



SFX

IN THIS EDITION

- Welcome to Term 4
- 40th Anniversary Celebrations, 4 November
- Religious Education at SFX
- World Teachers' Day
- SFX Students Win at ACT Titration Stakes
- Elijah and Support Team win ACT Children and Young People Commissioner's Award
- English Department | Celebrating Our Students
- Year 9 History Excursion to Tasmania
- Upcoming Events and Advertising



WELCOME TO TERM 4

By Angus Tulley, Principal

Dear Students, Staff and Parents,

I must admit that it has taken a couple of weeks to settle back in after a wonderful break. I attended a course in Rome for three weeks, spent a week in Scotland and then apart from attending the Musical and the Year 12 retreat, I spent time at home and with family. People have asked me what the highlight of my time away was. The course in Rome was sensational. The Australian Catholic University has a centre in Trastevere, a short walk to the Vatican. The course was run by Australian lecturers and they were nothing short of brilliant. The program included morning lectures and afternoon visits to many of the iconic Roman sites. We also went to Assisi for a night and visited the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi and the original church, San Damiano's.

Thanks

I'm deeply grateful to Colleen Rowe for taking on the role of principal in my absence. Colleen did a wonderful job during a very busy term. Thanks also to Tracey Loughhead and Teresa Patterson who also 'stepped up' during my absence.

Assembly

We have just had a wonderful College assembly at which we celebrated students receiving awards for Mathematics and Engineering and we also heard of the recent school trips to Italy, Japan and Tasmania. I encouraged the students to think of the staff members who made all these experiences possible. I also commended the students on the way they do their best to include others and to reach out to those who are different or who find social situations awkward. As I walked around the oval at lunchtime yesterday I was impressed by the number of students who went out of their way to include other students in their games.

40th Anniversary

Our 40th Anniversary celebrations are highlighted elsewhere in the newsletter. We hope to see many students and their families here on Saturday 4 November. Numbers are building for the cocktail function being held at the Ainslie Football Club on the same night. Please join us in celebrating 40 good years of Catholic education at St Francis Xavier College.

Best wishes,
Angus M Tulley



Senior students prepare for our first assembly for Term 4



40th Anniversary Celebrations

4 November, 2017

On the 4th of November we will formally celebrate 40 Years of St Francis Xavier College.

SFX Fest is a family friendly festival which will be a rare chance to catch up with old friends and teachers and kick back and enjoy a huge range of entertainment from home-grown bands like Signs and Symbols and Repeat Offenders, art and sports activities like tree weaving and vortex throwing, a jumping castle for the littlies, awesome face painting, pop up food stalls and much, much more.

SFX Fest will be held on Saturday 4 November 11 am - 4 pm and is open to current and former students and their parents, teachers and other staff members and other members of the community with a past or present connection to the school.

<http://bit.ly/sfxfest2017>

For more information phone 02 6258 1055 or email school.office@sfx.act.edu.au You can also follow SFX on social media: StFrancisXavierCollege on Facebook and @SFXFlorey on Instagram and Twitter. #SFXFest #SFXFlorey





Religious Education at SFX

By Anne Armstrong,
Religious Education Curriculum Coordinator

Did you know that the Star Trek Vulcan blessing, “Live Long and Prosper”, is based on a Jewish blessing which is found in the Hebrew Scriptures and in the later Christian New Testament? Here are just a few of these blessings:

Walk in obedience to all that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess. (Deuteronomy 5:33)

"So that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."
(Ephesians 6:3)

“Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers.” (3 John 1:2)



Also, the most often used Cohen priestly blessing comes from Numbers 6:23-27: "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

"The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace."

"So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

The 'V' Live Long and Prosper gesture, according to Leonard Nimoy aka Spock from Star Trek, in a 2012 interview, "is the shape of the letter shin." The Hebrew letter shin is the first letter in several Hebrew words, including Shaddai (a name for God), Shalom (the word for hello, goodbye and peace) and Shekhinah, which he defined as "the feminine aspect of God who supposedly was created to live among humans."

The Shekhinah was also the name of the prayer Nimoy participated in as a boy. This prayer, and the ritual that accompanied it, inspired the V salute. Nimoy recalled "The light from this Deity could be very damaging. So, we are told to protect ourselves by closing our eyes." My father had told me not to look during the prayer but I was so intrigued by the fact that grown men covered their faces, so I peeked...And I saw them with their hands stuck out from beneath the tallit like this," Nimoy practiced making the "V" with his fingers as a child. When it came time for his character to express a Vulcan greeting, Nimoy remembered the Jewish Blessing.

Week 1 of this term, we celebrated Mental Health Week. One of the aims of Mental Health Week is to create opportunities for us to "live long and prosper" despite the many challenges and difficulties life might present. We are called to put our trust and our lives in the God who loves us.

Our Year 10 RE classes recently engaged in exploring what Scripture says of God's love and mercy. This term's focus in Year 10 RE is on hope, redemption and God's love and mercy, particularly in times of pain, confusion, anxiety and suffering.

fearfully & wonderfully made

To understand God's love and mercy for us, we need to consult Scripture. Students were invited to find Scripture verses that spoke to them of God's love and concern for them as individuals. You might like to do the following activity yourself and either keep the cards for your own encouragement or give them to someone for a present.

Students were asked to search through websites and choose 30 images to make into small affirmation cards with Scripture verses that spoke to them. The cards they made were around 3x4cms. They then printed off the pages in colour and then cut out the images to put in a jar or box or bag. (We provided students with craft jars, boxes or bags bought from various cheap craft shops.) Amazingly, many students chose verses that I also find particularly affirming – verses such as:

The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. (Zephaniah 3:17)

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:7-8)

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. (Isaiah 43:2)



The Friday of that week, October 13, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the revelations at Fatima in Portugal, which began on May 13 that year. Our commemoration of that great event saw Father Loi celebrating Eucharist in the School Chapel with many students and staff. The Eucharist is the great nourishment of the Christian community and central to our spiritual health and wellbeing.

Fatima celebrates the visitation of the Queen of Heaven to the three shepherd children of Fatima. To these young children aged 7, 9 and 10 years, Mary confided a secret that would bring about peace in the world. She implored them on several occasions to spread this singular message: "Pray the Rosary." Mary, our mother, like all mothers, is always aware of our spiritual and mental health. Her words to another visionary, St Juan Diego of Guadalupe... "Let not your heart be disturbed... am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection...do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything." Each one of us is invited to have such a relationship with our Mother Mary, and the Rosary is a way in which we can enter this grace-filled encounter with the Mother of Jesus who reaches out to us in love.

RECOMMENDED READING

1. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/arts-and-entertainment/wp/2015/02/27/the-jewish-roots-of-leonard-nimoy-and-live-long-and-prosper/?utm_term=.70f0fd1a6504
2. <http://apologetica.us/2015/02/28/the-biblical-origins-of-live-long-and-prosper/>
3. <http://cathnews.com/cathnews/30427-miracle-mother-outshines-the-sun>
4. <https://www.dbb.org.au/news/fx-articles.cfm?loadref=12&id=843> Our Lady of Fatima, Pope Francis and Lady Gaga
5. <http://www.catholicnews.com/services/englishnews/2013/eucharist-nourishes-sustains-and-should-transform-people-pope-says.cfm> Pope says Eucharist nourishes us
6. <https://ameliakoh-butler.blogspot.com.au/p/prayers.html?m=1> A blog of beautiful prayers

May you all live long and prosper with God's love and mercy!

Anne Armstrong

RE Curriculum Coordinator



World Teachers' Day

Can you think of a time when a teacher's influence was a turning point in your own life?

My favourite teacher was Miss Leeton in Kindy and Year 1. I can't even tell you what made her so special, but I can tell you that I was inspired to do my absolute best for her. What a positive start to schooling life to be so inspired from the beginning. How could you possibly measure the full value of that early influence?

We all have experienced a teacher that stands out. A teacher who was unique and special.

Perhaps a teacher identified your skills in music, encouraged your interest in English, discovered your talent for art or was so passionate about maths that you found their enthusiasm contagious. Often the interactions, guidance and support from a particular teacher can have a profound effect on how you think of yourself and the avenues you pursue in life.

The efforts of your child's teacher are not always immediately evident. Sometimes it is only as an adult that we reflect and appreciate a past teacher's impact on our life.

In support of world teacher day, we urge you to take a moment to thank your child's teacher, for all that they do for their students.

APFACTS would also like to say thank you to our teachers who each and every day, support our children, helping them to learn, to grow and encourage them to be the best version of themselves.

We value you and what you do.

Thank you



SFX Students Win ACT Titration Stakes

By Dr Karen Humphrey

Helena Padilla, Giuseppe Rover and Matthew Humphrey have won the ACT RACI Titration Stakes Finals competition and their results will be compared to teams participating in finals in all states.

Emma Montgomery, Nick Barry and Eoin Garton also participated and were the sixth placed team. The competition was from 5pm-8pm and was organised by the Department of Chemistry at the ANU and involved 7 schools.

The students were also assessed on their individual performance and Helena Padilla, Eoin Garton and Matthew Humphrey received gold medals, while Emma Montgomery, Nick Barry and Giuseppe Rover received silver medals.

They were all great representatives for our school and their commitment to preparing for this event is commendable and was rewarded.

The contribution from Karla and Judy, who prepared the glassware and equipment for the practice sessions, is acknowledged and participation in this competition would not be possible without their support.



Elijah and Support Team win ACT Children and Young People Commissioner's Award

We are proud to announce that the highest ACT Children and Young People Commissioner's Award has been presented to Elijah Arranz and his support team.

Elijah's support team includes a remarkable group of St Francis Xavier College students and Elijah's sister Lola.

They shared in this award in recognition of their courage and compassion in their support of their fellow student Elijah whose life took a dramatic turn following a skydiving accident.

The Canberra Times visited the college to report on this event, so keep your eyes open for the report on our social media channels.

Well done, Elijah, and the wonderful support team!

A photograph of a student with dark hair, wearing a yellow shirt with a blue floral pattern, sitting at a desk and writing on a piece of paper. The background is slightly blurred, showing a computer monitor and some cables.

English Department | Celebrating Our Students

By Megan Wyche,
English Coordinator

St Francis Xavier College assemblies are places where we celebrate the hard work and dedication of the students and staff. The English department often celebrates the work of students within our classrooms. Recently, the work of two students has struck a chord with staff and have come to my attention.

Recently, Anthony Riches (Year 7) entered the Write4Fun competition <https://www.write4fun.net/> and his work made it through to the finals. Well done, Anthony! His piece, Run, is included in this publication.

Batseba Araya (Year 10) wrote a wonderfully poignant creative piece, depicting the true life events of the film, Hidden Figures. This article, written for the Farmville Herald, is also included here.

To all parents, students and families – have a wonderful Term 4.



Anthony Riches' Story

"Run"

(Poetry and Short Story Writing Competition 2017)
By Anthony Riches – St Francis Xavier College, ACT

The evening started like any other evening. Every day after school I'd ride down to my father's lab. But when I got there tonight there was a man on the floor. He was my father. I immediately ran over to check on him. He was dead. For a few seconds I thought I was alone in the room, but suddenly a tall man with dark hair emerged from the shadows. He spoke.

"What you doing there boy?" He was holding a knife with red blood on it. This was the man that killed my father. I quickly got up and started running for my life, literally. I ran into a room and locked the door. The man started banging on the door. I knew it wouldn't take long for him to get in. I was looking across the room when I saw a vent. I managed to crawl into the vent successfully, when the man got into the room. The man couldn't fit in the vent, so I was all in the clear. I managed to locate the exit. I got out of the vent and ran to the door. I opened the door. I took one step out, when the man was right in front of me.

He grabbed me and said "You've taken me on a wild goose chase but now it's over. Nowhere to run." I closed my eyes. ZAP! I opened my eyes. The man was on the floor, and behind where he was, was a police officer with a large belly and grey hair and was holding a taser. "It's all right son. Want to tell me what you've witnessed tonight?" I told the cop everything. I was safe but my troubles were not yet over.



The Farmville Herald

19/08/1961

Edition 1 Volume 2

Negro woman forces her way into all-white school – dragging our courts by the leash

By Robert W. Blake

Tuesday morning in Prince Edward County saw a small, negro woman walk into the county court, and seat herself at the back of the courthouse. This was nothing new. But it was that same woman's triumphant exit that shocked the townspeople, and all those seated within the court.

Mary Winston Jackson, a black female mathematician who has

The judge, whose entire set of morals and good sense seemed to have left him at the push of Jackson's words, granted her request, trying to hide this from public eye by assigning her to night classes. But it was clear to the true Americans present at the hearing, what had really happened. And the faces of the bewildered, disapproving young men at the high school

'We have stood steadfastly against that which threatens to destroy our culture and the futures of our children ... and we will continue to do so.'

lived most of her life in Virginia, last Tuesday argued that 'special circumstances' warranted her entrance into the all-white Hampton Highschool. The audacious woman dared to approach the judge's table, and spoke to him as if she were an equal. And finally, to add that sense of innocence and helplessness to her situation, Mary closed her case playing victim – an art she and her people have mastered. She whispered the words, "I can't change the colour of my skin".

on Jackson's first day of classes show us the utter dismay that should be mirrored on our own.

The question Mary Jackson and the activists of the negro cause must ask themselves is: did we ask them to change the colour of their skin? Did we ask for any form of supernatural transformation or assign them a task too far from their reach? No – we have given them the right to learn, to teach their own children, and to practice



**Judge Learned Hand Dies,
Aged 91**

Judge Billings Learned Hand died yesterday at 3 pm, in his home in New York City. Hand served for 52 years as a federal judge, after studying at Harvard University as a student of philosophy and law. Speaking about the man often referred to as the most influential of all American judges, President Kennedy listed and praised Hand's achievements over the duration of his career. Learned Hand was the judge for the famous Alcoa case, and, as chief judge of the U.S. Supreme Court of Appeals, has undoubtedly made a significant contribution to this nation.



their own professions. The knowledge Jackson shows off, what the Northern Activists call 'a symbol of hope for all negroes', she has attained through attendance at public schools funded by the Virginian government – funds gathered from the taxes of hardworking Virginian citizens. What we *have* asked for is simply separation of the races, a request that has been met with much rioting, protest and violence in the north.

It is this tolerance of rebellion against long-standing institutions of our nation, that has emboldened people like Mary Jackson to go so far as to demand desegregation at university level. The Southern States have so far refused to allow the contemporary, flawed political reasoning that has flooded the Federal Government in recent years. We have stood steadfastly against that which threatens to

destroy our culture and the futures of our children. For two years, we in Prince Edward Country, Virginia have continued the protest strategy of 'Massive Resistance', and we will continue to do so.

We will not change for the childlike desires of a black woman to be an engineer, because we know that we defend the rich culture and traditions of our states. We defend the family history which so defines the lives of every citizen, and the way of life that has been passed down through many generations. We defend the rights of our children, to learn in schools not held back trying to meet the needs of black children. And we defend our daughters from schools that allow them to be taught by negro men.

State Governor Lindsay Almond later publicly criticized the verdict, recognising it as the

"path to the defiling of our highest institutions." And citizens of Virginia should raise their voices with him for, to ironically quote the leader of this misguided movement, "our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter". President Kennedy claims that equal opportunity will raise our nation higher, that "a rising tide lifts all boats." But can the people of Virginia really support something so wrong and abhorrently out of place? No. In the field of public education, it is not "the doctrine of 'separate but equal' [that] has no place", it is the erroneous theory of racial integration. We stand for our culture, we stand for our states, we stand for the prosperity and safety of our children, and so it is with pride that we declare to the federal government, still we stand against the negro, the tides of change have not overcome us.

*Mary Jackson
smugly
presenting her
case to Judge
Webb*





Year 9 History Excursion to Tasmania

By Felicity Hunt and Angela McCabe

History is a compulsory subject in the Australian Curriculum and all students in Year 9 study the unit, The Making of the Modern World, which, along with other topics, examines the experiences of convicts and free settlers.

This year, the Year 9 students had the opportunity to attend a five-day excursion to Tasmania to explore the historical knowledge and understandings that are embedded in the curriculum and to visit World Heritage and historical sites. In Week 1 of this term, 22 students and three teachers spent five days in Tasmania. After departing Canberra at 5am on Monday morning, everyone was excited about the week ahead.

After arriving in Hobart, the group journeyed to the top of Mount Wellington to gain an understanding of the layout of Hobart and the waterways surrounding the city. The group then went to the “Tench” – The Hobart Penitentiary Chapel Historic Site. This was one of Australia’s first multi-purpose buildings – a church with solitary confinement cells built underneath it! Over 50,000 convicts passed through the “Tench” and through our guided tour, students explored the significance of this site in the context of Australian History and identified aspects of the prison system which have changed and those that have stayed the same.

Day 2 saw the group travel to the World Heritage-listed Port Arthur Historic Site. The tour enabled the students to investigate the significance of the Port Arthur Convict Settlement through examining its three main phases as a timber-getting station, a secondary punishment station under the assignment system and under the probation system.

The group participated in a guided tour of the site and took the ferry to Point Puer (an island where young, male convicts aged 7-17 were sent) and the Isle of the Dead (an island where the dead were buried).

On the Wednesday, students spent the day at the World Heritage-listed Woolmer's Estate. The students went back in time on the guided tour that examined the establishment of the estate in 1817, by Thomas Archer I. The property stayed in the Archer family for generations until the death of Thomas Archer VI in 1994 who left the estate to the Tasmanian Government. The Archer family were unique in that they made few changes to the estate over 200 years. The students marvelled at the array of personal collections and possessions accumulated through six generations of the family. Students also had time to explore the buildings on the estate, including the family home, workers' cottages, chapel, blacksmith's shop, stables, bakehouse and shearing sheds.

Day 4 saw the group travel to Richmond to visit Old Hobart Town, Richmond Gaol, Richmond Bridge and St. John's Catholic Church. Old Hobart Town is a model village that depicts Hobart as it was in the 1820s. Richmond was established as an important military staging post and convict station linking Hobart with Port Arthur. It is home to the oldest convict built bridge still in use in Australia and the oldest Catholic Church in Australia.



On the way back from Richmond, we visited the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. We were fortunate to have an Indigenous Tour Guide who guided us through the Indigenous exhibitions.

On our final day in Hobart, the group went to the Cascade Female Factory. This is the most significant historical site in Australia associated with female convicts. It was a purpose built, self-contained institution intended to reform female convicts and is the place to discover the fascinating stories of Australia's convict women. The students were given the opportunity to examine convict records to develop an understanding of the individuals who spent their time at the site.

Overall it was an amazing excursion that deepened the students' knowledge of the convict and free settler experiences. We hope to run it again next year!

Ms. Felicity Hunt and Mrs. Angela McCabe





8

77 St

Xavier College

staff and students proudly present

**Wed 1st
November**

5 - 7

p.m



The

2017

ELECTIVES

Showcase

Also on the night
Year 10 performances...

'Wait Until Dark' 6 - 7pm
'Black Rock' 7.30 - 8.30pm

In the theatre



MOVIES

SKETCH



**Special 40th
anniversary
edition**



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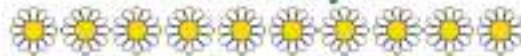
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Water polo is a great way to have fun and
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Beginner Dragons (Under 13's and under 11's MIXED)
Monday Night: 6:30pm to 7:30pm
Wednesday Night: 6:30pm to 7:30pm
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Boys: Monday Night: 6:30pm to 7:45pm
Girls: Wednesday Night: 6:30pm to 7:45pm
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