



# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

**Term 3**  
**Week 2**  
**29th July 2022**

*We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we educate our students.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 3. We look forward to another great term of working with you in partnership to achieve the best possible learning outcomes for your children and their wellbeing.

Last week I am sure your children would have told you we finally moved into our new learning spaces. This certainly made for an exciting start to the term. The students were in awe of the vibrant learning spaces, the new furniture, technology and outdoor learning streets along with the external kitchens.

I would particularly like to thank the staff for their hard work in transitioning from the old to the new school. It was a lot of hard work to move the resources and to prepare the children for the move.

The builders are now in the process of demolishing the old Kindy and Year 1 classes and working on the new playground areas.

In the coming weeks we are intending to be able to provide an opportunity for parents to visit the new spaces, as I am sure you are all keen to have a look. In the meantime, we have shared on the St Francis Facebook Page videos of the children working in their new spaces and we will add more photos each week.

The St Francis community is very blessed and appreciative of our new building.

It is in partnership we can do great things together for the children in our care.

Jenny Bellenger

Principal

## PRAYER

*Spirit of God within us, we ask you to help identify the gifts you have given to each of us.*

*Help us to celebrate these gifts and to make positive use of them in our daily activities. Amen*

## KEEPING CHILDREN WITH NUT ALLERGIES SAFE

We have a number of children who have nut allergies. Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of an allergic reaction and is life threatening. Just a reminder to all parents to please ensure that you do not send any nut products into school with your children. Thank you for your support in helping to keep all our children safe.

More information on allergy awareness is included in this newsletter.

## VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

Would anyone in the school community, who is able to do some simple sewing, be willing to volunteer their time for St Francis Primary School? If you are able to assist please contact the office on 8886 9600 for more information.

## DATES COMING UP

Wed 03/08 - Kindergarten excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm

Tues 09/08 - Stage 3 boys Wanderers Cup

# Honouring Grandparents



Each year on July 26th, the Church honours the memory of Saints Anne & Joachim, the parents of Mother Mary. An ancient story dating to the first centuries of the Church's life recalls how Saints Anne & Joachim prayed to God because they had no children.

Angels appeared to Saint Anne in her garden and Saint Joachim in the desert, promising they would give birth to a special daughter, Mary, who would be known throughout the world. Anne and Joachim ran to meet one another at Jerusalem's Golden Gate and rejoiced in the new life which God had promised would be theirs.

Joachim and Anne serve as role models for parents and both deserve to be honoured and emulated for their devotion to God and Our Lady Mary, the Mother of God.

St Joachim is the Patron Saint of fathers and grandfathers. St Anne is the Patron Saint of mothers.

Today the children celebrated Saints Anne and Joachim, the parents of Mary, and the Grandparents of Jesus, through a classroom liturgy.



*God of the ages,  
from generation to generation you have been our strength.  
We give you thanks for our grandparents, who connect us to our heritage and roots.  
We give you thanks for their Christian memory, which inspires and enlightens us.  
We give you thanks for the example of their faith, for the witness of their lives,  
for the constancy of their love, and for the support of their prayers.  
We ask you to bless all grandparents and keep them in your care.*

## IMPORTANT ALLERGY INFORMATION

At St Francis we have several children with **life threatening allergies** (Anaphylaxis) to various forms of food, latex, dust, animals and insect stings.

**Some children have allergies that are so severe that smells or touch could trigger a reaction.**

We have several children who have severe allergies to nuts. While allergic reactions are common and most are not serious, for some people the reaction can be life-threatening. Anaphylaxis and can occur within minutes of an exposure to a trigger.

We see prevention as a major part of providing a safe environment for these children. In order to support these children, we ask that you do not send in nuts or any foods containing nuts to the school with your children.

**Common foods that trigger an allergic reaction are listed below and we ask you to be 'nut aware' and refrain from sending them to school and to seek suitable alternatives.** The following list gives examples of such foods:

FOOD TYPE	EXAMPLES
Peanuts / peanut butter	Any kind of peanut or peanut butter
Tree nuts	Hazelnuts, almonds, cashews, pecans, walnuts, macadamia – any kind of nuts
Sesame seeds	
Nutella	Any brand
Biscuits containing or topped with nuts	Particularly chocolate biscuits
Cakes or slices containing nuts	
Snack packs containing nuts	Dried fruit + nut mixes
Chocolates containing nuts	Picnics, Snickers, Mars Bars (almond), Nut Breaks, Ferrero Rocher, Fruit and Nut, Praline based chocolates – Guylian, Marble Blocks, Toblerone
Chocolate lollies containing nuts	Peanut M&Ms
Marzipan and nougat	
Breakfast cereals containing nuts	Crunchy Nut or Honey Nut Cornflakes, Muesli, Nutri Grain, Just Right etc
Muesli Bars and Snack Bars containing nuts	
Yoghurt with nut mixer packs	
Confectionery items	Lolly Gobble Bliss Bombs, Rocky Road
“Health Food” confectionary bars containing nuts	Uncle Toby’s yoghurt muesli bars
Foods containing satay	Thai, Malaysian, Indonesian meals

**The Canteen does not sell any of these products.**

In the case of a child bringing a nut product to school, teachers will bring the matter to the attention of parents.

There are many foods that DO NOT contain peanuts or nuts in their ingredients list, but the food package has the statement. “May contain traces of dairy, nut or seed”. This food may be brought to school and consumed only by non-allergic children.

Due to safety and concerns, we discourage children from sharing food and drink. We would also appreciate parents speaking to their children regarding this matter. Your child’s diet at home need not change.

Below is a list of foods that are safe for you to choose from. We’re sure you can think of many others:

Fruit and vegetables, dried fruits, fruit snack packs, Vegemite, jam, honey, cheese spreads, Parker’s Pretzels, Rice crackers, chips, popcorn, plain biscuits – sweet or savoury – without nuts, chocolate biscuits – without nuts, fruit based muesli bars and snack bars – without nuts, yoghurt – without nut mixes.

**Basically, we ask you not to send food to school with your child that contains a nut or nut product listed in ingredients. We thank you for helping us to provide a safe environment for all children at St Francis.**



# 100 DAYS OF KINDY

