



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

Term 1
Week 10
1st April 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire staff for their dedication and commitment to doing the best they can for the St Francis students throughout this term. Their generosity in terms of time, self and sharing of skills is often outside the normal hours of the school day but it is in giving so much that they truly receive.

I would like to extend to all of our families my good wishes for happiness and relaxation over the holidays. In the busyness of life try and make take time as a family to enjoy each other. The primary years are certainly precious and pass very quickly. The time invested now is paid back enormously in the quality of your child's relationships with you and others.

On behalf of the St Francis staff I wish all our families a very happy and holy Easter and Christ's blessings throughout this holy season.

It is in partnership we can achieve great things for the children in our care.

Jenny Bellenger

Principal

P & F MEETING—AGM

On Thursday 22nd April at 9am in the staffroom we will be holding the P & F Annual General Meeting. All parents are welcome to attend. Our school counsellor Veronica Morrison will also be speaking to parents at this meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Our staff will be involved in a Staff Development Day on **Friday 14th May 2021**

This is a Pupil Free Day. There will be no students at school on this day.

YEAR 6 CAMP

Year 6 have had a wonderful time at Wedderburn Christian Camp. Take a look at our Facebook page for photos. We would like to say thank you to Mr Daglis, Mrs Rodricks and Mr Andreatta for accompanying the Year 6 students.

DATES COMING UP

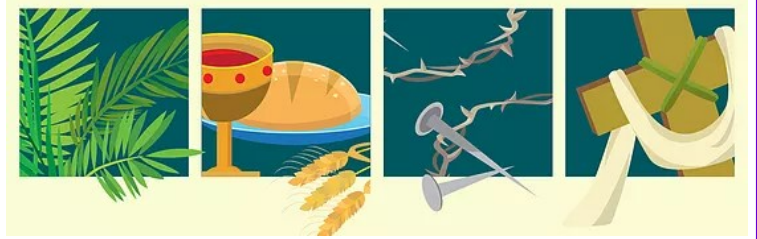
01/04/21 Last day of Term 1
19/04/21 First day of Term 2
22/04/21 P & F Annual General Meeting
14/05/21 Staff Development Day

Holy Week Prayer Services

In the tradition of the Catholic Church, the events of the last days of Jesus' life on earth occur during the time known as Holy Week.

Holy Week begins during Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and concludes with his Crucifixion on Good Friday. It is the last week of the Church's season of lent.

Over the week, starting on Monday, each stage presented a part of the Holy Week story to the school community with an introduction about the special day, an opening prayer, a re-enactment of the Holy Scripture and a concluding song.



PALM SUNDAY—Stage 1 students

On Palm Sunday we remember the day when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people were so excited that King Jesus was coming to the city. They cut down palm branches and waved them in the air. They shouted out "Hosanna in the highest" as Jesus rode into the city. It was so exciting. On Palm Sunday we remember that special time when all the people celebrated and cheered on Jesus with Palm branches in the air.





THE LAST SUPPER - YEAR 6 STUDENTS

The Institution of the Eucharist occurred with Jesus and His disciples at the Last Supper. At the Last Supper, Jesus took the bread & wine and changed it into His Body & Blood. This is called the Institution of the Eucharist. It was the gift of love that Jesus gave to the disciples and to us to nourish & sustain us throughout our time on earth.



JESUS PRAYS IN THE GARDEN - YEAR 3

After He had shared a meal with His disciples, Jesus wanted to pray to His Father. Jesus knew that he was going to be arrested and sentenced to death. He wanted to spend some time in prayer and reflection. Jesus wanted some of His trusted friends to go with Him into the garden so he asked three of the disciples to go into the garden and to spend some time with Him as he prayed.





JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH - Year 5 students

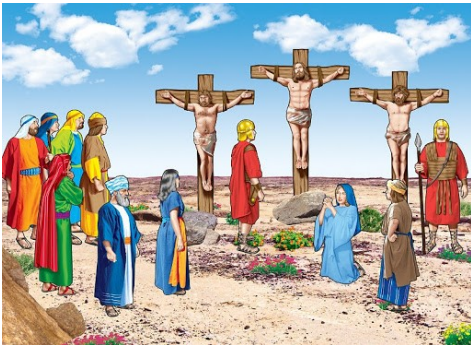
After praying at the Mount of Olives, Jesus was arrested. Peter was asked if he knew Jesus and three times he denied that he knew him. Jesus was then brought before the Sanhedrin, before Pilate.

After his arrest, Jesus was taken before Pilate. Pilate was unsure of what to do with Jesus so he ordered that he be scourged. Pilate thought that the people would be satisfied with that and would allow him to release Jesus. That was not to be the case and Jesus was handed over to be crucified.

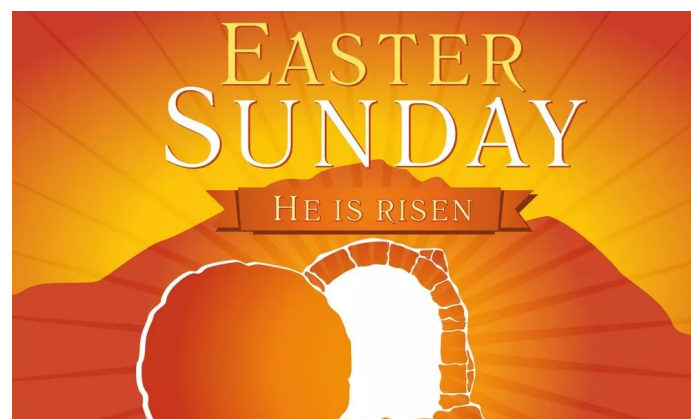


JESUS IS CRUCIFIED - Year 4 students

Jesus was forced to carry His own cross. He was taken to a hill outside of the city of Jerusalem. There He was crucified, being hung on a cross. He died so that we may live.



Thank you to our Kindergarten students who ended our Holy Week celebrations with a beautiful song and closing prayer!



WHOLE SCHOOL EASTER MASS

The students will celebrate Easter with a whole school Mass led by Fr Vincy and the Stage 3 students on Friday, 23rd April at 10am. As with our previous Masses last year and this year, this will be shared with the parent community via zoom. The zoom link will be shared early in Term 2.

MOTHERS DAY CELEBRATIONS WITH A TWIST!

We would like to invite you to our
2021 Mother's Day Celebrations.

I am sure that you all can't wait to get back into the school community to celebrate special occasions with your children. We feel the same way! Due to the building works and no access to our school hall for the remainder of the year, we are still unable to invite the whole parent community to whole school special events. Because of this, this year we will celebrate Mother's Day a little differently!



Students will be grouped into stages over the course of the day. Each group will prepare a Mother's Day presentation for mothers and carers. We understand that you may have children in different stages and may need to attend two different time slots. We do apologise for this inconvenience.

Each session will consist of a prayer, a scripture reading and a class / grade presentation.

We look forward to welcoming you back into our grounds for a session of song, dance, prayer and celebrations!

9am - Early Stage 1 Kindergarten

10am - Stage 1 students (Years 1 & 2)

11.30am - Stage 2 students (Years 3 & 4)

12.30pm - Stage 3 students (Years 5 & 6)

WINTER UNIFORM

All children return to school in full winter uniform - Often when we return to school after the term one break, the weather can still be warm. We expect that all the children will be wearing the winter uniform by Week 3 (Monday 3rd May 2021). This means that for the first two weeks of term two we will leave the decision to parents to decide which uniform your child should wear depending on the weather conditions.

P & F EASTER RAFFLE

We would like to say thank you to the P&F for organising this year's Easter Raffle. Thanks to Tania, Sarah & Storme for all their help and arranging the Easter Raffle prizes. A total of \$2390.10 was raised.



COMPASS PARENT PORTAL

Just a reminder to families that we are now using the Compass Parent Portal. You can access your details, child's attendance, explain absences etc. There is also a news feed where we can keep parents up to date with what is happening here at school. You should have received an email with a username and temporary log in. If you didn't receive this please email the school at stfrancis@parra.catholic.edu.au

As of next term Skoolbag will not be used, so please make sure you have access to the Compass Parent Portal.