Learn the songs for our Opening with your children!

**National Anthem : Advance Australia Fair**

Australians all let us rejoice,  
For we are young and free.  
With golden soil and wealth for toil,  
Our home is girt by sea.  
Our land abounds in nature's gifts,  
Of beauty rich and rare.  
In history's page, let every stage,  
Advance Australia fair.  
In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia fair.  
Beneath our radiant Southern Cross,  
We'll toil with hearts and hands.  
To make this Commonwealth of ours,  
Renowned of all the lands.  
For those who've come across the seas,  
We've boundless plains to share.  
With courage let us all combine,  
To advance Australia fair.  
In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia fair.

**Canticle of the Sun (Marty Haugen)**

The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
And all creation is shouting for joy!  
Come, dance in the forest, come, play in the field,  
And sing, sing to the glory of the Lord!

**Song of Blessing: Song of Blessing**  
*(Michael Mangan)*

May God bless you and keep you.  
May God's goodness shine on you.  
May you see God's face  
And live in God's own peace.  
Amen, Amen, Amen.  
May God bless us and keep us.  
May God’s goodness shine on us.  
May we see God’s face  
And live in God's peace.  
Amen, Amen, Amen.

**School Song: St Francis of Assisi School Song**  
*(by Maria Forde)*

Refrain  
*St Francis of Assisi,*  
*You are our guiding light,*  
*Watch over us with love today,*  
*Teach us what is right,*  
*Growing up as Christians,*  
*We learn to live in peace.*  
*God bless St Francis,*  
*St Francis of Tarneit!*

1. We are a loving people,  
   Welcoming to all.  
   A vibrant school community,  
   Responding to your call.  
   To love all creation,  
   And love all people too.  
   Seeing God in everyone,  
   And everything we do.  
Refrain

2. You taught us to be humble,  
   To love our Mother Earth.  
   Protecting the environment,  
   And valuing its worth.  
   Every flower, every animal,  
   Every girl and every boy.  
   Joining in God's chorus,  
   We shout out for joy...!  
Refrain

3. And when we leave St Francis,  
   School community.  
   May we spread the love of God,  
   That dwells in you and me....  
Refrain
Dear Parents,

Here are some important details about the day of our Official Opening and Blessing.

**Helping with Set Up**
If you have offered to help with setting up for the Blessing, please arrive at 11.30am to help set up our spaces for the blessing.

**Catering**
If you have offered to provide sandwiches, cakes, sweets, fruit or cheese platters please drop them off at the school from **3.00pm to 3.45pm** to the Prep area.

If you are dropping off food after **4.00pm** please enter the school from the **back entrance only**.

Please place your food on disposable plates/platters ready for serving.

**Dismissal**
Pick up of students who are NOT staying for the Opening and Blessing will be from **2.45pm**. Parents can park in the driveway, collect the students from the classroom and then leave in the usual way.

**Parking arrangements**
Parents who are attending the ceremony will need to park **off-site** to allow space for our official guests.

**OSHC**
If you usually use this program on Thursday afternoons, please note that if you are able to be at school by 4.45pm, you won’t need to use OSHC program for this occasion. However, if you will be collecting your child **AFTER** this time, OSHC program is available.

Thank you!