



# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

**Term 4**  
**Week 8**  
**4th December 2020**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As 2020 comes to a close, we reflect on what an amazing year of faith, fun and learning we have had along the way. Thank you to the children. They are the reason we are here. Their enthusiasm for life and learning is a wonderful example to us all. To you, our parents, the primary educators of your children, I give thanks for your support and partnership in providing so much for the children. No matter what your contribution over the year, big or small, it is appreciated and has benefitted the children. We wish all those venturing on from St Francis the best that life has to offer and welcome new families to our community for next year.

To Mrs Veronica Morrison, our School Counsellor, we say thank you for supporting our children and their families. Your dedication to your role has benefitted so many and will continue to do so next year.

Mrs Anne Bracken has decided to leave St Francis at the end of this year. She does so with a heavy heart as she has been part of this community for the past 25 years. Mrs Bracken will be taking this time to care and support her family.

Congratulations and thank you to Miss Hannah Bailey who has been appointed at St Joseph's Kingswood. We thank Miss Bailey for her work here at St Francis. Your contribution to St Francis has been very much appreciated. We also say farewell to our IT trainees Marcos and Rhys and thank them for their support. We wish all the staff who are leaving God's blessings for the journey that lies ahead.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the teachers for their dedication and commitment to Catholic Education over the past year. Together they facilitate learning so that the children work towards reaching academic and human excellence in a faith filled community. Their generosity in terms of time, themselves and sharing of skills is often outside the normal hours of the day but it is in their giving so much that they receive.

Our sincere thanks to our office ladies and support teachers. Their smiles greet so many and their support for the children, parents and staff is uncompromising. To our grounds and maintenance staff who have kept our school looking so good and functioning as a learning environment, we say thank you.

I would like to also sincerely thank the Leadership Team for their outstanding support to myself, the teachers, the children and school community. Their expertise, dedication and leadership is very much appreciated.

We are blessed to have had Father Vincey and Father Bollar guiding our parish community in its spiritual journey and relationship with Christ. We thank them for their faith, love and care.

I look forward to another year of faith, fun and learning in 2021.

May God's blessings be with you and your families.

Thank you for your continued support. It is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.

Jenny Bellenger

## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

**Mon 07/12 Virtual Christmas Concert 2pm**

**Thurs 10/12 Year 6 Graduation Mass @ Good Shepherd Church 6pm**

**Fri 11/12 Year 6 @ Luna Park**

**Tues 15/12 Water Fun Day Whole School**

**Wed, Thur & Fri 16/12 - 17/12 - 18/12 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS**

## TERM 4 CONCLUDES

**TERM 4 CONCLUDES ON  
TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER.**

(Wednesday 16th, Thursday 17th and  
Friday 18th December are Pupil Free Days).

## TERM 1 2021 START DATES

**STUDENTS IN YEARS 1 TO 6 RETURN TO SCHOOL  
ON THURSDAY 28TH JANUARY 2021.**

**KINDERGARTEN 2021 START ON  
MONDAY 1ST FEBRUARY.**

## NEW SCHOOL YEAR REMINDERS

All students are expected to wear the St Francis uniform with pride throughout the school year. This includes wearing the correct hat, socks and shoes. This helps to keep students focused on their learning whilst also keeping a consistent atmosphere across the school.

Shoes are black leather lace ups/Velcro.

Joggers that are **predominantly white** are to be worn for sport. They must be predominantly white, with white laces - no slip on 'Raben' type shoes or coloured Nike Airs are to be worn.

## END OF YEAR REPORTS

Reports will be coming home Tuesday 8th December. Our reports (Years 1 to 6) by law are required to award an achievement level to each child using a mandated A to E scale for each Key Learning Area. It is imperative to note that under this system the mid-year report refers to the first half of the year's teaching and learning and subsequently **the end of year report refers to the second half of the year.**

**The second half of the year introduces different concepts, content units and skills. It is therefore possible that your child's achievement in a particular Key Learning Area may be different.**

Example One: Half Year Achievement level of C, End of Year Achievement level of C.

Your child is continuing to have a sound understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.

Example Two: Half Year Achievement level of B, End of Year Achievement level of C.

In the first half of the year your child had a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In the second half of the year different concepts have been covered with different learnings gained. Both examples may well illustrate that your child is working to their potential.

As you can appreciate, these reports present many challenges including determining what on average constitutes an A, B, C, D or E given the achievement level is for the whole Key Learning Area.

As directed by the Diocese, Year 1 to 6 will also have comparative data included in their reports. This does apply to all Diocesan schools.

## OZ FASHIONS - LAST ORDERS

The last delivery for school uniforms will be **Wednesday 9th December 2020**. The first delivery of 2021 will be **Wednesday 27th January 2021**.

A friendly reminder that all orders are to be placed on the **QKR app**. Please download the app, search your school and follow the prompts.

Please place your orders prior to the dates above to ensure you have a uniform to start the 2021 school year.

**PLEASE NOTE: OZ FASHIONS GRANVILLE DOES NOT SELL YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM IN STORE.**

Any concerns please email [elle@ozfashions.com.au](mailto:elle@ozfashions.com.au)

## STAFFING FOR 2021

Teachers are now finalising their class lists for 2021. They take into account the academic abilities, behavioural needs, social issues and learning needs of ALL children. I'm sure you can understand that this is a complex and lengthy process which the teachers put a great deal of thought into. They make the best decisions that they can regarding all the children in our school and ensure a fair and equitable process is followed.

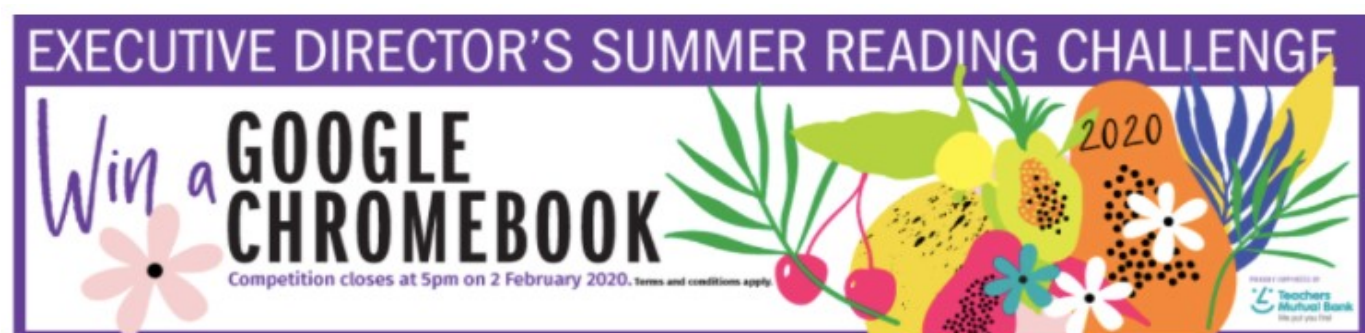
KINDERGARTEN	- Mrs Rebecca Battikha, Miss Sandra Chemouni and Miss Christie Stevenson
YEAR 1	- Mrs Louise Matthews and Mrs Daniella Attard
YEAR 2	- Miss Elianne Abi, Miss Michelline Macahilig and Ms Alicia Madden
YEAR 3	- Miss Karen Rutkowski, Mrs Toni Mitchell
YEAR 4	- Ms Lisa Walsh, Miss Megan Moller and Mrs Sandra Nolan
YEAR 5	- Mr Chris Boyer and Miss Alison Agala
YEAR 6	- Mrs Lauriana Rodricks and Mr Frank Daglis
LIBRARIAN	- Mrs Patreece Griffiths-Smith
LIBRARY ASSISTANT	- Mrs Gail Rolls
DIVERSITY TEAM	- Mrs Cheryl Boyle, Mrs Marie-Louise Jolicoeur, Mrs Sarah Martin, Mrs Sarah Facey, Mrs Shivon Jackson, Mrs Amanda Hajgato, Mrs Sue Cividin, Mrs Kirsty Horvath, Mrs Cristina Cignarella and Mrs Lorraine Attard
MUSIC SPECIALIST	- Mrs Suzanne Gittoes
READING RECOVERY	- Mrs Kathy Abbey and Mrs Amanda Cox
R3	- Miss Deb Sheridan
TEACHER RELEASE	- Mr Matteo Andreatta, Mrs Patreece Griffiths-Smith, Mrs Grace Cavasinni and Ms Ingrid Akkari
OFFICE ADMIN	- Mrs Lee-Ann Falconer, Mrs Brenda Jackson & Mrs Christina Williams
SCHOOL ASSISTANTS	- Mrs Carol Zammit, Mrs Carmen Muscat, Miss Kylie Nield, Mrs Gordana Sudulic, Mrs Melissa Jayachandran, Mrs Sharon Gatt, Mrs Daniella Diana, Mrs Fiona Rankin, Miss Melissa El Hakim, Mrs Michelle Moller, Mrs Ashlee Russell, Ms Ana Gregoriou
GENERAL ASSISTANT	- Mr Magdy Saad and Mr Patrick Hey
LEADERSHIP TEAM	- Mrs Jenny Bellenger, Miss Deborah Sheridan, Mrs Cristina Cignarella, Mr Frank Daglis, Miss Karen Rutkowski, Mr Chris Boyer and Mrs Louise Gray
INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER	- Mrs Louise Gray
EMU SPECIALISTS	- Miss Deb Sheridan and Mrs Rebecca Battikha
TECH SUPPORT	- Miss Miroisaini Sriskandarajah

## CHRISTMAS TREATS

In these last weeks of school, children like to carry out the Christmas spirit by sending and receiving Christmas cards with lovely messages of joy and thanks and small gifts like candy canes and other treats. This is a lovely gesture, however, due to COVID-19 restrictions we ask that children do not bring in these gifts. We ask this so that we can ensure that our school community remains safe for all of our children. Thank you for your co-operation in this important matter.

## OZ FASHION UNIFORMS - KINDY 2021

A reminder to the Kindy 2021 families to book a time for your uniform fitting with Oz Fashions on 11th January 2021. This information was in the pack sent home with your child on the last day of transition. **The last day for bookings is Friday 11th December 2020.** If you have any questions please call the school office on 8886 9600.



We all know the importance of reading and how a great book can spark imagination and creativity too.

These summer holidays, I am again launching my Summer Reading Challenge and encouraging all students to read, read, read!

Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, a piece of poetry, book, e-book or animated novel.

Taking part in the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is easy! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it. The more a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of two Chromebooks or one of 30 runner-up gift vouchers to the value of \$30. Students can enter [online](#) by visiting the CEDP website.

Entries open on **23 November 2020** and close at 5:00pm on 1 February 2021. Terms and Conditions can be found [here](#).

This year we are introducing Student Reading Ambassadors for the challenge. The role of the Student Reading Ambassador is to creatively encourage their peers to participate and enter the competition. Schools are then invited to nominate one outstanding Student Reading Ambassador for one of 10 prizes (each prize is a \$30 gift voucher). Nominate your Student Reading Ambassador via this [form](#) by 1 February 2021.

## NEW BUILDING NEWS

We have some great news regarding the new building. I have been advised that the company who has been awarded the tender for the new building will be FAL. The demolition, ready for construction will be starting very soon. Exciting times ahead!

## GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2021

**(Note: These details are in the assumption that situations will be back to normal)**

### **RECONCILIATION & 1ST HOLY COMMUNION**

Parent information night (church) - Monday 8th February 2021 at 7.30pm

Enrolment (during masses) - Saturday 13th February & Sunday 14th February 2021

***Classes for Reconciliation (all Sundays: 10.30am - 11.30am)***

21st February, 28th February, 7th March, 14th March

### **RITE OF RECONCILIATION**

Wednesday 17th March at 7.30pm

***Classes for Holy Eucharist (all Sundays: 10.30am - 11.30am)***

21st March 1st lesson

28th March 2nd lesson (Palm Sunday)

### **1st HOLY COMMUNION DATES**

Saturday and Sunday masses (date and time to be chosen by parents/families)

8th/9th May

16th/17th May

22nd/23rd May

For further details, please send an email to [sacraments@tpg.com.au](mailto:sacraments@tpg.com.au)

## MEDICATION AND MEDICAL PLANS

On the last day of school, all medication we have at school will be sent home with students. This gives parents a chance to update any medication or plans for allergies, anaphylaxis or asthma before the new school year.

When school returns can you please bring all medication into the office on the first day. Parents will need to bring this to the office as a medical authority form will need to be completed.