



# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

**Term 4**  
**Week 4**  
**4th November 2022**

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

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

On Tuesday, we joined with the Church throughout the world to celebrate All Saints Day. It was wonderful to have Fr Bollar join us and lead our celebration of Mass, and the children participated actively and reverently.

During the Mass, Fr Bollar asked the children who of them wanted to be a saint. It prompted a mixed response! Perhaps we ourselves may say that we would like to be a saint, but think it may be too big a goal to achieve.

Often when we think about saints, we imagine people who achieved some ultimate level of holiness and perfection. We probably think it's a standard that we couldn't possibly match. Yet saints are simply people who are living in heaven with God. Their acceptance of God's love and their overwhelming determination to share that love with others brings them closer to God. They open themselves to embracing God's gift of everlasting life. Those who the Church recognises as saints are likely only a fraction of the many who share in the joy of heaven.

Saints are people like us. They are imperfect and struggle with their faith, just like us. They come from all walks of life, just like us. Pope Francis reminds us that saints are not "superheroes", but rather are ordinary people who followed God "with all their heart." If we keep this in mind, then we can celebrate the saints that have gone before us, not as highly exalted people we can't match, but as inspirational examples of living humbly in the way of Jesus.

We are quickly moving towards the end of the school year. Term 4 is always busy for school staff. Teachers are continuing their assessment of student learning and using the data to prepare reports. There are also many other commitments, such as new Kindergarten student and family orientation, the swimming program and carnival, Christmas concert, Year 6 graduation and end of year events to be prepared. Much work goes into making your child's transition to their new grade as successful as possible. Our staff go above and beyond to do all of this for the benefit of the students, while maintaining learning through to the end of the year. On behalf of Mrs Bellenger and myself, I wish to thank our staff for everything that they are doing, and will do, over the next six weeks, and for their continued generosity of spirit.

Kind regards,

Robert Barden  
Assistant Principal

## DATES COMING UP

07/11/22 - Stage 2 & 3 Basketball Gala Day

08/11/22 - Kinder 2023 Transition Begins

11/11/22 - Staff Development Day

15/11/22 - Stage 2 & 3 NSW Oztag Gala Day

22/11/22 - Loreto Pantomime Year 2

25/11/22 - Loreto Pantomime Year 1

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

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WEEK 5 - FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2022

**NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ON THIS DAY**

## DATES FOR KINDERGARTEN 2023

The following events will happen in November to assist in the transition of 2023 Kindergarten children.

### Parent Information Evening

A parent information evening was held on Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 7.00pm

**Kindergarten Orientation** will take place for children on the following dates:

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Each session will commence at 9:20 and conclude at 10:50.

### Parent Workshop

We will explore how to develop your child's literacy and numeracy skills during your child's final orientation visit on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

We look forward to your child starting with us in 2023!

## INFORMATION REGARDING LEAVE FROM SCHOOL

Leave from school for holiday/overseas trips in school time must be explained in writing to the school principal.

A leave form (Application for Extended Leave) must be completed at least 4 weeks in advance for **5 or more school days**. Leave forms can be found on our school website or you can get one from the office.

Any other leave needs to be explained in writing, by email, through the Compass Parent Portal or by phoning the office.

## SCHOOL FEES

Over the next couple of weeks school fee arrangements will be ending. Please check there are no missed payments. If there are missed payments, can you please arrange for these to be brought up to date. If you are unsure please contact the office.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Joanna (Year 2) and Alumita (Kindy) and their family on the birth of their little brother. We wish them all the best.

## CLASSES FOR 2023

The school will shortly commence the annual process of forming class cohorts for next year.

Teachers and school leadership have extensive knowledge of how children **learn** and **relate** in their current classes and in the playground. All this information is carefully considered in the discernment process used to form **balanced class groups** across each grade.

If you have a **significant** consideration, not including a friendship request, you are required to put the request **in writing** (not email) to the Principal stating the child's name, child's present class, your request and briefly the reason for the request.

**It is important that parents understand that this is not an opportunity to make any teacher requests or state any preferences for next year.**

Parental requests will be reviewed in light of the school's class formation process and there is no guarantee that requests will be granted. There are many factors, which affect the placement of students - parental requests being just one of these.

Parents and caregivers are asked to **respect** the decisions made and **trust** that the school has taken all factors into consideration in the best interest of each child.

For requests to be considered, they must be received at the school office **no later than Monday 7th November, 2022.**

## CHANGE OF SCHOOL IN 2023

To estimate enrolments for 2023, it would be appreciated if the school could be notified in writing, of any children who may be leaving St Francis of Assisi at the end of the year from grades other than Year 6. Thank you.

### TERM 4 CONCLUDES

**TERM 4 CONCLUDES ON  
THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2022**

### TERM 1 2023 START DATES

**STUDENTS IN YEARS 1 TO 6 RETURN TO SCHOOL  
ON TUESDAY 31ST JANUARY 2023  
KINDERGARTEN 2023 START ON  
THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY**

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PARRAMATTA DIOCESE LTD

From the beginning of 2023, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will have a new name, Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd. The organisation will also have a new governance framework. It is not expected that these changes will have an impact on the day-to-day operation of schools, or upon students, parents and carers, and parishes. Further information is available [here](#).

## UPDATED VISA DETAILS

If there has been any changes to Visa details can you please email these to the office [stfrancis@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stfrancis@parra.catholic.edu.au) to ensure that our records are up to date. Thank you for your assistance.

## SWIMMING PROGRAM

The swimming program will go ahead this year for all students. It starts on Monday 28th November and finishes on Friday 9th December. Children will travel to and from the pool by bus and will need to make sure they are on time each day so they can get on the bus with their class. A permission note will be sent home soon with more details.



## SCHOOL UNIFORMS

St Francis Primary Uniform Shop is run online by Oz Fashions. Orders are to be placed on the 'QKR' app by MasterCard.

Please follow all instructions on the QKR flyer to download the app and set up your account. No phone orders or messages will be accepted!

**Delivery to the school is every Monday and Wednesday during the school term. Orders must be placed by 4:00pm Friday for delivery on Monday and 4:00pm Monday for delivery on Wednesday. Please refer to the delivery date on the QKR app before ordering for any changes.**

For any parent who is wishing to pick up their order from Oz Fashions warehouse you must email Elle to organise pick up prior to going to Oz Fashions Granville.

Please choose carefully as we do not refund if you simply change your mind or make a wrong selection, however, we gladly exchange within 14 days. Returned merchandise MUST be in its original condition with all tags still attached and accompanied by proof of purchase otherwise the exchange will not be honoured. Any item that has been worn will not be exchanged.

**Please email all exchanges to [elle@ozfashions.com.au](mailto:elle@ozfashions.com.au)**

**Please note that Oz Fashions warehouse in Granville DOES NOT sell the St Francis Primary Uniform in store.**

If you have any enquires please contact Elle [elle@ozfashions.com.au](mailto:elle@ozfashions.com.au) or 0421 216 414

**Please place your uniform order as soon as possible to ensure you will be able to exchange uniform sizing if necessary and to guarantee students receive a uniform to start school.**

**Please note: all orders for 2023 new students need to be placed before Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to ensure delivery before the end of the school year. The last delivery for St Francis Primary uniform orders is Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The first delivery for 2023 is Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January.**

The school will send a Compass notification to families with all details on sizing, what is recommended and how to order on the QKR App.

Thanks - Elle Oz Fashions.

## SOCKTOBER

Thank you for all of your generous donations! The St Francis community raised \$608.20. Every dollar will go towards supporting struggling families in Ethiopia. Socktober cultivates the passion of students to rise up, engage their local community and take action against poverty through the world game of soccer.

On Friday, each grade had the opportunity to participate in workshops which were led by Dorothy and Sony from Catholic Mission. The students were immersed in authentic experiences that shone a light on the realities of people who suffer from malnutrition and poverty.

Thank you for your continued support.

