

XAVIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE



Issue 5, December 2025

Newsletter

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COMING UP IN TERM 1 2026

27th Jan Teachers back to school
2nd Feb Students back to school



PRINCIPAL & ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Rhett & Angelo



What an amazing year it has been!

When we look back and think about the year, we feel a real sense of pride and achievement. Our Xavier students and staff have shown improvements in their learning, personal development, spiritual growth, collaborative skills, maturity, respect in relationships and for self and, of course, sporting ability!

There has been so much achieved by so many - each class has displayed a sense of team and have supported each other throughout the challenges of the year.

Some highlights:

- Year 12 Graduation - congratulations to Cameron, Martina, Shinae, Thomas, Jake, Peter, Paul and Lionel!
- Whole school Masses. The Bishop visiting and Fr Niran and Fr Hung supporting Xavier.
- VET class gaining so many work and life skills in preparation for the workplace.
- Year 7s becoming a settled and mature group.
- Junior and Senior Bush camps.
- On country excursions with the Young Men's Program.
- Work Experience for the Senior students.
- Basketball competition in Darwin against St John's, O'Loughlin and MacKillop.
- The girls being involved in the Dreamtime game at TIO in Darwin.
- Essendon visit.
- Red Dust creating another amazing song with our community.
- Working with Catholic Care on our Young Men's and Young Women's personal development programs.

We really thank our community for the support and trust shown to Xavier. Our relationships are strong and this was highlighted when we all helped each other during Cyclone Fina.

Have a wonderful holiday and we look forward to 2026 already!

Angelo and Rhett





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Ally



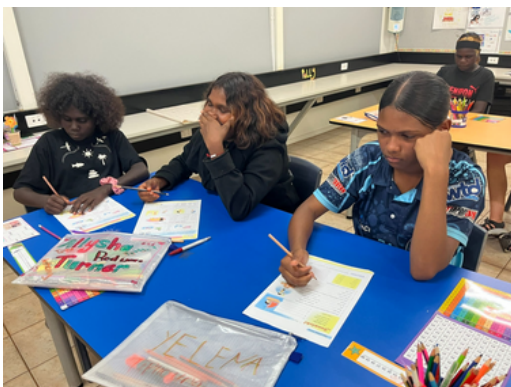
It has been a wonderful and productive term, filled with learning, growth, and many achievements. Our students have engaged in extensive social and emotional learning throughout the year, developing important skills around respect, communication, and understanding others. This work was celebrated in a special way when Red Dust visited to help create a fantastic video showcasing the students' efforts and progress.

We also worked closely with the clinic this term to complete health screenings for all students, ensuring everyone is supported to stay healthy, safe, and happy. In addition, our learning included an in-depth look at cyclones—what they are, how they form, and how we can prepare both ourselves and our school community.

One of the most exciting highlights of the term was celebrating our Year 12 students' graduation ceremonies, both in Darwin and on island. We are incredibly proud of their dedication, resilience, and achievements, and we look forward to seeing where their paths lead next.

Overall, it has been a rich and rewarding term, and we are grateful for all the hard work, enthusiasm, and community spirit shown by our students and staff.

As we finish the year, we want to wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas. Enjoy the break with family and friends. We are already looking forward to another fantastic year ahead and can't wait to see what 2026 will bring!





IDENTITY & MISSION

Sr Monique



What an amazing end to the year! Term 4 has passed by swiftly and we have had so much happening!

Visit of Sr. Jessika

Towards the start of the term, Sr. Jessika came to visit us and talk to us about the work of Catholic Mission and Caritas. She gave some short talks to classes and enjoyed simply being present with us.

Remembrance Day

Xavier came together to remember the people who have given their lives at war for the sake of their country. Craig shared some background information about the Tiwi involvement in war, which was historically very enriching.

Feast of St Francis Xavier - 3rd December

The Feast Day of our school patron was on the Wednesday of week 9. The special day was remembered and honoured through a school liturgy in the library.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)

ACYF was a fabulous experience of faith and connection with young people from all across Australia. Shinae, Cameron, Martina, Thomas, Maria and Simon were accompanied by Mara, Peter and myself, together with a larger group of CENT staff and students. The festival was held in Melbourne and commenced with a pilgrimage walk from St Patrick's Cathedral to the Melbourne Convention Centre on Sunday. Our students were involved in carrying the World Youth Day cross and icon for the pilgrimage walk. Mara, Peter, Cameron and Thomas sang "God is so good" in English and Tiwi prior to Mass on Monday for approximately 900 people, and joined the choir for the Mass with some of the other Darwin pilgrims. Wednesday's closing Mass was particularly special as Mara and Peter processed in at the beginning with a message stick, followed by our students who formed a guard of honour around them. Apart from Mass and moments of quieter prayer, there was a lot of singing and dancing to praise and worship songs, as well as many stalls in the expo to explore and learn from.

PRAYER

Dear Loving God,
We praise and thank you for your goodness to us. We remember all these wonderful moments throughout the term with joy. Please keep everyone safe and well during our holidays, so that we can return refreshed and ready for 2026.
We make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.





Y8/9B WOODWORK/RE Brad

Woodwork / RE this semester has been full of practical activities to keep the 8/9 Boys busy. With help of the VET boys and on occasion the year 7 boys, our crew cut out and painted a series of wooden figures for Xavier's very own student made Nativity Scene which will be on display at the College for visitors and students to see in the future.

Many junior students also made tables and chairs in the workshop, with spears for bushcamp, clapping sticks and small stools. As the year progressed, students became more confident in their use of hand and power tools in the construction of these projects. I am looking forward to even better projects next year with a new group of students in the 8/9 boys group.

I want to thank all the staff who have helped this year in the workshop, this includes Big Will at the beginning of Term 4 and who can forget Rob who got us started on Pallet timber projects which students absolutely loved. Thanks for all the help! See you all next year, have a happy and safe Christmas and new year break.

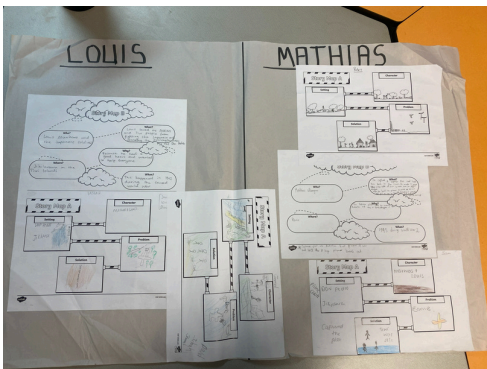




Y9B LITERACY & NUMERACY Matt

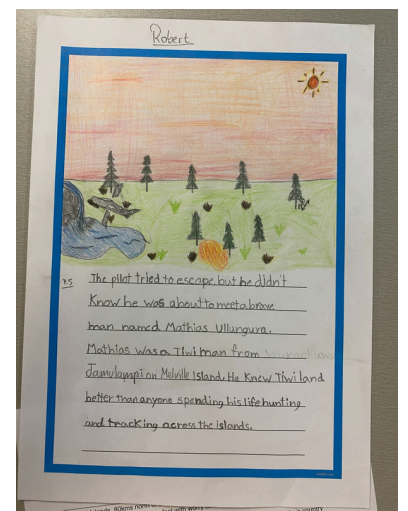
Our Year 9 Literacy and Numeracy class has concluded an incredibly successful and culturally rich project, developing skills that are immediately applicable to their community and future careers. The core of the Literacy program saw students researching, writing, and illustrating a compelling narrative based on the incredible World War II stories of Tiwi legends, Mathias Ullungura and Louis Munkara.

The boys' detailed work, focus on historical accuracy, and beautiful original illustrations demonstrated sophisticated research and storytelling skills. We are absolutely thrilled to announce that this collaborative story will be published soon by the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF). This is a monumental achievement and a huge source of pride for the students.



In Numeracy, the focus was firmly on practical, real-world application, covering key concepts such as time management and geometric shapes. Students applied these skills directly in their project caring for our new baby chickens!

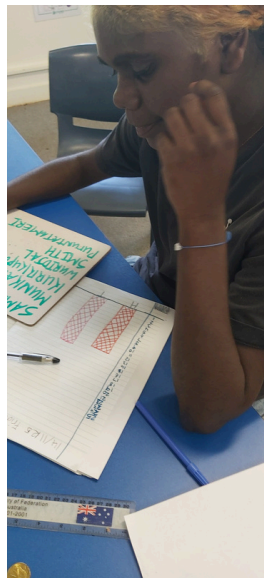
The boys took responsibility for the health and growth of the chicks by putting their math skills to work. They used time management to create and strictly follow a daily feeding and care schedule, ensuring the chicks received food, water, and heat at precise intervals. Furthermore, they applied their knowledge of geometric shapes to design and plan a secure, spacious coop. This hands-on project required them to calculate the correct angles and dimensions to ensure the coop was structurally sound and safe from predators. This real-world application of math ensures our baby chickens are growing strong and healthy!





Y8G LITERACY & NUMERACY Morag

In Literacy this term the girls have continued to build their writing and reading skills. Each girl wrote one page of a whole class story based on an exciting incident that happened while they were on Bush Camp. This story will be published by the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and it will include the girls' art work as well. The girls are looking forward to reading their own published book next year. The girls also studied the poetry of a famous indigenous poet - Oodgeroo Noonuccal and wrote their own poems.



In Numeracy, the girls have learnt to read time: analog and digital, 12 hour and twenty-four hour. They also learnt the difference between a.m. and p.m. times. Next, the girls learnt about chance and probability. Then, they moved onto coordinates and mapping. Their last unit of learning was on collecting data and interpreting it. The girls then carried out a school wide survey which they then represented in a column graph.



Y7/8G SMART SKILLS Sean

In Term 4 the junior students have been looking at Forces and Motion. They found out how forces like weight, support, thrust, and friction change how an object moves. The students are learning how these physics concepts affect their lives through sports, the natural world, and culture.

At the start of the term, students have found how sports teams use their understanding of physics to find the best players to play for their teams, analysing agility and sprint testing.

In the second half of this unit we have explored how physics has been used by aboriginal and Tiwi culture in weapons and canoes changing the world of science. The students have thrown javelins, made paper boats, helicopters and boomerangs to see these physics concepts in real life!



Y9G RE/ART Shakira

Students who attended the Year 9 Girls' RE class made booklets to help them pray the Holy Rosary. They learned about the four Mysteries of the Rosary focusing on the Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries. Students examined the life and actions of Mother Mary and identified ways she could help us make ethical decisions in our own lives.



SENIORS: COMMUNITY STUDIES Annie

Term 4 was a flurry of work as students worked hard to complete the requirements for this subject. Students were in class asking for help, sitting with their teachers and getting on with finalising their Work Contracts. Their work experience has been a highlight for them. It was great to have many students reflecting on their years' work.



VET SPORT & RECREATION Don

This term in Sport & Recreation, students did an excellent job engaging in a range of practical learning activities. They participated enthusiastically in various sports, developed their teamwork skills, and completed hands-on projects such as restoring old bicycles and building a chicken coop to house the chicks from our class incubation project. Well done to all the students for their hard work and positive attitude throughout the term.





SENIORS: ART Monique

Throughout Term 4, the Stage 2 students have been very busy!

Our first priority earlier in the term was to complete the 'Personal Endeavour'. Each of our students had their own personalised art projects to complete and annotate photo evidence for in a slides presentation. Then they returned to their other 2 assessments and continued annotating their slides.

On Friday of Week 9, their wonderful hard work was displayed in our Senior Art Exhibition for families attending the On Island graduation.

Congratulations everyone!



SENIORS: TIWI LANGUAGE Henri

This term in the senior Tiwi Language class, students did an excellent job of completing their Bible translation task. Students worked to translate the story of Jesus calming the storm (Luke 8:22-25) from English into Tiwi. Some of the students were also able to read their Tiwi translation out in front of the Papal Nuncio at our whole school Mass. Well done to all the senior students who worked hard to complete this subject and lead the way for learning old Tiwi language at Xavier.

