



Newsletter

● Issue 1

● 8th February 2019

Serenity Prayer

-Reinhold Niebuhr-

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

Amen.

Principal's Message

Welcome to a new school year at Xavier Catholic College! We have had a strong start already with many special events such as the Opening Mass and our first Assembly. It has been great meeting the Year 7s and also many returning and new students. I am very happy to be here and feel blessed to have this opportunity to contribute to improving the outcomes of all Xavier students. I would like to thank Tess Fong for her outstanding contribution to building up this beautiful school. Please pray for Tess and her community on Palm Island with the North Queensland floods. Please also keep in your prayers Chris Simmons, teacher, who is unwell at the moment.

I am from Brisbane, Queensland and have moved here with my husband Justin. I look forward to meeting everyone connected with the school especially the parents, carers and families of our students. Please come and say hello to me when you are at the school! It is important for your child's success at school that you feel welcome here at Xavier and I want you to know that you can contact myself or any other staff member at any time. I am a strong believer that we can talk through problems and work them out together.

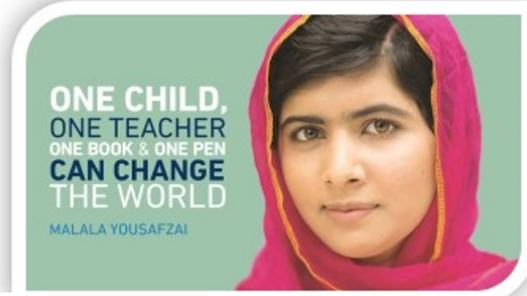
We welcome an enthusiastic group of new staff to Xavier and I hope you get to meet many of them this year:

- ✦ Pamela Brown Religious Education Co-ordinator
- ✦ Yolanda Lombardo Inclusion Support Co-ordinator
- ✦ Leila Flannery Goo Teacher
- ✦ Fiona Ruth Literacy Co-ordinator
- ✦ Gabrielle Lindsay Numeracy Co-ordinator
- ✦ Emily Peacock Teacher
- ✦ Victoria Gottliebse Psychologist
- ✦ Caitlin Rankine Canteen Manager
- ✦ Tom Nehemia Groundsman/Maintenance
- ✦ Brad Palipuminni Aboriginal Teacher (AT)
- ✦ Francine Kerinauia Cleaner



When I spoke to the students this week on Assembly, I talked about how important education is because it gives us the opportunity to be able to shape our lives, to have more control over where we go and what we want to do. Please support your children in coming to school every day, in being ready to learn and in knowing how important it is to be kind and respectful. If our students learn these things while at Xavier, they will be able to change their worlds for the better.

Warmest blessings,
Andree



MESSAGES FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL What a wonderful start we have had to the new school year! It has been amazing to welcome our Year 7 students to high school and all our new staff members who have settled in so well. At Xavier we pride ourselves in having three school rules that guide our student behaviour and reinforce our expectations.

- ✓ Stay Safe
- ✓ Respect Everyone
- ✓ Learn Everyday

Our school focuses on nurturing each student and listening to their needs so they can grow and develop in a safe environment. Having clear expectations and consistent routines assists students in many positive ways:

- Students know and understand what's expected of them, which gives them confidence.
- Students monitor themselves and take more responsibility for their behaviour and their learning.
- Students spend more time on task and academic learning time increases.
- Teachers can more easily recognize and motivate positive behaviours.
- Classroom stress for students and teachers decreases.
- Students gain a sense of safety and security.
- The classroom culture and the school culture become more positive overall.

Family is very important to us and always welcome at the school. We would really like to continue our partnership with every family to ensure every young person on the Island has the opportunity to gain a great education and become a future leader for the Tiwi People.

God Bless,

Deputy Principal: Liz Moodey



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Awana, my name is Pam Brown and I am the new Religious Education Co-ordinator at Xavier College. I will be working with Bertrum Tipungwuti, our Tiwi Religious Education Co-ordinator in the leading of the spiritual dimension of our school through our Religious Education program, including the RE curriculum, prayer, liturgy, sacraments and social justice in action. I am passionate about making the connection between Tiwi Faith, Culture and Spirituality for our students.

This week Xavier College and MCPS had our first Mass for 2019. It was a wonderful celebration with prayers and singing in both Tiwi and English. I have been made to feel very welcome by everyone and I look forward to meeting families at our next gathering.



Religious Education Coordinator: Pam Brown

MESSAGES FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

CURRICULUM COORDINATOR Teaching and Learning at Xavier. There have been exciting new changes to our class groups this year at Xavier—Group 1, 2, 3 and 4 no longer exist. Our juniors are now in three groups, and each group has a Tiwi name that was chosen by Tiwi staff and students at the end of 2018. Our new junior groups are called Yilinga (Carpet Snake), Mayimampi (Magpie Goose) and Jarranga (Buffalo). We're putting the Tiwi in Quality Catholic Tiwi Education. Some of our senior classes have had a rename as well. 'AC' class is now called the 'EP' class. EP stands for Employment Pathways, and reflects the strong job focus that this class has. Keep your eyes open for these students and their businesses throughout the year. With this first newsletter for 2019, we would like to give a special shout out to all our senior students in EP and Stage 1 and 2. They are fantastic role models and are 'Tomorrow's Leaders Today'. We would especially like to acknowledge our Stage 2 class for 2019: Roberta Tipungwuti, Laressa Munkara, Raphael Poantimilui, Damascena Kerinauia and Laike Pateriki. We wish them luck and every success as they begin their final year of schooling and all the challenges that lie in front of them.



Curriculum Coordinator: Justin Brennan

MESSAGES FROM TEACHERS



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION The Michael Long Learning and Leadership Program is an Indigenous Education Program that harnesses the power of football to inspire students to attend school and make good behavioural choices in their communities. Xavier Catholic College will be taking a group of Year 7 students into Darwin in Week 5 of Term 1.

Teacher: Josh Leane

MESSAGES FROM TEACHERS



EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS is a way for students to participate in an approved alternative curriculum for secondary education provision for Aboriginal students from remote communities. We welcome the Year 10, 11 & 12 students as they engage in series of activities to improve their knowledge and skills in projects to established around community need, interest, industry and culture. Students from the EP course will be participating in activities around town and we look forward to your support.

Teacher: Yolanda Lombardo



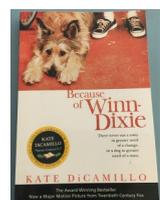
GROW OUR OWN PROGRAM 2019 will see the continuation of the GOO program in both Xavier College and Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School. We currently have Tammy Kerinaia, Rachel Puantulra and Edwina Portaminni approaching the end of their course. They will complete one of their practicum placements (three weeks) in Darwin later this year. This is a very exciting time for them. There may be other students who will rejoin us. It was very exciting to meet with these students and my privilege to be able to help them achieve their goal of becoming a primary teacher. This program is supported by Charles Darwin University (Therese Kersten and Amanda Sandery) and Northern Territory Catholic Education. It is a great initiative.

Teacher: Leila-Jean Flannery



LITERACY This has been a fabulous start to the English year at Xavier Catholic College! Our Yilinga, Mayimampi, Jarranga and Stage 1 classes have been working hard and have had some great success. Featured this week is work from the Mayimampi and Jarranga groups. Mayimampi did a fabulous job on our 'getting to know you' iPhone activity, while Jarranga have been getting into our class text *Because of Winn-Dixie*. This novel, made motion-picture, is about a stray dog adopted by a young girl and brings magic to her and her family's life. Students have used quotes from the novel to show persuasive techniques. We look forward to their continued hard work.

Teacher: Emily Peacock



PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



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