

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Evangelisation Plan

2014 - 2016



Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples...

And I will be with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19&20

St Francis Xavier Primary School
EVANGELISATION PLAN

St Francis Xavier Primary School strives to provide a welcoming environment wherein the development of each person and the education offered reflects Gospel values.

Rationale

We are called to Evangelise:

St Francis Xavier Provides a Catholic education that focuses on the development of the total human person in an environment where Christian ideals are witnessed, lived and valued.

St Francis Xavier evangelises by –

- striving continually to be an effective school
- assisting staff, parents and students to integrate faith, culture and life.

We begin from the principle that our educational programme is intentionally directed to the growth of a fully integrated person.

St Francis Xavier's Evangelisation Plan aims to respond to the faith needs of those it is commissioned to evangelise. We do this explicitly and systematically, focussing upon achievable outcomes that can be evaluated and renewed periodically.

Principles

Our role at St Francis Xavier as evangelists of God's revelation is to –

1. Reflect upon our own understanding of faith and to spend time developing these,
2. Assist people in responding to God's message of revelation,
3. Assist people in recognising and building an awareness of God within humanity and the environment,
4. Support and develop, in ourselves and others, a social conscience,
5. Acknowledge and accept that people are at differing stages of their progressive faith journey,
6. Support each other as we progress along the path of our own faith journey,
7. Teach religious Education to students while acknowledging the challenge of new evangelisation.



Current Situation – The Signs of the Times:

- Reflecting Attitudes Of God*
1. Honesty with others' goods.
 2. Care for each other.
 3. Acceptance of special needs' children.
 4. Courtesy is evident in interaction between peers and staff.
 5. Co celebrations with other schools.
 6. Outsiders highly regard the positive atmosphere/behaviour.

- Religious Values Appreciated*
1. Religious events are important.
 2. Sacraments are celebrated.
 3. Traditions are celebrated ie. Paschal Meal
 4. Prayer is important.
 5. The Eucharist is the source of faith nourishment.

- Values Accepted in Daily Life*
1. Compassion
 2. Respect
 3. Honesty
 4. Inclusivity
 5. Self-Control

- Pressures to Conform Come From*
1. Media – materialism.
 2. Poor adult role models.
 3. High level of importance of money.
 4. Personal image.
 5. Technology Advancements

- Difficulties We Face*
1. Home life is inconsistent with Gospel values.
 2. Being too busy for 'faith experiences'.
 3. Lack of Mass Attendance.
 4. School is their experience of Church.

Current Ways of Primary Proclamation

Raising Awareness of God's Call Through Creation

- Nature focus.
- Appreciating natural phenomena – disasters.
- Learning Areas: RE, The Arts, S & E, Science, English

Raising Awareness of God's Call Through Human Heart Yearnings

- Strong personal feelings for justice.
- Mission experiences.
- Yearning for a happy, stable, secure family.
- Losing family members, friends.

Awareness of God's Call Through Hope of Salvation.

- Desiring to be a better person.
- Reconciliation.
- Goal setting and social skills learning.
- Overcoming initial impulses.

Current Ways of Initiatory Catechesis:

Creed

- Assemblies, special events prayers
- Lunch, greeting, home-time prayers.
- Crucifixes, prayer tables in the classrooms.
- Use of outside venues for prayer.
- Chrism mass for Confirmation candidates.
- Project Compassion, missions.
- Links to Church agencies: St Vincent de Paul
- Co-ordination of sacramental programme with parish.
- Involving priests in school life.
- Relationships with our parish.

Sacraments

- Eucharist.
- Reconciliation.
- Confirmation
- Pre-primary to Year 3 liturgies.
- Holy Week celebrations.
- More of a focus on shared education for the Sacraments.
- Terms 1&3: Year 4-6 Reconciliation; Term 2&4: Year 4-6 Eucharist, Years 1-3 Class Liturgies
- Family Masses
- Celebration of Saint Francis Xavier Feast Day.
- Special day celebrations related to faith.
- Sacramental Retreats.
- Paschal Meal.

Life in Christ (1)

- Family Masses.
- Social norms of religious behaviour in Church.
- Encourage both Catholic/Non-Catholic participation in worship.
- Discourage unacceptable language and manner.

Life in Christ (2)

- Family masses
- Promoting special events: Family Week, Mother's Day, Father's Day.
- Student Councils
- Playground Buddy: Peer mentoring.
- Student input into class rules and consequences.
- Newsletter article to promote family events/births/bereavements.
- Wide parent involvement in school life.

Prayer

- Prayer at recess assembly and at completion of lunch meal.
- Prayer services for special events: ANZAC Day,
- Prayer table in each classroom.
- Use of other venues for liturgical occasions eg. Catholic Centre
- Use of formal school prayer.
- Prayerful response to world/local events.

What is now needed to further enhance the Faith Formation of our School Community?

Primary Proclamation

1. How do we seek to raise awareness of God's call through creation?

- Encourage teachers to make links to God's creation in other learning areas.
- Encourage student prayers to focus on 'wonder' more specifically different cultures and world tragedies.
- Encourage children to use the talents God has given them as this embraces the diversity of all people.
- Participate in Hymn Singing with Sr Lyn with hymns for Masses and other celebrations.

2. How do we raise awareness of God's call through deeper human heart yearnings?

- Implementing our Code of Conduct that is derived from our school values – compassion, respect, honesty, inclusivity and self-control.
- As a school, lead by example – exposure/modelling of Catholic Practices.
- Create an awareness of social justice issues through integrated curriculum.
- Examine and reflect on the Mandate for Catholic Schools 2009 -2015

3. How do we seek to help those in our school community become aware of God's call through hope for salvation?

- Building resilience in students through the National Safe Schools Framework through programs such as: Challenges and Choices Drug Education, Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum.
- St Francis Xavier Anti –bullying Policy – through programs like Friendly Schools Friendly Families, ICT Code of Conduct and Cyber Smart.
- Encourage participation at the Eucharist weekly as the source of faith nourishment in the hope of salvation.
- Develop an appreciation and respect for our indigenous cultures and peoples.



What is now needed to further enhance the Faith Formation of our School Community?

Initiatory Catechesis

Focus – Developing a Eucharistic Community.

Prayer: Growing living personal relationship with God, our father, Jesus, our Brother, and the Holy Spirit, our inspirer.

Students	Staff	Parents
To respond to God’s call to pray.	To respond to God’s call to pray.	To respond to God’s call to pray.
Masses: coming together as a community. Parish / Family Masses Focus on Special days – Ash Wed, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Ascension, Assumption, St Mary of the Cross, SFX Feast day Class Liturgies/Masses/ Reconciliations GREAT Prayer formula Focus for Prayers Cathkids prayer resource	Staff Prayer Altar Table in Staff Lounge Staff retreat Accreditation Staff Prayer – Announce over PA at 8:10am Staff Liturgical Diaries Sunday Readings as Focus for Staff Prayers	Invites from students to all school and class Masses / Liturgies Family Masses Religion Corner in the newsletter Mass booklets for school masses or on PowerPoint Mass Etiquette

Sacraments: Eucharist: through Holy Communion – deeper personal relationship with Christ.

Students	Staff	Parents
Desires for closeness to Christ, to experience Christ more completely.	Desires for closeness to Christ, to experience Christ more completely.	Desires for closeness to Christ, to experience Christ more completely.
Class Liturgies / Masses / Reconciliations School Masses Family Masses Parish Friday Mass Priest to explain parts of Mass during the Mass Prayer services for special occasions Class and school prayer Code of Conduct – Gospel Values Cathkids prayer resource	Beginning/end of year masses Prayer focus – Eucharistic community Further knowledge of Eucharist – PD at beginning of year, Understanding the Mass tips in newsletter	Invite parents to join classes for 12:05 mass and school Masses Set time weekly for all Liturgies/masses/reconciliations In MPR with morning tea Advertise Parish Reconciliations and events in the Newsletter Religion corner in Newsletter to include Understanding the Mass Parent & Parent / Child meetings for Sacraments

Life in Christ: Growing harmony with God, within and with others

Students	Staff	Parents
To worship through the Eucharist	To worship through the Eucharist	To worship through the Eucharist
Living out the Code of Conduct into and across all learning areas Knowing Jesus through the gospels... linking to our global community. Parts of the Mass. Words and symbols used in the Mass Praying / celebrating Mass as a community Focus for whole school prayers Developing relationship with God through prayer	Living out the Code of Conduct into all learning areas Knowing Jesus through the gospels – staff prayer Prayer and reflection on the Sunday’s Gospel readings. Celebrating as a Eucharistic Community	Code of Conduct: sharing Bible stories that highlight our values: Compassion, honesty, respect, inclusivity and self –control sent home beginning of the year Knowing Jesus through the gospels – newsletter prayer and reflections Signage Understanding the Mass and its importance to our Faith Invitations to school / class celebrations. Morning tea afterwards

*Creed: I believe he ascended into Heaven and is seated now at the right hand of the Father.
Experiences of prayers through Jesus being answered.*

Students	Staff	Parents
Desire to participate actively in the Church’s liturgy – and for immediate access to God the Father in prayer.	Desire to participate actively in the Church’s liturgy – and for immediate access to God the Father in prayer.	Desire to participate actively in the Church’s liturgy – and for immediate access to God the Father in prayer.
Class and school prayers to have a purpose Class Liturgies / Masses / Reconciliation theme – coming together to pray. Sacramental Programs – school and parish Knowing Jesus through Bible stories Break down the Creed and formal prayers so that children understand them. Break down the parts of the Mass. Cathkids prayer resource	Development of teamwork Knowing Jesus through Bible stories Develop open communication between school and parish Sacramental Programs Prayer focus on Sunday’s Reading from the Gospel Understanding of the Eucharist – PD at start of year, information in staff newsletter	Encourage greater attendance at school masses – provide morning teas/ send invites Family Masses – use the family in the jobs and have student sit with families. Promote school Code of Conduct Values Religion Corner in Newsletter – reflect on Sunday’s Gospel, Understanding the Mass

Living the Vision Call to Action:

Prayer – Building communities centred on prayer, stillness and reflection.

- Each class to begin and end the day with prayer. Prayer to have a focus and a quiet time for reflection. Use of Cathkids prayer resource.
- Whole school prayer after lunch to have a focus. Use of formal and school prayers.
- Classes to celebrate a prayer Liturgy, Mass or Reconciliation Liturgy each term, as well as attending Parish Mass and celebrating Family Mass with buddy class during the year.
- Whole school Masses to celebrate Ash Wednesday, Communion, Catholic Education and St Francis Xavier Feast Day
- Staff prayer to be based on and reflect on Gospel readings.
- Development of meditation practices throughout the school.
- Updating of Religious Symbols around the school and for class altar tables.
- Use of areas in the school for sacred spaces: Multi-Purpose Room for Liturgies, Marys Garden, Staff Lounge prayer focus, class altar tables in prominent position.
- Use and explain Liturgical colours, symbols and dressing of altar for Masses.
- Whole school involved in Stations of the Cross, Easter Story Liturgy, Shrove Tuesday Prayer service, ANZAC prayer service.
- Religion corner in the Newsletter to contain information on Sunday's Gospel and Understanding the Mass
- Explaining different parts of the Mass and symbolism of why things are done.

