**From the Principal …….**

**NAIDOC Week**

*We invite everyone to join us for our beginning of NAIDOC Week whole school Mass at 9am TOMORROW - Friday 4 July in the church.*

As a Catholic school we are inclusive of all cultures and are pleased to celebrate National Aboriginal and Islander Week with the 14 Aboriginal students that attend our school. We are all responsible for making an inclusive Australia for everyone so let’s be a part of it now.

**First Reconciliation**

Last Saturday, 24 children from our school made their First Reconciliation. We congratulated them at Assembly this week and each was given a Holy Card in remembrance of this special Sacrament. Special thanks must go to the Year 3 teachers, Mrs Maria Bradshaw and Miss Aoife Johnson, for their pastoral support and preparation for the children along with their outstanding organisation. Many staff members also contributed to the beauty of the occasion especially Mrs Lisa Brooks. Please continue your prayers for these young children and their families.

**Attendance**

I was happy to see on the formal reports that quite a number of children have had ZERO full days absent ALL semester with many others having less than 5 full days absent in the first half of the school year. However, it is very concerning the number of children who had greater than 10 days absent which equates to two full school weeks, even if not taken consecutively. Even more concerning is the number of students who had 15 full days (equal to 3 full weeks) or more with some as much as 35 full days (7 weeks!) away from school in one semester. Students need to be at school to develop the skills, knowledge and values that they will need to succeed in life. The amount of time a child spends away from school regardless of the reason (even holidays during school term) impacts heavily on their achievement. Regular attendance must be seen as a priority by families to support their children’s learning. Students who have poor patterns of attendance are at greater risk of not achieving their potential. They may be disadvantaged in the quality of choices they are able to make in later life situations. The *School Education Act 1999* requires that compulsory-aged students from Pre-primary attend school on EVERY DAY in which the school is open for instruction.

**Term 3**

Today you should receive the Term 3 calendar either with your newsletter or via email. Please place it in a prominent position in your home for easy reference. We endeavour to do our best to inform families as much as possible of events and activities; however things may change from time to time. Please make it your responsibility to check what is going on at your school.
Vacation Care & Pupil Free Dates
School resumes for students on **Tuesday 22 July 2014**. Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) will be operating during all days of the July School holidays and on the Pupil Free Day – Monday 21 July 2014. You can book for these days NOW without attending any other time but registration is essential and Child Care Benefit is available for eligible families. Please phone Lyn on 0431690277 or landline 93917016 or email: xavieroshc271@gmail.com immediately if you require this service. You can also find the information on our school website www.xavier.wa.edu.au.

Interschool Winter Lightning Carnival
Congratulations and well done to the Year 5 & 6 students for their outstanding performance in the Interschool Winter Lightning Carnival last Friday. The behaviour and sportsmanship were excellent and the performance of all our teams was outstanding, they all did their very best on the day and have done Xavier proud! Congratulations to the Year 5 Netball Team and the combined football team who won all four games in their fixtures. A BIG “thank you” to the staff members who attended with the children. Special thanks to Mr Hamersley for his organisation and support of the interschool carnival for our students. A special “thank you” to Mrs Bond who coached the Year 6 team each Monday; and to Mrs Ricupero who coached the Year 5 team during the semester as well as on the day. Thanks also to Miss Perie (Kindy TA) and Ms Lewis for umpiring all games on the day. We really appreciate everyone’s efforts.

End of Semester Reports
Formal end of semester reports were sent home today. **It is ESSENTIAL that YOU FIRST READ the INFORMATION attached to your child’s report BEFORE looking at their results.** It is important to note that all the learning that occurs for your child during the school day can never be fully reported in a summative report such as this. The **written report comments** tell a story of your child’s achievements and say much more than a grade or descriptor. Acknowledge your child’s EFFORT for each learning area. An OUTSTANDING EFFORT means your child is doing the best that they can regardless of the result. Please DO NOT MAKE EXCUSES for your child’s learning or results. Teachers work extremely hard to help every child to achieve what they are capable of and report this through assessments, tests and making on-balanced judgments based on what your child shows at the time. Reports are honest and fair with no ‘sugar coating’. Also check the Social Skills and Work Habits that tell you how your child is working at school.

God bless
Cathie Bauer
Principal

Learning Journey/Open Night
**THANKS to our amazing teachers for the excellent work that they do EVERY DAY with your children.** This was evident at last night’s Learning Journey – Open Night with most families taking advantage of the opportunity to see what their children know, can do and understand through the activity stations set up in the classrooms. The teachers of Xavier school are truly dedicated to stay back until 6.30pm as part of their commitment to informing our families of their child’s learning. Thank you to the families who also purchased items from the Book Fair allowing the Library an opportunity to purchase an amazing number of new resources. Special thanks to Mrs Bev Kelly and Mrs Christine Pitman for another successful Book Fair.

Dance Troupe
Dance Troupe will begin again in Week 1 next term on Thursday 24 July. It is essential that EVERYONE attends EVERY session as we approach our performance. The Dance Troupe will be performing in the Creative Dance Section of the Catholic Performing Arts Festival at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre in the evening of **Friday 22 August 2014**. Families of children in Dance Troupe and anyone wishing to attend will need to purchase their own tickets that will be AVAILABLE FOR SALE from Ticketek from 21 July 2014 (132849 or www.ticketek.com.au) for $20 Adults & $15 Students. All invited to attend but purchase your tickets early. **Students in the performance are not required to purchase a ticket.**
Congratulations to the 24 students who received Reconciliation for the first time last Saturday. Thank you to all the parents and family members for their support on this special day. Well done to all the students for the reverent and prayerful nature they displayed, it was a credit to all of you. Special thanks to Mrs Maria Bradshaw and Miss Aoife Johnson for all their hard work in preparing and teaching their students to the lead up to this special day. Thanks also to Father Kaz for leading the sacramental celebration.

NAIDOC WEEK MASS 2014
All family and friends of Xavier Catholic School are invited to celebrate Mass with our community for NAIDOC WEEK 2014 tomorrow in our Church.

Date: Friday 4th July 2014
Time: 9am
Where: St Francis Xavier Parish Church

Schoenstatt Shrine
100 Years Jubilee Celebration
Wednesday 2 July

Our Liturgical and Pastoral Councillors together with Mrs Bauer and Mrs Moir attended the Schoenstatt Shrine 100 Years celebration yesterday. The students took part in the stained glass window presentation and from all accounts our students represented our school with pride and confidence. Well done students!

Interschool Lightning Carnival
Maida Vale Reserve Friday 27 June

Congratulations to all Year 5 and 6 students on their participation and the level of sportsmanship displayed in our Carnival last Friday. Our Football and Year 6 Netball teams won all of their games and the Year 5 Netballers and Soccer players all performed brilliantly throughout the day. Our new AFL jumpers, Soccer shirts and Netball bibs looked wonderful on the competitors; thank you once again to our P&F, G&M Concreting (Johnson Family) and Turf It (Richins Family) for their support.
**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

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**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.)

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**The Genius Project –Over a cuppa**

The Genius project is a short program which unpacks the essence of Pope John Paul II’s teaching on *what it means to be a woman*. It is a mix of narration and interviews. This is a Catholic woman’s resource by Karen Doyle. To fully appreciate the content of this DVD it would be best to sit with a group of women -other mums--and watch the thirty minute session, then if you enjoy writing use the “Discussion Guide” booklet. Other wise the DVD could be discussed with the group, and then the “facilitator” will lead the sharing and introduce the questions. This is an Australian Resource, and it is very modern (2014). If you are interested in viewing the DVD, and want to join with a group please let Helen know 9399 2143, or let Karen McCagh (School P & F—0419 962 172).

If you want to purchase the (Journal) there would be a $20.00 charge.( this is not compulsory). This DVD is not heavy theology, it is more of a thought provoking, and engaging look at the vocation of all women. The Xavier House can be used for this gathering, tea and coffee facilities are be available (Pre-school children/and babies welcome).

If we get enough interest we will organize a time that best suits everyone.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Term 3 Calendar of Dates