



# Xavier Catholic College Newsletter

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.*



## Coming up:

### Week 3

Saint Mary Mackillop Feast Day (Saturday)  
International Day of the World's  
Indigenous People (Sunday)

### Week 5

Construction Week (Monday—Friday)

### Week 7

Peter Morris (Paediatrician) on island  
(Monday—Wednesday)  
Indigenous Literacy Day (Tuesday)

## Weekly

- Mondays: Senior Study Club  
Junior Book Club
- Tuesdays: Assembly/Activities
- Wednesdays: Pastoral Care
- Thursdays: Cultural Program

## Prayer for Saint Mary Mackillop Feast Day

Ever generous God,  
you inspired Saint Mary Mackillop  
to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
and constant in bringing hope and encouragement  
to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.

With confidence in your generous providence  
and joining with Saint Mary Mackillop  
we ask that you grant our request for wisdom and  
courage.

We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by  
the Holy Spirit

so that we too, like Mary  
Mackillop, may live with cour-  
age, trust and openness.

Ever generous God hear our  
prayer.

We ask this through Jesus  
Christ.

Amen





## Principal

The biggest highlight of these three weeks has been our **Bush Camp**, held at Tarntipi Beach last week. What amazed me most about the days was our students' behaviour. Every student went to sleep straight away at night, was respectful to staff and very positive and polite. I have been on a lot of school camps in my teaching life and I cannot remember ever being on camp when students did not stay up talking all night!

Our young women and men loved being on country, and being able to relax with each other and build trust with each other and with staff. The cultural parts of the camp were a big stand-out, cutting bark from paperbark trees to decorate, making and decorating spears and participating in dance and song. A big thanks to **Marlene, Jericka, Edmena, Agnes, Fredricka, Katrina, Anthea, Angelo, Bertram and Jonathon** for your cultural expertise and sharing. We will not forget the night around the camp fire that you led for us. A special thanks must go to **Josh Leane**, HPE and Wellbeing Coordinator, for his overall expert leadership of the camp, assisted by Justin Brennan and Angelo Orsto. We are already looking forward to next year!

Xavier welcomes four new Tiwi teachers this term and they bring many skills to our staff and students. Please say hello to **Marlene Munkara, Trish Tipiloura, Jonathon Munkara** and **Rodney Tiparui** if you see them at school! **Casimira Tipiloura** will be returning to Xavier next term after some family leave.

If you are visiting us, please take a minute to check out our newly framed student artwork that is in reception. We hope you enjoy these pieces!

**Andree Rice**  
Principal



Culture is coded wisdom.

Wangari Maathai



## Deputy Principal

As we move into the second half of our year some of us are carrying sadness in our hearts from pain caused by others in the past. Take some time to read the following story and reflect on its relevance for your life.

### The Weight of the Glass

Once upon a time a psychology professor walked around on a stage while teaching stress management principles to an auditorium filled with students. As she raised a glass of water, everyone expected they'd be asked the typical "glass half empty or glass half full" question. Instead, with a smile on her face, the professor asked, "How heavy is this glass of water I'm holding?"

Students shouted out answers ranging from 200g to 2kg.

She replied, "From my perspective, the absolute weight of this glass doesn't matter. It all depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute or two, it's fairly light. If I hold it for an hour straight, its weight might make my arm ache a little. If I hold it for a day straight, my arm will likely cramp up and feel completely numb and paralysed, forcing me to drop the glass to the floor. In each case, the weight of the glass doesn't change, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it feels to me."

As the class shook their heads in agreement, she continued, "Your stresses and worries in life are very much like this glass of water. Think about them for a while and nothing happens. Think about them a bit longer and you begin to ache a little. Think about them all day long, and you will feel completely numb and paralysed – incapable of doing anything else until you drop them."

The moral: It's important to remember to let go of your stresses and worries. No matter what happens during the day, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the night and into the next day with you. If you still feel the weight of yesterday's stress, it's a strong sign that it's time to put the glass down.

God Bless,

**Liz Moodey**  
Deputy Principal



## Weekly Mass Times

with Father Pat &  
Father Danh

Tuesday at 5.00pm	Jubilee Park
Wednesday at 5.00pm	Park opposite Nguuiu Club
Thursday at 5.00pm	New Church
Saturday at 9.00am	Aged Care

## Justin's Riddle of the Week

The more you take, the more you leave behind  
What am I?



## Curriculum

At school Winners never quit. Quitters never win.

The weather is great, classes are in full swing and the opportunities for Xavier students keep coming. Term 3 is definitely a busy time of the year, and all students have been challenged over the past few weeks to make the most of everything that presents itself to them. You can't win the game if you don't even get on the oval, so everyone has to say yes!

There are more and more learning opportunities for students coming this term. Over the next few weeks, senior students will be completing CPR and First Aid training in their classes. These skills are not only great for adding to resumes, they could help students to save a life.

Bruce will be visiting in Week 5 to deliver more construction training to our senior students. Students from EP and Stage 1 will be invited to get involved. Once again, these skills look fantastic on a resume and can lead to exciting job opportunities.

As the term progresses, more and more opportunities will be coming for Xavier students - so make sure you are at school, and make sure you say yes!



**Justin Brennan**  
Curriculum Coordinator

## Religious Education

This week, as we approach the Feast Day of Saint Mary Mackillop, students will look at the life of our first saint and think about how their own faith journey can be enhanced by her example.

Mary Mackillop decided to leave her home and dreams to go into the margins to teach poor children. She dedicated her life to God and to the poorest in Australian society.



Students will reflect on the strong women in their lives and Tiwi teachers who have worked hard to educate them, including Sister Anne Gardiner OLSH, who has devoted her life to God and the Tiwi community.

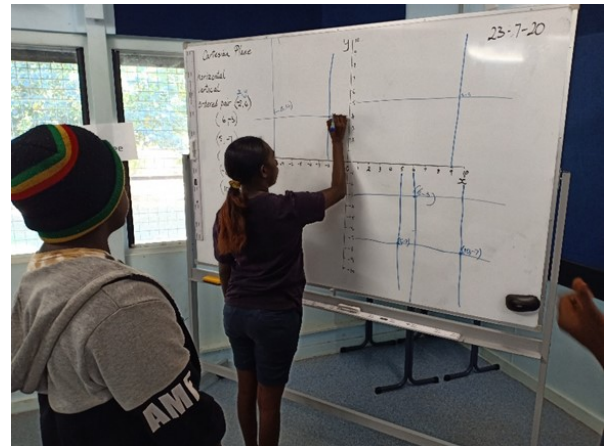
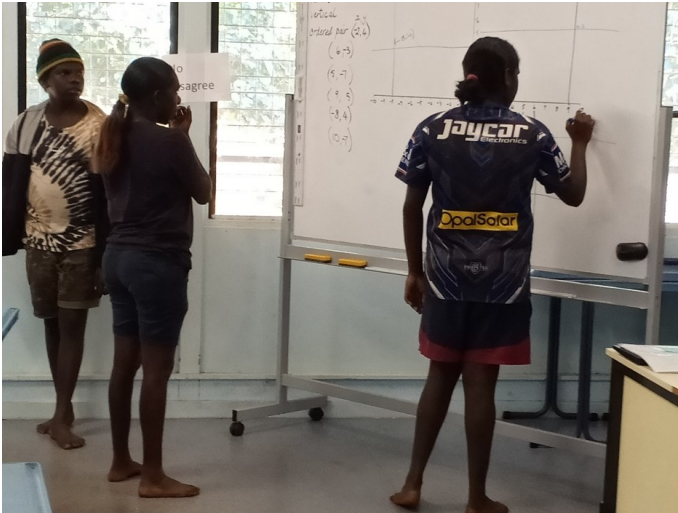
**Pam Brown**  
GOO Coordinator



# Numeracy

Jarranga stated Term Three learning about the Cartesian Plane. It was wonderful when they quickly picked up how the coordinates of each point are represented. They each had their chance to show how much they understood by plotting points on the whiteboard and labelling them correctly.

Chris Simmonds  
Teacher



# English

This week the Junior classes and EP have been writing recounts about the Bush Camp.

They have used the notes from their camp diaries for ideas.

There has been a focus on using paragraphs in writing this term and students have put their new found skill into action.

Tatiana Rhodes  
Literacy Coordinator



## Bush Camp – writing task

Your task is to **write a letter** to a friend or family member **describing** your Bush Camp experience.

Your letter will be **5 paragraphs**, beginning with an **introduction** and finishing with a **conclusion**.

You may choose to write about what you did on the different days of the camp OR you may choose to write about three different activities. Be consistent in your approach.



### Structure:

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

**Introduction:** Tell the reader where the camp was, when it was and who went.

**Paragraph one:** Describe the events of Wednesday OR an activity

**Paragraph two:** Describe the events of Thursday OR another activity

**Paragraph three:** Describe the events of Friday OR a final activity

**Conclusion:** Explain to the reader how you felt about the camp overall

Sign off (Your name)



## Bush Camp

The idea to hold a Xavier Bush Camp at Tarntipi has been in the works for a long time and finally last week, both staff and students were able to see this idea come to life.

On Wednesday morning, the school headed down to a campsite by the Tarntipi waterhole. After a brief introduction to the rules of the camp, students were placed into groups for some fun activities to work on improving teamwork and communication. By the looks on the faces of all the students, fun was had by all.



In the afternoon, students were able to experience lessons in culture by heading out onto country to collect wood for spear making and bark painting. In the evening, students were introduced to a game of 'Spy' which was played well into the night. As students went to bed, it was very cold but everyone was able to brave it through to the next morning.

On Thursday, students were again able to participate in culture lessons that included painting the spears and bark that were made the day earlier. In the afternoon students were placed into groups to complete a Scavenger Hunt. With lots of laughter and running around, this was a very popular time of the camp.

After the Scavenger Hunt, students spent time in the waterhole and had some free time to write in their English journals, which helped capture their time at camp and record their memories.

The Thursday night was an amazing experience where students and staff participated in traditional Tiwi singing and dancing around the campfire. Many people who participated in the camp mentioned that this was their highlight.

On Friday morning, students took the lead in packing up their tents, sleeping bags and mats before helping tidy up the rest of the campsite. Students then spent some more time participating in trust activities before boarding the school buses to back to school. However, before they arrived home, all students helped wash vehicles, wipe down mats, air out sleeping bags, clean tents and other small jobs.



Xavier Bush Camp was a wonderful experience shared by the whole school community which helped build the relationships not only with students and teachers, but also between each other. A special thanks goes to everyone who helped organise camp and helped play a small role during the camp to bring such a large event together.

**Josh Leane**  
HPE Coordinator







# Scavenger Hunt

One of the activities that the students completed on Bush Camp was a Scavenger Hunt.

Students were divided into teams and collected material tags and took photos of different items on the Scavenger Hunt list. They had to take a team photo, make a team logo, make an animal using bush material, take a photo of the beach, find the biggest termite mound, look for animal tracks and find branches that look like letters.



**Dream Team**

Flag Hunters' Logo Design



**Dream Team**  
Largest Termite Mound



The photos were judged by Andree, Belinda and Cynthia. The winning team was called **Dream Team** and they were captained by Chloe.

Congratulations Chloe, Tenisha, Stanilisha, Jeremena and Leila.

Here are some of the photos that the students took:

**Cynthia Pereira**  
Teacher



Stars

Tiwi Boys



Dream Team: Branches that look like letters



Flag Hunters

# Scavenger Hunt Continued...

Tiwi Boys



**Island Boys**

Animal made from bush material



Island Boys



**Stars**

Animal made from bush material



# Welcome

to our new Assistant Teachers:



Rodney Tiparui

Hi, my name is Rodney Tiparui. I started at Xavier this term as an Assistant Teacher. I really want to make a big impact on Xavier students, pass on my own knowledge and help to teach them what is right and wrong.

I have a young family: twin boys who are 7 years old, and my eldest daughter who is 9. When I am not spending time with family, I love training and playing footy for Walama Bulldogs in the mid-field.

I am really enjoying working at Xavier; the kids are funny and make me happy, and I am yet to find a subject I don't enjoy!

Trish Tipiloura

My name is Trish Tipiloura. I have chosen to be an Assistant Teacher because I like being busy every day.

So far, I have really enjoyed working with the students in class – English and PE were my favourite subjects at school!

In my free time, I like spending time with family at home and watching TV, especially when the Bombers are playing!

My message to students is come to school every day to learn!



In the next issue:

**SPORTS DAY**

Photos, official results,  
championship trophies  
and more!



And meet our new Assistant Teachers:  
Marlene Munkara and Jonathon Munkara!