FIRST COMMUNION will be celebrated by Yr 4 children in the parish, including children from St Francis on Saturday. We pray for these children as they take their next step in their faith journey. May they experience deep joy as they gather around the table of the Eucharist with their community and receive the body and blood of Christ for the first time. Congratulations to: Gina, Zoe, Madison, Avin, Kade, Yexalen, Ella, Justine, Ian, Christian, Cid and Charles.

Sacrament of Confirmation
Please note that a Confirmation information letter has been sent home with today’s newsletter. It has all the relevant dates and events about preparation for this sacrament and how parents are to be involved.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION DATE:
Sunday, October 28 at 4.00pm.

OUR FIRST FUNDRAISER:
A Living Fundraiser. Thankyou to the 40 families who have indicated that they are willing to sell the Organic Vegie and Herb growing kits. These are now being ordered & will be sent home to you next week. Some families have also indicated that they are able to make a donation to the school. Envelopes will be sent to all families who are not taking the growing kits. Hopefully together we are able to make this first school fundraiser a successful venture.

PIP Update - Parents in Partnership
Last week we had the first of our PIP meetings for the term. We had a total of 7 parents attend overall. Our Living Fundraiser is up and running. Our next main event is to celebrate St Francis Feast Day. This will be celebrated in Term 4 - on Tuesday October 9, so please put this date in your diary NOW, so that you can come along to support, be involved and celebrate this wonderful day with the community. Ground works are currently on hold, until capital works are complete but another working bee will be organised to maintain our grounds and keep our school looking absolutely terrific!!!

OUR NEXT PIP MEETING IS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH AT 2.30PM OR 7.30PM. PLEASE COME ALONG AND CONTINUE TO MAKE AMAZING THINGS HAPPEN AT ST FRANCIS!!

STAGE 2 of BUILDING:
No fencing yet!! But just a reminder of things to note when builders do come on site:
- Gate in Fairview Pde will be open all day except during playing times. Parents are requested not to drive and park in drop off/pick up zones except between 8.30 to 8.50 am and 3.20 to 3.45 pm.
- The Thomas Carr College Pedestrian access gate will need to be moved at some stage. As soon as that happens it will be relocated to the end of the car park footpath at the Manna Gum Drive end of school.
- Parents of prep students, access to prep area will now be through Yr 3 to 6 home rooms or through the front door of the school.

Your cooperation over the coming months will be appreciated. It is an exciting time for our community to be seeing new learning spaces for students.
JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT is being presented by Thomas Carr College at the Wyndham Culture Centre at 7.30pm on August 23, 24 & 25. Children from St Francis of Assisi are involved in the chorus of this production. Order forms for tickets are available from the school foyer. Prep-6 students will be attending a dress rehearsal of the production on Thursday 23rd. A permission form has been sent home with all children today and should be returned ASAP but by Tuesday at the latest.

WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO: We have booked a photographer to take a whole school photo of students and staff on Wednesday 29th August. It would be wonderful to have all students present for this photo. Please avoid other appointments at this time if at all possible.

PREP VISIT TO ST JAMES CHURCH
Last Friday our Prep students visited St James Church and were able to listen to Fr Jude explain the different parts of the Church and the work he does as a priest. They were also able to ask him lots of questions. Here are some of their comments about this excursion.

Fr Jude taught me how babies get baptised. Alannah O
I saw the tabernacle. Fr Jude has a special key to open the tabernacle. Jackson
Fr Jude has lots of colored vestments. His favourite colour is red. Maya
The altar at St James looks like a big rock. Mitchell.

PARENT SEMINAR SERIES 2012
Helping children and adolescents make and keep friends—this seminar will look at the individual needs of children and adolescents in assisting their friendship development.
Date: Thursday September 6th, 7pm
Location: St Charles Borromeo—Templestowe

Positive Parenting—understanding mental health—this workshop focuses understanding child development stages, building optimistic thinking and using strengths to build self efficiency and self worth.
Date: Thursday September 20th, 7pm
Location: Salesian College Sunbury
Booking is essential—cost $10 per person
More information available in foyer

DATES TO REMEMBER:
Aug 18: First Communions 1pm & 3pm
Aug 23: Whole school attending presentation of musical at Wyndham Cultural Centre
Aug 29: Whole school photo
Sept 5: PIP 2.30 & 7.30
Sept 8,9,15,16: Confirmation community presentation
Oct 9: St Francis Feast Day

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