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Newsletter Issue 5, 2024



Coming up

Feast Day: Assumption of Mary Week 5 Thursday

Week 6 Staff Spirituality Day / Student Free Day Monday

Wednesday Stage 2 Retreat Stage 1 Retreat Thursday

Week 9 All week Corrugated Iron Dance

Our Lady's College & Mackillop Immersion All week

Thursday R U OK Day

Clontarf Visit + Game Friday

Week 10 Tuesday School Photography Day

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Rhett

School life is full of surprises, excitement and, often, a lot of fun – and all while trying to learn a lot!!

This term is flying by. We are already in Week 5, and so much has happened:

- Back to School walk
- Some new classes and subjects
- Rob returning to teach
- BUSH CAMP!
- School group from Victoria visiting
- Aboriginal and Islander Education Workers visiting
- OLSH celebration
- Culture lessons
- School group from Queensland visiting
- And a lot more...

It has been great to see how increasingly calm and confident the school is becoming. There is a lot of learning happening, while students and teachers work together with respect to help each other.

Sometimes, our students are choosing not to go into the classroom or engage with the learning, but rather stay outside. Angelo, Josh and I will continue to visit families when this happens to explain the situation - I thank all parents for discussing their children's education with us and for all your support to help them stay in class and learn.

There are so many wonderful educational opportunities occurring during the rest of the school year and all of us at Xavier are looking forward to a successful Term 3 and rest of the school year.

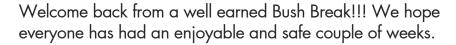
Finally, I wish to thank, Angelo, Josh, Sr Monique, Aaron and all our staff for leading the school while I was away on leave at the end of Term 2. The first semester finished in a very positive manner, which is a true indication that we have an incredible team at Xavier!

Rhett Bowden Principal



DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

Josh & Angelo







Like every year it has been a busy start to Term 3. It's been comforting to see so many smiling students who are engaged in their schoolwork and contributing to the positive buzz of learning day to day.

Firstly we would like to welcome a number of new faces to the Xavier staff. Please wish Rob, Tracy, Anthony and William a positive start as they begin their time in the Xavier Catholic College community.



Early in the term we had the official launch of the fourth Xavier Red Dust video - Keep the Fire Burning. After only seven days, there have already been over 2,900 views of the video. Congratulations to all

students for their involvement but special mentions to senior students Keith, Cameron and Maria for their leadership in singing and filming of the project.

In Week 2, the school held its annual Bush Camp at Tarntipi where students had the opportunity to sleep overnight and spend time on Country. Some of the camp highlights were the Tuesday evening liturgy, the possum hunting and the final night where students and staff were able to participate in a fantastic culture session.

As always we give thanks for all the hard work that staff have put in to start the term and the students for their involvement. We hope the rest of the term is a smooth sailing as the first half.

As always stay safe, learn everyday, respect everyone and put a smile on your face.

Josh Leane & Angelo Orsto Deputy Principal





IDENTITY & MISSION

Sr Monique



This term, Xavier students participated in a sunset Mass at Tarntipi as part of their Bush Camp, held once a year. It was a calm, peaceful and prayerful moment for all, with the sound of gentle waves in the background. We are most grateful to the priests, Fr. Niran and Fr. Hung, who came out to the campsite straight after the Parish afternoon Mass to celebrate this special Eucharist with us.

On Friday 9th August, a special Mass was held for the OLSH Sisters' 150th anniversary of their foundation, outside the Old Church. This celebration, called a 'jubilee', is a very significant moment to the OLSH Sisters and we congratulate and honour them on this special milestone.

Sr Monique Singh Assistant Principal Identity & Mission

PRAYER

Loving God,

We give thanks for the gift of the OLSH Sisters to the Tiwi Islands. Bless them in a special way as we celebrate 150 years of their Order, as well as all their many years of loving service here on the Tiwi Islands.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



Y7 LITERACY & NUMERACY

Shakira & Don

It has been a great start to Term 3 for the Year 7 boys. In Numeracy, the boys recapped on fractions, decimals and percentages from last term. We have also been working on our mental maths and money maths, looking at budgeting and creating a list of groceries.

In Literacy, we are practising our individual reading, looking at sounds such as 'ay' and 'ai', while

progressing in the Xavier Reading Program. Keep up the good work throughout the rest of the term.



The Year 7 girls class have begun the term focusing on English sounds from the Xavier Reading Program. They have also been using the writing process to support their recount writing about the Bush Camp held last week.



NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM Literacy and Numeracy NAPLAN reports are now available for collection from the office for families who wish to collect them.

Pick-up by August 30.



Y9 GIRLS HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Jess



This term, our Year 9 girls explored Yulunga games, traditional Aboriginal activities that are both fun and culturally significant. They played Chuboochuboo, improving their ball skills, and Kalq, which required quick thinking and teamwork. Millim Baeyeetch was a hit, encouraging accurate throwing, agility and good communication.

These games helped the girls develop important skills that will be useful as we move onto net sports like tennis, volleyball, badminton, and speedminton. We're excited to see how they apply what they have learned!

Y8 GIRLS SCIENCE

Annie

We began the term with a great teaching and learning topic. Our topic was Hunting for Yilinga. We learnt about the parts of their body, their habitat, and places where they could be hunted. We learnt about reptiles and how they lay eggs, how they breathe and keep themselves warm and cool.

The added bonus for me was that the girls taught me how to say the Tiwi words for this topic. Thanks girls.



STAGE 1 EXPLORE IDENTITIES & FUTURES A Josh

This Semester, Stage 1 students are studying a new subject called Explore Identities and Futures A. This subject provides students an opportunity to reflect on who they are and who they want to become in the future. These ideas are explored through two units of work. The first is 'Exploring Self' and the second is 'My Project and Reflections'.

There will be online work and work to do each week in the classroom so it's very important that students attend the lessons to make sure they are up to date.

Y8 GIRLS RE & ART Annie

The Year 8 girls worked well on their creative response to the Tiwi Creation story and the Christian Creation story. The students learnt about what was similar and what was different in the two Creation stories. They chose their design and painted on an ancient rock using acrylic paint and fine paint strokes.



DOG MOB & CAT CREW VISIT

Annie



We recently had a visit from AMRRIC Dog Mob Cat Crew. Jenny is showing the students the Glitter Bug activity which by using ultraviolet light demonstrates how effective hand washing is to remove germs. This is important when learning about hygiene around dogs and cats.





CULTUREShakira

In Week 2, Xavier students had the opportunity to go to Tarntipi Beach for our annual Bush Camp. We had three days of fun in the sand and sun with many students camping overnight to make the most of this experience.







Students participated in hunting activities, swimming, a beachside liturgy (concelebrated by our Parish priests - thank you) and fireside singing and dancing. It was great to see so many students contribute positively to the camp experience and demonstrate their skills when out on Country. There are plans to spend more time on Country as part of the Tiwi Culture program at XCCW this term, so make sure you are coming to school so you can join in the fun.





BUSH CAMP RECOUNTS

Last week Xavier School went out camping. When we got to Tarnitipi we started building tents. It was difficult to build the tents. We had to work as a team. After building the tents we sat down and ate our recess. After recess, we got in the troopy to go for a swim at the waterhole. The girls were jumping off the tree and we had so much fun. We then had lunch and sat down near the fire and cooked longbum and oysters. We had 5 mins of rest and relaxation at the shady tree. We went for a walk down to the beach before we came back home. We were singing and dancing down at the beach. Next year I will sleep over at the Bush Camp.

Samantha Munkara







Last week we went camping. Xavier students went to Tarmtipi for two nights. First we set up our tents. We also made a camp kitchen. Later on we went swimming at Mariliangampi Waterhole. The water was freezing cold. After dinner, Xavier students went possum hunting and they got two possums. The next day, we went fishing down the creek and one student caught a fish.

Augustina Munkara

