



# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

**Term 1**

**Week 1**

**2nd February 2018**

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to an exciting new year of faith, fun and learning. Together with the students, parents, teachers, parish and wider community we look forward to working as a team in partnership towards developing all our students spiritually, academically, emotionally, socially and physically.

Congratulations on a great start to the school year by all the children. I have been very proud to see the children quickly settling into their learning and living in harmony with the many members of our community. We particularly welcome new families along with our Kindergarten children who started yesterday.

A rewarding journey into 2018 awaits as we aim to develop the whole child and foster their lifelong relationship with Christ. As parents and partners in your child's education I encourage you to work alongside the talented, dedicated and professional staff here at St Francis of Assisi as they provide and facilitate opportunities for your child to grow to their full potential. Your support is appreciated and is an integral part of the success of St Francis.

You should be extremely proud of your school, St Francis, it's welcoming atmosphere and the way that almost 400 children gather together each day to grow, learn and develop in their own unique way.

I look forward to working with you as the first educators of your children to make 2018 a most rewarding year.

Thank you for your continued support. It is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.

Jenny Bellenger

## SUPPORTING AND EXTENDING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

Over the next few weeks, the teachers will extensively assess your child so as to get to know their strengths and areas of need. They will also read each child's file and reports so as to get a better perception of their past performance and successes. It is important to have a good understanding of each child's needs before launching into the programming of work, so that it meets these needs.

## OPENING SCHOOL MASS



WE WILL BE HOLDING OUR OPENING SCHOOL MASS ON

**THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2018**

**AT 10AM IN THE HALL.**

ALL OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

## DATES COMING UP

- **06/2 Parent Information Sessions**  
**Year 1 & 2 @ 6.30pm, Years 3 to 6 @ 7.10pm**
- 08/2 Opening School Mass 10am
- 09/2 February Census
- 12/2 Kinder Welcome BBQ & Information session @ 5pm
- 14/2 Zone Swimming - Mt Druitt
- 23/2 Diocesan Swimming - Blacktown

**MASS TIMES @ GOOD SHEPHERD**

**Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 6am & 9am**

**Wed 6am & 7.30pm (Novena)**

**Sat 8am & 6pm (Vigil)**

**Sun 7am, 9am & 6pm**

## SCHOOL FEES 2018

Accounts for Term 1 school fees will be posted out next week with payments due by the 21st March 2018. Arrangements made in 2017 are now finished. Those who wish to enter a payment arrangement for 2018 fees need to complete Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) documents included with your 2018 School Fees statement.

## ARE YOU LEAVING THE SCHOOL??

If you are planning on leaving St Francis of Assisi Primary School anytime throughout the year, a term's notice in writing must be given to the principal before a student leaves the school or a full term's fees will be payable.

## PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Our Parent Evening will be held next week on Tuesday 6th February for Year 1 to Year 6.

**Kindergarten will attend the following week after the Welcome BBQ.**

**The timetable will be as follows; (all meetings will be conducted in the classroom)**

**Year 1 and 2: 6:30pm - 7pm**

**Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: 7:10pm - 7:40 pm**

There is no one format that will meet the needs of every family. We have opted for this process rather than have families attend the school on two or three separate nights, depending on the year level of your child/ren. We cannot provide a crèche so we ask that if children need to attend they are under your supervision and not left in the school playground while you are in meetings. I trust that the sessions will provide valuable information for you and your child to help start the year smoothly. Please note that these are general information sessions and if you require further conversations with your child's teacher please make a mutually suitable time to meet on another occasion. It would be great to see as many families as possible attend this night.

I look forward to getting to know many more of our families as we commence the 2018 school year and work in partnership to ensure a quality education and a safe school environment for all.

## MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT INTERVIEW

The students in Year 1 to Year 6 at St Francis will be completing an individual Maths Assessment with their classroom teacher during the first couple of weeks of school. This interview provides us with valuable data on your child's knowledge in counting, place value, addition & subtraction and multiplication & division. We will use the data collected from these assessments to inform us of the best ways to teach your child.

The teachers will be available mornings and afternoons for the next couple of weeks to complete the interviews. Any that they can not completed outside of school hours will be completed during class time. You should have received a note this week for you to book an interview time. Please ensure this slip is returned to your child's teacher. If you are unable to make one of these booking times then the teacher will assess your child during class time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Rowan family (Riley in 1M) on the birth of their little girl Isla.



## ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

If your child is going to be away from school could you please advise the office via phone, email or Skoolbag App by 9.30am on the day that they are absent.

## FEEDBACK.....

If you have feedback and you would like to share, please do so by emailing us at:

**stfrancis@parra.catholic.edu.au**

## MEDICATION

If your child requires medication to be administered during the school day, please send it in to the office. An authorisation to administer will need to be completed. Medication can only be given to a child at school if it has been prescribed by a doctor. Please bring all medication clearly marked on the outside with permanent marker.

The School's First Aid department requires updated copies of all Asthma Management Plans, Diabetes Plan and/or Anaphylaxis Action Plans please so that we can be best informed to help them in case of emergency.



## HOW CAN YOU RECEIVE A NEWSLETTER WEEKLY?

You can subscribe to the newsletter through our school website and this will be emailed directly to you or view it on the Skoolbag App or the website. Only those families who do not have internet access, can make a request for a paper copy to be sent home with the eldest child (please see Christina in the office).

## WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

At St Francis there are a number of children who experience anaphylaxis – in particular a severe allergic reaction when they are exposed to peanuts and nut related products. If those children are exposed to these foods a severe allergic reaction can occur and can rapidly become life threatening. Accidental exposure to these foods can happen at eating times and in the case of some students, the allergic reaction can be triggered when another person has touched or eaten these foods and then that person touches them.

As a community we can assist these children by making our school environment safe. We ask families to:

- NOT use peanut, nut and chocolate spreads when making and sending sandwiches to school.
- NEVER send nuts to school for your own child to eat.
- Continually remind children NOT to share their food with other children at school.
- Explain to your children the seriousness of food allergies for those children who are affected by them and that we can help to keep these children safe by the choices we make.



***We thank you for helping us provide a safe environment for all the children at St Francis.***

## LABELLING OF SCHOOL ITEMS

After the expense of purchasing uniform items, there is nothing worse than the loss or misplacement of them. More often than not, it has just been left in the school playground or been picked up by another child. Avoid undue stress and ensure **ALL BELONGINGS** are clearly labelled with your child's name. If items are lost and are put into our lost property box, if they are labelled, they will be returned to the appropriate children.

## KINDY BBQ & INFO SESSION

Each year at St Francis School a BBQ is held for Kindergarten families. This will be held on Monday 12th February at 5.00pm at school. This is a great opportunity for families to meet one another as well as the teachers and staff who are associated with Kindergarten.

The teachers will also hold a brief presentation for parents so they understand what is happening in Kindergarten for 2018.

We look forward to seeing all our Kindergarten families on this day.



## SPORTS DAYS

Each grade will wear their sports uniforms on the following days during Term 1:

Tuesday - Year 2 and 4

Wednesday - Kindy, Year 3 and 6

Thursday - Year 1 and 5

Friday - ALL SCHOOL

## ASSEMBLIES

Due to the Mindfulness and Wellbeing Program in the hall on Fridays, Term 1 assemblies will be held in the **odd** weeks, on different days at 2.30pm.

**Week 3 - Mon 12 Feb    Week 5 - Tues 27 Feb**

**Week 7 - Thur 15 Mar    Week 9 - Wed 28 Mar**

**Week 11 - Mon 9 Apr**

## SKOOLBAG APP

The Skoolbag App can help you to keep up to date with what is happening in our school, during your busy life. You can even submit your child's absence on a school day via the eForms section.

For the families who do have our Skoolbag App - if you know of a parent/guardian within your circle of friends who are not aware of or hasn't downloaded this App and they require assistance, please refer them to the school office. Good communication assists the whole community.



Make sure you are kept in the loop with upcoming alerts, information and events at St Francis School.

**DOWNLOAD ST FRANCIS SCHOOL'S SKOOLBAG APP STRAIGHT TO YOUR SMARTPHONE OR TABLET DEVICE**

### For iPhone or iPad users

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "Install"
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click: Free" then: Install"
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable to you

### For Android Users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using the suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search
4. Click the "Install" button
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device)
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable to you



## KINDERGARTEN FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2018





# CANTEEN MENU

## 2018

### EVERY DAY HOT FOOD

CHICKEN NUGGETS	4 FOR \$3.00
	6 FOR \$4.20
PARTY PIE	\$1.20
CORN ON THE COB	\$1.20
GARLIC BREAD	\$2.00
SAUSAGE ROLL - LITE	\$3.20
FILLO SPIRAL	\$3.50
SPINACH & CHEESE OR FETTA & RICCOTTA	
CHICKEN FINGERS	6 FOR \$3.50
MEAT PIE - LITE	\$3.80

### BURGERS

ALL BURGERS INCLUDE SALAD	
CHICKEN BURGER	\$4.20
SWEET CHILLI CHICKEN	\$4.20
BEEF BURGER	\$4.20
VEGIE BURGER	\$4.20
MEATBALL SUB	\$4.20

### ALL WRAPPED UP

PARMY TOASTED WRAP	\$4.50
CHICKEN CEASER WRAP	\$4.50
SWEET CHILLI CHICKEN WRAP	\$4.50
NEMO WRAP	\$4.50
ALL MEATS/CHEESE PIZZA WRAP	\$4.50
LAMB TOASTED WRAP	\$4.50

### PASTA & RICE

(HOMEMADE)	
MACARONI & CHEESE	\$4.20
BUTTER CHICKEN & RICE	\$4.20
PASTA BOLOGNESE	\$4.20
LASAGNE	\$4.20
FRIED RICE & CHICKEN WINGS	\$5.00

### SANDWICHES

AVAILABLE IN WHITE OR WHOLEMEAL  
WRAP OR ROLL - ADD \$0.50 TO SANDWICH PRICE

VEGEMITE, JAM, DEVON	\$2.00
TOMATO, CHEESE	\$2.50
TUNA OR EGG	\$3.00
HAM, CHICKEN OR SALMON	\$3.50
SALAD SANDWICH - LETTUCE, TOMATO, CUCUMBER, BEETROOT & CARROT	\$3.50
SALAD WITH DEVON OR CHEESE	\$3.90
SALAD WITH TUNA OR HAM	\$4.20
SALAD WITH CHICKEN OR SALMON	\$4.50
EXTRAS - INCLUDING TOASTING	\$0.40

### SUSHI ROLLS

AVAILABLE TUESDAY,  
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

CHICKEN & CUCUMBER	\$3.50
TUNA & CUCUMBER	\$3.50
CHICKEN TERIYAKI	\$3.50

### SALADS

CUP OF FRESH FRUIT SALAD	\$2.00
GARDEN SALAD	\$4.00
WITH HAM OR TUNA	\$4.50
WITH SALMON OR CHICKEN	\$5.00
ADD TO YOUR SALAD BOX:	
EGG, CHEESE, AVOCADO, SPROUTS, BACON, CROUTONS (EACH)	\$0.50
CHICKEN CEASER SALAD	\$5.50

### CRUNCH BOX

CUCUMBER STICKS, CARROT STICKS, CHERRY TOMATOES, CHEESE, DIP & CRACKERS	\$4.00
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### BENTO BOX 1 \$5.00

1/2 SANDWICH, CHICKEN WING,  
CHEESE & CRACKERS, FRUIT  
SELECTION & 2 MINI MUFFINS

1/2 SANDWICH, PARTY PIE,  
DIP & CRACKERS, FRUIT  
SELECTION & 2 MINI MUFFINS

### \$5.00 BENTO BOX 2

### SNACKS

PIECE OF FRUIT	\$1.00
BOILED EGG	\$1.00
COOKIES, DELIGHTS, POPCORN, JUMPY'S	\$1.00
ASSORTED CHIPS	\$1.50
SCREW TOP YOGHURT	\$2.00
FRUIT YOGHURT CUP	\$2.00
BANANA BREAD - SLICE	\$2.50
DIP SNACK BOX	\$2.00
CARROT STICKS, CELERY STICKS, FRENCH ONION DIP	

### DRINKS

JUICE - POPPERS	\$1.80
PLAIN MILK 300ML	\$1.80
WITH SIPPY STRAW	\$2.50
POP TOP JUICE	\$2.00
BOTTLED WATER 600ML	\$2.00
GLEE SPARKLING JUICE CAN	\$2.20
FRESH BOTTLE JUICE	\$2.50
FLAVOURED MILK LITE 300ML	\$2.50
UP 'N' GO 250ML	\$2.50

### ICE BLOCKS

FROZEN CORDIAL CUP	\$0.50
FROZEN JUCIE CUP	\$1.00
ZOOPEER DOOPER	\$1.00
MANGO SPLIT	\$1.00
LEMONADE ICE BLOCK	\$1.00
THE FLASH ICE BLOCK	\$1.50
SCOOBY-DOO CHOCOLATE	\$1.80
SLUSHIE CUP	\$2.00
ICE CREAM CUP	\$2.00

### PLEASE NOTE

RECESS ORDERS ARE TO BE  
PICKED UP FROM THE CANTEEN  
ALL ICECREAMS ORDERED  
WITH LUNCH ARE GIVEN OUT WHEN  
THE LUNCH BAG IS RETURNED TO  
THE CANTEEN.

### To Do:

CHECK WITH THE CANTEEN  
FOR THE CURRENT

MEAL DEALS  
**\$5.00**

ORDER YOUR LUNCH ONLINE  
BEFORE 9AM!

MAKE THINGS  
EVEN EASIER

**flexischools**  
FLEXISCHOOLS.COM.AU



MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

# every learner every day

## ABSENCES ADD UP!



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MISSING MORE  
THAN**1**YEAR OF  
LEARNING IN**12**

YEARS

## DID YOU KNOW

**1 IN 6**

PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT  
ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

## EACH DAY MISSED:

- ▶ Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- ▶ Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- ▶ Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

## WHAT PARENTS CAN DO



## GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life



## SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP

If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.

every learner  
every day 

