will also complete their mission! This is only one of the activities the Year 5's have been working on for their Kids in Space project this year. More information about Kids in Space to come!

Year 5 Team
Corinne McKenzie, Fiona MacDonald, Chloe Auger





RECONCILIATION WEEK

On Thursday during Reconciliation Week, we were fortunate to gather as a school community with Karl Winda Telfer. Karl led us in the

gathering with a smoking ceremony to launch our “Acknowledgement of Country” plaque and our Reconciliation Action Plan.

We will continue our journey together in making our school a place where reconciliation is not just a week-long focus, but a daily commitment.



P.E/SPORT

School Soccer

NO GAME ON JUNE LONG WEEKEND

SAPSASA Footy

Congratulations to Cooper Nicholson who was selected in the Airport SAPSASA Footy team that participated in a 3 day carnival held at West Beach where all 40 districts from around SA competed. Copper and his Division 1 Airport District team coached by Mr Daley and Mr Goldy had a very successful week and played extremely well. At the end of the 3 days the team finished in 3rd position. A brilliant achievement by all involved.



SAPSASA Cross Country

Congratulation and well done to our 7 students who competed in this year SAPSASA Cross Country State Championships at Oakbank Racecourse. Our runners all ran amazing races and should certainly be proud of their efforts. A special well done to Cooper Nicholson and Stephen Rapuano who were awarded the 11yr Boys Team Bronze medal.

James Daley
Sports Coordinator

