



XAVIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Newsletter
Issue 1, 2024



Coming up

- Week 5 Clean Up Australia Day - Friday
- Week 6 International Women's Day - Friday
- Week 9 Holy Thursday & Passion Play
Good Friday
Easter Sunday
- Week 10 Easter Monday
Precinct Easter Mass - Wednesday

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Rhett



Welcome back to school!!

It has been a very successful start to the year and I thank our students, staff, parents and community for all the positivity and support. There was a buzz around both MCPS and Xavier on the 'Walk to School' morning, as the biggest number of students for many years joined together. There is a lot to look forward to this year.

It was really wonderful to join with MCPS and many members of our community for our Opening School Mass. Fr Niran celebrated a brilliant Mass that finished with very loud and energetic singing of our favourite song. The Mass demonstrated our strong Tiwi Catholic culture. Thank you to Sr Monique for all the organising and preparation.

There have been a few changes to our organisation and structure this year. The main change is that Year 8 and 9 boys and girls are in separate classes. For Numeracy and Literacy (Maths and English) we have a Year 8 Boys class and Year 9 Boys class, and a Year 8 Girls class and Year 9 Girls class. (The Year 8 and 9 boys join together for HPE, RE, Art and Science.) This change is already proving to be successful.

Also, we have introduced some new subjects for the senior school. This year we have Food and Hospitality!

Our school is a welcoming and supportive environment. I encourage all parents, carers and families to come and see me or any of our staff if you wish to discuss the schooling of your students. Our success as a school relies on the open and honest communication between school and home.



We are very lucky to have such awesome staff and you will meet them later in the newsletter. Importantly, for leadership we have again this year, Josh and Angelo as our Deputy Principals and Sr Monique is our Assistant Principal (Religious Education). We welcome Aaron as our Curriculum Coordinator to the Leadership Team.

Thanks again to everyone for the great start to the year and I look forward to it being a really successful 2024.

Rhett Bowden
Principal

DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

Josh & Angelo



Welcome to the start of 2024 and we hope that everyone had a safe Christmas and New Year!

On Monday, 5th February we had our joint precinct Back to School Walk. It was very promising to see all the students coming back through the school gates, ready to start learning for another year. On the first day back, we had a record 91 students attending which shows how much our young Tiwi students value their education. There are always many smiling faces and lots of laughter around the school which lets us know that our students are feeling happy and safe.

Our three school rules say it all - Stay Safe, Learn Everyday and Respect Everyone. It is important that we are always following these rules whenever we enter the school to be the best version of ourselves that is possible. We are so proud of how students have been coming to school with a positive attitude and ready to learn.

We would like to take this time to welcome new members to our school team, both local and non-local. I hope that Aaron, Jess, Matt, Jill, Don, Ally, Tracey, Sarha, Thecla and Miriam enjoy their time working at Xavier and remember everyday just how lucky they are to experience the joy of Tiwi Catholic Education.

2024 promises to be a very busy and exciting year. We look forward to all the challenges that it may bring.

Josh Leane & Angelo Orsto
Deputy Principal





IDENTITY & MISSION

Sr Monique

Welcome to 2024! Pope Francis has called this year a 'year of prayer from the heart'. This tone was set right from the beginning at the Catholic Education Northern Territory (CENT) Orientation Week, which opened with a beautiful Mass at the Cathedral in Darwin. The Catholic Aboriginal Leadership Teams (CALT) welcomed all in a prayerful and

culturally rich Mass, including yoyi, songs and prayers in Tiwi. Congratulations to all of CALT for the success of the Orientation days.

Staff of both schools were blessed with the opportunity to listen to the stories, wisdom and advice of Sr. Anne Gardiner in the On Island Orientation. Sr. Anne shared her message of hope for the future with links to the past, placing our today in the perspective of history and the strong people of faith who have gone before us. We are thankful for the time shared with us to deepen our understanding of the gift of the Spirit, or 'charism' of our schools. MSC priests were first to arrive and OLSH sisters soon joined them, and we honour their story by carrying this gift of the Spirit with us into the future.

Another blessing came the week after that, with the presentation of Sr. Melissa Dwyer to the staff. Sr. Melissa is currently the leader for the Canossians in Australia and also sits on the General Council. She gave a recipe for making a difference, coloured through personal stories of life in Malawi, Africa, which deeply touched the hearts of many listening.

On the 9th February, there was an Opening School Mass with MCPS as One Precinct, celebrated by Fr. Niran Veigas. New staff were presented with Pamijini (Tiwi arm bands) and/or Japalingini (Tiwi headbands). It was a lovely time of welcoming the new year and new people. Then, on Wednesday the 14th February, the liturgical season of Lent began with Ash Wednesday. Students participated very respectfully during the liturgy in the library, which was wonderful to see. May the ashes remind us to listen with the heart to Jesus, pray from the heart to Jesus, and prepare ourselves for the joy of Easter. Blessed Lent to you!

Sr Monique
Assistant Principal Identity & Mission

*Written collaboratively by and for Yr 12 RE,
slightly adapted here for all of us to pray.*

Dear God,
We pray that you will guide us throughout this year together.
Thank you for the world, and the Community here in Wurrumiyanga.
Bless all the students with courage to come to school.
Bless our families and others who need our prayers.
Amen.

Y7 LITERACY & NUMERACY

Shakira

A very warm welcome to Xavier Catholic College for all Year 7 students in 2024! We encourage all students to attend school everyday and continue their learning journey together.

During English classes, students have been engaging in reading, writing, speaking and listening tasks while learning to work as a team.

In Mathematics, students have focused their learning on number, place value and addition strategies. Keep up your great start to high school, Year 7 mob!



Y8 GIRLS SCIENCE

Henri



This term in Science, the Year 8 girls have been learning about feral animals and the damage they do to native plants and animals on the Tiwi Islands. We've learnt about how feral buffalo damage wetlands by mixing saltwater with freshwater, which stops magpie geese, ducks and turtles from making their nests. We've also learnt how feral cats hunt lots of native kipwapi (bandicoot) and pwampunga (phascogale). Check out our feral animal posters!





Y9 GIRLS HPE

Jess T

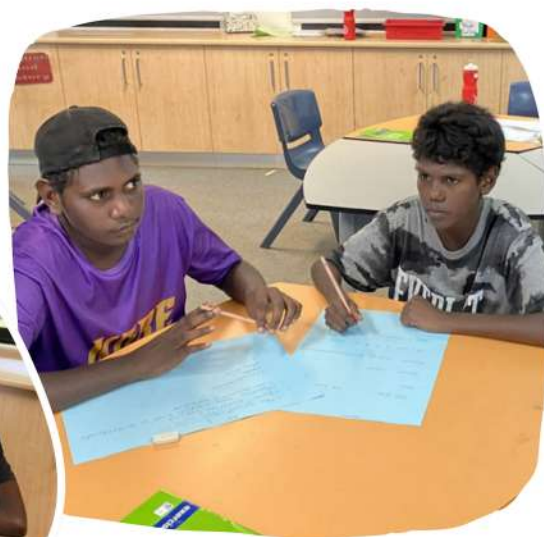
In PE this term the Year 9 girls have been learning about the invasion game, Ultimate Frisbee. The students have been focusing on aim and the skills required to throw a frisbee accurately. Additionally, in Health, the students have been analysing many different Red Dust, IHHP and IOP videos, identifying the issues that occur in the community which are sung in the songs. Leading into

the importance of respect, relationships and community. The students have started the year with a very positive attitude and eagerness to learn new things.

Y8 & 9 BOYS RE & ART

Rhett

We have been learning about Spirituality by looking at the different SPIRITS there are in different cultures. We are starting to focus on the topic IDENTITY - WHO AM I?



Y10 MATHS

Josh

In Stage 1 Essential Maths, students have recapped their knowledge on the topics of Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division. They have applied their understanding to a number of equations to find the correct answer. Students have also been introduced to 'BODMAS' which is the order of operation for completing equations. The students have started the year with a very positive attitude and eagerness to learn new things.



VET SPORT & RECREATION

Matt

This term, our VET Sports & Recreation class traded textbooks for barbells! Through fitness tests and personalised goals, they've been sweating it out in the gym, learning new exercises and smashing their targets.

Push-ups, sprints, vertical jumps – you name it, they have tested it. Armed with results, they crafted individual fitness plans to build strength, speed or flexibility. The gym buzzes with focused workouts, collaborative challenges, and healthy competition.

CULTURE

Shakira

What a wonderful start to the Culture program this year! Tiwi Teachers led the students in some very enthusiastic singing and dancing for our first session together. The library was filled with plenty of smiles, energy and laughter. The following weeks gave students an opportunity to engage with some Tiwi stories of old including dedicating time to remembering the anniversary of the 'Bombing of Darwin'. Students visited the Patakiyali Museum as well as the statue of Matthias Ulungura where they performed the iconic Bombing of Darwin dance.



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MEET THE XAVIER TEAM

Ephrianna



Therese



Bertram



Bill & Jordan



Angela



Banita



Josh



Ampirayyi



Gertrude



Matt



Jess T



Theona



Ephrem



Tammy



Raelene



Gypsy



Dulcie



Jill



Katrina



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HOUSE SPIRIT

Jess T

We congratulate the following students who have been elected to be the 2024 House Captains. These students were selected based on their leadership qualities, sportsmanship and role modelling.

JAPARRIKA



Cameron Kantilla
Jake Winston

ARLIPURA



Thomas Tipiloura
Francis Tipungwuti

MURTATI



Maria Tipuamantumirri
Jelena Tipungwuti

JURUMA



Mickayla Martin
Paul Tipungwuti



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