Diary Dates

**Friday, 11th March**
PUPIL FREE DAY

**Monday, 14th March**
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

**Tuesday, 15th March**
Catholic Swimming Carnival
Finance Committee Meeting 5pm

**Wednesday, 16th March**
Year 5 Camp
School Board Meeting 6.30pm

**Thursday, 17th March**
St Patrick’s Day
Year 5 Camp
SAPSASA Swimming Metro Championships—Individual

**Friday, 18th March**
Year 5 Camp
Assembly 9am
followed by
Palm Sunday Liturgy
First Reconciliation at
St John XXIII

**Saturday, 19th March**
St Joseph’s Day

**Sunday, 20th March**
Palm Sunday

**Monday, 21st March**
Harmony Day
Holy Week Liturgies

**Tuesday, 22nd March**
Last Supper Class Liturgy
Community Engagement Meeting/
Parent Ambassadors 6.30pm

**Wednesday, 23rd March**
Year 7 Stations of the Cross
Principal’s Tour 4.30pm—5.30pm

**Thursday, 24th March**
Newsletter
Whole School Easter Liturgy 9am
School concludes @ 3.15pm

**Friday, 25th March**
Good Friday

**Sunday, 27th March**
Easter Sunday

**Monday, 28th March**
Easter Monday

**CALENDAR AMENDMENT**
Principal’s Tour
Wednesday, 23rd March
4.30pm—5.30pm

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By Charmaine

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All I was doing was trying to rest on the riverbank, and then a whole bunch of Year 7’s came and dragged me along the muddy ground into the cold water. They all dumped their paddles onto me and it felt as hard as a brick because they were just dumped on me. Two Year 7’s got on me as well. One sat at the front and another sat at the back. They started paddling and I felt myself gliding like a peaceful fish through the water. I was floating on the top of the water and while I was gliding, I felt the dirty mud that was stuck to the bottom of me wash off into the water. I paddled down the river and back but I kept hitting the other boats. I was also scraped along the itchy, scratchy trees that felt as prickly as a cactus. We got back to the muddy river bank and I was dragged heavily up the side of the icy river. I felt myself become covered on the bottom with sticky mud but I was just glad for the opportunity to rest again along the side of the river bank.
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we approach mid term, I hope, like myself, you see your children settling into the routines and happenings at SFX. Over the last couple of weeks, our Year 7’s have returned after enjoying a memorable camp, parents have visited our school to keep informed on our reading programme, attend Jolly Phonics workshops and Responding to Abuse and Neglect training. This, along with our year level Masses and the recent creation of our ‘Voices Make Choices’ student leadership, is an indication the term is flying!

This week, our Master Planning Committee, including members of the School Board and teaching staff, began discussions in relation to the future plans of our school. We will begin our community consultation on this at our upcoming AGM on Wednesday, March 30th. I encourage your attendance on this evening, as it is important and valuable for us to gain your insight into what you believe the future building and learning needs are required for our school. The evening will provide you with an opportunity to express your thoughts in a comfortable and conversational way with other parents – we will meet in the library at 7pm. As mentioned previously, we are in need of parents to join our School Board and welcome anyone interested to nominate. Feel free to email or contact me if you require more information.

I was particularly pleased last week, to receive notification that SFX has demonstrated and achieved substantial improvement in our NAPLAN results. I took great pleasure in congratulating the staff and together we identified what we believe has accounted for this impressive improvement. We spoke of establishing a whole school approach and explicitly structuring meetings with teams of teachers to look at the way literacy and numeracy is taught to support improvement. We are now entering our third year of working alongside Adrian Dilger, CESA Numeracy Consultant and working on specific, well coordinated strategies across the school.

This follows an intense professional learning period in literacy across the school, as longer, more in depth learning is beneficial. With assistance from our KLT teacher, coaching staff, leading classroom observations and meeting regularly with teams to support a whole school approach for improvement. Thank you to our community, who has also embraced our approach to providing parent workshops on reading and Jolly Phonics, so home learning is supported further.

I have included in my newsletter parts of the letter from the Australian Curriculum Authority, as well as an email I received from Helen O’Brien, the Director of Catholic Education of SA, when she was informed.

Dear Principal,
I am pleased to advise that ACARA has identified your school as having demonstrated substantially above average gain in NAPLAN results. On behalf of ACARA, I would like to extend my congratulations to you and your school community on this achievement. Gains of this magnitude are significant and worthy of highlighting and acknowledgement.

Regards,
Robert Randall
Chief Executive Officer—Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority

As well, the Director of Catholic Education, Mrs Helen O’Brien communicated to me;

Dear Leonie,
I am writing to acknowledge that ACARA has notified the Catholic Education Office that your school is to be included in a list of schools that have demonstrated above average gains in NAPLAN scores between 2013 and 2015. Please convey to your students and teachers my appreciation of this achievement.

Kind regards
Helen O’Brien
Director
Catholic Education South Australia

Tomorrow, staff will continue with further professional learning at our Pupil Free Day. Please be aware that school will be closed and I hope all families enjoy the extended long weekend.

Regards,

Leonie De Garis
Principal
This week marks the fourth week of the Lenten period. During these 40 days, we try to focus and deepen our relationship with God traditionally in three ways – through more focussed prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Fasting does not simply mean “going without” or “eating less.” We are encouraged to look at our lives to identify the blocks that prevent us from opening our hearts and minds to God’s love. Spending less time with technology, or working at getting a better home / work balance to develop relationships, are ways to ‘fast’ during Lent. Being more aware of the needs of people in our family, community and world, offering personal support, time, or money are ways to give ‘alms.’ Instead of striving continually for more material goods, being thankful and grateful for what we have are ways to start prayer.

During Lent we usually start with many good intentions, reminded of Jesus’ sacrifice of himself with the cross of ashes placed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday. It is so easy in the busyness of our lives to lose our way. Fortunately for us, God is patient, kind and merciful and understands when we stray. Believing this, we need only refocus our efforts and begin again. It is never too late to, ‘turn back to God.’

**Holy Week Celebrations**

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most important week of the Church year. It is the time when both the school and church community, reflect through prayer, on Jesus’ life and death as we await the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. We remember what Jesus has done for us so that we might live with God forever. This year Holy Week begins in week 8. During this week we have many liturgical celebrations that you are invited to attend. The following is an outline of the different events that all students will be part of.

**Palm Sunday Liturgy on Friday, 18th March**
The school assembly will finish with a Palm Sunday Liturgy. This will be led by Room 18 and their buddy class Room 6, helped by our younger classes (Rooms 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13). Please join with us for our short assembly at 9.00am in Xavier Hall on Friday, 18th March (Week 7), followed by our Palm Sunday Liturgy.

**Tuesday, 22nd March**
All students will commemorate the Last Supper in their class or Learning team group on Tuesday, 22nd March. Please contact your child’s teacher for the details of their liturgy.

**Wednesday, 23rd March**
The Year 7’s will present two performances to the school of, “The Stations of the Cross.” These will take place in Xavier Hall at 9.30am and be repeated at 10.15am – all welcome to share in this special prayer time with us.

**Thursday, 24th March**
The school community is invited to join with the students for our Holy Week Liturgy at 9.00am in Xavier Hall. The Year 5 students will use drama to lead us in prayer to unfold the final moments of Jesus’ life.

**Thursday, 31st March - Easter Liturgy**
You are invited to attend the whole school Easter Liturgical Celebration at 9.00am in Xavier Hall.

**Para Hills Modbury Sacramental Program**

Workshop 5 – Reconciliation: 4.00pm on Saturday, March 12th at St. John XXIII Church. Please bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea. All families are invited to stay for Mass at 6.00pm.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be received for the first time by the Para Hills/Modbury students on Friday, 18th March at John XXIII Church at 7.00pm. Please keep the following students and their families in your prayers as they take this next step on their journey to become fully initiated into the Catholic Faith: Joss Justo, Lachlan Abraham, Izaak Brain, Giuseppe Desimone, Emily Fitzsimmons, Axel Mastrullo, Ashleigh Ovenden, Mariano Ventra

**Important Dates**

**Wednesday, 9th March**
First Reconciliation, 7.00pm at St David’s Church

**Saturday, 12th March**
Workshop 5 - Para Hills Modbury Sacramental Program at 4.00pm at St John XXIII Church.

**Friday, 18th March**
Palm Sunday Liturgy in Xavier Hall following on from Assembly at 9.00am

**Friday, 21st March**
Para Hills/Modbury sacramental students, First Reconciliation at 7.00pm, John XXIII Church.

**Tuesday, 22nd March**
Last Supper Commemoration – see class teacher for details

**Wednesday, 23rd March**
9.30am and 10.15am, Stations of the Cross in Xavier Hall, led by Year 7 students.

**Thursday, 24th March**
9.00am, Whole school Holy Week Liturgy in Xavier Hall, led by Year 5.

**Thursday, 31st March**
9.00am, Whole school Easter Liturgy in Xavier Hall

“I invite all of you who follow Jesus, wherever you are, to spend time every day renewing your personal relationship with him, letting him touch your hearts.”

Pope Francis

Angela Coon,
APRIM – Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission
acoon@sfx.catholic.edu.au
**SPORT**

**DIARY DATES—TERM 1, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>15th March</td>
<td>Catholic Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1st April</td>
<td>TTG SAPSASA Athletics Carnival</td>
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If your child is interested in playing an after school sport for SFX please follow the link to the Registration of Interest form: http://www.sfx.catholic.edu.au/sports-team-registration

**LAST CHANCE!!!!**

2016 AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS REGISTRATION OF INTEREST IS OPEN FOR TERMS 2 & 3 (2016) SPORT

SATURDAY BASKETBALL—U8, U10 & U12
SATURDAY FOOTBALL—2/3, 4/5, 6/7

If your child is interested in playing either of the above sports, the new season/s will commence in Term 2, nominations are open, please complete the registration form and return to the Sports Coordinator as soon as possible. If your child is interested please complete the Registration of Interest form at:

http://www.sfx.catholic.edu.au/sports-team-registration

**SAPSASA District Swimming Carnival**

On Friday, 4th March, SFX competed in the SAPSASA District Swimming Carnival. We competed at Waterworld, Tea Tree Gully. In total we had 22 swimmers for the day. The swimmers were very successful. We had swimmers born in 2003-2006. Congratulations to four of our swimmers who are going to Marion to represent Tea Tree Gully District. These swimmers are Sophie Graham, Darcy McDonald, Jackson Ryan and Sophie Whinnen. It was a very successful day and a great time. With the help of all of our swimmers, we came in 2nd place with Pedare winning by 23 points. Thank you to Kate for organizing the day for us. We couldn’t have done it without her. Also thank you to all of the swimmers who competed.

Lucy Versace

**EARLY STUDENT ARRIVAL**

Please note that students who arrive at school early, are to go the Canteen area where supervision begins at 8.20am. All students who arrive before 8.20am are required to go to OSHC. Bookings for Before School Care can be made by contacting 8251 9560. Many thanks!

**CLOSING GATES**

To further ensure our students’ safety, when you are entering or leaving the school grounds, we ask that you are mindful of closing the gate behind you, especially near the Out of School Hours area. Many thanks!

**VOLUNTEERING AT SFX**

To be a volunteer at SFX, you are now required to have completed the following 3 steps:

- **Police Clearance**
- **RAN Training** (Responding to Abuse & Neglect)
- **SFX Induction**

As of 1st May, 2016 all of the above must have been completed for you to continue in a volunteering capacity.

We have a further 2 RAN training sessions available at this stage, on Tuesday, 5th April at 2.30pm or 6.00pm. These sessions run for approx. 30 mins and you will be issued with a certificate. Please contact Sue on 8251 9500 or email ssimson@sfx.catholic.edu.au to book a session. Also, if you are a current volunteer we ask that you check your Police Clearance expiry date and renew if necessary. If you are not currently a volunteer, but wish to become one, we ask that you begin the process asap in order to be completed by 1st May.

(Police clearance packs are available from the Front Office.)

Any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact Nicky Dnistriansky on 8251 9500.

Many thanks.

*The services and events from outside agencies contained in this newsletter are in no way connected with the school and are included in this newsletter for your information only. Parents and caregivers need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their needs and those of their children.*

**TANIA KRATZYK**

Sports Coordinator

Email: tania.krawczyk@sfx.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 8251 9531
In person: Tuesdays & Thursdays in the Hall

**For those that play in a SFX Netball, Basketball or Indoor Soccer after school team you can now download the SportFix app to your mobile to get all current rosters.**
EASTER LITURGIES 2016
Para Hills Modbury Catholic Parish

RECONCILIATION
SECOND FORM: Tues. March 22nd, 7pm Pius X Church, 2 Avoca St Dernancourt
The North East Cluster of Parishes — Celebration
Many of the priests of the cluster will be available after communal prayer and preparation.

FIRST FORM: Individual reconciliation
Sat, March 19th: 5pm at St John XXIII Church
Wed, March 23rd: Before & after Mass at 7pm at Holy Trinity Church

EUCHARISTS AND LITURGIES
CHRISM MASS: Mon March 21st, 6pm
at St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral, Wakefield Street, Adelaide

HOLY THURSDAY: March 24th
Mass of the Lord’s Supper
7:30pm at Holy Trinity Church
After the Eucharist there will be prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose.

GOOD FRIDAY: March 25th
Stations of the Cross:
10am at Holy Trinity Church
11am at St John XXIII Church

Celebration of the Lord’s Passion
3pm at Holy Trinity Church
3pm at St John XXIII Church

HOLY SATURDAY: March 26th
8pm Easter Vigil
at St John XXIII Church
(PLEASE NOTE: There is NO 6pm Mass)
The vigil starts at 8pm.

EASTER SUNDAY: March 27th
Celebration of the Resurrection
9am at St John XXIII Church
9am at Holy Trinity Church
When can my child start school?

Policy changes within Catholic Education now allows us the option of two intakes a year for children starting school.

Therefore, your child may be eligible to start their schooling in either Term 1 or Term 3, depending on their date of birth.

If your child turns 5 before the end of April, they are eligible to start school in Term 1 of that year.

If your child turns 5 between 1st May and 31st October, they are eligible to start in Term 3.

Should you have any queries, please contact Sonya, our School Secretary, on 8251 9555.

2016 TOUR DATES

PRINCIPAL TOURS

Wednesday, 23rd March
4.30pm—5.30pm

Tuesday, 17th May
9.30am—10.30am

Thursday, 30th June
9.30am—10.30am

Monday, 15th August
9.30am—10.30am

Thursday, 22nd September
9.30am—10.30am

OPEN MORNING

Friday, 11th November
9.30am—10.30am

Followed by Remembrance Day Service commencing at 10.45am

How do I register my attendance?

Bookings are essential for the tours and can be made via the School’s website www.sfx.catholic.edu.au

or by telephoning Sonya, our School Secretary, on 8251 9555

TERM DATES 2016

Term 1
Monday, 1st February—Friday, 15th April

Term 2
Tuesday, 3rd May—Friday, 8th July

Term 3
Tuesday, 26th July—Friday, 30th September

Term 4
Monday, 17th October—Thursday, 15th December

ADVANCE NOTICE DATES

Good Friday, 25th March
Easter Sunday, 27th March
Easter Monday, 28th March

PUPIL FREE DAYS

Friday, 11th March
(Adelaide Cup: Monday, 14th March)
Monday, 2nd May
Monday, 25th July
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<tr>
<th>Monday April 18th</th>
<th>Tuesday April 19th</th>
<th>Wednesday April 20th</th>
<th>Thursday April 21st</th>
<th>Friday April 22nd</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MOVIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>MOBILE SCIENCE EDUCATION WORKSHOP</strong></td>
<td><strong>BOWLING AT VILLAGE BOWL</strong></td>
<td><strong>Let's Do India</strong></td>
<td><strong>Earth Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>At the Semaphore Odeon</td>
<td>- tinker toys -</td>
<td>Leaving 9.45am. Returning 1pm</td>
<td>Everyone joins in to have fun and learn Bollywood dance from Kudra.</td>
<td>LOVE THE WORL:D WE LIVE IN. REUSE OUR CARDBOARD BOXES, JARS, TINS TO MAKE OUR CRAFT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leaving10am</td>
<td>Spending money at the movies allowed. Play and lunch by the playground. Packed lunch please</td>
<td>Lunch - baked potatoes</td>
<td>Lunch - Rangoli sand art - make a peacock.</td>
<td>Lunch - Sausage sizzle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craft</td>
<td>Craft</td>
<td>Craft - bead a ten pin</td>
<td>Lunch - Annie's Indian meatball with rice</td>
<td>Watch Happy Feet DVD</td>
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<td>- make a Kungfu Panda Chopstick pouch</td>
<td>- Make a shell wall hanging</td>
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<td>Baking Anzac biscuits. Make a poppy for Anzac Day</td>
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<th>Monday April 25th</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>EXCURSION to LATITUDE</strong></td>
<td><strong>ANIMAL CAPERS</strong></td>
<td><strong>JUMPING CASTLE FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT HERE FOR THE DAY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>LEST WE FORGET</strong></td>
<td>Visiting us today. Learn and hold some familiar wildlife. (1.30-3pm)</td>
<td>Lunch - spaghetti Bolognese</td>
<td>Lunch Mrs A's yummy hamburgers</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Craft - Make an animal mask. - animal pom pom. - make a chart showing the life cycle of a butterfly</td>
<td>Craft - Decorate a plate to take home</td>
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<td>Bounce - Climb - Fly</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>Leaving 12.30pm</td>
<td>Returning 2.45pm</td>
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<td>Children will need to purchase socks from the venue - cost $2 will be billed to your account</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Packed lunch please.</td>
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SFX OSHC & Vacation Care Parent Notice

Reminders
We require 5 working days for any cancellations.
Prompt fee payment please by cash, credit card or bank deposit.

Clothing
Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothes and footwear at all times. Please label all clothing.

Excursions
Children are to wear their red hats on all excursions, otherwise a new one will be issued at a cost of $7.
Please arrive at least a ½ an hour before departure times.
Children are responsible for their own spending money, and are not to accept money from other children.

Electronics & Food
Children need to be responsible for any electronic games, toys, DVD’s and CD’s they bring from home. Electronics are only available to children at select times of the day.
Please supply your child with healthy nutritious snacks.

Vac Care bookings need to be confirmed by Monday 4th April 2016.
SHOW YOUR COLOURS!
WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE TEAM COLOURS

Friday, 1st April

GOLD COIN DONATION