Dear SFC community

Wishing all Mums a very happy Mother’s Day. This reflection will hopefully touch your hearts. Enjoy your special day on Sunday.

**THIS IS FOR ALL THE MOTHERS WHO DIDN’T WIN MOTHER OF THE YEAR.**

All the runners-up and all the wannabes. The mothers too tired to enter or too busy to care.

This is for all the mothers who freeze their tails off on metal seats at games at the weekends instead of watching from cars, so that when their kids asked, “Did you see my goal?” they could say “of course, wouldn’t have missed it for the world,” and mean it.

This is for all the mothers who have sat up all night with sick toddlers in their arms, saying, “It’s alright, mummy’s here.”

This is for all the mothers of war torn areas who fled in the night and can’t find their children.

This is for the mothers who gave birth to babies they’ll never see. And the mothers who took those babies and made them homes.

For all the mothers who run car pools and make cakes and sew costumes. And all the mothers who don’t.

What makes a good mother anyway? Is it Patience? Compassion? Broad shoulders?

The ability to nurse a baby, roast a chicken, and sew a button on a shirt, all at the same time? Or is it heart?

Is it the ache you feel when you watch your son/daughter disappear down the street, walking to school alone for the very first time?

The jolt that takes you from sleep to dread, from bed to cot at 2.00am to put your hand on the back of a sleeping baby? I think so.

This is for reading “The Cat in the Hat” twice a night for a year. And then reading it again, ‘just one more time’.

This is for all the mothers who mess up. Who yell at their kids in the grocery store and want to smack them in despair and stomp their feet like a tired two-year-old who wants ice cream before dinner.

This is for all the mothers who taught their sons/daughters to tie their shoelaces before they started school. And for all the mothers who opted for Velcro instead.

For all the mothers who bite their lips – sometimes until they bleed – when their fourteen year olds dye their hair green. Who lock themselves in the bathroom when babies keep crying and won’t stop.

This is for the mothers who show up at work with milk stains on their blouses and disposable nappies in their handbags.
This is for all the mothers who teach their children to cook.

This is for all the mothers whose heads turn automatically when a little voice calls ‘Mum?’ in a crowd, even though they know their own children are at home.

This is for mothers who put flowers and teddy bears on their children’s graves.

This is for mothers, whose children have gone astray, who can’t find the words to reach them.

This is for all the mothers who sent their children to school with stomach aches, assuring them they’d be just FINE once they got there, only to get calls from the school an hour later asking them to please pick them up right away.

This is for young mothers stumbling through nappy changes and sleep deprivation. And mature mothers learning to let go. For working mothers and stay-at-home mothers, single mothers and married mothers. Mothers with money, mothers without.

This is for you all, so hang in there…….

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!

All students in years 7 and 9 will complete NAPLAN next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please see the NAPLAN timetable.

Reports are available for download via the Parent Portal for YEAR 11 & 12 STUDENTS. All information has been emailed to students.

Please contact the College Office with an updated email address at your earliest to ensure you receive communication and reports via email.

Information about my new position as SCHOOLS CONSULTANT with the Catholic Schools Office commencing in Term 3 was emailed to parents and was also on the College newsletter. Recruitment for the position of Principal 2016 will commence on May 16th. Mr Seb Spina will step into the role of Principal in Term 3.

All students are reminded that WEARING WINTER UNIFORM IS COMPULSORY FROM MONDAY 18TH MAY. All boys must wear shirts tucked in and ties must done up properly.

Happy and safe weekend.

MRS BRENDA KING
PRINCIPAL

If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you.
If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you!
2015 BIGGEST MORNING TEA

SAVE THE DATE!

Year 11 students pictured left volunteered their services by signwriting on the Library Window to promote this year’s BMT.

The SFC Biggest Morning tea will be held on Thursday 4 June 2015. Students may wear Casual Clothes with a GOLD COIN donation for the privilege.

Year 12 students and Staff will participate in this Morning Tea. These funds to Cancer Council of NSW and this year’s Cake Auction Funds have been allocated to the local Can Assist Committee.

From... SFC Library Ladies

2015 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Congratulations to the new SRC members:

Year 7- Molly Dale and Luke Argus
Year 8- Tess Staines and Ky Hanlon
Year 9- Jordan Dale and Georgia Burley
Year 10- Jessica O’Halloran and Matthew Pete
Year 11- Jessie Williams and Tom Dore

These students will be involved in organising and promoting a number of activities and events throughout the duration of 2015 and into Term 1 of 2016. Miss Haidee Washington, SRC Convener

YEAR 11 AGRICULTURE – FARM CASE STUDY VISITS

On Friday 1st May Year 11 Agriculture visited two farms for their Farm Case Study Topic.

Firstly we visited Pat Napoli and talked with him about his various crops especially rice and cattle. Mr Napoli showed us around his farm explaining his irrigation system, crop rotations and management as well as his cattle enterprise.

After lunch we visited his neighbour Barry Kirkup. Fortunately rice harvest was still underway so we had the opportunity to see his rice crop and the harvesting process. Mr Kirkup’s main summer crops were rice and soybeans, he also grows winter cereals and runs sheep.

It was very interesting learning about the operations on the two farms and we are grateful to Mr Napoli and Mr Kirkup for giving up their time to show us their farms and share their expertise.

The visits will provide the basis for the Farm Case Study Report for the next assessment task.

Ms Liz Mudford, Class Teacher
**YEAR 12 AGRICULTURE FARM PRODUCT STUDY COTTON FARM VISIT**

Year 12 Agriculture visited Rob Houghton’s farm last Tuesday as part of their farm product study.

Mr Houghton gave an overview of the activities on his farm and then focused on the production and marketing of his cotton. It was interesting to learn about the management of the cotton to ensure production was maximised and quality requirements were met. We were able to observe cotton picking and had the opportunity to join the contractor in the picker. It was a great opportunity to be able to discuss cotton production and marketing with Mr Houghton and the knowledge gained will be very useful for the Farm Product Study component of the HSC course.

Year 12 Ag are very appreciative of Mr Houghton spending time to share his expertise.

*Ms Liz Mudford, Class Teacher*

**YEAR 10 AGRICULTURE – RICE PRESENTATION**

Sally Doig, Product Development Manager from Sunrice visited St Francis on Thursday to talk with Year 10 Agriculture about Rice Production and value adding.

Mrs Doig explained different ways Sunrice adds value to rice by further processing to produce a range of products. It was interesting to learn about the new production plant that had recently opened in Leeton. Mrs Doig brought a range of rice products for students to try including rice chips, minibites, rice meals and various types of rice cups.

It was a tasty and interesting way for Year 10 Agriculture to finish their topic on Rice Production and Year 10 Agriculture extended their thanks to Mrs Doig for visiting the class.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR SELECTION!**

Students, Max and Mathew Feagai (both of Year 9) and Year 10 student Tomasi Baravilala has been selected in the Southern Region NSWCCC Rugby League U15 team with Year 12 student, Jye Thompson being selected in the U18 team. CONGRATULATIONS!
YEARS 8 NEWS

- Not too many things to report on this week. Over the next few weeks Year 8 have a number of assessment tasks coming up. It is important for students to not let these build up by leaving them to the last minute and by revising regularly.
- There have been a few incidences of bullying occurring lately. Students need to recognise that their actions and words can have harmful effects on others, even if they think it might be a bit of harmless fun. Students have been challenged to THINK before they speak and act.
- Starting from next week in Pastoral, students will be focusing on issues which have been prevalent in the media during the last month. The aim of this is to keep students up to date with current issues and make them more aware of what is happening around us. Next week we will focus on ‘raising awareness about brain cancer.’
- Congratulations to Tess Staines who was named Age Champion at the BISSA Athletics Carnival. Tremendous effort Tess!
- All students need to be in their winter uniform on Monday 18 May.
- Please take the time to ‘spoil’ your Mother’s on Sunday.

What’s on next Week - Week 4 Timetable 2
- Monday 11th – BISSA Cross Country (Narrandera)

Upcoming Assessments:
- Wednesday 20th May HSIE semester exam
- Friday 22nd May Maths Assessment Task
- Monday 25th May Music Performance Orchestral Themes
- Visual Arts: Practical Drawing
- Thursday 28th May Religion in the World quiz

If you have any concerns with your son/daughter please don’t hesitate to contact me at the College (6953 3622) or via email: vantc@ww.catholic.edu.au

READING AT SFC

In 2015 students in years 7-10 will be given many opportunities during their two weekly timetable to read. In English classes Years 7-10 will read for 10 minutes at the beginning of the lesson. Years 7 and 8 will participate in an Accelerated Reader program, one lesson per fortnight. This will be supported with 10 minutes reading at the beginning of their English lesson and in one pastoral lesson per week.

What is Accelerated Reader (AR)?
AR is a computer program that helps teachers and librarians manage and monitor student’s independent reading practice.

Students are pretested to find their reading level. The student then picks a book at his/her own level and reads it at his/her own pace. When finished, the student takes a short quiz on a computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that the student understood what was read.) AR gives students, teachers, and librarians feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher then uses to help the student set goals and direct ongoing reading practice. Students using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them. Teachers and librarians help the student choose books at an appropriate readability level that are challenging without being frustrating, ensuring that your student can pass the quiz and experience success. If the student does not do well on the quiz, the teacher or librarian may help the student:

• Choose another book that is more appropriate.
• Ask more probing questions as the student reads and before the student takes a quiz.
• Pair the student with another student, or even have the book read to the student.

How parents and guardians can help their child with reading and literacy

By creating a culture of reading in your household by reading with your child, visiting the library, letting your child see you read and discussing books that each of you has read. When reading together, stop and ask questions to check that your child understands what they have read. Reading with your child, no matter how old they are, is an important part of developing a good reader, building a lifelong love of reading and learning.

WEBSITE SUBSCRIBE / UNSUBSCRIBE FOR NEWSLETTER

A reminder to all families that our newsletter is available via the College Website by subscribing by following the prompts. Don’t hesitate to contact the Office if you have any questions.
AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK CENTRE

St Francis College AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK CENTRE is open from 3.30pm to 5pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in ROOM 18 (from Week 2, Term 2 to Week 9, Term 2). All students are welcome to participate (with parental knowledge and permission).

The Homework Centre has two SFC teachers running it with a staff of eight that will work on a rotational basis. Students are required to sign in and out and be responsible in organising their transport home at 5pm.

Students are required to bring homework and/or assessment tasks to the Homework Centre to work on. The room is one of the computer rooms on campus and students will be able to access these resources. If you require more information about the Homework Centre please contact the College Office or Mrs Creece, Homework Centre Coordinator on 02 6953 3622 or via office@sfcww.catholic.edu.au

OPENS ST FRANCIS SOCCER REPORT

Last Thursday saw the annual opens schoolboy and girl soccer competition. The gala day, held at the Yoogali FC home ground, was where the St Francis opens teams faced fierce opposition from district schools Mariam, Mater Dei, Xavier and Kildare. Disappointments from past years saw an enthusiastic Mr Dal Nevo and Mr Rowe who on the day hoped to overcome the lacking reputation of St Francis within the sport.

Opens Boys

The opening game saw plenty of excitement with little reward for the efforts of the two skilled teams, a sloppy St Francis defence created a lot of chances for the Marian side but as the team pulled together throughout the second half St Francis were able to press on the attack. Domination of the midfield would remain a key element of the playstyle as the likes of Ben Nardi and Sam Pirrottina kept tight control over the ball. Macauley Harrison making quick runs into the forwards took advantage of this control but the essential, clinical finish of an experienced side was lacking. Close chances from a Callum Cauduro free kick as well as Jacob Young’s and Jarrod Moala’s attempts on goal nearly saw wins but only a spectacular setup pass by Brock Waters to Ben Nardi saw a Francis ball reach the back of the net. Alas the St Francis opens boys teams efforts were not sufficient enough, chances missed on the field and unlucky decisions received prevented the squad by a single win from reaching the final.

Opens Girls

Mr Rowe's open girls' team faced some harsh competition throughout the day, with highly talented squads from the other districts school putting up a fierce struggle for the final. Better players throughout the day included Megan Dunn and Jess Murphy in defence, with keeper Jarah Penfold providing support and Bronwyn Licence moving the ball quickly around the field.

CANTEEN ROSTER WEEK 4:TT2

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If you are able to help out for a day a term or even two days per term please contact Lyn via email vantl@ww.catholic.edu.au Or during school hours please contact Lyn Vant directly on 6953 3622, Extension 219.
Why do students use yourtutor?

There are millions of reasons students use yourtutor every night. Here are just some.

When you’re STUCK on a maths question.
When you don’t remember how to use the equation you learned in class for your Chemistry homework.
When you don’t know how to unpack the question to start your assignment or essay.
When you keep getting the wrong answer over and over again and don’t know WHY.
When you’re getting frustrated on a question.
For a little, quick question.
For something BIG and difficult.
When you’re wasting time on a question.
When you need feedback on your essay introduction, before handing it in.
When you have asked mum for help a million times, but she’s busy doing other things.
When your older brother doesn’t have time to help with your chemistry question.
When you just know your dad will get frustrated helping with your Physics question.
When you ask your friend on Facebook for maths help, but you start procrastinating and talking about other things.

And millions more reasons! What would you ask?

Available to all Leeton Library Members FREE.

To connect go to Leeton Library website http://www.leetonlibrary.com.au
- Library from home
- eResources.

Years 3-12
Sunday – Friday, 3pm-10pm

ONE STOP TRAVEL OFFICE!
All bookings/travel variations for boarding students must be made through the College Office.

All students are requested to submit/advise ALL TRAVEL variations to the College Office (C/- Mrs Briggs) no later than 4pm on a Monday for the following weekend’s travel. A LATE VARIATION to normal routine will be accepted in the case of an emergency only.

We have a duty of care to our students and in conjunction with the support of all families can we ensure that travel arrangements are correct at the time of our students departing and returning to the College on a weekly basis. Therefore it is expected that students and/or parents/carers take the responsibility of notifying the College Office advising of any changes to the normal routine of weekly travel for your child/children with an explanation of that day’s CHANGED MODE OF TRAVEL – HOW, WHEN AND WHO WITH that your son/daughter will be travelling.

If no notification of variation received for travel by parents/carers; students will remain on their weekly designated mode of travel.

The best method for this is via a written note, Boarding Students’ Travel Variation Notice, either in person, via fax or through email. Phone notifications will be accepted with a written notification to be forwarded.

If a change happens over the weekend for a Monday travel, please email Mrs Briggs at the College Office<briggsd@ww.catholic.edu.au If you have a query or you are uncertain of the term “VARIATION TO NORMAL BUS ROUTINE” please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Briggs at the Office.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

CONTRIBUTION TO SFC NEWSLETTER

What have you been doing recently? We would love to hear your news! In addition to stories about our past students, it is important to include what is happening with our current students/families as well as our past so please phone, email or fax any news you would like to share with the College Community to Mrs Briggs at the College Office at office@sfcww.catholic.edu.au

WE LOVE KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH YOU!

At SFC we are striving to maintain an accurate database of contact details for all past students to ensure ongoing effective communication with the thriving wider community. If we do not have your current email address, please email it to us at office@sfcww.catholic.edu.au

ZACHERY’S CHALLENGE

2014 Year 12 student, Zachery Molloy is currently attending Monash University, Melbourne and he is one of 8 people who has been selected in the Monash Leadership Challenge to Moomby, India as part of the make a difference foundation.

The students will work in an orphanage for a week then attend the Monash Campus for a week then return home.

CALENDER WEEK 4: TT2

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National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2015

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9.

The results of the test will provide important information to schools about their students' literacy and numeracy levels. Each year the number of students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 participating in NAPLAN is expected to increase.

ZACHARY’S CHALLENGE

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SAFER DRIVERS COURSE

This Safer Drivers Course has been designed by the Roads and Maritime Services (formerly the RTA) to establish safer driving practices for learner drivers under 25 years old who already have 50 hours real driving experience. It will assist young learner drivers to:

- Improve their own levels of safety when driving, by learning how to manage road safety risks.
- Increase current driving skills and acquire new ones through a combination of classroom learning and practical supervised instruction from a professional driving instructor.

After the successful completion of module one and two of the course the learner will receive a twenty hours reduction in their log book (from 120 hours to 100 hours).

NRMA Safer Driving are facilitating Module One of this course on

Wednesday May 20th

The course will be held at the Leeton Shire Library for a total cost of $140.

Course numbers are limited to twelve people with a minimum of nine people required to run the course.

For further information and booking visit the NRMA Safer Driving website at: http://www.nrmasaferdriving.com.au or contact the Leeton NRMA office Ph. 6953 2337.

SAVE THE DATE:

Urana Bird Sale! Sunday July 19th 2015

Urana Memorial Hall

A large variety of small to large birds will be available for purchase! Bird seed, accessories, and Information on bird care available on the day. Selling will commence at 11:00am. Auction on completion of sale. A Sausage sizzle & tea/coffee will be available.

Entry- $2 per Person

Proceeds towards Urana free flight Bird Aviary.

For further information/enquires please contact:
Pat Bourke- 0429208267  Kevin Martin- 0427208068  Rob Hemphill- 0427930966

Urana Progress Association - 27 Vardy Street Urana.
Red Carpet Day
AT LEETON VISITORS INFORMATION CENTRE

SATURDAY
16TH MAY
9am to 2pm
10 Yanco Avenue, Leeton

Join us on Saturday 16th May for our fifth Leeton Visitors Information Centre Red Carpet Day, proudly sponsored by The Daily Drinks Company! Over 25 stallholders will be showcasing and selling their handmade and homemade products, produced right here in Leeton and throughout the Riverina Region! There will be plenty of fun activities on site for the whole family to enjoy and participate in. Don’t forget to enter our giveaway competition on the day, for the chance to win one of twenty five local product prizes. Find us on Facebook for more information about this exciting event, plus details of the many stallholders that will be joining us on the day!

BE SAFE 4 YOUTH WEEK - 2015
POSTER AND COLOURING-IN COMPETITION

It’s on AGAIN and again Narrandera Shire Council is offering great prizes for Youth Week.

GET CREATIVE AND WIN!

Design a Poster on Skate-Park Safety
1st Prize: 16GB Apple iPod Touch
2nd Prize: $100 gift voucher to Eurellas
3rd Prize $50 gift voucher to Eurellas

Decorate the skateboard and add a Safe Skater to the Sheet
1st Prize: $50 iTunes voucher
2nd Prize: $30 iTunes voucher
3rd Prize: $20 iTunes voucher

Entries displayed at Youth Week Skate Day on Sunday 10th May 2015
Judging by Totem Skate School

See over for Entry Details
For further information: Steph Pentoniers, Road Safety Officer. 0448 623 049