

NEWSLETTER NO.8

20th March 2025

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which our school stands

Dear SFX families,

The 2025 Trivia Night was a huge success. Led by our Trivia Masters Funky Bunch, our Trivia Night committee put on such a fun and memorable evening.

Special thanks go to parents *Jane Fraser, Ben McDonald, Kate Harford, Aimee Colbert, Britt Higgins, Natalie Nolan, Mary Bolling, Lauren Norman, Belinda McParland, Deanna Makhoul, Brooke Lindsay, Claire Chown, Brigid Douglas, Antoinette Cummings, Danielle Jesser* and *Deb Vega* who were on the organisational committee.

Big thanks go to our Major Sponsors:

GOLD SPONSOR – R&S Automotive,

SILVER SPONSOR – RJ Legal

BRONZE SPONSOR – Whitefriars College Donvale

All up we had 180 people attend for a great night of entertainment and 80s fashion. This was the main SFX Parents Association Fundraiser for 2025 and we are happy to announce that the night raised about \$13,000. However there is some money yet to come in due to the online auctions. This will go a long way to paying off Basketball/Netball court #2 with a fundraising target of \$40,000 for the 2025 school year.

PRINCIPAL FORUM – TERM 1 2025

One of the ways we engage with parents at SFX is by holding Principal Forums each term. These are normally held each term and are an informal way for parents and school leadership to catch up over a cup of tea and coffee to discuss SFX school.

Our first forum of the year will be held on Thursday 3rd April @ 9.05am immediately after assembly. There are no set agendas and any topic is open for discussion. The only protocol of the meeting is that you cannot denigrate any child, any family or member of staff. These forums are always a great way for parents to understand the thinking and strategy behind school decisions, programs and protocols and meet other parents. Please put this date in your diary.

SFX MONTMORENCY® AND ITS USE

Families should be aware that the school has a registered trademark on the use of the term **SFX Montmorency®**. This restricts the use of the term when setting up Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and any other social media sites in the name of the school or a class at SFX.

At present there is only one endorsed and authorised St. Francis Xavier School Community Facebook and Instagram site

that is mutually administered and vetted by SFX Media Leader David Mithen and Principal Philip Cachia.

If SFX parents do set up their own social media sites in the name of a class or group at SFX then the administrator (*not the school*) is legally responsible for that site including any slanderous, vexatious or defamatory comments that are printed on the social media site. As administrator of the site, they are responsible for all postings on the site and become legally responsible if legal action commences. SFX Parents need to be aware that SFX was at the forefront of these moves in 2020, and that these standards have now been adopted amongst all MACS Schools. At all times SFX School protects the reputations of its teachers, its families and most especially the students on social media. Please think about what you write on any social media site and how it can/will be interpreted by another person.

Much was also said at the recently held 2025 Child Safety/Parent Helper courses about posting of photos of students on these sites without the express permission of the school or the families concerned.

This is something that we need to get better at as a school.

The only photo that you can publish on social media is that of your own child.

Spirit of Jesus Awards Term One, Week Seven, 2025

Class	Student	Reason
PBM	Abby C	For the kindness you show to others. Your actions make those around you smile and feel valued and included. Well Done Abby!
PJV	Isabelle B	For being a fantastic listener, an amazing support to her friends and for always trying her very best at every activity we do. Keep up the incredible work Isabelle. You are a superstar!
PRJ	Eleanor H	For the gentle and kind way that she treats others in class and out on the playground. You have a caring personality that is an example for all us in Prep RJ. Thank you Eleanor, you are amazing!

1CM	Oliver G	For consistently being a responsible learner by always following instructions and completing his work. He is a great role model for his classmates in 1CM. Well done!
1KH	Ryan C	For demonstrating responsibility consistently and being a great role model to your peers. You are often the first to show you are listening and ready to learn. Keep it up!
1LC	Anika T	For being such a kind and helpful member of Year One LC. Your caring nature can be seen in the way you go out of your way to care for others in need. Well done Anika!
2BB	Sebastian	For completing all of his work to a high standard in Reading, Writing and Maths, and for having exceptional manners!
2SK	Tommy A	For your caring, gentle nature - thank you for sharing your kindness with us Tommy!
2SM	Cade G	For showing a love of learning and for always putting in 110% into your work. Keep up the fantastic effort!
3DH	Kye M	You always display a positive approach to your learning by taking action and asking questions to further your understanding. Keep it up!
3HS	Eden L	For being such a caring friend and going out of your way to help your classmates. Well done, Eden!
4DO	Miller S	For demonstrating commitment to growth like Jesus by being a focused learner who pays attention to detail and strives to produce quality work, showing dedication to developing his skills and knowledge.
4MA	Chloe C	For always looking out for others and showing initiative in supporting her teachers and friends. Keep it up Chloe!
5EG	Ben H	For using a growth mindset and trying your best in all of your learning. Well done Ben!
5SN	Alice S	For setting a great example for her classmates. Being voted as a Fire Carrier exemplifies this.
6AH	Olivia M	For completing some outstanding creative writing pieces last week. You listen carefully to the feedback that you are given and work hard to achieve your next learning step.

6DM	Rhy T	For being a consistent performer from Day One this year. You are determined, focused and always looking to achieve your best. I love how you are not afraid to seek support when you need it. Keep up the magnificent work Rhy!
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SCHOOL TUCKSHOP – WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

We are pleased to advise we have successfully sourced a new supplier of Gluten Friendly and Vegan items to expand our product offering. Available from Wednesday 19th March, the following items can be selected from the lunch order menu:
Gluten Free Meat Pie - \$6.00 **Gluten Free Party Pie** - \$3.00
Gluten Free Sausage Roll - \$4.50 **Vegan Sausage Roll** - \$4.50
Gluten Free & Vegan Choc Chip Cookie - \$3.50

Please note - we are NOT a gluten-free certified kitchen. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that cross contamination does not occur, we cannot guarantee this will never occur. We have processes in place to minimise risk however, if you are a Coeliac and/or highly sensitive to gluten, please know that we will do our best but cannot guarantee your order will not touch gluten somewhere in the process. We apologise for any inconvenience. *Madelene Martin My Mum & I*

LET'S CELEBRATE HARMONY DAY!

We are excited to celebrate Harmony Day at school on Friday, 21st March! Harmony Day is a day when we come together to celebrate how everyone is different, and how we can all be kind and respectful to each other.

As part of our Wellbeing lessons, the students have been taking part in fun activities to learn about kindness, friendship, and respecting everyone's differences. It has been a great way for us to think about how we can all help make our school a welcoming and friendly place.

On Harmony Day, we ask all students to wear a touch of orange! It could be a ribbon, hat, T-shirt etc. The color orange means everyone belongs and helps remind us that our differences make us special and important.

We will continue celebrating throughout the day with more activities that focus on kindness and understanding. It's a great way to show how our school is made up of so many amazing people from different backgrounds.

Please talk with your child about what Harmony Day means and how we can all make the world a kinder place by being understanding and friendly to everyone.

Let's make this Harmony Day awesome by wearing orange and celebrating how special we all are!

Deb Butler

Student Wellbeing/Diversity Leader



Catholic Education Week 2025

16-23 March 2025



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

This year, Catholic Education Week will be celebrated across the Archdiocese of Melbourne from **Sunday 16 March to Sunday 23 March**.

Catholic Education Week is an opportunity for all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to celebrate their Catholic identity, the pivotal role they play within their local community and the strength of the sector.

The theme for 2025 is 'Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you' (Isa 60: 1).

Catholic education is committed to delivering enriching and high-quality learning experiences, guided by the teaching of Jesus Christ.

During Catholic Education week, our SFX Year Six Captains, Jubilee Leaders along with our Year Five FIRE Carriers will attend the Mass of St Patrick for Schools, held on Friday 21 March. This is followed by the Concert in the Park for primary schools.

On Friday 21st March at SFX, we will celebrate HARMONY DAY. Children will wear orange on this day, in support of Harmony Week.

Throughout Harmony Week, children will take part in a range of activities to learn about and celebrate the diverse and rich cultures in our school and our world.

Remember to wear orange for Harmony Day!



catholiceducationweek.com



Chapter 1
Early Learning

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Ages 5 -18

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LAUNCHPAD LOWER PLENTY

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Welcome to Launchpad Early Learning Centre – Lower Plenty!
Where every day is a new adventure!

At Launchpad Early Learning Centre, we are a family-owned and operated childcare service that takes pride in creating a nurturing, stimulating environment for your child. We focus on fostering curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning, ensuring your child has fun while growing every day!





IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE!

So far this Lent, our SFX community have raised **\$171.75** for Project Compassion. Well done to 4MA who raised **\$41.70** in Week One! You can support Project Compassion this Lent by placing money in the classroom donation boxes. Thank you for your support.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

CARITAS AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION

Unite Against Poverty this Lent



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Second Week of Lent

(Week beginning Monday 17 March)

Toefuata'iga - is a 13-year-old primary school student from Samoa. Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Toefuata'iga's school community struggled without reliable access to clean water, which impacted students' education and hygiene. Teachers often had to leave the school to fetch water from nearby homes, disrupting lessons and adding strain to the community. When the water ran out at the school, students were sent home which meant they missed out on valuable learning time.

Thanks to the support of Caritas Australia in partnership with Caritas Samoa, Toefuata'iga's school now has a 10,000 L water tank through a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program. Teachers and students are now able to focus on education and improved hygiene.

"Now that we have the water tank, things are so much better, we can stay at school all day, and I get to spend more time learning and playing with my friends. I'm happy that we don't have to go home early anymore." – said Toefuata'iga.

This transformative story is just one example of how Caritas Australia's Project Compassion creates waves of change around the world.

SO WE THINK SFX LOVES TRIVIA!



The Parents Association major fundraiser for 2025 is done and dusted - and what a night it was!

More than 170 people packed the SFX Hall on Saturday, for plenty of brainteasing, banter, competition, games and fundraising.

We're still finalising the total amount raised (online auction still live, details below!), but what we do know is:

- Our SFX community loves to head out (and dress up! 80s theme = spectacular!) Glad to see Mr Cachia and an SFX staff team get amongst the action too!
- Generous business sponsors get plenty of support and goodwill from SFX families (let them know you appreciate them!)
- Great prizes bring in big dollars - thanks to live auction sponsors **Forex Worldwide, Moondog Craft Brewery, R&S Auto, Classic Fireplaces & Barbeques, Eifers, Saputo Dairy, Gourmet Butchers Greensborough**, raffle sponsor **Dani Heyward**, and prize sponsor **Julia's Restaurant** North Ringwood.
- Talented PA volunteers from across SFX absolutely know how to run a brilliant event!

Whether you came along, promoted, donated, bid or bought a raffle ticket, you've made the R&S Auto SFX Trivia Night a huge success!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR AMAZING TRIVIA COMMITTEE

JANE FRASER, BEN MCDONALD, KATE HARFORD, NAT NOLAN, AIMEE COLBERT, BELINDA MCPARLAND, BRITT HIGGINS, LAUREN NORMAN, BROOKE DEAN, NETTI CULLIVAN, CLARE GIOULIS, DANIELLE JESSER, BRIGID DOUGLAS, DEANNA MAKHOUL, DEB VEGA, MARY BOLLING

**ONLINE AUCTION LIVE
UNTIL 9PM TUESDAY!**

**\$11K OF GOODS,
GET ONLINE, SUPPORT SFX,
GET A BARGAIN**

THANKS TO SPONSORS!

GOLD SPONSOR:

R & S AUTO



SILVER SPONSOR:

RJ LEGAL



BRONZE SPONSOR:

WHITEFRIARS



PA FUNDRAISER FOR NEW SFX SPORT COURTS - TOTAL \$\$ COMING SOON!



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SFX parents Rami and Deanna are proudly supporting our community as Gold Sponsor of the R&S Auto SFX Trivia Night in 2025.



Principal solicitors Rami and Nada Jurdi and their experienced team deliver professional, personalised service for:

- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Commercial & Business Law
- Corporate Law
- Property Law
- Conveyancing
- Wills & Probate

Local, practical, cost-effective and caring, get premium legal advice for your family.

★ **Free 20-minute initial consult, and 20% off Wills and Conveyancing for SFX families!**

SFX parents Rami and Nada are proudly supporting our community as Silver Sponsor of the R&S Auto SFX Trivia Night in 2025.

Visit rjlegal.net.au or call 9431 5312

GROWING GENTLE MEN

Book a tour to meet with teachers, staff and students, and learn about the opportunities a Whitefriars education can provide.



WHITEFRIARS
CATHOLIC COLLEGE FOR BOYS

Whitefriars College
156 Park Road
Donvale

whitefriars.vic.edu.au

Whitefriars College is a proud Bronze Sponsor of the R&S Auto SFX Trivia Night in 2025.

SUPPORT BUSINESS THAT SUPPORT SFX!



Montmorency Eltham RSL



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GET YOUR BUSINESS IN THE SFX SPOTLIGHT!

Contact Deb and Mary via president.sfxpa@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Easter Raffle

Inviting SFX families to donate, celebrate!

Please deliver to SFX Office by Wednesday 2 April

Every year, the Easter Raffle is the Parents Association's most popular raffle - and this year, it's bigger than ever!

We're asking all SFX families across the school to support by donating Easter treats, activities, books, games and other small items.

This is the ONLY time in 2025 we'll ask families to donate goods to support PA raffles.

The raffles will be drawn at final assembly before Easter holidays, on **Friday 4 April at 12.30pm** - an exciting event for the whole school.

Funds raised will go towards paying off our new sports courts, helping our kids stay healthy, safe, and sporty!

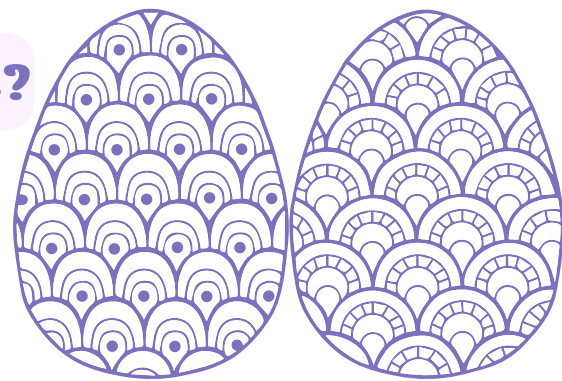
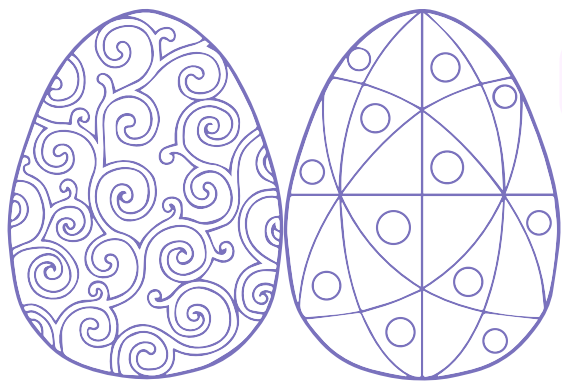
We know chocolate prices are spiking currently, so please shop sales or think creatively about small, fun items that kids would be excited to win!

Helpers welcome!

Volunteer to bundle prizes on Thurs 3 April, 2pm - 3pm

volunteersignup.org/THFPY

**Got preschoolers?
Little bunnies
can attend and
help too!**



SFX Parents' Association proudly presents

Let's roll!

BAREFOOT BOWLS

BLOKES BAREFOOT BOWLS
Fri 28 March 6-9pm

GIRLS ON THE GREEN
Sun 30 March 12-3pm

Montmorency Bowls Club
RSL after bowls
Mountain View Rd (Petrie Park)
Tickets: \$25 (includes pizza)

Drinks available at bowls club prices.

For more information contact
Ben McDonald 0422 992 244 or
benmcdonald1974@gmail.com



Book by Wed 26 March at:
trybooking.com/CYPSR



St Francis Xavier
Catholic Primary School
Montmorency