

St Francis College

CRESTMead

In Simplicity and Harmony



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28 April 2017

Leadership Team News

I am thankful we were blessed with blue skies returning to school this term after the awful weather we experienced at the end of last term.

It was heart-warming to see the good attendance at our school this week, with the students returning to school well presented, work ready, with a smile on their faces and a sense of enthusiasm for what the new term will bring.

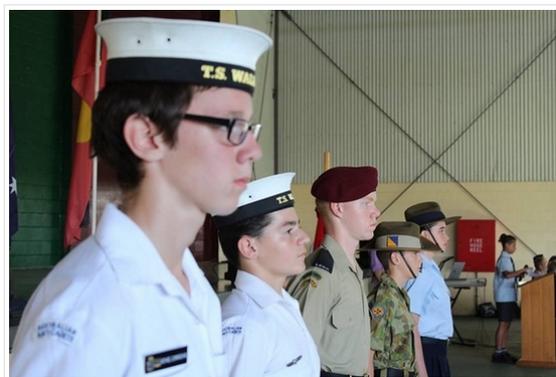
We entered the first week with much excitement as we held our Cross Country Event. It was great to see our students striving to do their best and achieve success.

The day started with wonderful weather and we were blessed to witness the fantastic attitudes of our young people. The morning ended with many students pushing past their comfort zone and proving to themselves that they can achieve more than they expected. It was encouraging to see so many supportive parents and families cheering them all on!



A big thank you to our Sports Middle Leaders, Ms. Jordan Litzow and Mr. Lachlan Grove for making it a truly successful day!

Many of our students and their families attended the ANZAC Parade held at Blackwell St Corner or attended ceremonies around Brisbane and the South East on Tuesday. We also gathered together as a College on Monday to pay our respects to those who have served their country. Thank you to all members of the community who took the time to attend these services. As always it was a humbling and thought provoking experience.



We also had the Formal for our Year 12 students at the Brisbane Golf Club on Friday 21st April. The young people looked amazing and presented with grace and gratitude, impressing both parents and teachers. It was without doubt an extremely successful and memorable evening and provides yet another fine example of how the St Francis College community is truly remarkable, with the next generation ready to take their place in the world. The night saw students arriving in Supercars, a delicious three course meal, dancefloor battles and many stunning photos taken! Best dressed girl and boy went to Emeline Mkurunziza and CJ Koria respectively!



Staff: Megan Philpot, Ashleigh Beattie, Ashleigh Foumakis, Jordan Litzow, Rachel Whitaker and Kim Soderland



Julian Wiley & Jess Andrews



Joseph Maksoud and Ryan Scarponi



Monica Paerau Emery Walker and Faith Jones



Conner Petersen and Chloe McGrath and Britnee Spencer Emeline Nkurunziza



Faith Jones, Trinity Uta'I, Staff: Jason Crow, Patrick Last, Monica Paerau Emery Walker Chris Stehr and Harry Norris and Gloria Sootaga



Larry Lofipo and Sarai Nauer



Chloe McGrath and Lemi Taulaga

Creating one of the social events of the College year is not possible without significant planning, attention to detail and hard work and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Dan Horn and all those who assisted him in making the Formal such a wonderful event.

NAPLAN

All Year 3, 4, 5 and 9 students will undertake NAPLAN this term in week 4. Our teachers are working tirelessly with our students to make the process as painless as possible. We know it is a stressful period, however we are certain that all our young people will strive to do their best with the support of their teachers and families.

Remember NAPLAN is a point in time exam which will help teachers plan for future learning. It is important but only a part of the bigger picture of learning, so have fun!

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope the holidays provided for you and your families a time to reconnect, rest, enjoy and nurture those you love.

Parent/Student/Teacher Learning Conversations

Our aim is to hold constructive discussions with parents and students, to develop working relationships with families and to make students aware of the crucial way in which parents, teachers and students work together to help the students achieve personal excellence. These conversations are scheduled for Tuesday 2 May commencing at 3:30 pm and concluding at 6:30 pm.

Although they result in a long day's work, these evenings are very rewarding for teachers who get to hear about the differences they are making for students in their classrooms, as well as learning a little more about the students they teach and their families. Research shows that the more a parent is involved with the school, the better the outcomes for that child, so we encourage as many parents as possible to attend. For teachers, finding out that a student has talked about your lessons at home, or mentioned what they have enjoyed in your classes, helps make all the hard work put into planning learning experiences for them worthwhile.

I vividly recall my mother dressing up to go to parents' evenings when I was a child. In those days, students were not welcome and you had to sit at home and await the verdict when your mum got back (sadly, dads rarely seemed to get involved in those days) – hopefully with the news that the teachers had said nice things about you. Attending parent/teacher conversations with my parent hat on is much scarier than being on the other side of the table.

For years when attending my children's parent/student/teacher interviews, I didn't let on that I was a teacher. To be honest, the most important thing for me when they were little was that my children were behaving themselves, doing what they were supposed to and had some friends - I assumed that the rest would probably follow. So rather than asking about NAPLAN results and whether they could sing their times tables, I tried to

focus on checking that they were getting on with the right sorts of things in class and not annoying the teacher or their fellow pupils.

These days, we encourage students to attend these conversations with their parents. The thinking behind this is that if all parties are present and involved in the discussion, there can be no loss of information in 'translation' of messages between parent, teacher and child. What is said is heard by everybody and any questions can be asked and answered there and then.

I have heard parents refer to Parent/Student/Teacher Learning Conversations as similar to 'speed dating' (although presumably with less exciting match-making prospects) but the experience should be an essential one in terms of developing relationships between teachers and parents or carers. Although ten minutes doesn't seem like a lot of time, when used carefully, it can be a very productive session.

Sometimes parents ask me whether there is any point in attending the Parent/Student/Teacher Learning Conversations when their child is doing just fine. I always say that the benefits of attending apply to all of our students. Students rarely achieve perfection in any subject area, so there are always improvements that can be made, even if these are only tiny tweaks in some cases. I also believe it is important for students who are doing well to hear that we are impressed by their achievements, so that when they may be challenged by difficult topics or times, they are motivated to continue their hard work and efforts and so that they know we do realise how much effort they are putting into their learning.

Warmest regards,



John Marinucci
On behalf of Tricia, John and Julian

Staff News

Staff Profile

This week Angela Charry Marroquin is our Super Star:

- Angela is married to Leonardo, he is classical guitar player. Her daughter's name is Antonia, she is 10 years old.
- Her favourite foods are Mexican and Latino American food. The food she really doesn't like is smelly cheese.



To find out more, click on the link below!

Religious Life of the School

From the APRE

ANZAC Day

ANZAC day was celebrated at St Francis College on Monday afternoon. It was a solemn affair and given great dignity by the presence of the five cadets who performed the wreath laying ceremony. Thank you to Caitlyn Holden, Drew Wardrope, Joshua Lucas, Ben Cox and Christina Loizou, and their parents and grandparents who allowed this to happen and were present at the event. Thanks also to the Year 3 students who read the Ode so beautifully to the Year sixes and SRC reps who contributed to the prayer.



ANZAC day is such an important day in the imagination of Australians. It is a day that we particularly think about peace. As a Catholic community we continue to hope, pray and act for world peace.

In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says "Peace be with you!" three times. Let us pray always for peace, in our homes, our communities and in the world. Amen.

Learning and Teaching News

Years 7-12

Middle Years Matters

"...to be loved as to love"



Welcome back to another full term of amazing adventures in learning and teaching at St Francis College!

YR 7 PARENTS' MEET and GREET:

Towards the end of last term, just as the rains were setting in, Year 7 students invited their parents and caregivers to a Meet and Greet session in their classrooms and with their teachers. This event provided an opportunity for parents and caregivers to visit students' classrooms and immerse themselves a little into the life of a Year 7 student at St Francis College. Teachers and students shared some of their term's work within their own classroom context. The visit concluded with a Sausage Sizzle in

the Piazza, an area where many of the Year 7 students regularly gather together.



Ivan Wani and friend Francis Martin Sabit, enjoy time together during Parent Meet and Greet classroom visit



Mousa Sakarya and her daughters, Marleen & Dina share time with Mr John Maranucci

It was wonderful to see our parents and carers brave the weather and become a little more informed about their children's learning and to see their progress and achievements so far this year.



Joy Sam and her Mum, Nancy, with friends Rose and son, Moses, Martin Sabit



Ivan Wani with his Mum, Mary

A NEW FACE IN YEAR 7 B

In conjunction with our focus on Visible Learning, St Francis College is also working as an Accelerated Literacy Learning school with its focus on promoting the development of literacy throughout P-12 in all curriculum areas. Across Years 7 -10, Ms Rachel Whitaker has been appointed as our Collaborative Learning Leader in this area. In this role, she will be responsible for building the capacity of teachers to accelerate the literacy of students in every learning area. While Rachel is working in her new role, Mr. Andre Michael has been employed as the Year 7 B core teacher for this time. We welcome Andre to St Francis College and especially to the Middle Years Phase of Learning.



NAPLAN NUMERACY WORKOUT SESSIONS:

As reported last term, students in Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9 participated in a practice NAPLAN Numeracy Test. The results of these have now been analysed and some key maths concepts for each year level were identified as needing further development and consolidation. Students have been assigned

a group reflecting their particular needs and for the next three weeks will participate in Numeracy Workout sessions that aim to review, reinforce and consolidate basic concepts to support them in the upcoming NAPLAN NUMERACY Test in May.

NAPLAN PREPARATION: Just a reminder that this term, in Week 4, students in Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9 will participate in three days of NAPLAN Tests.

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/school/primary/testing/9-tips-to-help-kids-prepare-for-tests>

<http://www.sthildas.qld.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/INSIGHTS-Get-ready-for-Naplan.pdf>

MINDFULNESS REMINDER:

During times of testing or testing times, students require high levels of cognitive control, emotional regulation and self-awareness. Research shows that mindfulness practices are one way to help develop these characteristics of an assessment-capable student and so it is encouraged that students regularly practise some of these simple techniques as a means of support. The following link provides 5 Mindful Games that can promote mindfulness for kids and teens. On the site there is also a free EBOOK containing 12 other alternative mindfulness activities.

FRANCIS-CAN SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAMME:

As we begin a new term it is a good time to set up some opportunities for students to gain hours towards their FrancisCan Service Goal of 20 hours for the year. Anzac Day celebrations, Breakfast Club support, Parish School Mass and Sustainability Group activities are some ways students can participate to gain these hours of service.

SECA:

This week at St Francis College we begin our participation in the SECA Competition. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to engage in a form of learning in a different context and with a different group of students. For our Year 7 students beginning their first year in the Middle Years, this will be their first experience of this interschool competition. SECA provides students with the opportunity to develop, not only their sporting skills, but skills of cooperation, friendship, resilience, fair play and respect. Students will be challenged to play their best, no matter what the sport, activity or outcome and do so with true St Francis behaviour and attitude. We wish all our teams the best in the weeks ahead.

It will be another busy term and we look forward to 10 weeks of engaging learning and teaching for all in our St Francis College community.

Sr Lee Veriga (Assistant Principal Curriculum: P-9)

Pastoral News

Leave Information

The following is information for parents requesting leave for their child from school. Each parent of a child who is of compulsory school age must ensure that the child is enrolled and attends

school on every school day for the educational programs in which the child is enrolled unless the parent has a reasonable excuse. **If a student is going to be away from school for an extended amount of time, parents are required to make a written request to the Principal for this leave.**

The *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* outlines parents' legal obligations in terms of ensuring their child is both enrolled in and attends school through the *compulsory schooling* and *compulsory participation* phases of their education.

The Language of Independence

Independence-building is vitally important for parents. It's the pathway to children's competency, confidence and creativity, and the short cut to resilience and real learning. The article below talks about helping to get your child on the path to independence.

Ms Michelle Kelly (Assistant Principal Pastoral: P-12)

Positive Behaviour 4 Learning

Positive Behaviour 4 Learning: Years 7-12

Hello Parents and Guardians and welcome to term 2.



On the PB4L front this term a new inclusion to school routine is the 'Expectation of the Week'. This Expectation of the Week consists of a positive behaviour based around our school rules of; Respect Self, Respect Others, Respect Environment, and Respect Learning. Each week our staff will explicitly teach this desired behaviour across the College, describing what the behaviour looks like and why it is important. There are many benefits to this incorporation, one of which is consistency. By implementing this strategy, all students are learning the positive behaviours we desire to see from respectful students of SFC. Student behaviour is not only improving individually, but throughout the College, as both staff and students can establish a unified understanding of what is and is not positive behaviour. If adopted, these behaviours have the potential to significantly enhance the academic outcomes, social and emotional development of your child. You can find the list of Expectations of the Week below, and we look forward to your assistance in discussing these with your child.

Week	Expectation of the Week
1	Respect Learning: Lining up outside
2	Respect Self: Uniform
3	Respect Learning: Being punctual
4	Respect Others: Appreciating Diversity
5	Respect Others: Interacting positively (listening and participating)
6	Respect Self: Being Organised
7	Respect Learning of Others: Assisting and supporting your peers

Week	Expectation of the Week
8	Respect Environment: Creating a clean learning space and environment
9	Respect Others: Speaking positively (language)
10	Respect Learning: Appropriate use of Technology

GOTCHA'S

Students are given GOTCHA'S from all class teachers for displaying appropriate behaviours and working well in class. In the year group assemblies one GOTCHA is drawn out for each year level and the winning student receives a tuckshop voucher. Ask your student how many GOTCHA'S they received this week.

This week's winners are:

Year 9	Jury Murphy	Year 10	Tara-Grace Hargreaves
Year 11	Sarah Weis	Year 12	Emeline Nkurunziza

Congratulations and keep up the good work!

SFC PB4L Team

Ask a Speechie...

How parents can help their child learn to read and write

It may seem strange to think that doing fun little things every day will help your child learn to read and write, but it's true! In many (but not all) cases, this will save you the frustration of watching your child struggle to read and write. It's not about flashcards and it's not about tutors, it's a simple concept that doesn't cost a thing. The secret? Talking!

Strong talking and listening skills are the foundation of learning to read and write. Even though we don't learn to talk in individual words or sounds (instead, *werunalloursoundsandwordstogetherwhenwespeak*), we have to be able to separate that jumbled speech into individual words. Then, before we can start to read and recognise sound-letter patterns, we have to be able to divide words into sounds. This requires strong talking and listening skills.

Here are some tips to encourage more talking and listening in at home:

- Remember those old nursery rhymes? Nursery rhymes are very helpful to develop speech rhythms and hear rhymes (an important pre-literacy skill). So, you can sing 'Twinkle twinkle little star' and 'Mary had a little lamb' all day. For a list of nursery rhymes, look at:

<http://www.nurseryrhymes.org/>

- Play word games. For example, think of as many words that start with the 'k' sound (kite, cat, cake, kitten), or think of as many words as you can that rhyme with 'cat'.

- Have books and puzzles as home. Keeping books and puzzles around the house gives you something to do during daily routines. For example, you could read a couple of pages of a picture book or a paragraph from a chapter book while waiting for the kettle to boil or the bath to fill.
- Cook together, talking about the food and the steps you are doing. To make it more interesting, you could make it a Simon Says game. For example, you can't turn the heat on the stove until your child says 'Simon Says turn the heat on'.
- Play pretend games. For example, make a fort out of the couch and sheets, and pretend that you are hiding from aliens. Talk about what the aliens look like and why you are hiding from them.
- Play 20 Questions, where you or your child has to guess what/who you are, but can only ask yes or no questions.

It's true – one of the secrets to helping your child learn to read and write is to have fun while talking and listening!

Ms Jennai Beckett (Speech Pathologist)

Careers Corner

Training Opportunities

What is a School based Traineeship/Apprenticeship?

Australian School-based Apprenticeships are apprenticeships and traineeships that school students can commence in their chosen career whilst still continuing to study towards completing school.

Australian School-based Apprenticeships provide you with the opportunity to 'learn, work and earn'! That is, undertake training towards the achievement of a nationally recognised qualification, while learning skills and knowledge on-the-job and earning an income, combined with completing your senior school studies.

You can undertake an Australian School-based Traineeship or Apprenticeship in a huge range of career fields, including traditional trades.

Seeking Local Businesses for School-Based Traineeships/Apprenticeships

We are looking for help from our local community businesses to support our students that are seeking school based Traineeships/Apprenticeships.

We have an increase in students wanting to gain on-the-job training and work towards a nationally recognised qualification while completing senior schooling.

This is a great opportunity to bring the local community together and for students to develop employability skills while still at school.

If you are interested in employing a school-based trainee or apprentice, please contact the College on 3489 4800

School Based Traineeships/Apprenticeships

Have you thought about a School Based Traineeship/Apprenticeship? Earn while you learn.

Check out some of the vacancies that we have on offer. If you are interested, visit the Careers Office for more information.

All Trades QLD

Are offering a few courses minimal charge or free to past Year 12 students or under 21's seeking employment. For more information please see flyers on how to enrol.

Griffith University

Are offering a Tertiary Education Experience for high school students in years 10 to 12 with disabilities. Please see the flyer for more information.

Are you interested in Architecture? Griffith University are offering a two day school holiday workshop to students. See flyer for more information.

Open Days and Expos

Australian Catholic University – open day Saturday 22nd July 9am-2pm 110 Nudgee Rd, Banyo - openday.acu.edu.au	The University of Queensland – Open day at St Lucia Campus Sunday 6 August 2017
University Experience – Thursday 6th July 2017 register online at acu.edu.au/uni-experience	Future-students.qu.edu.au/open-day
Early Achievers' Program – Applications open: 26 April 2017 Applications close: 17 July 2017	
Griffith University – Twilight Tours Nathan and Gold Coast 11-12 April and 4-5 July 2017, Open Day – 23 July 2017 griffith.edu.au/study	TSXPO (Tertiary Studies Expo) 12-16 July 2017
Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo – 2-3 June 2017	

Money Matters

QATSIF

Following our application to QATSIF (Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation) on behalf of our students Julian Wiley, Phillip Butler, and Chloe McGrath, we would like to extend our appreciation and thanks to the Trustee of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation for approval to provide Scholarship payments to our students during their senior years of study (year 11 and 12). These payments will help families to defray the costs of education whilst at St Francis. This milestone is not without hard work from our students who will need to meet certain standards in performance and attendance. Well done Julian, Phillip, and Chloe!

School Fees

Shortly you will receive your Fees Statement for Term 2, 2017 fees and levies. The Statement will also include any outstanding or carry over balances from Term 1. There is a due date for payment on your Statement for the payment of your account, so please keep this in mind and pay promptly. Naturally if you believe that you will not be able to make payment by the due date, or you feel burdened by your fees or outstanding balance I ask that you contact Mrs. Kellie Mudge at the office on 3489 4846. All discussions are private and confidential and often the solution is simple and achievable. A payment plan at no extra cost is available and where necessary concessions can be applied for.

Mr. Frank Miotti (Business Manager)

Administration Matters

2017 Student Residential Address Collection

Every 4 years, The Australian Government Department of Education and Training collects student residential addresses for the recalculation of socioeconomic status (SES) scores.

BCE will centrally collect this address data and report on behalf of schools by 31 May 2017. We are required to provide the Collection Notice below.

Please view this so that you are aware what information we will be providing.

Up-to-Date Contact Details

In a move to improve home-school communication we are asking you to ensure that we have all your correct contact details. With the continued growth in the use of smartphones, general home computers, iPads etc we want to guarantee that all information can be accessed by you through these mediums. This will assist with the following:

1. Receiving our school newsletter
2. Receiving all school SMS's – these include general information, school absentee notifications and late arrivals.
3. Receiving all school letters via email, therefore avoiding that age old problem of finding old letters at the bottom of your child's schoolbag!

Please provide the requested information by emailing adpryde@bne.catholic.edu.au or updating your details on the Parent Portal.

Mrs Claire McBean (Marketing, Communication and Events Coordinator)

General News

EAL/D Support at St. Francis College

EAL/D refers to students who are learning English as an Additional Language/Dialect.

St Francis College has welcomed many families who are newly arrived to Australia in the past twelve months. In response, the way that we support the English language learning needs of our students has undergone some exciting transformations. Read these brochures to learn more about how we support our EAL/D students.

Warm regards,
Miss Julieanne Carroll (EAL/D Teacher)

Parish News

Sacramental Program 2017

For those of you who have enrolled your children for the Sacrament of Confirmation program 2017. Please note the following dates:

- 30th April:** Enrolment Sunday for confirmation during 9.30 am Mass.
- 6th & 7th May:** 1st session
- 19th & 20th May:** 2nd Session
- 3rd June:** General Rehearsal
- 4th June:** The Sacrament of Confirmation

For further information contact the parish office or Rob Canning at St Francis College.

Community News

Australian Army Cadets

The Australian Army Cadets are looking to recruit!



The **Australian Army Cadets (AAC)** is a leading youth organisation that is involved in training and adventurous activities in a military like setting. The program has more than 15,000 Army Cadets between the ages of 13 and 19 based in 237 units around Australia.

Their motto is "Courage, Initiative, Teamwork and Respect".

The cadet programme has strong links to the Australian Army and is a part of the Australian Defence Force Cadets. While cadets are encouraged to consider enlisting in the military, it is not required that they do so.

Activities of the Army Cadets include navigation and orienteering, team buildings games, camps, ceremonial drill, radio communication skills, basic bush skills, equipment maintenance, participation in cadet bands, shooting the Australian Defence Force Service Rifle, the F88 Austeyr with one-on-one Army supervision. Cadets learn self-discipline, personal organisation skills, leadership, teamwork and mateship.

They parade on Wednesday nights between 17.30 and 20.30hrs. As part of their program Cadets are provided with uniforms and field equipment required for participation.

For more information please see their website below, or contact them at 11ACU@armycadets.gov.au for an information package.

<http://www.armycadets.gov.au/>