CALENDAR OF DATES

Friday 7 March
8.10am Rock Band

Monday 10 March
8.45am Assembly
3-4pm Netball Training

Tuesday 11 March
3-4pm Lit. Dance Group

Wednesday 12 March
Year 6 School Camp
3-4pm After School Sports

Thursday 13 March
9am Xavier Mums & Bubs
Year 6 School Camp
3-4pm Dance Troupe

Friday 14 March
9am Year 2 & 4 Participation Mass
Year 6 School Camp

Monday 17 March
8.45am Assembly
Harmony/Anti Bullying Week
11.55am-2.55pm—Whole School Constable Care Incursion
3-4pm After School Sports
3-4pm Netball Training

Tuesday 18 March
9am P & F Meeting
9.30am-2.10pm Waterwise Incursion PP-6
Lumen Christi visit to yr.4
3-4pm Lit. Dance Group

From the Principal .........

Participation Mass
Next Friday 14 March, the Year 2 and the Year 4 classes will buddy up to attend the 9am Parish Mass in the Church just to be in the congregation without leading the singing or doing the readings. In this way the students fully realise that Mass can also be participated in by simply saying the responses and giving their mind and body in quiet prayer. We encourage and welcome our families to also join us to participate in this short 30 minute Eucharistic service.

Attending Weekend Masses
As a CATHOLIC SCHOOL, our prime task – in addition to good quality education, is to support parents in the education in faith of their children. We share the Church’s task of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ while preparing our students to live full and productive lives as members of society. Please remember the commitment you made to assist your children to prepare for the reception of the sacraments including weekly attendance at weekend Mass. Each child preparing for a Sacrament this year received a special pin to wear reminding them and their families of their commitment to prepare fully for the Sacrament including weekend Mass attendance. Mass times are advertised on page 4 of our newsletter.

Did you miss the Parent Information Night?
It was great to see so many of our families attend the parent information meeting last Tuesday night. Your children really appreciate your support. If you did not attend your youngest child should have received a plastic sleeve containing your personal family records printout to be checked and updated and returned to the school IMMEDIATELY. There is also an Internet and Email Policy and a Photograph Agreement to be completed for each child and returned to the classroom teacher. The package also includes a copy of the new 2014 Family Handbook that we ask you to keep and refer to for relevant and up-to-date information regarding school organisation, procedures and policies.

Year 6 Camp
Next week, our Year 6 students are on school camp from Wednesday 12 to Friday 14 March. The Year 6 class are being accompanied by Mr Cox, Mrs Bauer, Mr Hamersley and Sr Sandra at Dwellingup Bunkhouses for an exciting adventure camp providing the students with excellent opportunities to develop their leadership and team-building skills. We will also be focusing on developing greater independence and further enhancing the spirituality of our school leaders.

A LENTEN GARDEN

First:
Plant 4 rows of Peas
PREPARE
PERSEVERE
POLITE
PRAYER

Next:
Plant 3 rows of squash
SQUASH GOSSIP
SQUASH CRITICISM
SQUASH INDIFFERENCE

Then plant:
4 rows of lettuce
LET US BE LOYAL
LET US BE UNSELFISH
LET US BE TRUTHFUL
LET US BE FAITHFUL

No garden is complete without turnips:
TURN UP FOR MASS
TURN UP WITH A SMILE
TURN UP WITH A PRAYER
TURN UP WITH LOVE

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Management of Student Behaviour
Everyone has the right to feel safe and teachers have right to teach – students have responsibility to follow school rules & class rules — as adults we need to allow our children to be responsible for their own actions and show respect for themselves, others and the environment. We need to work together to foster a climate of safety. Last week at the Parent Information meeting, Xavier School launched on a journey of managing student behaviour through a positive approach that was further explained by consultant, Priscilla Carlisle. We have a team of staff members to support the development of a whole school plan and implement the positive behaviour structures across the school; however, we need the support of our families in partnership to assist your children to learn and develop the skills necessary to manage their own behaviour in a positive way.

God bless
Cathie Bauer
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMIN REPORT

HEALTHY EATING AT XAVIER

Whole School Focus
Well done to all students who are making a special effort to eat a healthy recess and lunch daily. It is great to see so many students having a healthier lunchbox! Below are photos of our students enjoying their yummy fruit at recess.

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY
Congratulations to Ethan Giddens and Rachel Nelson for winning Aussie of the Month. Both students have displayed excellent leadership skills so far this year and an enthusiasm to help their teachers and other staff members.
Well done Ethan & Rachel!

Farewell to Mrs Jaye Wilkie
Last Friday marked the last day for Mrs Wilkie as she begins her maternity leave. We thank her for her fantastic contribution as the Pre-Primary Gold teacher in 2013 and as support teacher for the beginning of this year. We wish Jaye and her husband Josh all the very best for the next chapter of their lives and as they wait patiently for the safe arrival of their twin girls!
God bless you Mrs Wilkie!
ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
5 March

Yesterday marked the beginning of Lent as we celebrated Mass in the Church for Ash Wednesday.

We heard the Gospel story from Matthew which reminded us of the three ways in which we can renew and strengthen our lives during the season of Lent; pray, fast and give alms. Jesus reminded us however, “Do not make a big show of it”. This is a call to focus on others. This Gospel passage focused on the move away from ourselves to others with love and compassion.

Special thanks to the following staff and students who contributed to our Mass; Mr Leeder and Mr Hamersley for leading our cantors and choir, our altar servers; Karl and Daniel along with Mr D who was an acolyte, Danielle and Sebastian for the procession, Rachel S and Jordan for the offertory and our readers; Rachel S, Jordan, Tahlia, Zara, Liam, Jacqui and Ryan. Thank you also to the whole school for the beautiful, prayerful and reverent behaviour displayed during Mass.

Ash Wednesday

Have you ever wondered why do we get ashes on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday? This tradition goes back to ancient times. To show they were sorry for their sins, some Jewish people before the time of Jesus used to pour ashes over their heads. Lent is a time to take a fresh look at our lives: at what we are doing well and what we need to change.

Project Compassion 2014

This week the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice.

Please put your compassion into action this Lent by supporting the Project Compassion 2014 appeal.

LITERACY TIP OF THE WEEK!

CHOOSING A BOOK

Use the “Rule of Thumb” to see if a book is on your children’s reading level: Have them read a page of the book aloud. Have them hold up one finger for each word they don’t know. If they hold up four fingers and a thumb before the end of the page, the book is probably too hard for them to read alone. But it might be a great book to read together.

NUMERACY TIP OF THE WEEK!

WHAT IS MY NUMBER?

Have your child select a number from a range such a 1 to 100. Ask questions to isolate and solve this mystery number. Use concept questions to make the child aware of these concepts, i.e.

Is it more than 50? Is it an even number?
Is it more than 20 but less than 40?
Can you reach it by starting at zero and counting by 3’s?

Year 6 Assembly & Student Councillors Commissioning - Friday 28 February

Congratulations to the Mr Cox and his Year 6 class for organising and providing a very entertaining Assembly last Friday. The Year 6 students led the Assembly beautifully by re-enacting different scenes that may happen in and around school and as leaders of the school how they would deal with these situations as councillors. A job well done to all of you and we look forward to the fine leadership skills from every Year 6 student during this school year.

COMING EVENTS

14 March 9am Yr 2 & 4 Participation Mass
17 March Feast of Saint Patrick
19 March Feast of Saint Joseph
21 March Harmony Week Assembly @ 2pm
28 March Yr 1G Prayer Service
COFFEE AND CHAT MORNINGS

Are you NEW to our school OR would you like to have a coffee, chat and catch up with friends?
We welcome everyone to come along to a ‘COFFEE AND CHAT MORNING’, straight after school drop off on the first Tuesday of every month. This is an informal morning tea and will be in the OSHC meeting room.

REMINDERS FROM OUR FAMILY HANDBOOK

BIRTHDAYS
Birthdays will be celebrated simply here at school within the classroom and at assembly. Please note that due to our Allergy Aware policy children are not permitted to bring in any food treats or other party favours for the class to celebrate their birthday. This way families are spared undue expense, it removes the pressure placed on all children to bring something in, treats are saved for home celebrations and children are spared eating extra unnecessary sugar here at school!

CANTEEN NEWS

Please note there will be no meat served from the Canteen on Ash Wednesday 5 March and every Friday during the season of Lent. Meat orders will be replaced by a vegemite sandwich.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

When: Friday 7th March 2014
Time: 10.00am
Place: Armadale Seventh-day Adventist Church
Cnr Wungong & Ninth Roads, Hilbert
EVERYONE WELCOME

St Francis Xavier, Armadale - MASS TIMES

Saturday: 8.00am, Vigil Mass 6.30pm
Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am & 6.00pm
Monday: 8.00am
Tuesday: 7.00pm
Wednesday: 9.00am
Thursday: 8.00am
Friday: 9.00am

St Kevin’s, Serpentine

Sunday: 9.00am (Note: there will be no Mass at St Kevin’s on the fourth Sunday of the month.)
St Maria Goretti Church in Jarrahdale on the 4th Sunday of every month.
Mass at Schoenstatt Shrine every Friday at 10.00am followed by morning tea.