CALENDAR OF DATES
Friday 14 March
9am Year 2 & 4 Participation Mass
Year 6 School Camp
Monday 17 March
Harmony/Anti Bullying Week
8.45am Assembly
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
Wednesday 19 March
3-4pm After School Sports
6pm School Board Meeting
Thursday 20 March
9am Xavier Mums & Bubs
3-4pm Dance Troupe
Friday 21 March
8.10am Rock Band
2pm Special Harmony Week & National Day of Action against Bullying & Violence Assembly

FASTING AND FEASTING DURING LENT
Lent should be more than a time of fasting
It should also be a joyous season of feasting
It is a season in which we can:
Fast from emphasis on differences ....feast on the unity of all life
Fast from thoughts of illness ....feast on healing power of God
Fast from words that pollute ....feast on words that clean
Fast from discontent ...feast on gratitude
Fast from anger .... Feast on patience
Fast from pessimism .... Feast on optimism
Fast from worry....Feast on trust
Fast from complaining,.... Feast on appreciation
Fast from hostility.... Feast on friendliness
Fast from bitterness.... Feast on forgiveness
Fast from discouragement.... Feast on hope
Fast from suspicion .... Feast on charitableness
Fast from idle gossip .... Feast on silence or find a word of praise.
Fast from self-concern .... Feast on care for others
Fast from personal anxiety .... Feast on the power of God

Adapted from Knightlife

From the Principal .......
Participation Mass
Tomorrow, Friday 14 March, the Year 4 and the Year 2 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 in the Church.

Harmony Day
Harmony Week is an opportunity for us to celebrate our vibrant multi-cultural school community. This year’s Harmony Day theme is ‘A World of Difference’. We will be celebrating our diversity through a special Harmony Week Assembly on Friday 21 March at 2.00pm. The assembly will be conducted by the Pastoral Care Councillors and will have some of our students and their families speaking about their family cultural heritage. We are encouraging as many students, staff and parents as possible to come dressed in their national or culturally significant dress on Friday 21 March.

School Climate Survey
This year again our school will be involved in a survey of staff, School Board members, parents and Year 5 & 6 students to provide data on their perception of the school community. The data will be summarised by an independent company and used by the Xavier community to create action plans for continued improvement. Sixty families in our school have been chosen randomly to take part in this year’s survey. All staff will be involved in the survey and 50 of our Year 5 and 6 students will also take part. I thank you for your support in this important data gathering process. Please be assured of the absolute confidentiality of the information. The school only receives a summary of all data from students, staff and parents provided by Insight SRC to the school later this term. Those families who have received a survey can complete it online from Monday 17 March or on the survey sheet provided. Please return your completed hard copy of the survey NO LATER than 9am on Friday 22 March. Thank you for helping us to improve the quality of our school.
Enrol NOW for Kindergarten 2015

If you have a child who turns 4 years of age between the 1 July 2014 and the 30 June 2015 they are eligible to attend 4 year old Kindergarten next year in 2015. Enrolment forms must be completed for all children wishing to attend Xavier School (including siblings and those attending 3 year old kindergarten) and interviews will be conducted early next term. If you haven’t yet completed an enrolment form or know anyone who has an eligible child, please ring the school office on 9391 7000 or come in and collect an enrolment package immediately.

Year 6 Camp
This week, our Year 6 students are on school camp from Wednesday 12 to Friday 14 March 2014. The Year 6 class are being accompanied by Mr Cox, Mrs Bauer, Mr Hamersley and Sister 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.

Pupil Free Days/School Holiday Care at Xavier
The School holidays are fast approaching and we understand that as working parents you can’t always get the time off. Xavier OSHC needs minimum numbers to operate during Pupil Free Days and School Holidays. It’s a place where your children will love to come and relax while playing in a safe environment with other children. During OSHC Vacation care we run many exciting programs for the children to participate in and have some fantastic incursions that all the children love! Pupil Free Dates: Thursday 10 & Friday 11 April 2014. Vacation Care Dates: Monday 14 April to Thursday 17 April 2014; Hours – 7am to 6pm. Please don’t hesitate to contact Lyn on 0431690277 or landline 93917016 or email: xavieroshc271@gmail.com to register your child/ren for these pupil free days & school holidays to operate.

Attendance
It is not okay to stay away from school for any reason except legitimate illness and extreme family circumstances. Any unexplained absence and extended holidays during school time even with a note of explanation are all considered illegal by the Department of Education and the Federal government, and may mean fines to families who do not send their children to school. We are legally responsible to report now via an electronic program all absences every day including continual lateness to school. Please make sure you are compliant with this legislation and please assist by contacting the school before 9am of the day of absence. Please also send a note upon return even if you have been contacted by phone from the school, thank you!
God bless
Cathie Bauer, Principal

Attention!
NEW MEDIC FORMS
We now have new Medic Alert forms for students who have allergies/anaphylaxis/asthma etc. If you have not updated your child’s medication procedure and have not received a new action plan from your GP, please do so immediately. Please see Mrs Cardoz in the front office for a new form unless you received one at the Parent Information evening on Tuesday.

It is imperative we are kept up to date with your child’s medication needs in the event of an emergency. Thank you!
Project Compassion 2014

1st Week of Lent

Week 1 brings you the story of Maristely

This week we meet 18 year old Maristely who lives in a favela (slum) in Sao Paulo, Brazil with her family. Thanks to the Movement for the Defence of Favela Residents, they have improved living conditions in their favela and a leadership program for young people means that Maristely and her family are now enjoying a full life, proud of where they live. Your solidarity means communities like Maristely’s can enjoy a full life.

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

Well done to the students at Xavier who have already started donating to Project Compassion 2014! Your generosity is appreciated!

Gospel Reflection

1st Week of Lent

In this week’s Gospel story we hear the story of how Jesus spent forty days praying and fasting in the desert. Jesus was preparing himself to begin his mission of sharing God’s Word with the people. By going into the desert, Jesus found himself in a simpler place stripped of everyday distractions and surrounded by peace and stillness. Spending time alone with God in prayer gave Jesus the strength and faith he needed to begin preaching to the people. At the end of that time, he was filled with the “fire” of God’s Spirit.

Jesus spent forty days in the desert to be closer to God. During Lent, we can find ways to do the same. Lent is a time for...loving God more, saying sorry, finding hope and forgiveness, cleaning up our lives and making new beginnings.

Literacy Tip of the Week!

Library Books

Taking a library book out each week from our school library is a great way to bring reading into the home.

The top five things you can do with your library book:

1. Read your book with your family.
2. Discuss the illustrations.
3. Find interesting words.
4. Talk about the author & illustrator.
5. Point to the front cover, spine & back cover.

Enjoy reading & make this a family fun experience!

123 NUMERACY TIP OF THE WEEK!

4567 NUMBERS MADE FUN!

8910 Write down numbers in order on separate cards and ask your child to order the numbers from smallest to largest or largest to smallest, look for patterns and skip count in 2s, 5s & 10s! Have fun!

Change in Writing Style

At Xavier

This year at Xavier we have changed our handwriting style from Victorian Modern Cursive style to News South Wales Foundation style. This was a whole staff decision with support from the Catholic Education Office of WA as we believe it will be easier for students with fine motor difficulties to write in this style and for students who find writing a tiresome task. This year will be a transition year for students to adapt and get into practise with the new style of writing. You may have already been given information about this from your child’s classroom teacher; however, if you have any questions please see your child’s teacher or Mrs Helen Moir or Mrs Lisa Brooks. Thank you!

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.

CANTEEN NEWS
Please note there will be no meat served from the Canteen on Fridays during the season of Lent. Meat orders will be replaced by a vegemite sandwich.

Congratulations to the Anderson family on the birth of their beautiful baby daughter - sister to Rachel (Pre-Kindy).

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY FAIR
40 Ovens Road, Thornlie
Come on down to the Sacred Heart Community Fair on Sunday 23 March. From 11am - 3pm there will be rides, a Kidz Zone, local wares, creative stalls, entertainment, international food court and sausage sizzle plus much more for the family to enjoy.

Tuesday 18 March is the last day for book club orders. No late orders will be accepted.

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 on the 4th Sunday of every month.
Mass at Schoenstatt Shrine every Friday at 10.00am followed by morning tea.