

Newsletter

From the Principal....

Dear Parents and Carers

Once again I am amazed at how quickly Term One has been and gone, and I am very proud of how the students have settled into the new school year. The loss of the first week due to the COVID-19 lockdown did not impact on the operation of the school and it was wonderful to see how well the students coped with having to wear masks in their first week back.

Holy Week – Sunday March 28 to Saturday 3 April

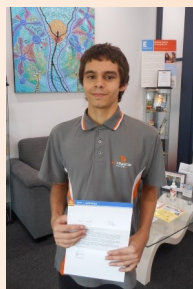
As Jesus entered Jerusalem at the beginning of the first Holy Week, He was welcomed with much enthusiasm, and He accepted the love and devotion of those who welcomed Him. He was their King. He was the Messiah, and the welcome they gave to Him was but a pale gift of the true adoration He deserved. And though Jesus entered Jerusalem with this glorious welcome, less than a week later He would leave Jerusalem with a heavy cross on His shoulders, carrying it outside the city walls to die.

As we enter into the holiest week of the year, it is essential that each of us see the journey of Christ this week as our own calling in life. We must journey toward the glory of the Cross with our Lord. From a worldly perspective, the Cross does not make sense. But from the perspective of the Father in Heaven, the Cross is not only the source of the greatest glory of His Son, but it is also the path by which we share in that glory. We must die with Him, sacrifice all for Him, choose to follow Him, and hold nothing back in our resolve to lay down our lives out of love.

This week, take time to reflect upon the events you will commemorate. Commit yourself to share in them, not just as an intellectual remembrance but as a living participation.

City of Gosnells Education Scholarships

Each year, the City of Gosnells provides an Educational Scholarship of \$500 for a student who lives in the City of Gosnells and is enrolled at St Francis' School. The scholarship is awarded to a student in either Year 11 or Year 12 and acknowledges the importance of education. The recipient of the Scholarship for St Francis' School for 2021 was Jack Gidgup. Congratulations to Jack.

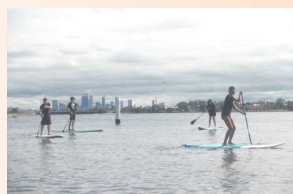


OLNA Round 1

The first round of the OLNAs concluded on Friday 26 March. For many of our Year 10 students this was the first time they were attempting the OLNAs or a similar assessment as OLNAs were optional for Year 9 in 2020. It was very pleasing to note that the students were trying their best and demonstrating belief in their abilities in just having a go. The results will be available early in Term Two with parents and caregivers notified of the results once we receive them.

Stand-Up Paddle (SUP) Boarding

On Friday in Weeks 5, 6 and 7, students participated in SUP Lessons at Deep Water Point. Thanks to Nikki from Perth SUP School (<https://standupsurfschool.com.au/lessons/>) for teaching the students, she was a wonderful instructor. The students had a great time learning new skills and challenging themselves. Thanks also to Simon our Sport Teacher for organising this wonderful opportunity for the students.



Parent/Teacher/Student Meetings – Tuesday 28 April 1:00pm to 7:00pm

A 'good' education is reliant on clear communication between parents/carers, students and school/teachers. St Francis' School is providing the opportunity for parents/carers to meet with your child's teachers. I encourage all parents/carers to make appointments to meet with your child's teachers even if an Interview has not been formally requested on the Term One Progress Report.

Please contact Jodi or Kate at the school to arrange a time (Phone 9262 4421 or email admin@stfs.wa.edu.au). On this day classes will conclude at the end of Lesson 4. Students are expected to attend the meetings as they need every opportunity to take an active part in their education. Feedback on a student's Report and their progress is not effective unless the student is present as well. All students and parents/carers are encouraged to bring a copy of the Term One Progress Report to the meetings.

As Easter falls on the first weekend of the holidays, we will conclude Term One with a short Easter Reflection on Wednesday 31 March, followed by our traditional Easter Egg Hunt which is always a highlight with the students and staff.

I wish all members of the St Francis' School community a very safe, Holy and blessed Easter. We look forward to seeing everyone back for the start of Term Two on Monday 19 April.

God Bless
Ian Hagen



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If your son or daughter is absent, please contact the school on 9262 4421 before 9:30am.

A medical certificate is required for absences of 2 or more consecutive days, or when requested by the school.

If you are picking up your son/daughter during school hours, please notify the school prior to your arrival.

You must come to Reception to sign them out. We will not allow them to leave school grounds without written permission.

Our Address:

10 Alloa Road
Maddington WA 6109

Phone: 08 9262 4421

Fax: 08 9262 4411

Email:

admin@stfs.wa.edu.au

Website:

www.stfs.wa.edu.au



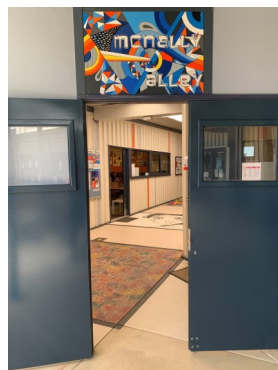
We would like extend a very warm
welcome to:
Mr Matthew Tloczek (Grounds Person)
and
Miss Jessica Humes (Aboriginal Teaching Assistant)
who join our staff in 2021.



And while Mrs Krystal Dean is on maternity leave
enjoying time with her beautiful baby girl,
we are lucky to have...
Mrs Lisa Price
and
Mrs Karen Young
as a part of the STFS Team!



Around the School in Term 1...



IMPORTANT DATES

Easter Liturgy and Scavenger Hunt.....	Mar 31
Last Day for Term One	
Students.....	Mar 31
Staff.....	Apr 1
Good Friday.....	Apr 2
Easter Sunday.....	Apr 4
First day for Term 2	
Staff.....	Apr 19
Students.....	Apr 21
ANZAC Day.....	Apr 25
ANZAC Day Holiday.....	Apr 26
National Sorry Day.....	May 26
National Reconciliation Week.....	May 27-June 3
WA Day Public Holiday.....	June 7
NAIDOC Week.....	June 28-July 2
Last Day of Term 2.....	July 2
(Staff and Students)	
First Day of Term 3.....	July 19
(Staff and Students)	

A "Social" chat with Debbie

New students

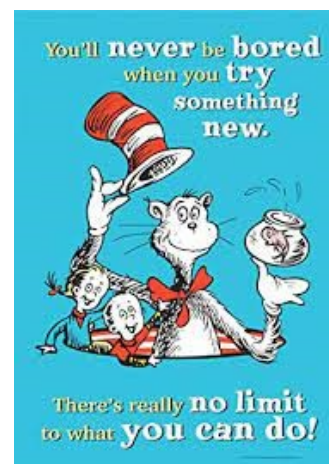
After one term of ups and downs and everything in between, our new students have completed their final enrolment interviews and are firmly entrenched in the St Francis' School community. Connections are being made and lessons are being learned, and after only a few short weeks, the new students have settled in well. It is awesome to have such a variety of young people be part of our St Francis family and we feel privileged to get to know them in their journey into adult life.

Need to chat? Something on your mind?

Our Social Worker Debbie Iacozza is available for discussion of any worries, concerns or issues you may have relating to your child.

Debbie is available from 8.30/9.00am should you wish to make an appointment.

Debbie will continue to contact parents and caregivers throughout the day should there be a need to explore your child's social and/or emotional needs.



Respect Responsibility Belief Belonging

- The principles of St Francis' School -

Our School Prayer

St Francis,

Help me to jump into this day, full of joy and hope.

Help me to see every problem as a learning opportunity.

To myself and others, let me show respect, act responsibly, believe in myself and learn to belong to our school community.

Amen

Punctuality to School and Healthy Eating

At St Francis' School we model and encourage healthy eating choices and good standards of behaviour.

In the last two weeks we have noticed that a number of students have been arriving at school early, meeting at the front gate and then walking down to McDonalds on Albany Highway.

When students arrive at school, they are expected to stay on school grounds and proceed into the Common Room to check-in with staff and get themselves ready for the school day. To be able to do this effectively, students should be at school by at least 8:45am each day.

Students should not be leaving the school grounds to pick up takeaway drink/food from fast food outlets, and then proceed to bring it into the School.

If takeaway drink/food is brought to the School by students, it will be placed in the fridge in the Staffroom and given to the students at the end of the day.

We will ensure that the students are provided with other food options to ensure they do not go hungry.

We ask for your support with this matter.



In The Workshop

by Mr David Willock

There are some great projects currently in the works...watch this space

ABILITY
is what you're capable of doing
MOTIVATION
determines what you do
ATTITUDE
determines how well you do it



Vocational Education & Training

STUDENT PROGRESS

YEAR 10 Certificate II Skills for Work & Vocational Pathways

Well done to the Year 10 students who have all made a great to their Certificate II Skills for work and vocational pathways course.

This term we have worked on the units 'Use Digital Technology for non-routine workplace tasks' and 'Use strategies to respond to routine workplace tasks'

JOBS AND SKILLS CENTRES

Western Australia's TAFE Jobs and Skills Centres are one-stop shops for careers, training and employment advice and assistance. Services are free, and accessible to all members of the community. The centres are located on TAFE campuses throughout Perth and regional WA, with additional outreach locations for regional areas.

Each of the centres is staffed by people who can provide free advice on:

- ◆ Professional and practical training
- ◆ Employment opportunities including careers advice, apprenticeship and training information.
- ◆ Support services for employers and business
- ◆ Specialist services for Aboriginal people, ex-offenders and people from a culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds

The centres also provide an online jobs board, to connect jobseekers with employment opportunities and to help employers attract and recruit employees.

LOCAL JOBS AND SKILLS CENTRE LOCATIONS:

Thornlie Jobs and Skills Centre

13 64 64 (or 08 9267 7600)

thornliejsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au

South Metropolitan TAFE – Building 1,
Burslem Drive Thornlie

Armadale Jobs and Skills Centre

13 64 64 (or 08 9497 0990)

armadale.jsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au

145 Jull Street, Armadale

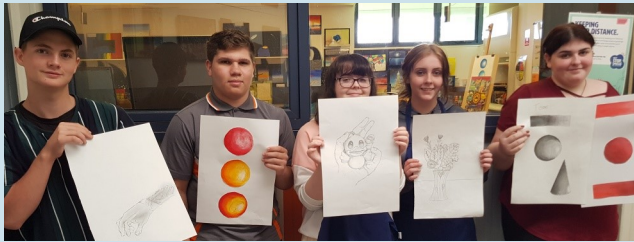


It's an exciting start of the year with the new Year 10 students as they have demonstrated excellent drawing and painting skills.

We have been learning to draw realistically and they have been doing an amazing job.



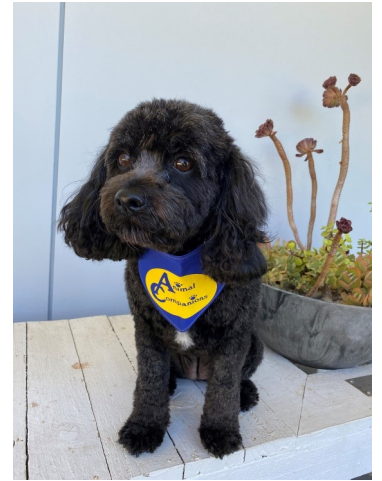
Here we have a few students displaying some of the activities they have completed.



We love having our Therapy Dogs, Ruby and Georgie at school. They are always happy to see us and provide us with cuddles and lots of furry support. Thank you to Kate and Kerryn for bringing them in each week.



Georgie



Ruby

Kids in the kitchen by Mrs Karen Young

Term 1 has been busy in the kitchen.

As always our chickens who provide us with our eggs are always keeping a close eye on what is going on in the kitchen. They love sampling the scraps at the end of each day.



Our Year 10 students have settled in nicely and are slowly finding their way around the kitchen. They have often surprised us with their ability and knowledge. Our focus for Term 1 has primarily been on baking sweet and savoury treats including muffins and quiches. They have also been introduced to our coffee machine and started the first stages of becoming a barista and learning everything there is to know about coffee.



Our Year 11 students have been refining their cutting skills and putting this into practice when making different pastas, stir fries and the occasional dessert. They have also been learning different methods of cooking like wet and dry.

Year 12s have been focusing on the 'Properties of food'. Their course has mainly focused on things like aeration, oxidation, emulsification etc. They have put their knowledge into practice by making a variety of dishes including fruit salad, custard and hot cross buns.



Week 9 will see our students making some Easter treats of their own choice. We hope parents get to sample some of these on the last week of term when students take their treats home.





WHAT'S SUP?



For three consecutive Friday mornings 10 students and 2 staff members have had the opportunity to experience the joys of Stand Up Paddle Boarding (or SUP) on the beautiful Swan River.

Staff and students were excited to meet Nicki from North Freo Stand Up Surf Shop and ready to learn a new skill. The lessons were at Deep Water Point, a great location, with good views of the city, calm water and plenty of wildlife (dolphins, jelly fish and crabs).

Nicki was an awesome teacher whose enthusiasm for life is infectious (as they say "If you find a job you love, you never work a day in your life") and her ability to make the lessons fun, and informative was crucial in the success of the group.



Over the 3 Fridays Nicki went through the basics of stance, paddling strokes, and balance. Every lesson incorporated fun and challenging games to help reinforce the learning. The highlight for many was the activity where two people were on the board and you had to try and rock the board until one of you fell off!

The benefits of paddle boarding for your mental health and total well-being are well documented and it was nice to give the students an opportunity to experience it firsthand and most importantly, get out into the community and connect with passionate adults in a beautiful aquatic environment.

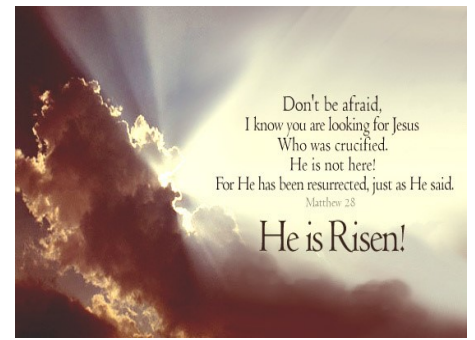
Hopefully this will become a regular event on our excursions list and we look forward to seeing more students engage in the amazing environment and activities that Perth has to offer.



From the STFS Admin Team...

STFS Administration will be closed from 4pm Wednesday 31st March, reopening on Thursday 15th April 2021.

Should you have any queries during this time, please call and leave a message or alternatively, please email admin@stfs.wa.edu.au



School F E E S

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT SCHOOL FEES

Payment of school fees is due by 31st March 2021. If you are unable to pay your fees in full, please contact Jodi at Admin to arrange a payment plan.

2021 Fees that are on an approved payment arrangement must be paid in full by 31st October 2021.

Thank you to those parents who have already paid their 2021 fees or have organised a payment plan. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Students Leaving Early

At STFS, we encourage our students to take responsibility for themselves and their actions.

At times, we have students calling or messaging parents during classes or break times asking to be picked up or to leave the school and go home.

Should students feel the need to go home (for whatever reason), we ask that they speak to their Advocate Teacher who will try and provide support and encourage them to stay at school.

If a student needs to go home or be picked up, parents will be contacted by a member of staff who will advise of the situation and seek approval for the student to be dismissed from school.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school when you receive a call or message from your son/daughter. We are happy to work with them so they can remain at school for as long as possible.

School Holidays

There are some awesome things happening around Perth these school holidays, which means there's no reason to be bored. Get outside and enjoy the fantastic warm weather while it lasts!

It's Playtime in the City! Visit www.visitperth.com for some great ideas and activities in the city including a Scavenger Hunt and Elizabeth Quay Fun Fair.



The City Of Gosnells has heaps of action packed activities from free drop-in sessions at local Youth Centres and jams at local skate parks, to workshops and sessions that will help young people develop skills, confidence and resilience.

Check out their website for more information
www.gosnells.wa.gov.au



In the City of Canning, there are some great activities and workshops for youth of all ages from FOMO Labs to Dungeons and Dragons games to workshops for teens highlighting Interview Skills, and Being Money Smart.

Go to www.canning.wa.gov.au for more details.



There are some great movies currently showing at the Telethon Community Cinemas in Burswood. Their website has all the details including movie session times and ticket information, plus it's a great way to help support Telethon!

<https://communitycinemas.com.au/>



If you're looking for some FREE activities, you can always head to the beach. There are some fantastic spots for snorkelling like Mettams Pool in Trigg, Burns Beach or Point Peron in Rockingham (Shoal water Islands Marine Park).

Go to <https://rac.com.au/travel-touring/info/10-of-perths-best-snorkelling-spots> for details on some of Perth's best snorkelling spots.



There are lots of great walking trails in the hills including Gooseberry Hill, Whistlepipe Gully, Munday Brook and Lesmurdie Falls.

Check out the Trails WA website for lots of information about different walking trails and activities in the Perth Metro area.

www.trailswa.com.au



Whatever you decide to do these school holidays, have fun and be safe!

