



Week 9 - Term 1

Important Dates

Palm Sunday

Sunday 2 April

Good Friday

Friday 7 April

Easter Sunday

Sunday 9 April

Easter Monday

Monday 10 April

Last Day Term 1

Friday 14 April

Start Term 2

Monday 1 May

**SAPSASA Metro
Swimming Carnival**

Thursday 4 May

Mother's Day Event

Friday 12 May

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

We are fast approaching the end of term 1 and the important celebrations for Holy Week. As part of our Catholic tradition, Holy Week is the final week of Lent and is the most important and significant week of Catholicism. It begins on Palm Sunday and ends on Holy Saturday, the day before the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday. It's an important week of prayer, reflection, and gratitude as we contemplate the agony Jesus endured for us and the hope of the Resurrection. During the week, our children we

commemorate Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday with prayer and reflection. Upon return to school after Easter, we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. These celebrations are central to the catholic faith, and have significance for all people. My thanks to Angela DeNadai for her work in preparing us for these celebrations.

I congratulate our year 4 students who have been preparing for the Sacrament of reconciliation, which was celebrated this week. This is the first of the Sacraments of Initiation being celebrated this year, with Confirmation and First Eucharist to come, later in the year.

Term one has been a time of significant learning – for the children and for our teachers, who have continued to focus on aligning their teaching practice with what cognitive science tells us is the best way for children to learn to read, write and be numerate. During 2023 we have been particularly focussed on the development of our Maths program. I am always impressed with the alignment of practice I observe in my regular classroom visits. I am also impressed with the focus and engagement of all learners in this process! My sincere thanks to Sarah Battistella (Literacy) and Corinne McKenzie & Cheryl Milde (Numeracy) for their leadership in these areas.

As we head into term two, our progress monitoring schedule will provide us with opportunities to reflect on progress data and to fine tune our classroom teaching to ensure best outcomes for our children. As part of our regular reporting cycle, **parent-teacher interviews** will be held for all children in year 1-6, during the week beginning 8th May (Reception families held their interviews recently). This will be an opportunity to reflect on progress made and to refine goals for the remainder of the term, in preparation for end of Semester 1 reports. Please keep an eye out for the interview booking form to be sent home.

Our P&F met recently, to discuss events for 2023. I am grateful to Terri Sparrow and Trish Cannon, who have volunteered to co-chair the P&F this year. One of their first initiatives is an Easter raffle, which you would all have heard about by now. We are still on the lookout for donations for raffle prizes, and they will be drawn on the Tuesday following Easter. Thinking ahead to term 2, Mother's Day celebrations will be held on Friday May 12-stay tuned for further updates.

We are finalising our enrolment for 2024. If there are still families who have a sibling commencing school in 2024-either at the beginning of the year, or mid year, please contact Andrea Brown ASAP, to allow us to properly prepare for transition. Additionally, if you know of families interested in enrolling at St Francis, we can still accept places for 2024. Encourage them to contact the school soon!

**God bless,
Phil Schultz
Principal.**

FROM THE DEPUTY

Easter Raffle

A sincere thanks to all families who will/have donated something for our Easter Raffle. I'll be calling for some assistance next Wednesday morning for the wrapping of prizes so if you are available from 9-11.30am, I'd be very grateful.

Tickets for the raffle have been sent home with each student. Extra raffle booklets can be collected from class teachers and the front office.

Mothers Day

Mother's Day is on May 24 (week 2) and the P&F would like to organise something for our female caregivers. If you are happy to join this organising committee, please contact the front office or email Penny Canning ASAP.

Showdown Donuts

A thanks to the Food Day subcommittee for organising showdown donuts for us on Friday. Over 390 donuts were ordered!

Volunteers for committees

Last week, I sent out a letter on behalf of the P&F and have included a small excerpt:

A number of events have been proposed for 2023.

- Mother's Day Stall
- Mother's Day event
- Father's Day Stall
- Father's Day event
- Community Gala event

- Colour run
- Sports Day
- Crazy camel calendars
- Wine Drive
- Food Days
- Easter Egg raffle
- Movie night
- New parent morning tea

In order for these to proceed, we need your help. Each event requires a subcommittee with at least 3 representatives.

If you are prepared to be on an event subcommittee, can you please forward your name and the event/s you are interested in supporting to Penny in the office on pcanning@sflockleys.catholic.edu.au

Harmony Day 2023



Last week, our classes celebrated Harmony Day through a variety of activities, including our Reception Liturgies.

Harmony Day celebrates the acceptance and appreciation of diverse cultures. Many of our junior students looked very colourful, dressed in their traditional national dress, wearing the colours of their national flag(s), or dressed in orange, the official colour of Harmony Day.

The colour orange symbolises a change in attitude of the people who call Australia home, from discrimination and racism, to positive communication between diverse cultures and mutual respect for one another. Living in such a multicultural country, this is an important message indeed.

Did you know that at St. Francis School we have students from a number of cultural backgrounds including: Indigenous, Torres Strait Islander, Australian, English, Indian, Filipino, Vietnamese, Greek, Italian, Nigerian, Chinese, Scottish, Arab, Irish, Egyptian, Croatian, Albanian, Brazilian, Iraqi, New Zealander, Serbian and South Korean.

Wishing all families a blessed Easter and as this is the final newsletter for the term, a safe and enjoyable school break.

Nives Kresevic

Harmony Day



CATHOLIC IDENTITY

HOLY WEEK



Passion (Palm) Sunday, April 2nd commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. It also begins the week where we follow Jesus' journey of sharing a meal, betrayal, arrest, trial and crucifixion.

The Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, is continued through Good Friday with the celebration of the passion of the Lord on Holy Saturday, reaches its high point in the Easter vigil, and concludes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday.

The season of Lent ends on Thursday of Holy Week. Then the Church remembers the death and resurrection of Jesus during the Easter Triduum. **These three days are the most important time of the Church year.**



Holy Week commemorations

During week 10 we will be commemorating the events which took place during Holy Week. The reflections will begin with Palm Sunday Liturgy on Monday 3rd April in the Quadrangle at 12pm, Classroom Last Supper liturgies and Journeying with Stations of the Cross by Year 6 students on Thursday from 10:30pm.

Parent Sacrament Reconciliation Workshop Night

Thank you to the families and staff who were able to attend and engage in the Sacramental Reconciliation Workshop last week. This was an important part of the sacramental journey for the candidates and their families.



Rite of Reconciliation

The Rite of Reconciliation for sacramental candidates and their families will take place this Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th of March in the Christ the King Church at 6pm. Please keep these families in your prayers.

Class Masses and Liturgy of the Word

Term 1

March 29th **Year 5** Christ the King Church at 9:15am

April 3rd **Year 2** Palm Sunday Liturgy 12pm

NB please check with class teachers for confirmation of Mass times

Wishing you all the blessings of Easter - the Risen Christ, a safe and enjoyable break

God Bless

Angela De Nadai

Assistant Principal: Religious Identity and Mission

P.E/SPORT

SACPSSA Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday 29th March the School Swimming Team heading along to the Marion Aquatic Centre to compete in the 2023 SACPSSA Swimming Carnival. What an amazing venue to host such a wonderful carnival day. Our students competed incredibly well and we are extremely proud of all there effort and achievements. Every single swimmer form our school received a place ribbon for either an individual event or a team relay, that truly is an outstanding result. Over all St Francis finished in 3rd position for the day. Well done team.



School Sport

Soccer

The school soccer nominations have now closed and we will no longer be accepting student nominations unless it can assist the overall team numbers. All team ,coach and season information will begin to come home over the next two weeks.

School Footy

School Footy nomination have also closed, unfortunately we did not gain enough interest to nominate any St Francis School teams, I will make contact with the families who nominated about some other options that might be available to your child.

James Daley

Sports Coordinator

PLAYGROUP NEWS

Over the last few weeks we have really started to see some of our children's development grow, there social skills are building and their ability to participate in our craft activity time has increased. Our children are very much looking forward to celebrating some Easter time activities during our sessions in week 10.

