Dear Parents,

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

As we near the end of Term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and well wishes on my recent Appointment as Principal at St. Francis.

I would like to thank the Parent’s Association for their tireless efforts – your ongoing support and fundraising achievements are much appreciated by all. The children have loved the disco and hot food days this Term, not to mention the opportunity to pick up an amazing gift at the Father’s Day Stall for their Dads.

Once again I would like to praise the staff of St. Francis for their hard work and dedication to the education and wellbeing of the students at the school. Not to mention the sensational Father’s Day Breakfast that they cooked up for all of our dads to enjoy.

Our enrolments continue to be strong and this is because of the support of our school community. Each time I meet with a family wanting to enrol their child at St. Francis they always comment on the great things they have heard from other families who have their children at the school.

LEARNING JOURNALS

These were sent home on Thursday, 8th September. Please take the time to reflect on your child’s achievements this term, as they are very proud of what they have accomplished. We ask that the Journals are returned back to school by this Thursday, 15th September.

SRC SURVEY

We sent out 60 surveys to families last week. To maximize the validity of the data we would very much appreciate families receiving the survey to take the time to complete it thoroughly. The responses form part of our ongoing school improvement procedures. The cut off for the completion of the surveys is this Friday, 16th September.

WHOLE SCHOOL EXPO

What a wonderful afternoon! The student’s efforts were rewarded with so many parents and grandparents visiting the classrooms. I have never observed such a crowd turn up to celebrate the children’s learning.
PARISH EDUCATION BOARD
The main agenda on last week’s Parish Education Board was Child Safe Schools and what our school has put in place to be compliant with the Seven Standards set by the Victorian Government. We also looked at our recent NAPLAN data and discussed ways in which we can further improve our teaching practice. Current members on the Parish Education Board have a three year tenure. At the end of this year we will have openings for people to join our Parish Education Board. If you are interested please come and have a chat.

MULTICULTURAL DAY
This Wednesday, 14th September we will be having a Multicultural Day. The children will be participating in lots of fun activities, including: Bocce, Soccer Clinic, Karate, Cooking and an Italian Incursion. On this day the children will be encouraged to dress in clothing specific to their own cultural heritage or another culture. On this day, the PA will be organizing a Hot Food Day pizza lunch for Years Prep, 1, 5 and 6. On Thursday, 15th September Years 2, 3 and 4 can have a pizza lunch. Please note that we are unable to accept any late orders for pizza. **There is no gold coin donation on this day.**

HOT FOOD—PIZZA DAY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14th Sept</td>
<td>Prep, Year 1, Year 5 &amp; Year 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 15th Sept</td>
<td>Year 2, Year 3 &amp; Year 4</td>
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CAN YOU HELP?
The Parents’ Association are in need of volunteers to assist on both Hot Food Days to distribute pizza and icy poles. If you have a current Working with Children Check and are able to assist please contact Christine Tolevski on 0412 666 945 or Suzana Illjevski on 0407 481 494.

YEAR 4 BASKET SUPPER
The Year 4 Basket Supper will be held at St. Monica’s this Thursday, 15th September (6 pm for a 6.30 pm start). This is an enjoyable evening for Mum and Dad and the Year 4 child who has been participating in these lessons. **Please note we do ask that other arrangements be made for siblings on this evening if possible.** A note has already been sent home.

There are still some Year 4 families who are yet to finalise their tickets. Given all students have been involved in the lessons throughout the term we would definitely like all students to be present on the night with their parents.

IPADATHON
Last week we sent home a sponsorship form for the Ipadathon. This will be held mid-October. There is an IPAD to be won for each year level (7 to be given away as prizes!) For every $10 raised, your child’s name will be placed on a raffle ticket in this draw. So get busy collecting sponsors - maybe start gathering your sponsors over the term break. All proceeds will go to a playground behind the Year 6 building.

SUMMER UNIFORM
Children are now permitted to wear either their Summer or Winter uniform. All children are expected to be in full summer uniform by Wednesday, 2nd November. Parents are reminded that in Terms 1 & 4 our Sunsmart Policy ‘No Hat / No Play’ is in place which means that the children are required to wear their school hat at lunchtime and recess.

VACATION CARE (HOLIDAY PROGRAM) - ‘IT’S HAPPENING’
I am delighted to announce that a fully Accredited Vacation Care program will be up and running here at St. Francis of Assisi School during the September holidays from Monday 19th September until Thursday 29th September (30th September is a Public Holiday). If you are interested in using this program parents need to collect a Vacation Care Package from the School Office or the OSHC Program. Please note that they are only able to accept 30 children per day.

YEAR 5 CAMP DATES
Our Year 5 students will be going to Phillip Island Adventure Resort for camp on 26th October—28th October, 2016.
SENIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL – FRIDAY, 7TH OCTOBER
Years 3 – 6 students will attend our annual Athletics Carnival in the first week back next term. Students will participate in athletic and novelty events throughout the day. Parents are welcome to attend.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS
As a school community we will gather to celebrate St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day on Tuesday, 4th October. Prep – Year 2 classes will have mass at 9:15 am and our Year 3 – 6 classes will attend mass at 12:00 pm.

We have nominated two days to celebrate our Patron Saint – Wednesday, 5th October (Years 2, 3, 4 & 6) and Tuesday, 11th October (Years Prep, 1 & 5). The children may wear plain clothes on their allocated day as they will be participating in activities at Redleap Reserve. Further information about these days of celebration will be sent home later in the week.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI FEAST DAY – SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER
10:30 am  Mass in St Francis Church
12:00 pm  Family Lunch in the School Courtyard with Musical Entertainment and Activities for the children
2:00 pm  Blessing of the Animals (see attached flyer)

SCHOOL FEES
Term 3 fees were due on Friday 19th August. Please pay as soon as possible. If you are unable to come to the school, credit card payments may be made by phoning the school office on 9407 3100 or direct transfer payments may be made to our school fee account (BSB 083 347 A/C 52875 5292). Please include your child’s surname in the reference. If you have any queries or are unable to pay in full, please contact Anne Coleiro or Leanne Henwood at the school office.

FAMILIES NOT RETURNING TO ST. FRANCIS IN 2017
I have had many enquiries from families who wish to enrol into St. Francis in 2017. If your family is not planning to return to us in 2017 could you please let the office know in writing as soon as possible.

YEAR 6 END OF YEAR – SOME EARLY DATES
The Year 6 Graduation Mass will be on Monday, 12th December (Due to a clash with Loyola’s Orientation Day we could not have it on Tuesday, 13th December). The Year 6 children will be dismissed after the Mass. The Graduation Dinner will be at Casa D’Abruzzo on Tuesday 13th December. I will provide further details of events for our Year 6 children when they are finalised.

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS
School will finish on Friday 16th September at 1 pm for the Term break. Term 4 commences at 8.45 am on Monday 3rd October.

God bless,

Mark Basile
Principal
**BADGES**

Special Congratulations go to:
Caitlyn A. (4B), Ava D. (3M), Tony D. (4B) and Latisha F. (3M) who have attained a Gold Badge.

Congratulations also to the following children who have recently been awarded Blue Badges:

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**Children’s Liturgy News**

Children’s Liturgy is now finished for Term 3. We wish you a safe and restful holiday. We will see you again on the first Sunday of Term 4.

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**Parents’ Association News**

**Italian Day/ Pizza and Icypole Day:** will be held over 2 days: this Wednesday 14th September for Prep, Years 1, 5 & 6 and Thursday 15th September for Years 2, 3 and 4.

**Ipadathon:** Reminder to collect sponsors for this event. There is an Ipad to be won for each year level. For every $10 raised your child will receive one entry to go into the draw.

**School Banking:** School Banking day is every Wednesday. Students can deposit into existing Youth Saver/Dollarmite accounts.

**Commonwealth Bank Youth Saver / Dollarmite Accounts:** Accounts can be opened at any Commonwealth Bank branch. Commbank will donate $5 to our school for every Youth Saver/Dollarmite account opened.

**If you have any advertising needs** you may advertise on our P.A. Notice board outside the office for $2 a week. Any queries please contact Trish on 0412 344 813.

**Second Hand Uniform:**
We are asking for donations of the new school uniform which are still in good condition. All donations can be handed in at the office.

**WE NEED MORE HELPERS!!!!**
If you would like to volunteer for the Parents’ Association and for all other queries please contact Christine Tolevski on 0412 666 945 or Suzana Ilievski on 0407 481 494 or via email papres@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au
**Wednesday 14th September**  
Multicultural Day  
Hot Food Day - Pizza & Icy Poles (Prep, Year 1, 5 & 6)

**Thursday 15th September**  
Hot Food Day - Pizza & Icy Poles (Year 2, 3 & 4)

**Friday 16th September**  
End of Term 3 - School finishes at 1 pm

**Monday 3rd October**  
Beginning of Term 4

**Monday 3rd October**  
Years 3–6 Divisional Athletics

**Tuesday 4th October**  
St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day  
Mass: 9.15 am (Years Prep—2), 12 noon (Years 3–6)

**Wednesday 5th October**  
St. Francis Feast Day Celebrations (Years 2, 3 4 & 6)

**Thursday 6th October**  
Year 6 Dancing

**Friday 7th October**  
Athletics Carnival at Meadowglen (Years 3–6)
CAPTURED!
An editorial that displays passionate students in the act of Learning!
LET’S CELEBRATE TERM 3

This semester we have lots to celebrate in regards to great learning. On Thursday 8th September we held a whole school Expo- where children had the opportunity to communicate and share their learning with others. Having an authentic audience to show case our learning is important. Researchers tell us, we have fully mastered a concept when we can teach others. Through this process, students have the opportunity to communicate effectively using eye contact and voice projection. Here are some highlights from Term 3 Inquiry. We had students showcasing knowledge about Celebrations and Commemorations, Eras throughout History, Our Nation and Earth’s Natural Systems (Water and Changes in the Earth).
Learning Assessment Journal

The Learning Assessment Journals (*pictured below*) went home on Thursday 8th September. This is part of our formal reporting to parents and it provides information about how your child has progressed during the term. We ask that you spend some time discussing the work samples and completing the reflection sheet (*pictured below*). The Learning Assessment Journal is due back to school no later than Thursday 15th September, as they will be used in Term 4 and to support the end of year Summary Report. Please note: Year 5 students have a digital Assessment Journal.

Delfina Pieri
Director of Teaching and Learning
Dear parents,

As 2016 is the Jubilee year of Mercy, we are reminded that Christ calls each one of us to become agents of Christ’s mercy. We are both challenged and inspired by the words of Pope Francis as he says “I believe that this is a time for mercy. The Church is showing her maternal side, her motherly face, to a humanity that is wounded. She does not wait for the wounded to knock on her door, she looks for them on the streets, she gathers them in, she embraces them, she takes care of them, she makes them feel loved”.

Let us be guided by these sentiments as we share time with our families and friends over the school holiday break.

**St Francis of Assisi ‘Jubilee Room’**

As mentioned in our last newsletter, within the Catholic tradition there is a beautiful source of renewal that we refer to as ‘Jubilee’. Within scripture - in particular the books of Leviticus and Luke, we are called to make time in our lives to rest, renew, forgive, free, act justly, celebrate and praise God.

In our busy world, taking time to still ourselves and allow God to enter into our hearts through periods of silence, reflection and meditation can seem a challenging, if not impossible task.

The extraordinary amount of demands that we place on ourselves can often lead us to a sense of confusion, frustration and exhaustion, however, by proclaiming ‘Jubilee’ a period of rest and renewal, we are able to slow down, reflect on and give thanks for the beauty and goodness in our lives. It is through slowing ourselves that we can truly see the beauty of God’s creation in the faces of others, in the words of Scripture and in the stillness of our hearts. Through periods of quiet reflection and stillness, we allow God’s voice to speak with us and through us. Through silence, we can distance ourselves from the many distractions that bombard our senses and instead, be united with God in a calm and intimate way.

In order for the students at St Francis of Assisi School to experience the opportunity for renewal, and in accordance with the tradition of Jubilee’s, we have developed a designated space in which the students and their teachers can gather in silence to rest and reflect. The SFOA reflection space has been established for students in Years 3-6 and is located in the Year 3 middle area. The reflection space is open from 1 pm-2 pm each day.

Looking ahead to the future we may also consider opening a similar space during the junior school lunch break.

As we rapidly approach the end of our term, we turn our thoughts to our patron Saint, St Francis of Assisi whose feast day will be celebrated as a parish on Sunday 9th October. In keeping with our strong tradition, during the first weeks of Term 4 we will gather to give thanks for our patron Saint — Saint Francis of Assisi. The students in Years Prep - Year 2 will join parishioners on Tuesday the 4th October at the 9.15 am mass and the students in Years 3-6 will gather later the same day at 12 noon. We will also celebrate the life and teaching of St Francis through a variety of activities such as a casual clothes & fun day for Year 2, 3, 4 & 6’s on Wednesday the 5th October and for Preps, Year 1 & 5’s on Tuesday 11th October. On the day, students will walk to Redleap Reserve for games and sports activities (weather permitting). To add to the excitement we will also be holding a bumper sticker competition around the theme of St Francis and his teachings. It is also envisaged that we will again be in a position to donate some much needed funds to a worthy charity in keeping with the spirit of St Francis. A letter detailing these events in greater depth will be distributed to all parents before the end of the week.

**TIME TO PRAY**

Lord, bless us as we endeavour to follow in the footsteps of Christ using St Francis of Assisi as our guide and protector.
We give thanks for all we have and ask that, through your grace, the Holy Spirit remains present and active in our lives.
Amen.

God Bless,

John Dwyer  
Religious Education Leader

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**Making Time for Jesus Awards**

Well done to the following children for filling in their Making Time for Jesus cards:
Mirelle L. (Prep N)  Gwendalyn (1N)
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI
FEAST DAY

10:30AM
MASS IN ST FRANCIS CHURCH

12:00PM
FAMILY LUNCH IN THE SCHOOL COURTYARD WITH MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE CHILDREN

2:00PM
BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday 9th October
290 Childs Rd, Mill Park
Come and celebrate! All welcome!
St Monica’s College, Epping
Primary Schools’ Information Night
Tuesday 4 October, 2016
College Tours 6.15pm
Presentation 7.00pm
Theatre Of All Nations
Dalton Road Campus
www.stmonicas-epping.com

“Co-education at its best”
**WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**
SATURDAY VIGIL: 5.00 PM;
SUNDAY: 9 AM, 10.30 AM & 5.00 PM.

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:**
Monday – Friday 9.15 am
Wednesday 7.30 pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

**RECONCILIATION:**
Saturday 9.45 am
Wednesday evening after Mass & Novena

**ADORATION:**
Saturday 9.45 am – 11 am concluding
with Benediction.
Wednesday 7.30 am – 7.30 pm

**MARRIAGES:**
By appointment with a Priest.
Contact Parish Office.

**BAPTISMS:**
By appointment with a priest.
Contact Parish office.

**LEGION OF MARY:**
Every Tuesday in the Parish Youth Nook at
7.30 pm.

**WORD OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP:**
Praise and worship every Thursday 7.30 pm in the Chapel followed by fellowship in the Youth Nook.

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:**
Sundays 10.30 am Mass during term

**VIGIL MASS:**
1st Friday of the month 7 pm to 1 am.

**FILIPINO MASS:**
2nd Sunday of the month at 12 noon.

**ITALIAN MASS:**
2nd Tuesday of the month 11.30 am.

**MALTESE MASS:**
3rd Sat. of the month at 4pm (chapel).
Confessions: 3.30 pm;
Rosary: 3.40 pm.

**PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP:**
Contact Alfons & Helen Glatzel: 9404 2050

**LIFETEEN:**
Sunday after 5.00 pm Mass.
Contact James on 9407 6700.

**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA:**
2nd Fri of the month 7:30 pm in (chapel)

**NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY (MALAYALAM):**
Every Thursday 7:00 pm.

**AGAPE MALAYLEE PRAYER GROUP:**
Every Sunday 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm (Chapel or Church)

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**St Francis of Assisi Playgroup**
Meets every Thursday during school terms from 9am to 11am in the small hall.
New families are welcome.
For any enquiries please call Julie Kerr on 0408 033 877 or Sandra Reddick on 0419 039 547.
**PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS**

| Prep B | Ruby-Rose F | for trying to stretch out words when writing. Keep it up! |
| Prep J | Hannah S | for doing some great spelling of high frequency words! |
| Prep M | Marisa P | for adding detail to her writing to make it more interesting for others to read. Well done, Marisa! |
| Prep N | Veronica B | for trying to add some adjectives to make her writing more interesting |
| Prep T | Mia F | for being incredibly resilient |
| Prep U | Marcus R | for developing confidence in sounding out words when writing |
| Year 1C | Jordan T | for working hard to improve his handwriting. Great effort! |
| Year 1D | Alessandro F | for giving a helping hand to those in need with his computer skills |
| Year 1F | James R | for writing a descriptive explanation about how the water cycle works |
| Year 1H | Rafael O | for writing an informative explanation about the water cycle. Well done! |
| Year 1O | Rheanah R | for writing a fantastic poem about water. Well done! |
| Year 1P | Stephanie C | for working hard to research and create an informative penguin model |
| Year 2B | Keeley D | for doing a great job presenting at the Expo |
| Year 2F | Enrico M | for being a respective and cooperative member of the class. Well done! |
| Year 2G | Manuel J | for settling well into Year 2G and working hard on story writing |
| Year 2R | Everens S | for settling into his new class beautifully. Well done, Everens! |
| Year 2U | Michaela O | for her positive attitude in the classroom and willingness to help others. Well done Michaela! |
| Year 2W | Adrian M | for trying his best in his story writing. Well done, Adrian! |
| Year 3A | William D | for remaining focused in class and trying to complete work to the best of his ability |
| Year 3D | Philip F | for a wonderful start at St. Francis and his excellent work in Maths. Well done! |
| Year 3M | Mia G | for working hard to complete classroom activities. Well done! |
| Year 3P | Aleisha M | for her excellent diorama and for all of her efforts to complete it. Congratulations Aleisha! |
| Year 3R | Nathan M | for his ability to discuss many topics |
| Year 3T | Daniella N | for her beautiful manners and cheerful disposition |
| Year 3W | Joshua V | for excellent work in his Expo pieces and behaviour overall |
| Year 4B | Tony D | for excellent work as an historian this term |
| Year 4C | Mirjana S | for producing an entertaining and factual historical narrative |
| Year 4I | Anthony B | for showing compassion towards others |
| Year 4J | Summer-Ann H | for contributing to class discussions |
| Year 4M | Sebastien J | for working hard on his Inquiry project |
| Year 5K | Zoe P | for her amazing Inquiry presentation. Well done! |
| Year 5M | Te Aroha W | for her positivity towards each and every task set |
| Year 5O | Michael S | for creating his own fantastic website to share his family story |
| Year 5R | Christian C | for always being on task and following the teacher's instructions |
| Year 5S | William P | for being a conscientious worker at all times |
| Year 5T | Tanisha C | for showing responsibility with her learning at home and at school |
| Year 6B | Sienna B | for her amazing knowledge and presentation on natural disasters |
| Year 6D | George J | for always focussing in class and providing his thoughts in class discussions. Well done and keep it up! |
| Year 6H | Brandon M | for an excellent Inquiry presentation on wild fires including a model of a fire shelter |
| Year 6M | Faith P | for a creative model about a tornado for the Expo. Wow! |
| Year 6S | Jonathon A | for attempting more home learning tasks with organisation and initiative |
| Year 6W | Izabella B | for her efforts when presenting her Inquiry research on Tsunamis. Great work! |

**Pupil of the Week**

| Prep | Isabel S | (Prep M) |
| Year 1 | Christian M | (1D) |
| Year 2 | Allegra P | (2W) |
| Year 3 | Sienna R | (3R) |
| Year 4 | Thomas L | (4B) |
| Year 5 | Ajay P | (5T) |
| Year 6 | Natarsha G | (6S) |

**Keys To Life Award**

| Prep | Kloe X (Prep U) | for Confidence |
| Year 1 | Gemma R (1D) | for Resilience |
| Year 2 | Nikita S (2W) | for Getting Along |
| Year 3 | Tylah C (3R) | for Persistence |
| Year 4 | Giorgio P (4B) | for Getting Along |
| Year 5 | Sienna M (5T) | for Resilience |
| Year 6 | Monica D (6S) | for Organisation |