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

WELCOME
I would like to thank all the staff and students for their warm Xavier welcome. The students have been very friendly; just how Mrs Bauer described them and I have already been impressed by the commitment of the staff.

On Tuesday I had the pleasure of attending the P & F Meeting and also the School Board. Once again I was made to feel very welcome. There is certainly a strong sense of community and I hope that I can help contribute to that over the short time that I am here.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT
I look forward to seeing many more parents at the Parent Information Night next Tuesday 24 February commencing in the undercover area at 6.30pm. These meetings provide vital information for your child and assist in ensuring the school year is a success.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
On Wednesday I attended Ash Wednesday Mass. This celebration marks the commencement of Lent, a time for spiritual growth. I challenge all the families over this Lenten period to set aside a small amount of time to pray as a family. The benefits will surprise you.

The Mass was a wonderful celebration with the children singing beautifully and behaving reverently. The school community should be very proud of their participation.

CANTEEN SALES DURING LENT
Please remind your students that Canteen will not sell meat items on Friday during Lent. If students order meat Sue will make just a toasted cheese sandwich for them.

Please also note that Frozen Berries have not been used in the canteen from the beginning of this year.

SCHOOL PARKING
Parking problems exist in almost every school, however it usually exists for only a short period each afternoon during pick up. I would encourage all families to show a little patience and respect toward each other and to ensure the safety of the children comes first by driving carefully and obeying the parking signs.

• Please refrain from parking on grassed and garden areas.
• Be mindful of children and slow down.
• Do not walk through any car-parks, especially the drive-thru.
• Parents please do not park in staff parking area.
• Please reverse park.
• Please be aware that parking bays are at a premium at 2.45pm as Kindy children are dismissed at that time. More car bays become available closer to 3pm.

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

CALENDAR OF DATES
Friday 20 February
8.10am Rock Band
9am Participation Mass
1B, 1G and Year 6
Saturday 21 February
8am to 12 noon Busy Bee
Monday 23 February
8.45am Assembly
Kindy Gold
3-4pm After School Sports
3-4pm Netball Training
Tuesday 24 February
6.30—8.30pm
Parent Information Night
Wednesday 25 February
3-4pm After School Sports
Thursday 26 February
9am Xavier Mums & Bubs
3-4pm Dance Troupe
Friday 27 February
8.10am Rock Band
2pm Year 6 Assembly -
Student Councillors
Commissioning & February
Aussie of the month
Monday 2 March
Labour Day Holiday
Wednesday 4 March
Year 6 Camp
3-4pm After School Sports
Thursday 5 March
9am Xavier Mums & Bubs
Year 6 Camp
3-4pm Dance Troupe
Friday 6 March
8.10am Rock Band
Year 6 Camp
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
Please note that Outside School Hours Care will be operating from the old Pre-Primary Blue classroom.

BUSY BEE
THIS Saturday 21 February from 8am – 12noon.
Everyone is called to do their part – come along on Saturday and make a strong contribution.

God Bless.
Peter Yensch
Acting Principal

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY
Thank you to all parents who are ensuring their children are at school before the 8.40am official start of school day. Parents/guardians are required to ring the school or inform the teacher before 9am to report their child’s absence. Your cooperation as always is appreciated.

Five golden rules to guide you along your parenting journey in 2015:

1. Build confidence
With so many parents reporting that they have a child experiencing anxiety it would seem that we are currently experiencing a crisis in children’s confidence. It would also seem that we have somehow forgotten how to absorb children’s fears, insecurities and anxieties, and instil a sense of confidence that these can be overcome. Using a mixture of coaxing, coaching and cajoling parents need to find a way to impart in children a sense of courage to put themselves in new or potentially awkward social situations; to have a go at activities where failure is a real option; and to contribute to the wellbeing of others, which reduces anxiousness and fear.

2. Build developmental knowledge
Many challenges parents experience with their children are due to a developmental mismatch. That is, parents raising their ten year old as if they are eight. The nuances of parenting are age-related, yet due to inexperience we so often don’t read the cues. Recently, I witnessed a mum and dad tearing their hair out trying to communicate with their nine-year-old son. For the first time he was saying no to them. They thought him stubborn and disobedient. I thought him normal, as nine can be a problematic age, where usually malleable children suddenly start changing. Puberty is stirring. When this couple’s second child turns nine she will experience the benefits of her elder brother paving the way and breaking her parents in for her.

3. Swim against the tide
Listen to talkback radio, read the headlines of a newspaper or watch a current affairs TV program and you’ll realise that, right now, we live in an incredibly judgemental society. Parents are harshly judged as well. Allow your kids to walk to school and you risk being judged as negligent. Drive your kids to school and you risk being told that you are spoiling them and neglecting their physical wellbeing. It takes a strong parent to swim against the tide of popular opinion. It also takes a strong parent to deny her child say a mobile phone when every other child has one. It helps to say “This is the way we do it in our family.”

4. Be brave
Perhaps the biggest challenge facing parents, and their children, is the ability to let go of their parental reigns and give kids the freedom they need to develop autonomy. It’s relatively easy to develop children’s independence at home as the stakes aren’t as high. If they can’t cook a meal then you just have to do it for them. However, developing children’s independence outside the home is a different story. Granting kids freedom has an element of risk; that’s why parents need to be brave. Having the courage to let go is a basic requirement of parenting. It won’t stop you worrying, but that’s part of the game.

5. Add emotional intelligence to your parenting mix
With kids experiencing mental health challenges at a depressingly high rate it’s time to add some emotional intelligence to the parenting mix. While many schools are now introducing emotional and social programs on the curriculum, it’s important that parents develop a deep understanding of how emotions work: how emotions can be recognised; how they can work for us and against us; how we can regulate our emotions so they don’t overwhelm us; and how to recognise and respond to the emotions of others. These sound like life-changing skills that if learned, are capable of impacting significantly and positively on future generations.
FULL OF FAITH

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
18th February

Thank you to all the students who contributed to the ministry at yesterday’s Ash Wednesday’s Mass. Special thanks to our musicians; Mr Hamersley, our amazing cantors and choir. All students who were part of the procession, the readers, altar servers and the ‘Chambers’ family who kindly brought the gifts to the altar. Well done to the Year 1s who made their lovely Lenten Promises and displayed these on the altar for us to see.

Special thanks to all the teachers and staff for ensuring we had beautifully behaved students who were prayerful and reverent.

Project Compassion 2015

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.

Your eldest child would have received your own money box, envelopes and a leaflet explaining more about the theme of this year, ‘Food for Life’. Each class has their very own large money box for collections, so please encourage your child to bring in their spare coins for this wonderful cause.

TEACHING & LEARNING AT XAVIER

XAVIER POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR PROGRAM (XPBP)

S - Always act in a SAFE way.
U - UNDERSTAND others have the same rights as you.
P - Show PRIDE in all you do.
E - EFFORT - Always do your best.
R - RESPECT yourself, others, property & the environment.

It is wonderful to see all students starting the year off in such a positive way! All students have begun the school year by working hard and being ‘Super Xavier Kids’!

This coming Monday at Assembly we will announce the winning song, stay tuned! Well done to all entries, the songs were amazing and well thought out!

Keep working hard to be awarded Super Tickets!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please see Mrs Lisa Brooks in the office or email if you are available to be a volunteer in the classrooms. We are needing parents, grandparents and or aunts and uncles who are available for a scheduled period of time, usually during the morning blocks for Literacy.

You will need to be available once or twice a week (or more!) usually from 9 til 10.30am.

Please note that siblings and young children are not allowed so that you are able to give your full attention to the students you are working with.

Volunteers are placed in classes that are not the same class as your child and Mrs Brooks will go through with you the expectations and procedures as soon as you let us know you are committed.

We look forward to hearing from you and please know your time and efforts at Xavier are very much appreciated.

Email Mrs Brooks - brooks.lisa@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Coming Events

20 Feb 9am Yr 1B & 1G & 6 Participation Mass
(CHANGE OF DATE FROM CALENDAR)
13 March 9am Yr 2B & 5 Participation Mass
20 March Yr 1G Prayer Service
20 March Harmony Week Assembly @ 2pm
MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL HEALTH NURSES

We are based at the Community Health and Development Centre in Armadale, and will be visiting the school regularly throughout the year. My name is Felicity Cole and I am available to discuss any health concerns you may have about your child. I can be contacted on 9391 2280, 9391 2220 or through the school. I am also available on email: felicity.cole@health.wa.gov.au

IMMUNISATIONS

Is your child attending Kindergarten for the first time?
The National Health & Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) recommends that children who have turned 4 years of age have the following booster immunisations:
- DTPa-IPV (vaccine against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (whooping cough) and Polio)
- MMR (vaccine against Measles, Mumps and Rubella)
And all other WA schedule vaccinations recommended, completed. Your child can have these immunisations from 3 ½ years of age.

These should be given before starting pre primary.
If you need more information about these vaccines please phone one of the following:
- Armadale Immunisation Clinic – 9391 2220
- Central Immunisation Clinic in Perth – 9321 1312
- Australian Childhood Immunisation Register – 1800 653 809 or www.humanservices.gov.au
  or email acir@humanservices.gov.au

If a measles case occurs in a school, the Principal has the right to exclude non-immunised children from school for 14 days.

HEAD LICE

Head lice outbreaks occur frequently in primary schools during the school year. The Department of Health recommends the following method of treatment:

10 day Hair Conditioner treatment
If you do use insecticide treatment, it must be applied and then repeated as per the manufacturer’s recommendation. Parents’ can assist in the prevention and control of head lice by checking their children’s hair frequently using the hair conditioner method and treating appropriately when necessary. Friday is a good day to check hair as treatments can be commenced over the weekend, if needed, and no school time is then lost. A head lice fact sheet is available at the office. Please consult your School Health Nurse if you require further advice on head lice management.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Please advise the school if your child has a medical condition that may require treatment during school hours. A care plan will need to be completed / updated by your GP and provided to school.

Thank you.
Felicity Cole, School Health Nurse

LOST AND FOUND

- Gold Bracelet in carpark.
- Woolworths Essentials card in the junior playground.
Please see Gretal in front office.

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