SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: We have 15 students from Yr 6 celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they take this important step in their journey of faith.

ALL SAINTS DAY: Friday, 1st November. The parish mass will be celebrated at school at 9.15am with all students attending. Families are welcome to join us. On this day we recall the lives of all the saints and reflect on how we too are called to be saints in our daily lives.

MONTH of REMEMBRANCE: At the mass we will present the school’s Remembrance Book. Any family who has lost a loved one during the year is invited to write their name and date of death in the book. We will remember them in our prayers throughout the month. Staff can help children write in the book or parents are most welcome to come in any time during November to add the names.

MASS of REMEMBRANCE: Thursday 21st November at St James Church. Families who have loved ones who have died this year are asked to bring a photo of their loved one to the mass. All parishioners are welcome to come and support the families of the deceased.

ADULT FAITH WORKSHOP NIGHT

Advent, A time of Hope: Our third faith workshop night for this year is to be held next Thursday, October 31 at 7.30pm at St James Church. All parents are welcome. Parents from Yrs 1, 2 & 5 who have not attended any of our faith workshops this year are asked to attend this session. A letter regarding this workshop will be sent home on Friday.

CLOSURE DAYS: Please note that there is no school for students on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th November. Staff will be preparing end of year reports on Monday while Tuesday is a public holiday.

WORLD TEACHERS DAY: Tomorrow 25th October. We all know the importance of creating a learning environment where students feel safe & connected; and where expectations for learning progress is high. At St Francis every member of staff uses their expertise and collaborates with other professionals to provide the best in learning and teaching. We recognise their wonderful, hard work and thank them for their dedication.

PIP - Fundraising news: On Wednesday 22nd November we will be conducting a school walkathon. Please see the parent letter and sponsorship form that is being sent home with the newsletter today. We will run this event in the morning and the social committee will provide a lunch for the students. More details about this event will be sent home closer to the date for those families who are able to come along to support.

The Community Arts/Grounds group have organised a WHOLE SCHOOL PLANTING DAY. There’s lots of great gardening to be done and we need the support from the community to make it happen! Please take a look at the attached flier for all the details!!

LANDSCAPING Update: The entry gardens are expected to be completed next week. Work on the playground area at the back of the school (near the bike rack and shed) is scheduled to start after Cup Day. This area will have synthetic grass, concrete, garden beds and seating. This project is due to take eight weeks. The sensory gardens are a community project with work beginning with our planting day on 7th November.
PREP 2014 ORIENTATION PROGRAM
begins on Monday 28th October. We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of children and their families to the school community.

UNIFORM REVIEW: The working party is continuing their good work on reviewing the uniform for the parish primary schools. Consultation with the community will happen in November. One key decision to date is that any change will only take effect when families are due to replace current uniform items. There will be a 3-4 year timeline. This is to ensure that there are no financial impositions for families related to changes.

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 FREE from the app store or Google Play. Please make sure that you allow notifications when prompted.

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

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge: We are still waiting for the certificates to arrive for the children who successfully completed the Premiers’ Reading Challenge this year. As soon as they arrive at school we will present them to the students.

FUNDRAISER - MATTEL TICKETS
Tarneit Central Kindergarten is running a fundraiser selling tickets to the Mattel Toy Shop in Derrimut. Shopping Day is Thursday November 21st 10am until 1pm. Tickets are $10 each. Tickets will be on sale in the foyer near the office on Thursday 14th November at 9am or contact Toni on 0417 519 504.

ROAD SAFETY: A reminder that pick up time is very busy around the school. Parents who are illegally parking on the corner of Fairview Pde and Ribbon Gum Dve are creating unsafe conditions for other drivers and pedestrians. Please note the road rule is: No parking within ten metres of an intersection. Children are also crossing the road too close to the driveway into Fairview Pde. We have a supervised children’s crossing. All parents should be modelling the use of this crossing.

DATES TO REMEMBER:
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

PREP NEWS CREATION WALK:
On Monday the Preps enjoyed a walk in our local environment. They were thrilled to see ducks, snails and a variety of birds.

You made fish so I can go fishing. Jayden
You gave us flowers so I can give them to my mum. Coyam
You created the world for people to live in. Natalia
You created animals so I can pat them. Luke
You made the tiny animals to eat our crumbs. Daniel