



Xavier Catholic College Newsletter

14 February 2020
Issue 15

Strong in Faith • Strong in Culture • Strong in Learning

Xavier Catholic College is committed to the safety, wellbeing and empowerment of all children, young people and vulnerable adults. Drawing on Tiwi traditions and the teachings of Jesus Christ and Bishop Gsell, we recognise and uphold the sacredness of our young people and the need to protect all children from abuse and exploitation.

Prayer for Community

Ngirringani nginji-mirani amintiya
anginuwula yiminga amanuwujirrarimamigi

Ngawa-rringani nguwentawani ngawa
ningani, papuranjuwi Ngintimatamuwu,
amintiya ngini kutakamini pupuni
ngarikirimamiya api

Awarra ngawa kukunari nyimpirimi

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In the name of the Father, and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit

Our Father, Help us today. Make us good
today. Bring out our goodness and keep us
happy

Father, Your Son, and the Holy Spirit

Upcoming Events:

Week 5

Shrove Tuesday

Ash Wednesday

Michael Long Learning & Leadership Camp (Year 7
& 8 boys)

Week 7

Tiwi Grand Final (Sunday)

Week 8

Stage 2 Study Camp (pick up Sunday 15th)

- Mondays: Study Club/Book Club
- Tuesday: Assembly/Activities
- Wednesdays: Pastoral Care
- Thursdays: Cultural Program





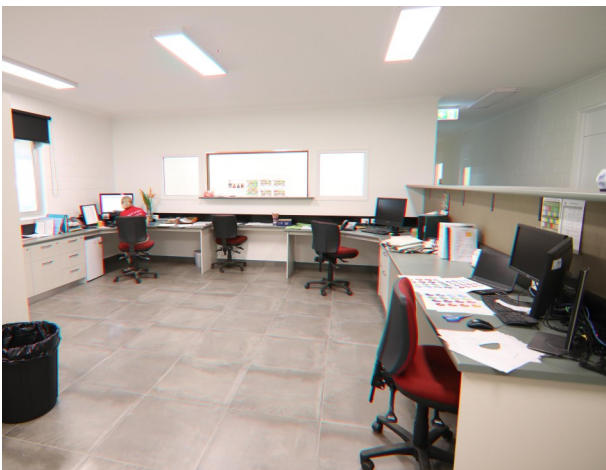
Principal

Awana mamanta!

Welcome to what is already a fantastic 2020 at Xavier. Many of you have seen our new office area and our students are enjoying the Senior Common Room, the freshly carpeted and painted Stage 1 and 2 classroom and the library floor with its chessboard! A big thanks to Trent Fien from Top Notch constructions for working all holidays to get this high quality job done!

There is a great positive vibe at Xavier and we are ready for a year of huge learning and growth for our students. This year we welcome Matthew Cullen, a teacher from Melbourne, Wesley Gottliebsen, Canteen Manager from MCPS and Chris Simmonds who returns to us from study leave in the Philippines.

The Year 7s have settled into high school very well and are showing great respect and good manners every day! We have a very large Employment Pathways' class and it is fantastic seeing so many young men return to school this year. The culture program is in full swing already and we need to thank the Museum staff for working with us to deliver the program on Thursday afternoons.



I would like to leave you with this beautiful image of Serenity, a painting that symbolises Xavier's theme for the year. It was done by the very talented Fiona Kerinauia. Please take the time to read Fiona's reflection and the Serenity Prayer. May God bless our school community this year and everyone who is connected to us.

Andree Rice
Principal



When Andree approached me to do a drawing for Xavier for 2020, she asked me to create something that would help both the students and staff to feel good about themselves, the dove so often used as a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

We know that the Spirit of God fills us with peace and serenity. I used new leaves around the dove. If you look closely, the leaves have criss-cross lines. For us Tiwi people these lines tell us that very often we have upsets, stress, problems, fights. I placed dots around the leaves. Dots represent us Tiwi people.

We often enter into the cross hatching of upsets. The Holy Spirit becomes part of our drawing as he stays with us, helping us to look deeply into the cross hatching lines, and as Xavier Staff and students we can, with the help of this Spirit draw strength from each other as we pray for serenity (peace) to rid ourselves, our school of upsets, bullying, gossip and fights.

God grant me the **Serenity** to accept the things I cannot change

Courage to change the things I can

And the **Wisdom** to know the difference.

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Artist: Fiona Kerinaia





Deputy Principal

What an amazing start to the year! It was great to see so many students, families and members of community organisations participate in the Return to School March last Monday morning. We all devoured delicious bacon and egg sandwiches cooked by Xavier staff and then welcomed all our new staff and students during assembly.

During our assembly we focused on continuing our approach of using positive language and a no-deficient model. This is incorporated across our school rules so that we move away from using language like 'Don't do...'. Below are some examples we worked through with our students during the assembly.

STAY SAFE

RESPECT EVERYONE

LEARN EVERYDAY

STAY SAFE

The colour red for this rule is to alert all staff and students to the need that we must all feel safe at school. Some ways of keeping safe are:

- We try not to feed any dogs during break times
- I can help me and teachers can help me:
 - take a deep breath;
 - go for a walk;
 - use our words or signs.

RESPECT EVERYONE

The colour blue for this rule is to be calming. When we show respect towards each other we can build a strong school community that looks out for each other and looks after each other. Some ways of respecting everyone are:

- having good manners (greetings, asking nicely, waiting patiently);
- using our nice words;
- sharing our sports equipment and looking out for others.

LEARN EVERYDAY

The colour green for this rule means 'GO FOR IT!' Just like a green traffic light. When we feel safe and respect each other, we can then learn everyday and have the chance to achieve our dreams.

I'm looking forward to a great 2020 with our college continuing to work closely with our community and providing all our young people with the best opportunities to learn and grow into Strong Tiwi Women and Strong Tiwi Men.

God Bless,

Liz Moodey
Deputy Principal

Curriculum

Regular school attendance gives students the best chance of improving their learning, and it has been great to see all our senior students at school and hard at work this week.

At the start of this term, Senior students were challenged to think about why they come to school. A good education opens many doors to opportunities, jobs and further training. By coming to school and learning everyday, our students are setting themselves up for bright futures, so they were encouraged to dream big!



To help our students see those big dreams a little more clearly, we were lucky to have a visit from the Indigenous Youth Mobility Pathways (IYMP) team to tell us how they help students access further education so they can get their dream jobs.

IYMP are an organisation that help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to move into town to access further education, training and apprenticeships. IYMP help students with accommodation, enrolling in courses and everything else students need to be successful. Xavier Catholic College is very lucky to have a strong partnership with IYMP, and we can't wait to see what doors our students open in the future!

Justin Brennan
Curriculum Coordinator



Physical Education

Welcome Back for 2020! What an exciting year it is going to be and Term 1 is going to be action packed. First off, I would like to welcome all the new Year 7 students to Xavier and hope they really enjoy their time here.

In Term 1, our students are going to have the chance to participate in group/team challenges, learn cricket, baseball and participate in the swimming program. We had our first lessons for the year last week and the students were really engaged and happy to be back.

We also welcome the newest member of the PE team, Matthew Cullen, who will be working with the Yilinga/Mayimampi class this year. If you see him out in the community, say hello!



Lastly, don't forget we have the Michael Long Learning and Leadership Camp in Week 5 this term which will be aimed at our Year 7 and 8 boys who demonstrate good behaviour, strong attendance and an all-round desire to learn. This is a week-long camp in Darwin filled with lots of fun activities as well as opportunities to grow.

Here's to a great year in the PE classroom! Remember to come to learn, and to leave with a smile!

Josh Leane
HPE Coordinator



Welcome to New Staff

Matt Cullen

Owana! I have been teaching in Melbourne for the last 14 years. I love playing basketball and I support the Essendon Football Club and Tiwi Bombers. I am already enjoying my time in Wurrimyanga. I have been to Tarntipi and am looking forward to swimming in the waterholes in the dry season. I am thankful for the warm welcome from the local community and the support from my fellow teachers and workmates at Xavier. I am excited about the year ahead and being part of the learning journey of these wonderful children.

Thanks for having me! Matt



