ST FRANCIS FEAST DAY CELEBRATION last week was a great community day for all. Our mass highlighted the important values of simplicity, humility and recognising God’s beauty in all creation. Values that St Francis treasured and ones which we all try to imitate in being a Franciscan school. The PE showcase demonstrated the great skills and learning that has been taking place throughout the year. Our assembly presentation showed what a great community of singers we have across our home groups. Our appreciation goes out to our PIP parents who catered so well for us; and to our staff who ensured the day ran smoothly. A lot of time was spent in planning and preparation so that we could all enjoy a lovely feast day. Thank you to: Andrew Elmsbury for the donation of sausages for our lunch. Lisa Bull for the donation of fruit. Alicia Wright for the donation of Hotel 520 Dining vouchers (these will be raffled at the end of year).

Everyone’s contributions and efforts allow us to continue to be a vibrant community.

Children not returning to St Francis of Assisi school in 2014 (This does not apply to Yr 6 Students): If your child/children will not be returning to St Francis 2014, could you please complete the slip that has been sent home today and return it to the office as soon as possible. This information will help us plan for next year.

PARISH FETE THIS SATURDAY!! Come along—we hope to see you there as we celebrate our parish life.

PARISH RAFFLE TICKETS needed to be returned to school by today. If you still have yours, return tomorrow please. Wristbands for unlimited rides PLUS a sausage, drink and donut can be bought for $27.00 before school in the school foyer tomorrow.

SFA MAINTENANCE DAY & WORKING BEE: A huge THANKYOU to our 10 parents and staff members who attended last Saturday’s working bee. We worked hard to ensure the playground is safe and that the grounds are looking well maintained. Unfortunately not all jobs were attended to because of the small number of adults present. Hopefully, anyone who was unavailable last Saturday (and was not involved in the work of the feast day) will seriously consider being present at our next grounds development/working bee days. If we all leave it to someone else—no one actually does it! We have a beautiful school—together we can develop community.

PIP: We had a good turn up of parents at PIP meetings yesterday. Thank you for your attendance. Some exciting events are coming up and we need you to get involved! The Fundraising group have 2 fundraisers for this term. Orders for the Calendar fundraisers were due yesterday. If you would like to still place an order please make sure you return your order forms and money by TOMORROW. Next week order forms and details about our Walkathon will be sent home. The Walkathon is being held on Friday, 22nd November.

The Social group have planned for catering of lunch on the day of our walkathon.

The Community Arts/Grounds group have organised a WHOLE SCHOOL PLANTING DAY to take place on Thursday, 7th November followed by a family planting opportunity on Friday, 22nd November. It is important to involve the children and families as we begin the development of our Sensory Gardens. There’s lots of great gardening to be done! Please stay tuned for more exciting details about this in next week’s newsletter!
**NAPLAN results:** We have sent home the Yr 3 & 5 NAPLAN reports today. The children completed the assessments in May.

The NAPLAN results are an important tool for the school to use to track whole cohort standards over time. At this stage in our development, we do not yet have the three year data that will best inform us of our impact on student learning. However, during this term we will be using the Yr 3 & 5 data to evaluate our areas of strength and areas that need to be a focus for whole school development.

Overall, children performed at the standard that teachers were expecting and which has already been reported to parents at mid-year.

**STARLAB INCURSION:** On Monday the Year 1s and 2s had a space incursion. We saw this really big black lab that looked like a big jelly. We went inside and learnt about space. We saw a big sun coming at us but it was just an illusion. I learnt that all gas planets have rings around them and the stars make pictures called constellations. I also learnt that the deeper you go in the sun, the hotter it gets. It was terrific and we want to go again.

**LOST PROPERTY:** If your child has lost an item of clothing, please come to the office and have a look in the lost property box as there are many items in it.

**SCHOOL APP:** A reminder about our School Mobile app. This is available for FREE from the app store or Google Play. Please make sure that you allow notifications when prompted.

**PREP NEWS:** TOMORROW the Prep children are invited to DRESS as their favourite season as they explore ideas about weather. On Monday 21st October the Prep children will be going on a CREATION WALK around the local area. The children are asked to wear their sports uniform for this experience.

**SCHOOL FUNDRAISER:** Orders for a calendar featuring your child’s artwork were due on Wednesday.

**PARISH NEWS:** Due to fete, Saturday evening mass will be at 7.00pm this week.

**LANDSCAPING:** Work on the entry gardens to the school began this week. The planting looks great. Irrigation and ground cover work is to be completed. What a difference a week can make!

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**
- Oct 18: 3–6 Cricket clinics & Prep Dress up day.
- Oct 19: Parish Fete 10am-4pm
- Oct 21: Prep Creation walk
- Oct 22: Bishop Vincent Long to visit Yr 6s.
- Oct 23: Yr 1 & 2 Cricket clinics
- Oct 24: Yr 6 Confirmation rehearsal at SJA.
- Oct 25: World Teacher’s Day
  - 3–6 Cricket clinics
  - Starlab incursion Yrs 3-6 & Preps
- Oct 27: Sacrament of Confirmation for Yr 6
- Oct 28: Prep 2014 Orientation
- Oct 30: Yr 1 & 2 Cricket clinics.
  - Yr 5 TCC Experience
- Oct 31: Adult Faith Workshop: Yr 1,2 & Yr 5s.
- Nov 1: Whole school ‘All Saints’ day Mass.
  - 3–6 Cricket clinics
- Nov 4: SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY : Cup Eve
- Nov 5: MELBOURNE CUP HOLIDAY
- Nov 6: School planting day preparation.
- Nov 7: School Planting Day.
- Nov 9: Yr 6 assessments @ TCC
- Nov 13: Prep 2014 Orientation
- Nov 19: PIP
- Nov 22: Walkathon & Family Planting Activity

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*Make me a channel of your peace; Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.*

*By Princess and Chevonna (2 Tarryn)*