



Important Dates

**SACPSSA Athletics
Carnival**

Thursday 29 August 2024

**Father's Day
Breakfast**

Friday 30 August 2024

**ReLAT Practise
Week**

Monday 2 September 2024

**SACPSSA Touch
Rugby Carnival**

Wednesday 4 September
2024

Instrumental Night

Thursday 5 September 2024

Pupil Free Day

Friday 6 September 2024

**ReLAT Assessment
Week**

Monday 9 September 2024

Year 5/6 Excursion

Thursday 12 September
2024

Year 5/6 Disco

Friday 13 September 2024

**St Francis Feast Day
Celebration**

Friday 13 September 2024

**SAPSASA Athletics
Carnival**

Tuesday 17 September 2024

Reception Excursion

Wednesday 18 September
2024

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

Week 6 already! It does feel like a significant amount has been achieved over the past 6 weeks here at St Francis. It is so exciting to finally have our oval space and playground areas fully available again. The children are certainly appreciative of the extra space, and the new play equipment. We have turned our attention to the Nature play area now, and we are developing some ideas, resources and strategies for effective play in this area. We have closed the area off temporarily, and very much hope to re-open it very soon-watch this space.

Last week's Arts exhibition was a fantastic celebration of our students artistic gifts, and our teachers dedication, creativity and commitment to excellence. It was wonderful to have so many families come through during the evening, to view the art work and to stop and have a drink and a chat with other community members. Many of you have commented on the all-round positive 'vibe' of the evening (channelling my best Dennis Denuto there!) I am so grateful to all the staff and particularly the Art show committee, whose vision for the evening was such an important part of its success.

Over the past 6 weeks, St Francis students have been heavily involved in a range of co- and extra-curricula sporting opportunities. These opportunities are one of the strengths and features of being a part of the St Francis family and it is always a delight to witness our students involved in tryouts and carnivals. My sincere thanks to James Daley and James Goldy for their untiring commitment to sports at St Francis. This term, their commitments have been 'through the roof' in terms of planning, coaching, selecting and managing multiple carnivals, as well as overseeing SAPSASA selections etc. It is a huge commitment!

Next Thursday, we will be celebrating instrumental music at St Francis with our annual Instrumental evening. Music is a gift, and is food for the soul. It contributes so positively to our all-round well-being. Additionally, learning to play music and sing, switches our brains on in different ways, which leads to better learning outcomes for all! My sincere thanks to Olivia Bozzon, who oversees our Arts program, and to all of our music tutors who nurture your children's love of music every day!

While on the performing arts, after our stellar performance at Wakakirri recently, our students have had the ongoing opportunity to take part in the Footsteps Dance sport program this term!

Last weekend, our year 4 students celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and first Eucharist. This is such a special moment of initiation into full communion with the Catholic church. The 2 Masses on Saturday and Sunday were joyous occasions, and we were blessed to have Arch-Bishop O'Reagan celebrate these masses with us. Congratulations to all who received these sacraments and sincere thanks to Angela DeNadai, and the parish team led by Fr Michael Joan Walsh for their leadership of the preparation program.

While speaking of Fr Michael, this week he celebrates 50 years of ordained ministry. We are indeed blessed to have Fr Michael as our parish priest and we thank and congratulate him on 50 years of dedicated and selfless ministry to the church, wider and world communities. After Mass on Sunday there was a very special celebration for Fr Michael.

Over the past few weeks, and continuing into term 4, our teaching and ESO staff have been engaging with Playberry Laser Phonology to strengthen our Literacy teaching. The Playberry team have been conducting demonstration lessons, and then observing our teachers teaching, providing rich feedback to them. This cycle of continuous improvement is so important in ensuring the best possible outcomes for your children. I am so grateful for the willingness of our teaching and ESO staff to engage in this process. I am also indebted to Sarah Battistella, our amazing Literacy Improvement leader for her coordination of this process-she's also providing demos and observations!

Today, we celebrated Fathers with our annual Father's Day breakfast. Earlier in the week the children had the chance to buy a special gift for dad for Sunday's celebration of father's Day. Sincere thanks to our P&F for coordinating these activities. Wishing all dads, grandads, uncles and other male role models a very happy day on Sunday.

Have a great week everyone.

God bless,

Phil

FROM THE DEPUTY

Phonics Screening Check

Our Year 1 students have undertaken a phonics screening check (PSC) which is mandatory in all CESA Diocesan Schools. The PSC is an assessment that provides schools with valuable data and insight into children's progress with phonics.

The assessment is conducted by the classroom teacher with individual students. The data collected from this and other literacy assessments support the intervention, teaching and learning programs in our school.

A Prayer for Fathers

God our Father, We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen

Happy Father's Day for this Sunday and God Bless,

Nives Kresevic

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Sacrament of Confirmation and Communion

Congratulations to all students from St. Francis and neighbouring schools who celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion last weekend.

The children demonstrated exceptional dedication in their academic and spiritual preparations to receive the Holy Spirit. Their reverence and active participation during the celebrations were truly commendable.

Thank you to Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, Fr Michael Trainor and Fr Peter Sheedy, for leading this special occasion in the life of our Church. I'd also like to thank Joan (Pastoral Associate) and Year 4 teachers for their support, hard work and guidance. Thanks also to the Leadership team and school staff for their support.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the parents and sponsors of the sacramental children. Your unwavering support and guidance are invaluable as you continue to nurture their faith. May the Lord bless you with the strength and love needed for this important journey.





POPE FRANCIS' THOUGHTS ON FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

"The Eucharist is such a great gift. That's why going to Mass is so important. Going to Mass not just to pray, but to receive Communion, the Bread and Body of Christ. It saves us, forgives us and it makes us one with the Father. How beautiful!"

He then explained that the word 'Eucharist' stems from Greek, and it means thankfulness. The greatest gestures of all, he explained, is the Last Supper, where God's love and mercy come together. He then added that celebrating the Eucharist is not just about honouring the past.

POPE FRANCIS "The Eucharist is more than just a mere feast. It's a way to remember Jesus' Passover, a mystery that's central to our salvation. But when we talk about 'remembering' that doesn't mean that it's just a memory. It means that every time we celebrate this Sacrament, we become part of the Mystery of His Passion, Death and Resurrection. The Eucharist is the peak of God's Salvation."

It's through the Eucharist he explained, that it's possible to be in true communion with the Church. That's why it's key for children to make their First Communion.

POPE FRANCIS "It's important for children to properly prepare for their First Communion, so that there's no child without this Sacrament. The Eucharist is a firm step towards Jesus, along with Baptism and Confirmation."

Catholic Charities

September is the month of Catholic Charities, a time when Catholic schools raise money to support the many charitable works in the Adelaide Archdiocese. The agencies supported by Catholic Charities are;

- **Hutt St Centre**
- **Aboriginal Catholic Ministry**
- **Our Lady of La Vang & St Patrick's Special Schools**
- **Centacare Catholic Family Services**

*I was hungry
and you gave me food,
I was a stranger
and you welcomed me.
I was naked
and you gave me clothing
just as you did it to
one of the least of these
who are members of my family,
you did it to me.*

Matthew 25:44-46

Your child's class teacher will provide further information in the week to come.

Father's Day September 6th

Wishing all the Fathers, Grandfathers, Uncles and Carers a very special day this Sunday

*God our Father,
in your wisdom and love you made all things.
Bless those fathers, grandfathers and carers who have taken upon themselves, the responsibility of parenting.
Strengthen them by your love that they may be and become
the loving, caring persons they are meant to be.
Amen*

God Bless,

Angela De Nadai

Assistant Principal: Religious Identity and Mission

Year 5 Camp

In week 4, our Year 5 students enjoyed an exciting 2-night, 3-day camp at Wirraway Homestead in Strathalbyn. This sprawling 72-hectare property in the Adelaide Hills provided the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable outdoor education experience.

Students participated in a variety of engaging activities, including horse riding and care, sheep herding, low ropes course, archery, hiking, Wirraway games, and the Amazing Race.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the dedicated teachers who accompanied our students: Ms McKenzie, Miss MacDonald, Miss Chloe, Christina, Mrs Stevens, and Mrs Edwards. Special recognition goes to Mr Daley for his excellent organization of the camp.

Wirraway Homestead offered our students a unique opportunity to connect with nature, develop new skills, and create lasting memories. We're confident that this experience has enriched their education and personal growth.

Year 5 Camp Team





👀 Amazing effort by our Year 5's in 5MB at St Francis! 👀👀



Through their NAIDOC week themed donut and cupcake sale, along with generous donations, they raised an impressive \$416.50 for The

Indigenous Literacy Foundation!

This incredible contribution will provide over 41 culturally relevant books to children and families in remote Communities through the Book Supply program. With over 50% of the books authored and/or illustrated by Indigenous creators, these stories span all age groups from babies to young adults, plus family reads.

These books are vital in helping kids and families see themselves and their cultures reflected in stories, fostering connection, belonging, and pride.

Thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful cause!

5MB

P.E/SPORT

SAPSASA Soccer

Recently we have had a number of students represent the Airport District at the SAPSASA Soccer Carnival. Our students competed exceptionally well for their corresponding teams. Congratulations to Sienna B and her team who finished the carnival in 1st position and to Maxi D, Luca S, Joseph C and Ari P who along with their team finished in equal 2nd position. A truly amazing achievement. Well done!!!





School Soccer

With only a few weeks to go we wish all of our students who are participating in our school soccer teams the very best and hope that they enjoy their time playing the sport they love with their friends. Here is a picture of our U9 Soccer team from a recent weekends game.



SAPSASA Hockey

We would like to say congratulations to Nicholas Cavanagh who has been selected to represent the Airport SAPSASA Hockey Team at the coming carnival week. We wish Nicholas and his team all the very best and look forward to hearing the results a little later on.

James Daley

Sports Coordinator

PLAYGROUP NEWS

In recent weeks our playgroup families and children have had a wonderful time. The friendships that are starting to form amongst the children are wonderful to see. We really enjoyed our "Wheels Day" and "Book Week Parade" over the last couple of sessions. We can't wait to continue to make new memories and go on adventures.

James Daley
Playgroup Coordinator





REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO JOIN FULHAM UNITED IN 2025!

AT FULHAM UNITED FC, WE FOSTER A SUPPORTIVE AND DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT FOR JUNIOR COACHES AND PLAYERS. WHETHER YOU'RE LOOKING TO DEVELOP YOUR COACHING SKILLS OR ENHANCE YOUR PLAYING ABILITIES, FULHAM UNITED IS THE PLACE FOR YOU. BE PART OF A TEAM THAT VALUES PASSION, TEAMWORK, AND EXCELLENCE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
[FULHAMUNITED.COM.AU/JUNIORS](https://fulhamunited.com.au/juniors)






JUNIOR

REGISTRATION DAY

13TH SEPTEMBER 2024

5:30PM-8:00PM

Woodville Rechabite Cricket Club Matheson Reserve Findon SA 5023

Scan below to register for

Woolworths Blast Cricket (Aged under 10)

Under 10's, 12's & 14's in the Western Suburbs Junior Cricket Association

Under 15's & 17's in the Junior Boy's Competition






Register Now

Anyone interested in coaching, scoring or team manager roles
please contact our Junior Coordinator Lauren Holton
via email holtons2010@gmail.com

Woodville Cricket

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