



Important Dates

Pupil Free Day
Friday 10 March

Adelaide Cup
Monday 13 March

NAPLAN 15th - 27th
Wednesday 15 March

Year 6 Camp
Wednesday 15 March

P&F Meeting - 6:30pm
Wednesday 15 March

Year 6 Camp
Thursday 16 March

Year 6 Camp
Friday 17 March

Open Day
Monday 27 March

SACPSSA Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 29 March

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

I trust everyone is well. We have settled in well to the rhythm and routines of school life over the past few weeks and the children are all working very purposefully towards their learning goals. During the past week, we have been using the CESA 'Classroom Pulse Check' survey to hear directly from the children how they are feeling about learning and school life in general. They have reported strongly to us that they are feeling happy and safe at school, and enjoying their learning!

We are now well into the season of Lent, which commenced with our Carnevale celebrations on Shrove Tuesday, followed by a very moving and significant Liturgy on Ash Wednesday. Children are learning all about the importance of Lent, during their RE lessons and reflecting on their Lenten goals.

NAPLAN preparations have commenced in earnest. From 2023, NAPLAN will be held in the first term. This is designed to allow for a more timely return of results to schools and families. There will also be a new form of NAPLAN reporting from this year, with a move toward 4 proficiency standards, rather than the previous NAPLAN bands. This means that data from 2023 will be considered a new baseline. The 4 standards are: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support. I will provide further information around these new procedures in the future. The NAPLAN testing window is from the 15th-27th March.

Families have probably noticed action beginning to happen in the building zone. While this is exciting, unfortunately, things have kicked off a little later than expected because of some challenges around development approval that were beyond our control. We remain hopeful that the project can still be delivered in time for the 2024 school year, however the building industry is still quite volatile and so we do need to be realistic in our expectations. As always, I will keep the community informed.

You may also have noticed the oval not really looking as good as it usually does. This has been a legacy of not being able to properly attend to it late last year, due to the early works program. Hopefully it will begin to regain some of its former glory, very soon. Thankfully, it hasn't impacted too significantly on the children's play.

As families would know, we have a Pupil Free day this Friday. Our teaching staff have been working very hard over the beginning of the year to ensure our Literacy program is well aligned and purposeful. On Friday, we will be involved in 'Word cracker' training with Hansberry Educational consulting. This Professional learning is centered on *Morphology*, which relates to the structure and formation of words. Morphology sits alongside Phonology and Phonemic awareness as integral components of a successful reading program. In addition to this training, our staff have been actively engaged in collecting and analysing a range of datasets, and implementing our evidence engagement schedule to ensure our planning, and teaching and learning are providing optimal learning experiences for the children.

Next Wednesday, I will be joining the year 6 children for their annual camp. For the second year, we will be at Finniss, on the Fleurieu Peninsula, as the Murray River remains too high for us to be at our usual campsite. Camps are an excellent way for our children to experience life away from home and to build on their friendships and strengthen their relational skills and resilience. My sincere thanks go to our year 6 teachers Ms Gill and Mrs Stoddart, along with Mr Daley and Mrs Edwards, all of whom will be spending time away from their families while caring for the year 6 classes. This is a significant work commitment and one that I very much appreciate.

Our Sacramental program has commenced in earnest, under the expert guidance of Angela DeNadai. This year, St Francis is working in close partnership with Christ the King parish in the implementation of the program, and we very much value the leadership and support of Fr Michael Trainor and Joan Walsh who is Pastoral Associate.

Our thoughts and prayers go with James Quigley and his family on the death of his mum, Cecilia Quigley. James would still be remembered by some at St Francis from his time as Deputy Principal. I attended the funeral last Friday, which was a very moving experience.

On a final note, there is a P&F meeting next Wednesday 15th March from 6.30pm at school. While a group email has been sent out, in reality, all families are welcome and encouraged to join the P&F!

Kind regards,
Phil Schultz
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY

Dear Families

National Assessment Program

Literacy and Numeracy

NAPLAN

15th-27th March

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assess literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Schools have transitioned from paper-based to computer-based assessments. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

NAPLAN Online is a tailored test that adapts to student responses, presenting students with questions that may be difficult – resulting in better assessment and more precise results.

New in 2023, NAPLAN Testing will be conducted in Term One.

The NAPLAN test window is from Wednesday 15 - Monday 27 March, not the May date in previous years. This means results will be available to education authorities earlier in the year to inform school and system teaching and learning programs.

Apart from the school readiness test, all schools, students and teachers can familiarise themselves with NAPLAN Online and the types of questions to be included, by using the public demonstration site available at [NAPLAN Demonstration-site](#)

Teachers will be sharing this site with the students at school also.

For further information about NAPLAN Online (including frequently asked questions and answers), please visit:

[NAPLAN FAQ's](#)

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.

Important information about NAPLAN and a Privacy Collection Notice has already been sent home to families in Yr 3 & 5. 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 regarding your child's participation in the test.

Further information can be found at:

[NAPLAN](#)

[NAPLAN Information Brochure](#)

Testing Dates

(subject to change)

Wednesday 15/3

Yr 3 & 5 Writing (from 9am)

Thursday 16/3

Year 3 & 5 Reading (from 9am)

Friday 17/3

Yr 3 & 5 Conventions of Language (from 9am)

Monday 20/3

Yr 3 & 5 Numeracy (from 9am)

Afternoons and the following week from 21/3 will be used for catchups

God Bless

Nives Kresevic

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

The Fasting and Feasting prayer can help us view Lent with a different lens. We don't give something up to make ourselves suffer. We give things up for Lent to make room for something better.

Fasting and Feasting Prayer

Fast from judging others; feast on Christ within in them.

Fast from emphasis on difference; feast on our bonds.

Fast from fear of illness; feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from apparent darkness; feast on God's light.

Fast from words that cut down; feast on speech that uplifts.

Fast from gossip; feast on affirmations.

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.

Fast from pessimism; Feast on hope.

Fast from anger; feast on patience.

Fast from negatives; feast on encouragement.

Fast from resentment; feast on forgiveness.

Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.

Fast from self-centeredness; feast on compassion.

Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.

Fast from giving up; feast on enthusiasm.

Fast from the shadows of sorrow; feast on trust in God.

Fast from focusing on problems; feast on unceasing prayer.

Fast from anxiety; feast on faith.

Feast of St Patrick March 17th



March 17th is the feast day of St Patrick. St Patrick was born in Roman Britain around the end of the fourth century and he died in Ireland about the middle of the fifth century. St Patrick faced hardship as a missionary bishop in Ireland, and opposition even from his friends and fellow Christians. He worked to conciliate, to evangelise, and to educate local leaders and their families. He is **remembered** for his simplicity and pastoral care, for his humble trust in God, and for his fearless preaching of the gospel to those who had enslaved him in his youth.

Specially honoured in Australia because of the many Irish people who came to settle here and brought with them the faith and zeal of St Patrick. The Catholic Church in Australia was largely founded by the Irish missionaries and Irish migrants.

Feast of St Joseph

On March 19th, we celebrate the feast of St Joseph, husband of Mary. A carpenter, though born of the royal house of David, Joseph was an upright man who, as husband of the Virgin Mary, cared for Mary and the child Jesus. **Venerated** in the East after the fourth century, and his followers flowered in the West during the fifteenth century, following the development of nativity plays, the Christmas crib, and increased devotion to Mary.



Class Masses and Liturgy of the Word Term 1

March 15th **Year 1** Christ the King Church at 9:15am
March 21st **Reception RTP & RLF** Christ the King Church at 9:30am
March 21st **Reception RRC & RDS** Christ the King Church at 10:00am
March 29th **Year 5** Christ the King Church at 9:15am
April 2nd Palm Sunday Liturgy time tbc

NB please check with class teachers for confirmation of Mass times.

God Bless

Angela De Nadai

Assistant Principal: Religious Identity and Mission

P.E/SPORT

School Sports

With Term 2 just around the corner we turn our attention to our winter season of sport. Nomination are now open for both school soccer and school footy. Soccer is open to all R-6 Students and Footy is available for Year 2-6 Students. If you wish for your child/ren to participate in either of these sports plus complete the SZapp nomination form to submit their registration. Once numbers, coaches and other volunteers have been finalised families will be informed of more information.

SAPSASA Swimming

Congratulation to the 5 St Francis students who will be attending the SAPSASA Airport District Swimming Trials to compete for a place in the Metro Swimming team in week 9.

Vincent Busolin

Miley Sparrow

Oscar Nuske

Bianca Barclay

Sidney Fisher

SACPSSA Swimming Team

Congratulations and good luck to our School Swimming Team that will head along to the 2023 SACPSSA Swimming Carnival in week 9. I will be sure to give you all a reports post carnival on how we went as individuals but also as a team.

James Daley

Sports Coordinator

PLAYGROUP NEWS



PLAYGROUP NEWS

Over the past couple of weeks our children have enjoyed making the most of the nicer weather and we headed outside for a play and draw on the tennis courts with chalk before having a picnic and play on our school playground.

We have also enjoyed the craft sessions of making and creating fun and colourful creations.

James Daley

Playgroup Coordinator

HAMRA LIBRARY

Hamra Library- 1 Brooker Tce, Hilton

Hamra Centre Library currently offers the following drop-in activities for children and young people:

A monthly writers' group every second Wednesday of the month, and a monthly book club on the last Wednesday of the month with no set book, just a place to come and talk about reading! Both of these events are from 4:30-5:30pm and are listed as ages 12+, but all ages are welcome!

We run Lego Club every 2nd Monday during term time, from 3:30-5pm in our auditorium.

The Australian Refugee Association offers homework support at the library to students from refugee backgrounds who have been in Australia for 5 years or less every Thursday of term, 4pm-6pm. In addition to this, the library runs Homework Club for all-ages study assistance every Monday during term, 4pm-6pm. There is also 24/7 online access to Studiosity for additional support if students have a West Torrens library card!

We also run "Sign Squad", which is a place for 12-25 year olds to learn Auslan from a Deaf tutor from 5-6pm on Fridays in weeks 1, 4, and 8 of each term.

All of these sessions are free and none require bookings - just turn up and have fun!

For more information, all these events can be found on our Activities and Events webpage:

<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Hamra-Centre-Library/Activities-and-event>

Or follow @hamracentrelibrary on Facebook, Instagram, or TikTok!

View this article online to read more

Lego® Club

Calling all master builders

Stuck?
Study help,
in an instant.

Free with your library
Member number.

Studiosity
Anytime, anywhere

Young Writers' Group

Ages: 12 to 25

Sign Squad

Come and learn Auslan at
the Hamra Centre Library!

Free sessions for 12 - 25 every
4 weeks during school term.

Deaf
Buddies
Effect

Hamra Library

youth book club

For ages 12 to 17.
Last Wednesday
every month, 4.30pm - 5.30pm

Love reading?
Then come to our Youth Book Club!
No set books, just read a book on the month's topic
and come hang out! Snacks provided!

If you would like to join, contact Emma
email library@wvcc.sa.gov.au or phone 8416 6228.

Homework Club

Need a hand with homework?
We're here to help.

**HAMRA
CENTRE
Library**

“The Services and events contained in this bulletin are in no way connected with the school and are included in this newsletter for your information only. Parents and caregivers need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their need and those of their children”