**FEAST OF THE ASCENSION:**

We celebrate this Feast on Sunday. The Ascension of the Lord is not about an end of the ministry of Jesus on this earth, in the sense of a final act. Nor is it some kind of ‘intermission’. It is about a new beginning. The Apostle Paul wrote to the early Christians in Galatia: “No longer do I live but Christ lives in me and the life I now live I live by faith in the Son of God…” That way of living now in Christ is meant to become our daily reality as well. Christians can live differently because we live now “in” Jesus Christ. We can love differently, because we love “in” Jesus Christ. We can “be” differently. The Feast presents an opportunity to assess the relationship between what we believe and our daily lives.

**FIRST EUCHARIST:** Preparation for First Eucharist has begun. Information to parents about this sacrament is being sent home with today’s newsletter.

**We continue to pray for** Matthew Cutajar and all those who are sick. May they experience God’s healing and peace.

**WALKING SCHOOL BUS**

What a great sight it was last Friday—as 180 students with families and staff walked to school. Thanks parents for the great response! You are encouraged to walk often with your child to or from school. It is wonderful for their health and well being, as well as helping decrease the traffic around the school.

Thanks to our 21 parents who have completed this survey so far—we only need 33 more surveys to be completed! Both parents/carers in the one family can also complete the survey. How hard can this be! Please join them so that we are able to gain valuable data around our Catholic Identity. Please let Lucy know if you would like to complete the survey at school and she will help you get set up and even enjoy a cuppa and some biscuits!! We can complete the survey together! The survey remains anonymous.

It can also be completed online. Just follow the steps below:

1. Go to the website: [www.schoolidentity.net](http://www.schoolidentity.net)
2. To enter the website type in: Ghj654
3. From here click on the box that says: **TO THE SURVEYS**
4. Then click on the box that says: **NEW USER**
5. Enter Group entry code: 13951y
6. You are now logged in. Record your usercode and password as you will need this information to log back in if you do not complete the survey in one sitting.
7. Click on the envelope so that your usercode and password can also be emailed to you.
8. You can now begin the survey.
LEADERSHIP TEAM AWAY: Andrea will take leadership responsibility next week while leaders attend the EduTech conference. There will be NO NEWSLETTER next week.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS: Tuesday 24th: 4.00—8.00pm and Wednesday 25th June: 4.00—7.00pm. You are now invited to make your appointment with your child/ren’s teacher(s) on-line. See the attached sheet with instructions for doing this.

SAFETY: There have been several reports of strangers approaching children on the way to or from school in recent weeks in the Wyndham area. No incidents have been reported at St Francis but it is a timely reminder to all adults to ensure we are teaching our children about protective behaviours. A few tips:

- Always play in a space with other children.
- Go to places with a friend.
- Do not take anything from or go anywhere with an older person we do not know.
- Always tell a trusted adult if you are worried about anything.

PARISH NEWS: This year our Parish celebrates its 25th year anniversary and to celebrate we are having a week of activities around the date of the Feast Day of St James. We start with the Dinner Dance on Sat 19 Jul with events throughout the following week and culminating with the 25th Anniversary Mass on Sun 27 Jul at 2:00pm.

2015 ENROLMENTS: All families are asked to complete a 2015 Enrolment Intention form. This is to inform our planning for next year—both here and at St Clare’s. On this form, families who are currently living in the catchment area of our new parish school are asked to indicate their intention to either transfer to St Clare’s in 2015 or to stay here at St Francis. All families who have enrolled here and were offered a place as St Clare’s students are expected to transfer. There may also be other families who live closer to St Clare’s than St Francis and are considering a transfer. It is time to let us know.

You do not need to make a firm commitment now—this will be done in term 3. However, we do want to evaluate the level of interest from our current families in St Clare’s and to also have an idea of enrolment numbers at each year level here at St Francis. Please return the completed form by Tuesday 10th June.

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS: Students have shared their reflections with us. Enjoy the reading on the next page.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>30th May</td>
<td>Prep excursion</td>
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<td>9th June</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<td>12th June</td>
<td>Eucharist Parent Workshop @ 7.30pm</td>
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<td>17th June</td>
<td>PIP meetings</td>
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<td>21st-22nd June</td>
<td>Eucharist Presentation masses</td>
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<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>26th June</td>
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<td>28th-29th June</td>
<td>Eucharist Presentation masses</td>
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The Year 6 students from St. James and St. Francis celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation in St. James Gym on the 18th May, 2014. Four of the year 6 students also received Eucharist. The sponsors helped to support the children by encouraging them and guiding them on their journey to become closer to God.

The other people in the community who helped us in our special celebration of becoming fully Christian and following in God’s footsteps included Deacon Minh, Father Jude, Bishop Long, our parents and our brothers and sisters. We thanked our sponsors for agreeing to stand by us and for their promise of support.

We were ready to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and we asked God our Father to guide and strengthen us so that we can continue to share the good news of his love.

Edward, Brian and Charles

The Year 6s celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation on 18th May, at the Parish of St. James the Apostle. We had a really nice celebration with Bishop Vincent Long, Fr Jude and Deacon Minh. It was such a powerful experience to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These gifts will now guide and strengthen us to become closer to God. We can follow in the footsteps of our chosen saint so that we can help and support others during their tough times. We believe that the Holy Spirit will guide us on our journey to God’s kingdom, and we will always know that God will be present with us today and forever.

Ella, Avin and Christian

Confirmation was on 18th May and it was held in the gymnasium at St. James. It was an important celebration because we were continuing on our journey of being Catholics. Bishop Vincent Long and Fr Jude confirmed us with chrism oil. Getting confirmed was special because we received the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. There is Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, Wonder & Awe, Reverence, Courage, and Right Judgement.

We also chose someone in our lives who was a big support for us as a sponsor and that would stand by our side while we were getting confirmed and in our futures. We are now a full part of God’s Family! Madison (Mary), Yexalen (Claire) and Vanessa (Rita)