

Newsletter



From the Principal....

Dear Parents & Carers

The students of St Francis' School hit the 2018 school year running, jumping into school life with eagerness and enthusiasm. The attendance and participation rates of the students this term have in been very pleasing. It has been wonderful to see the students embracing the new programs and initiatives that have been developed by the staff. A great deal of time and energy is spent by staff planning and implementing the programs on offer, they do this because they genuinely care for the young people enrolled at the School. All that we do at St Francis' School is aimed at providing our students with opportunities to develop the skills and qualities to be positive contributors to their local community. Some photographs of the many activities undertaken by the students this term have been included in this newsletter.

Contacting Students – Parent Support Requested

If parents/carers are needing to contact their children during the day I ask that this been done through Reception at the School. We are happy to promptly pass the messages on to the students. It is extremely disruptive to a young person's learning if they are contacted during their lesson times via their mobile phones and this can have a negative impact on the students' engagement for the rest of the day.

If a student is feeling unwell they should go and see Jodi or Kate in Reception who will then contact parents/carers if required. If your son/daughter contacts you asking to come home please call the School before agreeing to them leaving early as we may be able to provide additional support for the young person so they stay at school. Our preference is for students to be at school for as long as possible each day.

Memorial Reflection

On Monday 19 March, we held a Memorial Reflection to mark the two-year anniversary of the passing of Foundation Principal, Mr Rory McNally. We gathered around the Memorial Tree where favourite memories of Mr McNally were shared, and we concluded the reflection with an Irish Prayer. Following the memorial, a staff v student soccer match was held with the staff once again coming out victorious, something Rory would have been proud of.

Building Program

The building program is drawing to a close with hand-over of the new Staff Toilets and Hospitality Centre expected to take place during the holidays. I thank the staff and students for their patience and understanding whilst the building has been undertaken. An official opening of the new facilities will be held during Term Two, once the date has been set we will notify the School community. Our cooking teacher Ms Krystal Dean, along with the students, is really looking forward to using the new facility.

White Ribbon School

On 22 February Mrs Courtney Gratteri (Youth Worker) and I attended the second 'Breaking the Silence' Program professional learning day. The *Breaking the Silence* program provides foundational knowledge, tools and strategies to implement respectful relationships and domestic violence education programs in schools. Through the Program, students learn and experience respectful relationships, gender equality and how to challenge attitudes which support violence. The aim is to create real generational change to stop violence against women in Australia.



As St Francis' School has completed *Breaking the Silence* training we are now recognised as a White Ribbon School (<https://www.whiteribbon.org.au/>). A strong symbol of a safe, equitable school and vehicle for changes in attitudes and behaviours.

School Holidays

I Wish all members of the St Francis' School community a safe, relaxing and refreshing holiday break. We look forward to seeing everyone back for the start of Term Two on Wednesday 2 May.

God Bless
Ian Hagen

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If your son or daughter is absent, please contact the school on 9262 4421 before 9:30am.

A medical certificate is required for absences of 2 or more consecutive days, or when requested by the school.

If you are picking up your son/daughter during school hours, please notify the school prior to your arrival.

You must come to Reception to sign them out. We will not allow them to leave school grounds without written permission.

Our Address:

10 Alloa Road
Maddington WA 6109

Phone: 08 9262 4421

Fax: 08 9262 4411

Email:

admin@stfs.wa.edu.au

Website:

www.stfs.wa.edu.au

IMPORTANT DATES

Last Day for Term One.....Apr 13

Last Day for Staff.....Apr 13

ANZAC Day.....Apr 25

First day for Term 2, 2018

Staff– Monday 30 Apr 2018

All Students - Wed 2 May 2018

STFS Board Meeting.....May 8

WA Day Public Holiday.....June 4

STFS Board Meeting.....June 12

Fairy Godmothers Lunch...June 26

Last Day of Term 2.....June 29
(Staff and Students)

Congratulations

City of Gosnells Education Scholarships

Each year, the City of Gosnells provides an Education Scholarship of \$500 for one year 10 student who is continuing on to Year 11, from each of the secondary schools within the City. The recipient of the Scholarship for St Francis' School for 2018 was Asta Thor.

Councillor Serena Williamson presented Asta with her Scholarship in a short ceremony held at the start of the year. Congratulations Asta.



The West Australian's Young Travel Writer Competition

Alexandra (Ali) Ure, a Year Eleven student at St Francis' was selected in the top ten finalists in the 2018 Young Travel Writer Competition.

To enter the competition Ali had to write and submit a travel review of a location she had travelled and include two of her own photos. Ali wrote her review on Brighton in England, which was informative and entertaining. Ali attended the awards ceremony which was held at Kings Park on April 6.

Ali spent the morning getting familiar with her new camera and learning about travel writing and photography from The West Australian's Travel team. She was also taken on a behind-the-scenes tour of Kings Park and Botanic Gardens. Congratulations Ali.

Here is a small sample of her entry "Beautiful Brighton "

"You can walk along the beach to Brighton Palace Pier. Here you can reconnect with your childlike sense of wonder on some rides, which are part of a permanent funfair erected at the end of the pier."

<https://thewest.com.au/travel/seven-west-travel-club/young-travel-writer-finalists-the-cream-of-a-talented-crop-ng-b88789945z>

Respect Responsibility Belief Belonging

- The principles of St Francis' School -

Our School Prayer

St Francis,

Help me to jump
into this day, full of
joy and hope.

Help me to see
every
problem as a learn-

In The Workshop by Mr David Willock



As part of the service programme that the school runs the Year 10's have been working on an outdoor table to replace the old one that had become unusable due to wood rot. The students have produced a sturdy project that looks great. It is well constructed and will be put to good use in the new under-cover area.

Strong Hearts Strong Minds by Mrs Heather Mead

After trialing this new Subject in 2017, and seeing it recognised by Catholic Education WA in its Lead Awards, Strong Hearts Strong Minds is now offered to all Year Levels.

The course, through a workshop approach, offers the students an opportunity to learn about brain development, self regulation tools, and healthy relationships. Using the Circle of Courage as a model that promotes healthy adolescent development and the Response Ability Training undertaken by all staff at St. Francis, the students are introduced to techniques and language, proven to assist young people as they traverse the difficulties they can encounter as they journey into adulthood.

This Term, the students have been introduced to brain development, have been involved in discussions regarding healthy relationships and have learnt about the importance of Belonging and Mastery in their lives. It is hoped that the activities and discussions have planted the seeds for the students to start to examine the rights and responsibilities they have as members of our school community and also helped them to gain the confidence to strive to be the best at whatever their heart desires.

Should you wish to find out more about the topics of Belonging and Mastery, please follow the links below to view a couple of videos the students have watched this Term.

https://www.ted.com/talks/black_my_journey_to_yo_yo_mastery/discussion

<https://youtu.be/ZgT-GQvwZ9k>

Pixel Drawings with Year 11!

The Year 11s looked at how to create an image (in this case, a face) of various sized squares. At times this was difficult as students had to consider not only the sizing but had to count the squares they require to define the facial features.

They have all produced a fantastic pixel drawing and should be congratulated for their hard work. Well done Year 11s!



Kids in the kitchen by Mrs Krystal Dean

This Semester the Year 10 students have been baking cakes, biscuits, slices and pastry as part of the Food course.

They have also had the opportunity to learn barista skills and learning to make a variety of coffees including cappuccinos, mocha, flat white and of course the much-loved hot chocolate.



Recently the students made an amazing apple pie and even made their own pastry. Connor and Nick decided to enclose their apple pie, while Sarah, Georgia and Paige decided to do a lattice pattern.

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Year 10 Integrated Studies by Mrs Heather Mead

This academic year, St. Francis' School continues to be dynamic in its application of the curriculum in order to both re-engage the students and provide them with recognised qualifications that will assist them in life after school. The introduction of Integrated Studies, a subject that spans across Maths, English and Business Studies will enable the current Year 10 students to gain a Certificate II

So far we have covered areas such as basic signs and symbols, as well as the practical successful in gaining their Work Safe Work Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Next Term, the students will also start to incorporate their hospitality knowledge and Barista qualification as well as their manual skills as they move towards setting up their own business to be run from the school. This will not only give them experiences to draw on to continue with the written components of the FSK Certificate but will also enable the students to gain confidence, in preparation for the opportunities offered by Instep Work Placements in Year 11.

We wish the Year 10's continued success as they progress with this innovative course.



form filling, recognition of familiar work places use of a computer. The Year 10's have also been Smart Certificate issued by The Department of through this subject.

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From the STFS Admin Team...

STFS Administration will be closed from 4pm Friday 13th April 2018 to Friday 27th April 2018.

Should you have any queries during this time, please call and leave a message or alternatively, please email admin@stfs.wa.edu.au



At STFS, we encourage our students to take responsibility for themselves and their actions. At times, we have students calling or messaging parents during classes or break times asking to be picked up or to leave the school and go home.

Should students feel the need to go home (for whatever reason), we ask that they speak to their staff mentor who will try and provide support and encourage them to stay at school.

If a student needs to go home or be picked up, parents will be contacted by a member of staff who will advise of the situation and seek approval for the student to be dismissed from school.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school when you receive a call or message from your son/daughter. We are happy to work with them so they can remain at school for as long as possible.

School Fees

At St Francis's School, our fees are kept as low as possible and include excursions, one STFS polo shirt, books and stationery.

Fees for 2018 are now due

It is greatly appreciated that parents pay the full amount of fees either in one lump sum or in instalments as per the Payment Option Form. Thank you to those parents who have already made payments.

Should you have any difficulty in paying your fees or you'd like to set up a weekly/fortnightly/monthly payment arrangement, please contact Jodi on 9262 4421.

All discussions regarding fees are strictly confidential.



Want to pay your fees by Bpay?

Please refer to your Fees Statement for your reference number when making your payment. Using this code will ensure your fees payment is allocated quickly and correctly.

Our Biller Code:

Name: St Francis' School

BPay Biller Code: 280073

Youth Worker News

TERM 1 Newsletter "Back to School Empowerment @ The Chill Out Zone.

This year we have welcomed back our "Chill Out" zone with our Term 1 theme of "Back to School Empowerment Edition"

We found the Chill out Zone became a great place after our long school holiday break for our students to share their holiday events and stories.

This term we had 90% of our students chill out or check out the chill out zone and participate in our Back to School Empowerment Activities through their recess and lunch breaks.



We did everything from planning this year's chill out zone calendar, MYO Tea and Coffee Mugs, Creating our own Vision and Vibe Boards, Sand and Rock Murals, Dream Big Journal Designs, a visit from Sue-Ellen at Headspace Armadale, Ride for a Reason with Armadale's Bike Blender and much more...

As you can see, our work and fun creations never stop. We are looking forward to making our chill out zone the place to be at break times and providing our students with the opportunity to try new things.

We are looking forward to Term 2 at our chill out zone with our Mindful in May and Healthy Habits Theme.



SCHOOL BASED SUBJECT

"Finding your Strengths through a school subject" was our aim when we created our School Based Subject (or SBS) option this term.



Thankyou to both staff and students for allocating twice a week to come together to create a space and activities that have built on students strengths and interests and in some instances, give back to our school through community service.



We are all looking forward to trying and learning new things in term 2.



School holidays are here!

School holidays are here and there are some great activities around to keep yourselves busy. We are having some wonderful weather at the moment, so it's a great opportunity to get outside and active!

And remember that whatever you plan on doing these school holidays.....stay safe.

See our website for lots of things to do during the holidays www.stfs.wa.edu.au/youthworker.html

**SMALL ACTIONS
X LOTS OF PEOPLE
= BIG CHANGE**

Community Noti

St Francis' School is participating in the Bakers Delight Dough Raiser Program this year.



Bakers Delight Maddington will donate back to the school 10% of total purchases made by STFS families and friends.

Please mention the school and the Dough Raiser Program when you purchase your bread and bakery products from Bakers Delight Maddington.



DADAA have a new program called Experience Collider. Geared towards 13 to 18 year olds with high support needs, the project will involve dance, theatre, circus and digital media through workshops and a major performance.



<http://www.dadaa.org.au/find-a-program/experience-collider>



St Francis' School is a proud participant of Planet Ark's recycling program: **'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark'**.

If you have any old printer cartridges at home that you'd like to recycle, please bring them in and we will include them in our collection box.



The City of Canning is hosting a variety of events during the school holidays. Please refer to the following link for all the details including days, times and ticket information:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/city-of-canning-youth-and-family-services-april-2018-school-holiday-program-tickets-44094508863>



Have you ever considered an ocean adventure?

Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation still has places left for 2018 so don't hesitate too long or you'll miss out.

Please go to the website for all the information

<https://mailchi.mp/sailleeuwin/h3mjn5iajm-1887905?e=8821c0015f>



A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who shopped at Coles and donated your Sports for Schools vouchers to St Francis' School!

We were overwhelmed by the number of vouchers we received and we sincerely appreciate your donations.

We are now waiting on our final voucher total before we can start our wish list. All the sporting equipment we receive by redeeming the vouchers, will be used during our sport and recreation sessions, and also at break times.

The school will be part of the program next year and we are hoping to increase our voucher total in 2019.

