

# ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S SCHOOL

*"Lake Alive with Dreamtime Knowledge, Waves of Learning,  
Sailing into the Future"*

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**Mission through courage, kindness and reconciliation.**

Our mission is to work in an environment of mutual respect for cultures and backgrounds and celebrating the Gospel principles in order to achieve quality education for all.

*"You are the light of the world, let Jesus shine through you to others"*



THIS CHRISTMAS,  
YOUR SUPPORT  
CAN MAKE WISHES  
COME TRUE.



## **VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

We would like to support the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal this year.

**We are asking for any donations of non-perishable food, like**

**packets of biscuits, chips, cans of food. There will be a box for donations in the staff room and we will take any donations down Tuesday 17th December after presentation night.**

With over two million people living below the poverty line in Australia, including over half a million children, your donation allows the St Vincent de Paul Society to provide more than immediate help, it provides something much more valuable – the opportunity of a better life.

Heavenly Father,  
May our Christmas season be a time of reconciliation and peace.

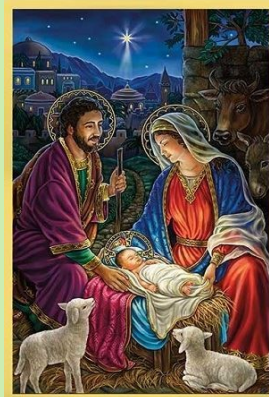
May the love of Christ be with us.

May His peace surround us.

May our Christmas be a time of healing, giving and sharing.

May your spirit be with us as we share and care in Jesus' blessed birth.

Amen.



## Reminders

Thurs Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	Small Schools Swim Carnival 9:00am	All students have been entered in events. Helpers needed
Fri Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving Mass 11:30	All welcome – please join us
Sat Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Carnival Chocolate Wheel	Volunteers needed. Please let Office know if you can help
Mon Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	Presentation Evening 6:30pm	All welcome ~ Presentation of Awards and School Play
Tues Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Reward Day.	Permission note and \$10/family required by Thursday. Please see Sue if you need another note. Bus leaving school at 9:00am
Wed Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day for 2019	Gates close at 3:10pm!

## **Year 6 Graduation Dinner**

~ A wonderful night was had last Thursday evening for our Year 6 students and their families, friends and SFX staff.

**Thank you to everyone who helped make this night so very special ~ especially Miss Maddie with the amazing graduation cake made ~ and enjoyed by all!!**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL** On behalf of the staff of St Francis Xavier's School I would like to take this opportunity to wish all families a very Happy and Holy Christmas. This is a special time for families and I hope you can relax and enjoy this time with your children and families. Thank you for all the support you have shown the school this year.

We acknowledge that St Francis Xavier School is built upon the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri nation and walked upon by the Ngiyampaa and Barkindji peoples. We pay our respects to Elders, past and present and ask for their guidance as we work towards improving outcomes for future generations. May we walk gently forward together.

The following are dates on our school calendar which involve our families:

Thursday 12th Dec	Small Schools Swimming Carnival
Friday 13th Dec	Last School Mass for the year ~ Thanks for the year and farewell to Year 6 students
Saturday 14th Dec	Rotary Christmas Carnival - Helpers needed to sell Chocolate Wheel tickets from 6.30pm till about 9.00pm—please let Jacinta know if you can help out!
Monday 16th Dec	Presentation Night—Awards and Play—"Eddie the Penguin Saves the World"—starting at 6.30pm <i>Children need to wear white T-Shirts and black or white pants for the play. If children have either of these bring them to school for dress rehearsal on Friday please - we have purchased quite a few of these.</i>
Tuesday 17th Dec	Reward Day—Movies and visit to City Park
Wed 18th Dec	School finishes for the year Carols by Candlelight ~ at 6.00pm in Liberty Park
<b>FEBRUARY 5TH 2020</b>	<b>ALL STUDENTS RETURN FOR START OF NEW SCHOOL YEAR.</b> Uniform shop open Monday and Tuesday of this week



**Reminder: This Term's school fees are due for payment. Thank you to those families who have paid.**

This year the Lake Cargelligo Carols by Candlelight will be held on Wednesday 18th of December at 6pm in Liberty Park. If the weather is unfavourable it will be moved to the hall.

We would like as many of the children as possible to come along and participate in the evening. Thank you

Kinder / Year 1/2 students celebrated yesterday, the successes and great year they have had together at the Bank Café. A great time was had by all!!!



### Student Attendance - Absences Add Up

Regular attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. When students are absent for fewer days their learning and development often improve. Students who attend school regularly also feel more connected to their community, develop important social skills and friendships and are significantly more likely to experience success.

These students have achieved 100% attendance this year so far—**Scarlet Keeley, Ruby Wallace.**



Academic Year	Days Absent	Days Present	Total Days	Attendance Rate
1	260	1325	1586	83.58 %
2	133	1913	2047	93.48 %
3	152	348	500	69.60 %
4	75	669	744	89.92 %
5	103	1421	1525	93.21 %
6	124	806	930	86.67 %
K	32	880	912	96.49 %
			<b>Average</b>	<b>89.32 %</b>

These students achieved 95% or more attendance this year - **Sasha Hayward (97%), Aiden Faff (99%), Ruby Templeton (99%), Haydn Alexander (96%), Leigha Brooks (95%), Sophie Phillips (95%), Ivy Wallace (99%), Belle Golding (95%), Leah Hayward (96%), Hamish Middleton (97%), Will Nicholson (95%), Ned Phillips (96%)**





**Year 3/4/5/6 English work ~ Viewing** - students in Year 3/4/5/6 are doing some final work on characterisation and building up of characters in students writing, using movies as a teaching tool. To assist with this learning the students will be watching and discussing some of the following films. All these films are PG rated and have little or no violence. If you have any concerns regarding the viewing of these films please let Mrs Shaw or the school know.

### **2020 Sport Try-outs**

There is a new website for NSW Catholic Sport—<https://csnw.sport/>

NSW Primary Canberra Goulburn Basketball nominations for the 2020 trials are open. Please head to the Canberra Goulburn Sports Webpage [www.sport.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sport.cg.catholic.edu.au) for information and instructions on the registration process. NSW Primary Canberra Goulburn Tennis 'Expressions of Interest' are open. Information and 'Expression of Interest' forms are also available on the Canberra Goulburn Sport Webpage. Nominations close on Tuesday 4th of February 2020 If you are at all interested please nominate on the new website and if you have any problems please let me know.



### **Kinder Transition Graduation:**

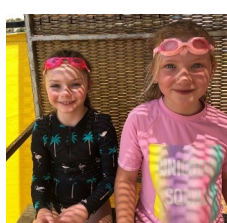
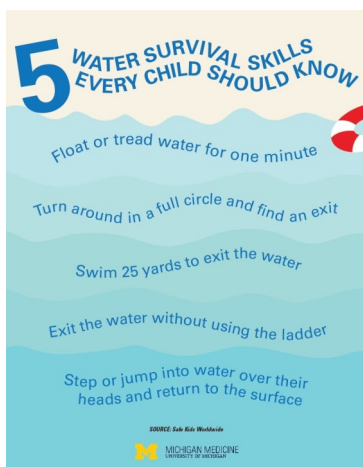
Thank you to Mrs Golding for the wonderful conclusion to our 2019 Kindergarten Transition. The students presented some of their learning in their Graduation Assembly and shared these with family, friends and our school community. We are very excited to see these clever children again in 2020.

### **Reward Day—Griffith Tuesday 17th Dec**

To celebrate our successful year we are heading to Griffith next Tuesday to the City Park and the movies. Thank you to the families that have returned notes and the \$10 per family. Please note, we wish to take all students but will not be taking students without permission notes and money returned ~ please ensure these are sent in by Monday!

### **Swimming Lessons**

The improvements seen in the students' swimming skills over our lessons is a real pleasure to see. This week's weather has been more appropriate for swimming! Please help our students be safe around water this Summer. Keep practising swimming and safety skills.



## **FRIDAY RECESS CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 4**

### **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO ROSTER**

**13th Dec: Jodi McFadyen, Amy Golding**

If anyone cannot assist on the weeks that you are rostered on please let Sue know—or organise a swap with someone. Thank you for your support.

## **OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHRISTMAS SPECIAL**

\$10 @ TICKET ~ 1st Prize = \$1 000  
2nd prize = \$250 + 9 more cash prizes  
Drawn Saturday 14th December after  
6pm Mass

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS for Families:**

- **Friday 13th Dec.—Thanksgiving Mass**—last school mass for the year—Year 6 students will receive their school certificates
- **Monday 16th December—Presentation Night**—starts at 6.30pm in Fr Mayne Hall
- **Tuesday 17th December—Whole School Reward Day** ~ to Griffith City Park and Movies

## **School holidays—keep reading and writing so your children continue to learn!**

Children have what is called a Summer Slide in their learning—to aim to help children reduce this slide with some school holidays ideas!!

**1. READ, READ, READ** - Read anywhere and read anything. School holidays are a good time for children to read what they want to read.

**2. TUNE INTO STORY BOX LIBRARY**— Stories that are 'a little bit cheeky, a little bit charming, and a whole lot of fun' are right at your fingertips, and you don't even have to get out of your pyjamas! Simply use your child's school log in details—  
<https://storyboxlibrary.com.au/>

**3. GO ON A LETTER OR WORD HUNT**— Create a list of letters or words, such as a four letter word or a funny word, and search for them in nature, architecture and signage.

**4. WRITE** - Get busy writing and sending Christmas cards, post cards, and letters to family and friends.

**5. MAKE A MOVIE**—Use a tablet and movie-making software to create a news report about your school holidays or write a fun script about something you love.

**6. GO TO THE MOVIES**—Do some research first; read reviews about the movies currently showing. Find out where and when you'll see your chosen movie, and then have a go at writing and publishing your own movie review.

**7. GET COOKING**— Find and follow a recipe to make a delicious treat. Once baked, send invitations to friends or family to enjoy your treats with you.

**8. PLAY BOARD GAMES**—Board games are so deceiving. It feels like you're just having fun, but there are actually many skills at play, including reading, comprehending, strategizing, counting, calculating, speaking, listening, turn-taking & negotiating.

## **Rankins Springs ICPA Tertiary Bursary Advertisement Info**

### **Do you have a child entering or resuming tertiary or vocational study in 2020?**

Rankins Springs Branch of the Isolated Children's Parents' Assoc (ICPA) is offering one Tertiary Bursary of \$500 to a student who is enrolled to study at University, TAFE or Agricultural College in 2020 and includes Apprentices. Students undertaking a gap year are also eligible to apply, however the Bursary funding will commence in the year of study.

The Bursary is offered to assist students with costs associated with their studies Eg: university students may choose to pay for first semester books or fees, an apprentice may choose to pay for tools or travel costs.

Please contact the Rankins Springs ICPA President, Kerrie Johnston at [akjohnston@esat.net.au](mailto:akjohnston@esat.net.au) or 0428 661 335 for a copy of the Application Criteria.

Applications close on 2 February 2020 and will be awarded in March 2020.

## **Mass Times for Our Lady of Lourdes Church**

<b>Friday 13th Dec</b>	<b>11.30am</b>
<b>Saturday 14th Dec</b>	<b>6pm</b>
<b>Friday 20th Dec</b>	<b>11.30am</b>
<b>Saturday 21st Nov</b>	<b>6pm</b>

<b>CHRISTMAS EVE MASS</b>	<b>7PM</b>
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For God & Australia