Our Vision
We are called to provide an exemplary Catholic Education.
Discipleship: With Christ as our light we aspire to nurture the whole person in a community centered on gospel values.
Learning: We are committed to providing an education that empowers all to become life-long learners.

Dear Parents and Caregivers

St Francis Xavier has five core values that are essential components of staff, students and parents code of conduct. Explicitly teaching these values and behaviours allows individuals to develop a greater connection to themselves, their friends and the broader community. As part of Missions Week, we have been focusing on the value of COMPASSION. An example of compassion is our outreach to the disadvantaged and marginalised in society. This week’s prayer service and fundraising activities provided students ways to be directly involved in this.

We also need to teach our children to be compassionate to themselves. One way is encourage children to accept and acknowledge their own gifts and talents. Too often, we are our hardest critics, saying things to ourselves that we would never say to another person. Children do this too. This week, I encourage you to reinforce the value of compassion at home in the broader community sense but also speaking to your children and encouraging them to be compassionate to themselves, to acknowledge and celebrate their strengths, their gifts and their talents.

Story Dogs

A new initiative commencing at St Francis Xavier is Story Dogs. Simple in its premise, children read to a canine companion whose non-judgemental approach allows children's focus to improve, literacy skills to increase and confidence soar. The non-judgmental, loving nature of dogs gives this program its magic and helps children relax, open up, try harder and have fun reading to a friendly and calm dog. Flynn will be attending St Francis Xavier each Tuesday morning and celebrating the love of literacy with students.

Staffing

St Francis Xavier wishes to congratulate Tania Briggs and Zoe Skewes. Tania has recently accepted a position at St Lawrence’s in the junior primary for 2017 and Zoe will be relocating to St Mary’s, Broome. In addition, after 26 years of service Mrs Shelley Campbell will be retiring at the end of this year. At a later stage the school will acknowledge the service of departing staff. St Francis Xavier is currently advertising to fill these roles and I look forward to announcing the successful candidates in future weeks.

God bless
Ben Doyle
Principal
RELIGION

Needing God
In last Sunday’s Gospel Jesus told a parable, ‘Two men went to the temple to pray. The Pharisee stood and prayed, ‘I thank you God that I am not a sinner like this tax collector’. The tax collector stood with his eyes lowered and beat his breast, ‘Have mercy on me, a sinner’. I tell you, it is this man, the tax collector, who is at rights with God.”

Humble before God. No matter how good a person may be, we are always in need of God’s grace and mercy. Often those who are humble and aware of their sinfulness and brokenness, are the ones who are most open to God’s love.

Why Do We Do That? Pray to Mary. Catholics honour Mary in a special way because of her unique role in the story of Christianity. As the mother of Jesus, she was the first to give the Good news to the world. Mary’s life is the perfect example we have of a life lived under the grace of the Holy Spirit. Her feminine presence opens us to the Gospel and draws us closer to the heart of Christ.

Mission Week: As a school community this week we are focusing on Mission Week. The week has two purposes. Firstly educating our community on the work that our Catholic Church does around the world to help and support those in need, like the children in Cambodia who are unable to go to school. Secondly, it gives us the chance to raise money to help the different Catholic agencies to continue their work in these less fortunate communities. As part of the week students participated in a prayer service. RE lessons focused on the Mission work. Year six leaders have sold icy poles at lunch times, year five student Jazmin Allen performed for students at lunch time and tomorrow students are invited to wear crazy socks and bring a gold coin donation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: This weekend our year three students and families will be attending Commitment Masses as part of their preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Families can attend any of the Masses over the weekend at the Cathedral or St John’s.

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

KINDY 2017

Enrolment applications are open for Kindy in 2017. Parents of children born between July 1, 2012 and 30 June 2013 are asked to have their application forms into the office as soon as possible.

Any younger siblings of students already here must also complete an enrolment form and hand to the office.

Forms are available from the school office or on the school website: www.sfx.wa.edu.au

Interviews are being extended into this term.

3 YEAR OLD PROGRAM 2017

Children born between July 1 2013 and June 30 2014 are invited to apply for our 3 Year Old Program in 2017. The program is offered by an experienced Early Childhood teacher to children who have turned 3 and is held on Mondays and Fridays of the school term. You can obtain application forms from the office or on our website: www.sfx.wa.edu.au Interviews will be held during Term Four so please get your application form in NOW.

MERIT CERTIFICATES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS AT THE ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 28th OCTOBER 2016

PPM Edik Jegan & Abisha Sagy
1J Harper March & Jedd Rigter
2S Kendall Mupotaringa & Jacob Campbell
3M Lochlan Stanford & Nyaruay Kew
4C Ella Wilkins & Jessie Whitehouse
5BH Ruby Barnes & Ethan Ullrich
6K Thomas Gray & Benjamin Dyer

PPR Jaxon Papertalk & Peyton Foot
1L Auliraha Cameron & Lucy Clements
2W Leah Blakemore & Lucas Holdsworth
3S Henry Thomson & Leila Smith
4N Gabrielle McLaren & Sophie Clements
5GO Madison Sorgiovanni & Adriana Ferraro
6P Tadiwanahe Kaguramamba & Hannah Patterson

Science: Brodie Gray Library Snr: Hien Tran Thi Thu & India Newman
Asian Languages: Ruby Barnes Library (Jnr.): Jo Jo Baynes
                        The Arts: Daisy Keeffe
LOST PROPERTY
We have a number of items including uniforms, water bottle, lunch boxes etc. in our lost property. Please come to see if anything belongs to your child before the end of term. Unclaimed items will be passed onto St Vincent de Paul.

RECYCLED UNIFORM SHOP
Please come down to the Uniform shop, next to the Multi Purpose room to grab yourself a bargain! Open on Mondays from 2.30—3.00pm and Thursday from 8.45—9.15am. We are always in need of more uniforms to recycle, especially girls dresses in sizes 8 and 10. If you have any at home please drop them off at the school office. Thank you.

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO SFX IN 2017
If your child/children WILL NOT be returning to St Francis Xavier in 2017 could you please inform the office promptly, as we have waiting lists in all year levels.

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following students -

Skillfully Working in 4N

Learning Intention.

To learn where to place the apostrophe when making a contraction.

Success Criteria.

⇒ I can give an example of a rule showing when to use apostrophes when making a contraction.

⇒ I can show the difference between an informal paragraph (using contractions) and a formal paragraph (no contractions) in my writing.

⇒ I can identify informal writing (contractions) and formal writing (no contractions) in classroom texts and explain why each form is used.

We knew our learning intention and worked hard to achieve it. By following our success criteria, we knew when we had learned where to place the apostrophe when making a contraction. We are very proud of ourselves and how well we are learning!
VACSWIM
Summer will soon be here; enroll now for swimming lessons
Enrolments for December/January lessons are now open.
It is important for every child to learn vital swimming and water safety skills. VacSwim offers affordable school holiday swimming lessons run by qualified instructors at a range of locations throughout the state.
For further information and online enrolments visit: education.wa.edu.au/swimming

70th NAZARETH HOUSE FETE
SUNDAY 6th NOVEMBER at 10am
Crowtherton Street—Bluff Point

The Nazareth House Fete is a landmark Geraldton event that is celebrating its 70th anniversary. It is a well known and loved community event that raises funds that go toward enhancing the living environment of the 110 residents living at the House.
It is a family social event that many local people have fond childhood memories of. Come along and keep the tradition alive! Helpers most welcome.
Who to contact for enquiries:
Ann Boyle - 0429 381 896

SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS—AGM 15 NOVEMBER 2016

It’s that time of the year when the School Board calls for nominations to the Board for 2017. The overall role of the School Board is to help the school fulfill its educational responsibilities in accordance with various guidelines. Nominations can be through self nomination or nominate a friend, as long as the friend agrees of course!
To help you decide that being a member of the Board is both rewarding and challenging, I’ve outlined a few points of interest below.
• Possession of an enthusiasm for and a willingness to promote Catholic schooling
• A deep interest in the welfare of all students and staff
• A desire to give service to the Catholic school community
• An ability to work co-operatively and constructively with all other members of the Board
• Sufficiency of time to devote to Board duties
• An ability and desire to uphold confidentiality in Board matters; and
• Possession of special skills that will be an asset to the Board

SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATION FORM

Name of Nominee: __________________________ Phone No: __________________________
Signature of Nominee: __________________________ Nominated by: __________________________

SFX P&F AGM 15 NOVEMBER 2016

We are seeking nominations for positions on the P&F Executive Committee for 2017. If you are interested could you please complete the nomination form below and send to the school office.

P & F EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM

I __________________________ would like to nominate for the position of (please circle) President / Vice President / Secretary / Treasurer on the SFX P&F Executive Committee.

I can be contacted on __________________________ Signed: __________________________