

NEWSLETTER NO. 20

14th July 2022

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

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Semester 2 everyone. I hope that everyone was able to relax and get over those winter sniffles and rebuild our immunities for the second half of the year. Term 3 promises to be a super exciting term for all classes with many excursions, camps, Sacraments and other engaging school activities leading up to our special 90th Anniversary celebrations "**FIESTA NOVENTA**" on Friday 9th September. St. Francis Xavier, the patron saint of our school in Montmorency was born in Javier, Spain in 1506. So Fiesta Noventa translated into English is "90th Celebration". We hope to have all families (past and present) participate in what will be a most memorable festive occasion for our school. The Fiesta Noventa Committee (5 in total) has been meeting regularly, however we need so much more help if we are going to make this a spectacular occasion. Please email principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au if you can assist.

An urgent call out - we currently need a graphic designer who can put together our advertising material for the event.

COVID TERM 3 NEWS....

There were some changes announced to schools as part of MACS and Victorian Government Directives released last Friday.

- ✚ There are no longer any mandatory vaccination requirements for staff or visitors working or attending mainstream schools.
- ✚ The Victorian Government is providing up to three further deliveries of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) in Term 3 and again in Term 4 to schools.
- ✚ Schools are asked to remind staff, students and families that the current advice from the Victorian Government is that it is recommended face masks are worn in indoor settings (except for close contacts, who must wear a mask indoors unless an exception applies).
- ✚ Household contacts are required to test negative using a rapid antigen test on at least 5 out of 7 days if they are attending or working at a school onsite.
- ✚ Parents/carers are able to leave isolation if other arrangements cannot be made to transport their non-infectious child via private vehicle to and/or from school. The person leaving self-isolation must travel directly to and from the location, making no stops, unless there is an emergency or as required by law. They must remain in the vehicle at all times, unless it is reasonably necessary to leave the vehicle to deliver the person to and from school, and must wear a face covering whilst outside the place of self-isolation.

SFX School will continue to provide parents with live updates when there is a positive student case at the school. This will be done via the Updat-Ed school app. We ask that all parents continue to contact the school when they discover a positive RAT test in their family. We also ask parents to apply extreme caution over the next 6 weeks in particular as we counter a third wave of COVID in our community. Almost all students who were 'close contacts' of parents, older non-SFX siblings etc, RAT tested **negative** for 4 or 5 days, and then went **positive** on the 6th or 7th day. Many of these families chose to keep their child at home as they were a close contact which was so considerate of other students and staff. Eventhough this was not mandatory, it really helped contain COVID at SFX over the last 6 weeks of Term 2 with no major outbreaks. Overlaying this is the terrible influenza season we are having which in some cases has more debilitating symptoms than COVID itself. By working together as a school and being considerate of others, then we will keep our staff on deck and classes open. By working together we will minimise the spread of all illnesses amongst the student community, thus reducing the impact of lost learning time.

SCHOOL UNIFORM BLITZ

Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents at SFX who take such great pride in the way their children are dressed and groomed for school each day.

We have recently noticed that once again some students, mainly in the seniors, are not wearing their proper school uniform, by wearing coloured runners each day. It was especially disappointing that even on the first day of Term 3, when there were no Physical Education classes, some students were in coloured runners and/or socks

Our school policy states that SFX students must wear all black runners and all black school shoes and only on their Physical Education day may wear coloured runners.

If students are unable to be in proper school footwear, then they must provide their teacher with a note of explanation. We will be following up with individual students and their families for those who continue to not follow our school uniform policy. Let us continue to uphold our high standards in all aspects of our schooling.

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER 2022

Congratulations to Ms. Godden, our Enrichment Intervention teacher, Niamh Henderson and Greta Mullins our Year 6 School Newspaper Leaders, and all our writers for edition #1 of our School Newspaper 2022 that was distributed to all students earlier in the week. So much work has gone into the edition with our students learning great journalism, interviewing and writing skills to culminate in a great

2022 SCHOOL THEME – WORKING HARD TO BE THE BEST

edition. Here's a link to the SFX newspaper from our school website;

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hyxTyNJ_U6DCeHo1Hlo3oRrL3NjAS0A4/view

MURAL OPENING CEREMONY

On the final Thursday of Term 2, we officially unveiled our 'Birds of Montmorency' mural at SFX School. We were able to invite back Ross Kenneday, Director of Cut Out Environmental, Graham Kenneday his father who was the mural designer and artist and the Cut Out team to an opening ceremony to replace the 40 year old wooden slats that were rotted through and were unsafe.

They were present at the school when Mr. Mithen was a student at SFX. This beautiful mural will greet visitors to our school over the next 50 years.

Graham also gifted SFX with a special work of art acknowledging the endangered Eltham Copper Butterfly.



BEFORE

NOW



Here's a link to a video as to how our mural all came about:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cMEqyDgESfz0VF1V24vqs751PxmldpF/view?usp=sharing>

SPIRIT OF JESUS AWARDS - WEEK 9 TERM 2 2022

Prp AB Angus Adams Looking out for others in need and showing care

Prep EL Leo Nankervis Trying your best at everything you do. Well done.

1HS Sonny Keane For always offering to hold the door for your classmates as we enter the building.

1KG Gus Webster For always being kind and helping each other.

2JV Marcus Angelucci For showing great resilience when completing his habitat work, persisting and presenting wonderful work

2SK Lily Sullivan For the respect you always show to your teachers and classmates and the effort you put into everything you do.

3CN Eli Zoroje For being a responsible and reliable member of our class.

3AB Kainen De Livera For always putting in your best effort and being such a good listener. Great job!

4AM Isabel Rizzi For always being kind and inclusive of her peers.

4AH To all Year 4s for their excellent efforts in publishing their work and sharing it at the Expo.

5JW James Weiland For consistently displaying maturity and being a role model to his peers.

5MK Aidan Dicello For being responsible and organised with his learning.

6MA Josh Conlin For having a positive attitude towards learning and contributing thoughtfully to class discussions.

6DM Lewis Holland-Baker For having a sensational attitude and always making others around him feel welcomed.

Bucket Filler Awards - Awarded by students to students.....

Olivia Burkhart - Hayden Intarapirom - Benjamin Buccella

Imogen Saward - Evie Kazalac - Chase Celotti - Evie Hannon

Vivienne Lo Presti - Sebastian Sequenzia-Netto

SCHOOL DIARY - TERM 3 MPORTANT DATES

Thursday 14th July - School Tour for Prospective Families @ 11.30am

Tuesday 26th July - School Tour for Prospective Families @ 11.30am

Monday 1st August - Year 3 Day Camp - Oasis Mt Evelyn

Monday 1st/Tuesday 2nd August - Year 4 Camp Oasis Mt Evelyn

Tuesday 2nd to 4th August - Year 5/6 Camp Oasis Mt Evelyn

Monday 8th August - Sacrament of Confirmation Info night SFX 7pm

Wednesday 10th August - School Advisory Committee Mtg 7pm

Thursday 11th August - Sacrament of Confirmation Info Night OLHC 7pm

Wednesday 17th August - Parents Association Meeting - 7pm

Friday 19th August - Professional Development Day - School closed (TBC)

Wednesday 17th August - Tuesday 23rd August - Scholastic Book Fair

Book Week Monday 22nd August - Friday 26th August.

Theme "Dreaming with eyes open".

Book Week Incursion - (Years 3-6) - Wednesday 24th / Thursday 25th August

Book Week Incursion - (Prep-Year 2) - Wednesday 24th August

Book Week Parade - Thursday 25th August

Thursday 1st September - Father's Day Stall

Friday 2nd September - Father's Day Breakfast & Footy Colours Day

Wednesday 7th September - School Advisory Committee - 7pm

Thursday 8th September - Division Athletics

Friday 9th September - 90th Anniversary Family Event

Monday 12th September - School Tour for Prospective Families @ 11.30am

Wednesday 14th September - Parents Association Meeting - 7pm

Friday 16th September - Term 3 concludes at 1pm

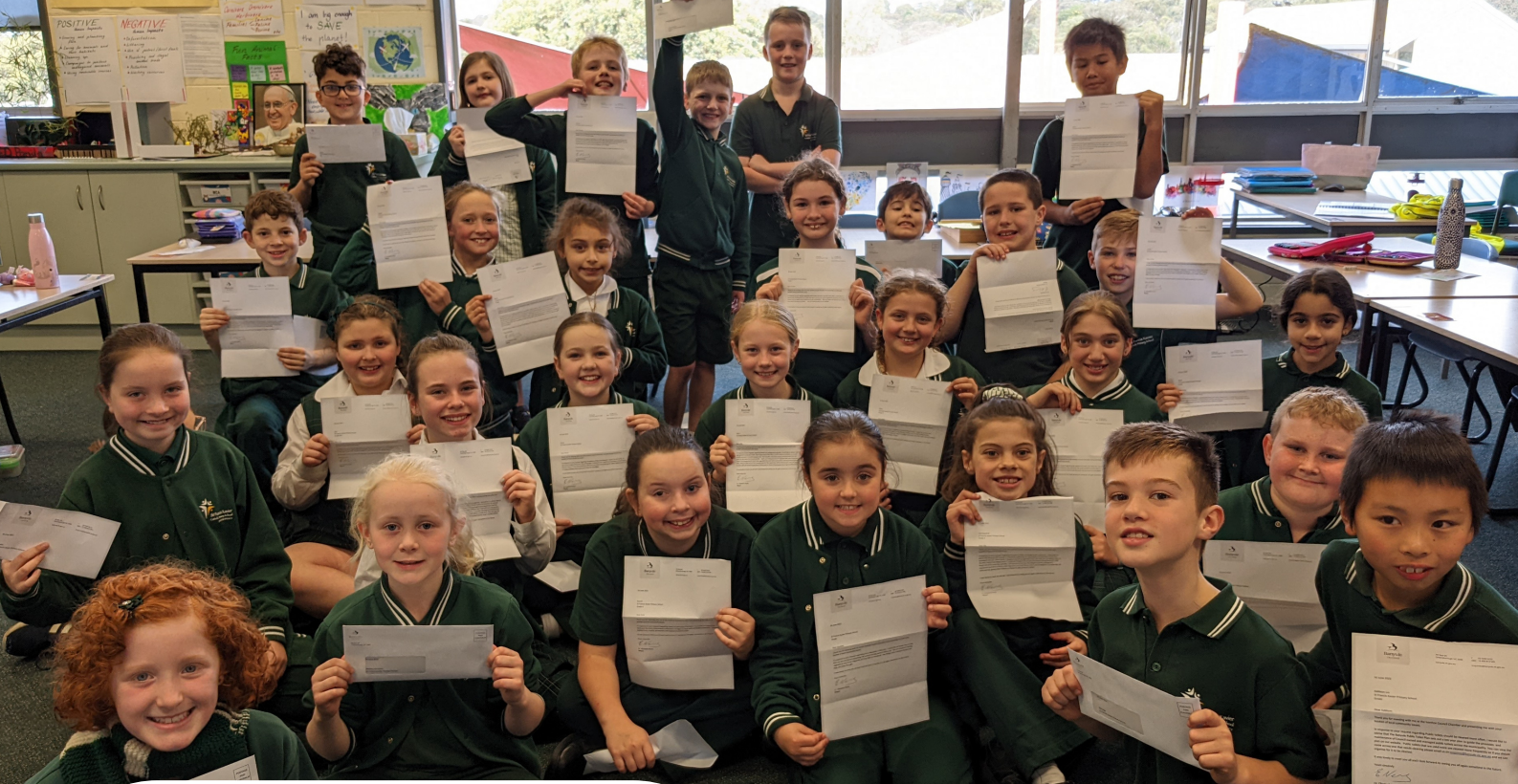
Monday 3rd October - Term Four commences at 8.55am

Looking forward to continuing the strong SFX partnership we have between home and school in Semester 2 as we work hard to be the best.

Philip Cachia (Principal)



2022 SCHOOL THEME - WORKING HARD TO BE THE BEST



NEWS IN 3/4

Letters from the Mayor

During Term One, we wrote persuasive letters about possible improvements to our local community. We were thrilled to each receive a personalised response from Banyule Mayor, Cr Nealy.



Year 3/4 Expo

Thanks to all the families, junior school classes and staff who attended our Expo. We hope we helped you to learn about how the environment and our impact affect the survival of living things.



This is the 57th year of the Montmorency St Vincent de Paul (SVDP) conference. We serve the people of Lower Plenty, Montmorency, Briar Hill, St Helena and Eltham North. As a Catholic lay organization of **men and women**, **Our Vision** is to be recognized as a **caring Catholic organization offering a 'hands up' to people in need in our local community** irrespective of their faith, ethnicity, social background, gender or political opinions. We do this, on your behalf, by respecting their dignity and privacy, sharing our hope for them and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

The theme of this year's Winter Appeal is "**Make it Stop**", focusing on the importance of providing safety to families and individuals fleeing domestic violence.

In the third year of the global pandemic and with the significant increase in the cost of living, families are fighting to stay in their homes and it is their children who are bearing the greatest burden of the crisis.

As Job Keeper/Seeker payments wind down, some families are at increased risk of homelessness which means that many children may be without a warm, safe place to sleep and properly fed. The challenge for all in our parish community is to ensure that our Christian and community spirit continues and helps to make the difference: from an ordinary to an extraordinary difference, to those in need in our local community.

Support from Schools and Parishioners

SVDP Montmorency is most grateful and thankful to our supporters: **SFX parishioners, our two parish primary schools - Holy Trinity (HT) and St Francis Xavier (SFX) and Catholic Ladies College (CLC)**, through your support of our appeals. We are entirely dependent on the generosity of the SFX parishioners and the school communities, for, despite our advocacy, we have not been able to access any Federal, State or Council grants.

SFX and HT families donated non-perishable food on two food drives during the year. Both schools and CLC also generously donated Christmas gifts and Christmas food for adults and their children. This very much relieved the economic and social pressure on families and enabled them to celebrate Christmas as members of our community.

Over the past year, your conference assisted 157 adults and 148 children by providing support, friendship, material assistance and advice about accessing government, health and financial services. In addition, we also visited 35 families with Christmas hampers and gifts.

Although our resources are continually being stretched we were, thanks to your generosity, able to **provide assistance to the value of \$ 22,941 over the twelve months to April 2021**. Below is a summary of how we have provided material assistance to people in need in the Montmorency/Briar Hill/Lower Plenty/St Helena/Eltham North areas :-

| | |
|--|----------|
| Supermarket vouchers & Donated food from SFX, HT and CLC Schools | \$13,125 |
| Furniture, small household items & clothing | \$1,048 |
| Electric/gas/telephone bills/other utilities of families | \$2,628 |
| Clothing vouchers | \$2,500 |
| Education | \$1,394 |
| Transport related expenses | \$ 528 |
| Other | \$ 1,718 |

(Please note: All postage, telephone, travelling expenses and any other administrative expenses associated with the services we provide to local community are borne by the members themselves. As a consequence, we can assure all parishioners that **ALL donations remain within the Montmorency conference and go entirely to help those we assist in the district**)



Our Year 6 Religion Leaders Zach, Ethan and Lewis helping to stack the shelves with all the donated non-perishable foods that SFX families donated.

