



XAVIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Coming up in Term 4

Week 8	Thursday 28/11	NTSDE Graduation Ceremony
Week 9	Tuesday 3/12 Wednesday 4/12	Feast of St Francis Xavier On Island Graduation
Week 10	Monday 9/12 Wednesday 11/12 Friday 13/12	Green Shirts Colour Run Murrup End of Year Assembly Last Day of Term 4

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Rhett



Dustin Martin - I am still sad that he has retired. He was one of our (Richmond) heroes for so long. What a player. I think that the best thing about him was this – he started off as a young rising star and every year he just got better, and better, and better, until he was arguably the best player ever. (And then he was older and struggled with injury and form, which happens to us all.) This is what made him so amazing. He was always improving. He was always progressing! When we thought he couldn't get any better, he did!

At school we talk a lot about progress. That is, improving - your skills, knowledge, abilities, respect, wisdom, etc. This is what we are all about at Xavier Catholic College – making progress. It does not matter to us if you win or lose. It's great if you get an excellent mark or an okay mark, but this is not the most important thing. What matters most is that we all have a go at making progress. Trying to get better and be better.

I read that success is knowing for sure that you have tried your best to do your best. This term – our last quarter of the year – we continue to encourage our students to try their best to do their best.

Our Seniors have almost finished all of their assessments and they deserve a special shout out for finishing off so strong. There is excitement ahead with Year 12 Graduation and completing school. Well done to our Year 12s, who have been wonderful leaders for our school. After so much progress over the years, there will be more news to come soon on their achievements.

We are seeing a lot of progress in so many of our students, and for this we are all to be very proud.

Please keep reading the Newsletter to find out all about the progress!

A big welcome goes to our new staff this term:

Anthony Raj is our new Chef. Lara Thompson is teaching VET and Literacy. Daire Quinn (Don's older brother) is teaching Literacy, VET and helping with RE/ART. Katie Fogarty (Daire's partner) is working as an Occupational Therapist. They are amazing people and it's great to have them join our community.

There has been great sadness in our community lately and we pray for all family, friends and everyone affected. Let's keep supporting each other through this sad time. If any family feels that they need extra support for their children, please reach out to us at school.

Rhett Bowden
Principal



DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

Josh & Angelo



Welcome back to Term 4! We hope everyone had a fantastic and well-deserved break. Especially a warm Xavier welcome to new staff Lara, Katie and Daire who will be teaching and supporting students throughout the term.

As we look towards the end of the year it's very important that we acknowledge the efforts of our graduating Year 12s, Jeremena, Rebecca, Mickayla and Jelena, who will soon be finishing their schooling at Xavier. They have all been strong contributors to the school over the last six years and have each developed into mature and confident leaders to the junior students and the wider community. We wish them all the best in their upcoming graduation ceremonies, both in Darwin and on-island.

At the end of Week 3, our Term 3 Gold Medal award winners participated in the AFLW Dreamtime trip, where they had the opportunity to step onto TIO, meet & greet the Essendon AFLW players throughout the weekend and watch the AFLW Dreamtime game on Saturday night. It was a very exciting trip and all the feedback from staff and students was extremely positive.

In Week 7, there is a second opportunity for students to go on a football trip to Darwin to play a football match against Haileybury over the weekend. Student selection will be determined by school attendance, behaviour and attitude throughout the term.

Finally with the NTFL Season underway we would like to wish all students and staff participating a safe and fun season where they can meet new friends and enjoy the opportunities presented to them. A special mention to the female and male staff who have already been selected and represented in the Tiwi Bombers Premier Leagues sides.

We hope everyone has a safe and productive term!

Josh Leane & Angelo Orsto
Deputy Principal

IDENTITY & MISSION

Sr Monique



There has been a lot happening in the Identity and Mission space this term! In Week 1, the National Evangelisation Team (NET) Darwin came to visit us again. On Wednesday they led the Junior Girls through a meaningful retreat titled 'brave'. Then on Thursday it was the Junior Boys turn to have some retreat time with NET. Congratulations to all students who participated respectfully and meaningfully in these retreat experiences.

Throughout October, in many Catholic schools around the country, an event called *Socktober* has been taking place. Initiated through Catholic Mission, *Socktober* invites our young people to make their own soccer balls from recycled materials and try them out, being mindful of places that don't have good access to sports equipment. Thanks to Jess T and the HPE team for organising this for Xavier!



Friday, 1st November is the Feast of All Saints, and All Souls Day follows on the 2nd November. Xavier and MCPS students attended a liturgy together on Friday morning, continuing the tradition of praying for family and friends at the cemetery each year. Students were also prepared with cleaning equipment to tidy up their family areas of the cemetery.

Sr Monique Singh
Assistant Principal Identity & Mission

PRAYER

Dear God,
We praise and thank you for your loving kindness towards us.
Help us to understand how much you love us, and that you always want good things for us. Keep close to us in hard times and joyful times.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Y7 HPE

Ally

The Year 7 students started off the term learning hockey, a new sport for most students. They practised passing the ball using different techniques and explored strategies for attacking and defending.

In Health the students are delving into the topic of self responsibility. We are discussing things we can and cannot control in our lives. We are exploring areas such as peer pressure, challenges and choices. The students also made a soccer ball from recycled materials to acknowledge other children around the world who are not as fortunate to have access to sports equipment.



Y8G LITERACY & NUMERACY

Jess

So far this term, the Year 8 Girls have been busy exploring the concept of measurement and perimeter through engaging, hands-on activities that make maths both fun and relevant. By measuring items around the school and boundaries of familiar spaces like the basketball court, classrooms, and even the playground, students are learning how to calculate perimeter while connecting maths to their everyday surroundings.

In Literacy students are reading Roald Dahl's beloved novel *Matilda* and reading about all the pranks she pulls on her father. Students are strengthening their understanding of syntax, practicing sentence structures, and expanding their vocabulary by learning new words from the book.

Y9G RE & ART

Jill & Tammy

Year 9 students visited Jilamara Arts Centre on Melville Island in the first week of Term 4.

At Jilamara they were shown the museum and many of the girls recognised art done by members of their families. They made ochre by grating ochre rocks then cooked some yellow ochre over the fire to make red ochre. The girls were introduced to the artists working there on the day and then they painted Tiwi designs using the ochre they had prepared, on bark prepared by Arthurina Moreen - star of the recently released film, *Like My Brother*, and now working in Arts Administration at Jilamara.



STAGE 1 ENGLISH

Jill

Year 10 and 11 English students have had a busy few weeks completing English assessments. The final assessment was to analyse a short story about the Stolen Generation and the resilience of Indigenous people. They learned about characters, setting and dialogue and the difference between telling and showing. Over the year English students have studied different sorts of text and different ways to analyse and write about topics ranging from films to emails. Students were all happy to finish a great year's work in English.

STAGE 2 CERT III SCHOOL BASED EDUCATION

Angela

This semester students commenced three units of work around student health, safety and wellbeing in an educational setting. They learnt about the types of issues that students experience with their health and safety and how this can affect their learning at school.

Students also developed skills and knowledge around the relevant state and territory laws and procedures such as work, health and safety, mandatory reporting, and risk management.

Year 12 s continued with their work placements at the primary school which formed part of their assessments. Some staff completing the course started a unit in Term 4 about organising personal work priorities. Staff currently enrolled hope to continue the course in 2025 to complete the remaining units.

Altogether there are 15 units that make up the Certificate III School based Education and takes approximately 2 years to complete. The course is designed for people wishing to have a career as a Assistant Teacher Student Support Worker Language Teacher. The course will continue in 2025 with a new intake of Year 12 students and staff.



SERENITY SPACE

Shakira

The Serenity Space is open to all students for the first hour of each school day. This space is used to help students get themselves 'ready-to-learn' and to help develop their self regulation techniques. Students use 'check-in' boards and other mood identifying tools to help them name how they are feeling and then choose activities that will support them to get ready for a day at school. Activities can include playing with tactile therapy tools, completing jigsaw puzzles, solving brain teaser challenges, listening to calm down or pick me up music. Sometimes the Serenity Space is somewhere you can simply find some peace and quiet and just have a yarn with a friend or teacher. Students have contributed positively to this program and are finding themselves better able to describe their emotional needs and identify behaviours that can best support them with their learning.

VET LITERACY

Don

The VET students have made a very positive start to Term 4. In Literacy we studied the movie, *Holes*. We examined the main characters in the story and explored different vocabulary and descriptive language to portray them. We also learned how to construct a letter.

With the arrival of rapper Lil Eazy-E, we covered the topic of questioning. We looked at different types of questions and created a list for the rapper. Based on Lil Eazy E's visit and message, we started to write our own stories and build rap songs based on this.

In addition to this, the students have been learning about why things float or sink. Density, mass and volume was explored through building a raft at Tarntipi waterhole. We have been building our understanding and knowledge of density through running experiments and writing our predicted outcomes and description of the outcome. A greater understanding of mass and volume was shown through student written responses and reflection of the raft experiment.



PASTORAL CARE

Jess

In an exciting collaboration with the Essendon Football Club and the NTFL, our students are investigating Legacy. We are investigating the journeys of celebrated Tiwi Island players like Michael Long, the Rioli's and others that have made a legendary impact in the AFL. This unit encourages students to explore the inspiring stories of AFL greats from the Tiwi Islands and beyond, focusing on how these players have shaped the game and served as role models within their communities.

Through engaging activities and mentorship from Essendon players, students will consider the values of leadership, resilience, and community impact that define a strong legacy.

This partnership not only brings AFL history to life but also offers students a powerful opportunity to reflect on how they, too, can build a positive legacy for future generations. We look forward to seeing the inspiration that will spark from this collaboration and the personal growth it will inspire in our students.

DREAMTIME TRIP



Over the weekend 12 students from XCC went on an excursion in Darwin to be involved in the AFLW Dreamtime Game - Essendon vs Richmond.

In addition to watching a thrilling game, ending in a nail biting draw the students had the rare opportunity to interact with the Essendon players.

Attending and participating in their captain run, practicing

goal kicking and battling them in a table-tennis tournament.

This unique experience left a lasting impact on our students, who returned inspired by the spirit of AFLW. We are grateful for this opportunity and extend a huge thank you to Essendon for their warmth and generosity. We look forward to more experiences that foster connections between our students, their communities, and their heroes.

