

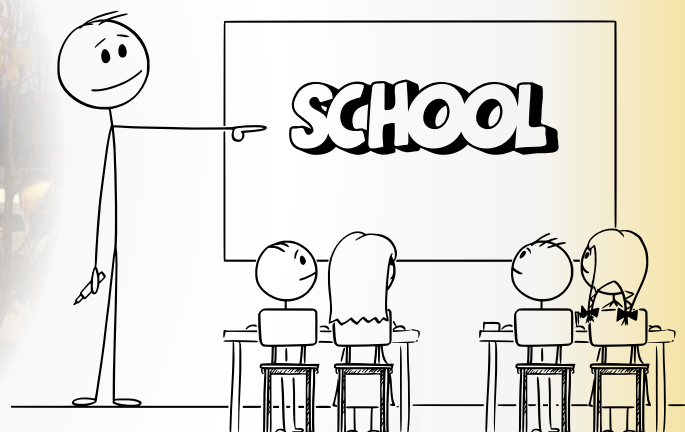


St Francis
Flexible School



2025
Term 1

Newsletter



Acknowledgement of Country



We are proud to acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional and continuing custodians of the lands on which we stand, work and learn on.

St Francis Flexible School is located on the traditional lands of the muwinina people of the South-East Nation in Lutruwita, the old people who lived with and cared for this land for many generations, who are now no longer here due to the impact of invasion.

We acknowledge and respect the palawa people and the deep connection that they have to Country and Culture. We acknowledge and respect the Tasmanian Aboriginal community as the current and continuous custodians and pay our respect to Elders past and present. We are committed to learning as part of this community, and to supporting the continued sharing of knowledge and Culture.



This term St Francis connected with water country through Indigenous learning sessions led by Matt Smith and class partnerships.

Students explored the significance of bark canoes in palawa history, then experienced kayaking, traveling the same waters as First Nations ancestors had for thousands of years.



Matt S
Indigenous Support Worker



Principal



Dear Community Members,

Wow, what an awesome first term we've had here at St Francis Flexible School! Our students have been more dedicated to their learning, and it's been amazing to see everyone getting more involved in class.

We're really proud of how our students have stepped up to meet the higher expectations set for them. They've faced challenges head-on and have made great progress in both their learning and personal growth.

This term, one of the biggest improvements we've seen is how much more focused and engaged students have been. Compared to earlier terms, everyone has been spending more time on their tasks, staying on track, and getting their work done with more attention. This is thanks to the students' growing sense of responsibility and the support from our amazing staff who have been helping everyone stay focused.

Looking ahead, next term's focus will be all about Growth—both in school and personally. We're excited to keep creating a space where every student can reach their full potential.

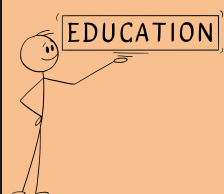
Thanks so much for all your support, and we can't wait for an even better Term 2!

Nick McGann
PRINCIPAL



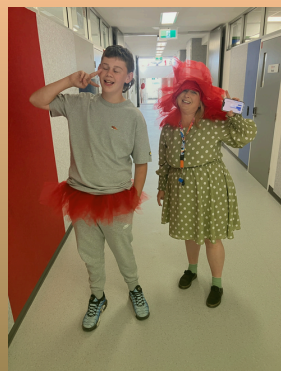
It has been amazing to see so many young people onsite this term, taking on the challenge to be at school more often and to engage more intentionally with focused learning opportunities in class.

Deputy Principal



So many young people have responded well to the opportunity to do some testing in literacy and numeracy

This helped our teachers find a point where our young people are at in their learning. We have been able to find better ways to work with them where they can be challenged but not overwhelmed, or given work that is too easy for them.



Another innovation for this year has been the introduction of Drama and the wonderful Leah to the Drama space, complementing our existing specialist subjects of Art, Music and PE.



We thank Leah for her passion and support of interested young people. We know that our drama area will grow greatly as the year progresses! We are hearing great things about monologues, duologues and even costume design! Can't wait to see what's next!

Donna Brown
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Child Safety and Wellbeing



As we close out Term 1, we want to take a moment to reflect on the ongoing efforts to ensure that our school remains a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all our young people. This term, we look at Child Safe Standard 1. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture. This means all people in the organisation care about children and young people's safety and wellbeing above everything else. They make sure they act that way and lead others to act that way.

YOUNG PEOPLE SPEAKING UP FOR THEIR FRIENDS

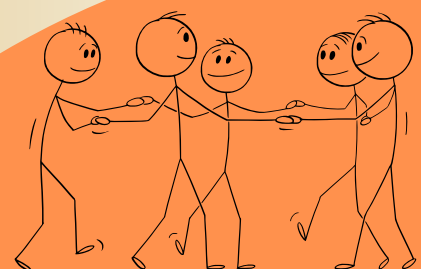


One of the most encouraging developments this term has been seeing young people come forward to talk to our staff about concerns they have for their friends. It is so encouraging to see young people feeling empowered to speak up when something doesn't feel right. This speaks volumes about the culture of care that we are building together.

Our staff are available to listen, provide support, and take necessary actions when issues are raised, ensuring that all young people feel heard and safe. This willingness to engage in open and honest conversations about safety is something we are incredibly proud of.



If you have any questions or would like more information about our child safety programs, please don't hesitate to reach out to me on jason.haines@flexi.edu.au.

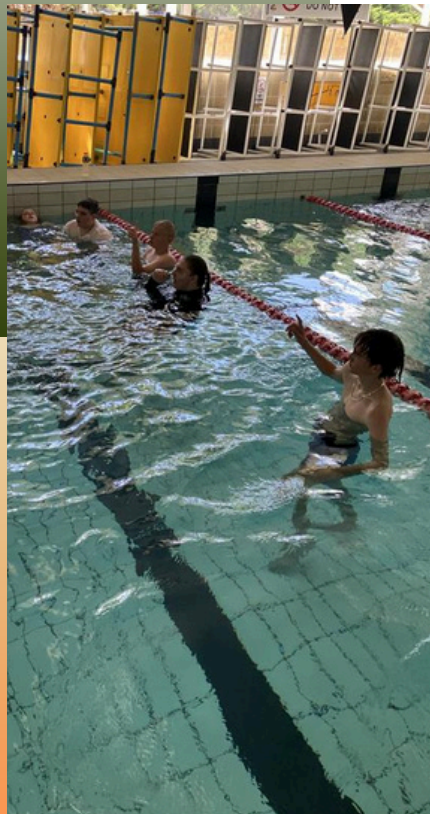


Jason Haines
DIRECTOR OF CHILD SAFEGUARDING

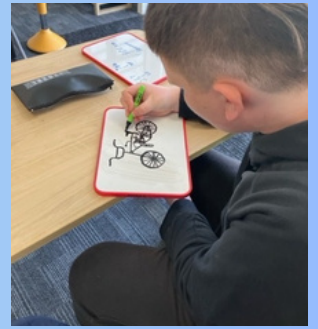
patrula



We've had an amazing start to the year, and we're all working hard together to make this school year fun and full of learning! Whether you've been with us for a while or are new to the school, we are excited to have each of you as part of our class. We have added some pictures to remind us of all of the amazing things that we have done already during Term 1.



patrula



We want to remind you that everyone in our class brings something special. Whether you're quiet or outgoing, everyone's voice is important. Keep up the great work, and let's make this year the best one yet!



Cam, Emma R, Sarah A & Claire

withi crew have started 2025 with a lot of energy and creativity

withi

We started off with our junior Immersion program, going on 5 days of Out and Abouts, stretching our comfort zone by trying lots of new activities. It was a great way to get to know each other quickly too!



Blue Lagoon rock climbing was a lot of fun.



Youth ARC fun and games.



Bushwalk to the Octopus Tree at kunanyi.



Feeding the wildlife at Bonorong Sanctuary.



Swimming at the carnival.



Youth ARC creative space.

withi

Creative Flair



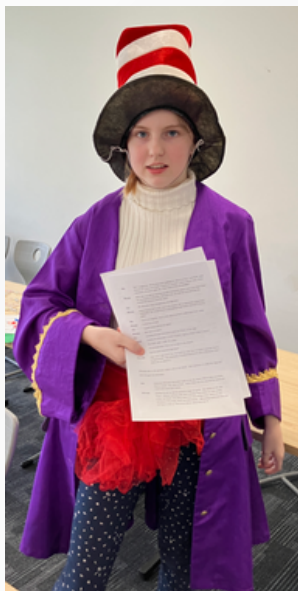
Practising shot put for the Athletics carnival



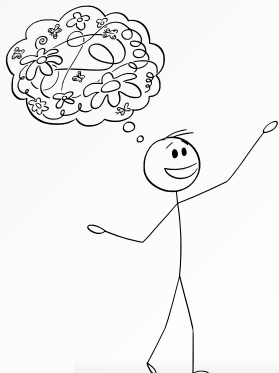
Sorell Ninja Park challenges



What masks do we wear?



Script writing fun



BBQ lunch chats at Montrose Park

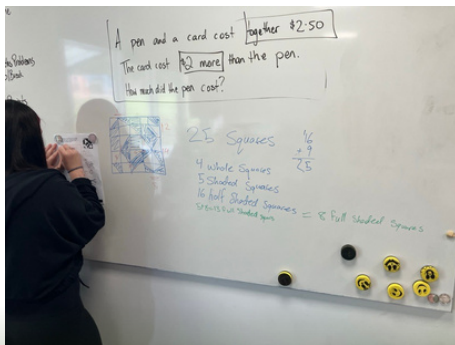


withi young people are loving their elective subjects this term including PE, Drama, Music and Art. We look forward to even more physical challenges and creative projects in the future.

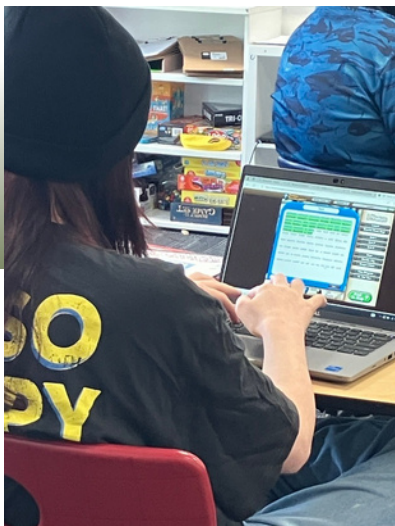
Kate, James & Erin

It has been a great start to the year in pulana, with so many young people stepping up to the raised expectations with regards to Participation.

pulana



We have had some great learning opportunities where young people have been able to find their groove and approach the work how they are comfortable and willing to work. The introduction of the whiteboards has been a positive change. Now, more and more young people are using a whiteboard to do their working out for lots of different activities.



pulana

We have also had some fantastic weather for our Out & Abouts this term, highlights being the stand up paddleboarding down at Lauderdale and the kayaking from Sandy Bay to Hobart. The willingness of some young people to give it a go, despite being a bit worried and not really wanting to, was awesome, helping others in their class to give it a go as well.



A highlight for pulana class this term was kayaking on the Derwent River.

We are developing some great young role models in pulana. It is awesome to be a part of it.



Brad, Sarah P & Mika

WHAT A FANTASTIC START TO THE YEAR FOR MUNGALINA!

mungalina

We have welcomed six new young people into our class, and they have settled in well.



Our Out and About experiences have been full of adventure, starting with a trip to Rock It, where we tackled climbing walls and explored tunnels - some of us a little too well, as Jesse even got stuck in one! We have also taken to the water for kayaking and tested our teamwork and resilience at the Fusion adventure ropes course.



mungalina



In addition to our outdoor adventures, we have been enjoying cooking together. We started with boxed cake mixes and have now worked our way up to making delicious treats from scratch, including sausage rolls and rum balls.



It has been wonderful getting to know the new faces in our class and watching everyone's personal growth. We are excited to see what new challenges and achievements Term 2 will bring!



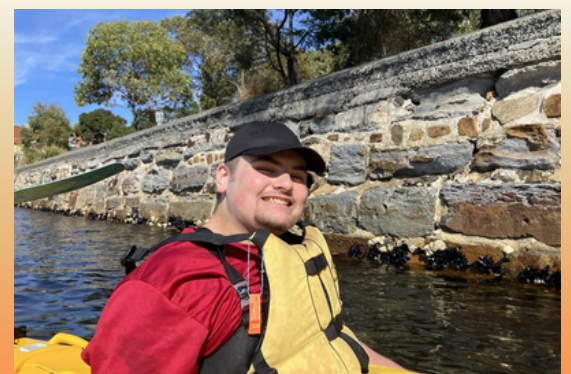
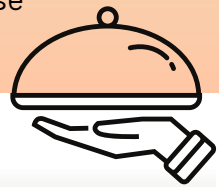
Jesse, Matt F & Dane

2025 got off to a flying start for wayti, both in and out of the classroom.

wayti

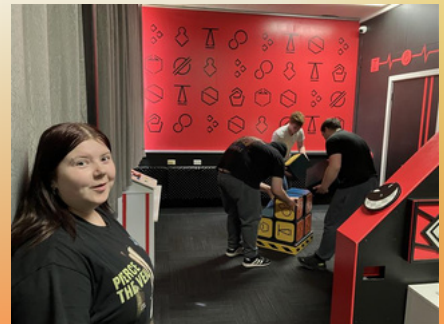
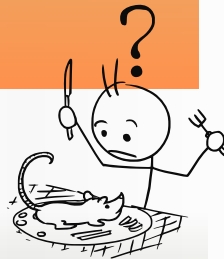


For some of our crew, first term was time to get their heads around being a senior student and understanding the opportunities that our VET courses can offer. For others it was a time to reflect on what may be their last year at St Francis. Our diverse teaching partnership gives us one day a week with Kelly, to focus on achieving micro credentials such as Food Handling Certificates, RSA, White Card, & Learners Permit. It has been amazing to see the crew dive into these opportunities.



wayti

Food became a big part of our learning. This term's cooking focused on balanced cheap savoury dishes. For Harmony Day, we embarked on an International Food Fest to celebrate diversity and tolerance, sharing dishes from around the world. Young people had the chance to try dishes from over 24 countries, sweet and savoury, hot and cold.



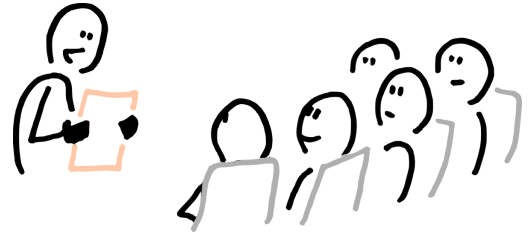
Outside the classroom was equally as challenging and fun. From kayaking to Evolo Escape Rooms, our Out & Abouts gave the opportunity for play and laughing together. From the look of wayti '25, there will be no slowing down in Term 2.



Caro, Kelly, Kahlid & Nathan

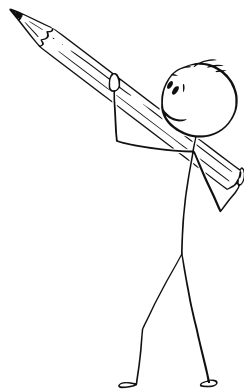
Truwala class have made a sizzling start to the year.

truwala

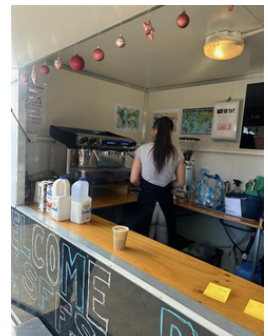


We have all been participating really well in learning, increasing the time we are able to engage in each session and enjoying new challenges. Young People have been working on micro-credentials, including learner driver licences, construction white cards and responsible service of Alcohol (RSA). Young people have been enrolling in Certificate I/II VET courses focused around developing vocational pathways and building foundational literacy and numeracy skills.

Truwala had a fun day at Amaze in Richmond, working in teams to find hidden items and solve codes. They also enjoyed kayaking along the shore and having fish and chips for lunch during an Indigenous Out & About.



Some truwala young people have been working in a coffee van under the supervision of class leader Jason, enhancing their skills on the espresso machine, which could improve their employability in hospitality.



truwala



Truwala has been enjoying weekly cooking sessions, where young people select recipes and organize ingredients, with pizza being the favourite. These sessions equip them with essential cooking skills and confidence to prepare meals for family and friends.



Participation in electives has been strong this term, with activities like art, bike collective, mountain biking, chess, surfing, and drama. Students particularly enjoyed creating paper mache vases.



Additionally, students attended presentations from guest speakers from Build Up Tassie and UTAS COMET, learning about construction skills and online safety rights. They actively engaged in these sessions, gaining vital information.

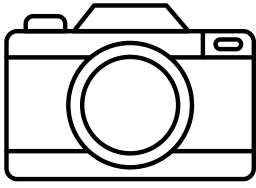


Well done truwala on a productive Term One.



**Geoff, Jacqui, Sam,
Sophie & Jason**

muka

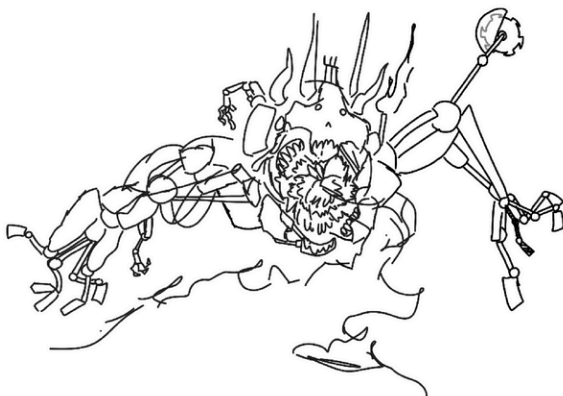
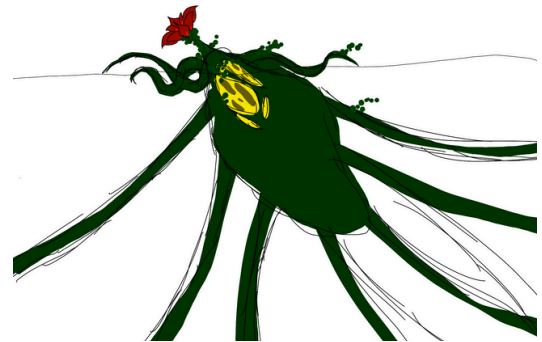


Muka class has got off to a busy start this term. Our senior young people have got straight into their VET work and our younger group have been doing Life Skills and cooking which has been a lot of fun.

Some of our young people enjoy photography and they have been given the opportunity to photograph a range of landscapes around Hobart.

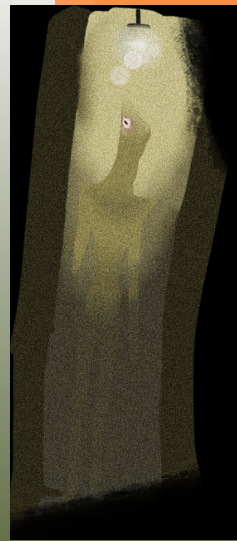
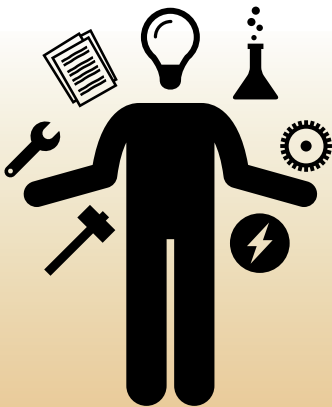
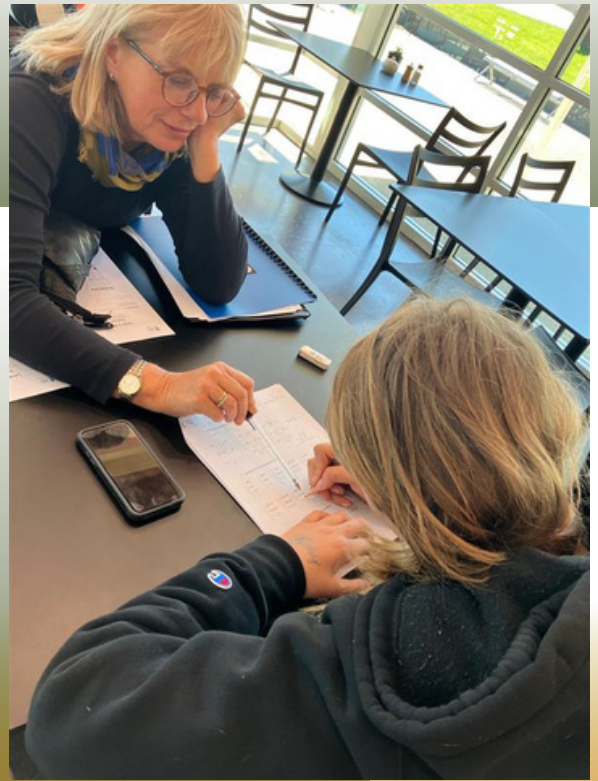


"A Tangled Perception" - Sophia (June) Bearmam

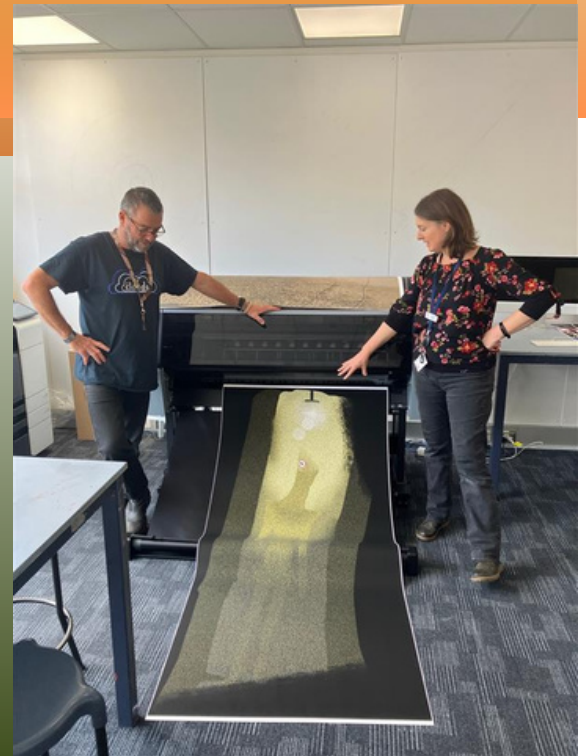


Artwork by
Brett Challenger

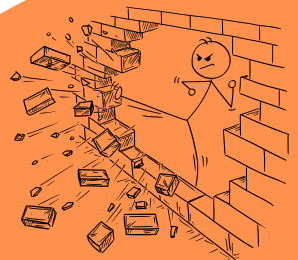
muka



"GOOBER"
by
Brett Challenger



Well done to an excellent start to the year!



G, Mel, Jules & Jason

layna

Layna class is off to a good start this year. We welcome back some of our veterans from last year and the year before, as well as new young people into this dynamic and joyful group of amazing humans.



Cooking to increase life skills



Our young people and their pets



Learning in a home setting



Outdoor classroom
Gasp walk at moonah



Restoring an old surfboard



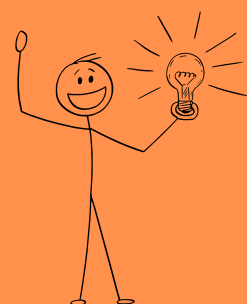
Recycled material
for creating
clothing



Flowers picked
for young people
to draw

The layna young people have worked on many different projects this term including recycling a old surfboard, sewing clothing out of preloved materials, cooking and taking the classroom outdoors.

We look forward to seeing all layna young people working towards their goals as the year progresses. Bring on the success, belly laughs and all of the Subway and Kia adventures.

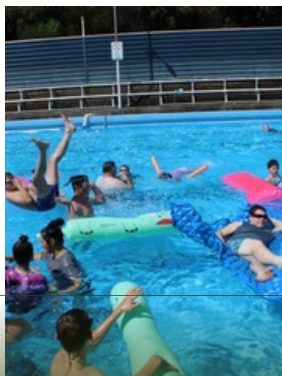


Jen R, Caro, Jeramey & Nathan

PE

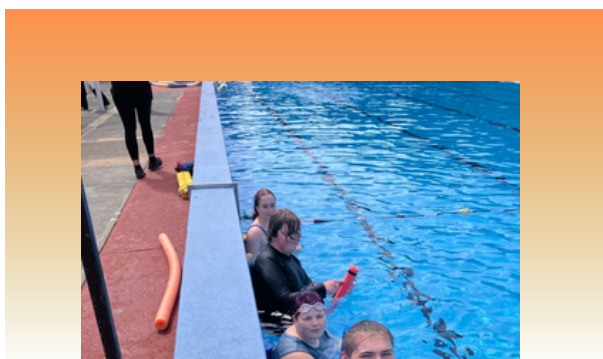
Community Swim Day

This day was held at the New Norfolk Pool and we had the biggest participation record to date!



Community Athletics day

Community Athletics day was held at the Domain Athletics Centre.

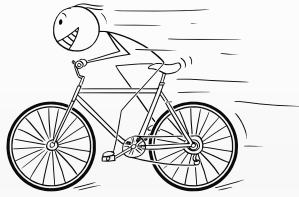


Surfing

PE



Our PE electives Surfing and Mountain Bike riding kicked off with a bang with surfers who stood straight up, and caught waves on their first session. Our mountain bike riding crew climbed kilometres and kilometres and learnt about cornering and down hill speed control. During onsite PE classes, we learnt how to play frisbee golf and went through the practical skill components of Athletic field events. There was some tough competition in staff vs mungalina YP basketball and we all enjoyed riding lots of bikes around onsite.



Mountain Bike riding



Bike Collective

Bike Collective has started strong with six consistent young people on rotation going along each week. They have been working on both bike mechanic and work related skills. Young people worked on stripping, cleaning, rebuilding and assessing bikes to decide whether they were worth restoring. They used numbers and lists and each young person came up with a work related personal goal which they will work towards for the year.



Romy, Lance & Loic

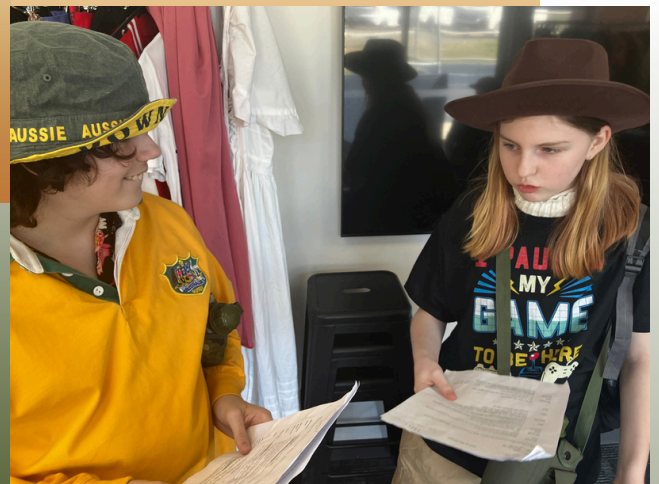
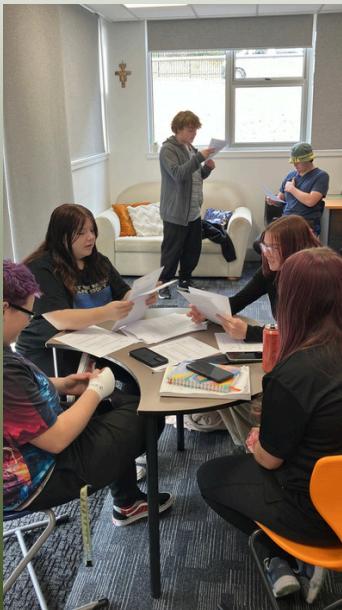
Drama

Takes Centre Stage



This year we introduced Drama as a new subject at St Francis, and it's been a fantastic success so far! Young People have been stepping out of their comfort zones, exploring improvisation, working with scripts, and creating their own masks – and we've had plenty of laughs along the way.

Through Drama we build confidence, and work in teams as well as individually to explore new ideas. It's been great to see creativity to come to life, and we can't wait to see where Term 2 takes us – watch this space!



Well done to everyone who gave this new subject a go –
your enthusiasm has been inspiring!

Leah



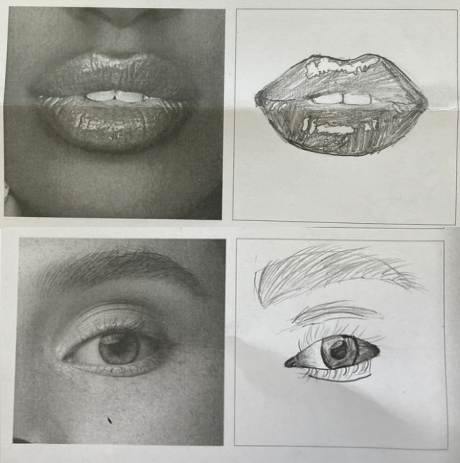
Art

Creative Minds at Work

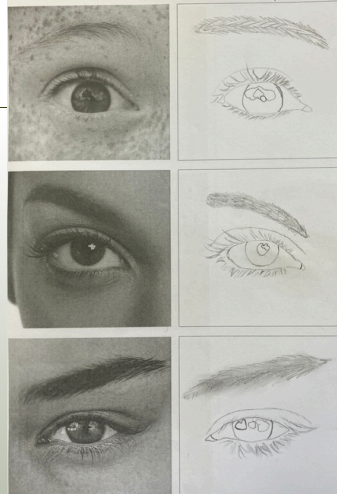
Art has been buzzing with creativity this Term! Young People have been experimenting with mixed media, exploring different techniques, and bringing their ideas to life in unique ways. Some have even started developing their own personal projects, using Art to express themselves and their experiences. It's been amazing to see the variety of work being produced and the confidence growing in their creative choices.



Bella T & Ricky C



Ren B



Ree M



Chloe G



Sophia X (Guns & roses)



Charlie C



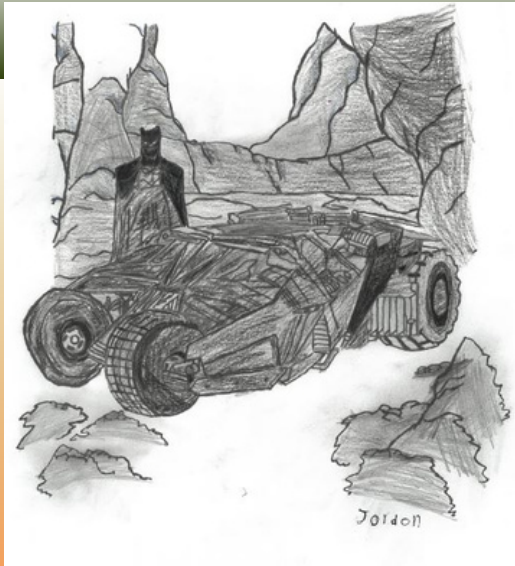
Declan P



Jordon K



Art



Creative Arts Connect Submission
Jordan



Pieces of Me - Miley B



Pieces of Me -
Sophia X



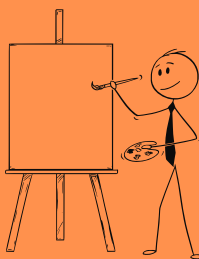
Pieces of Me - Ricky



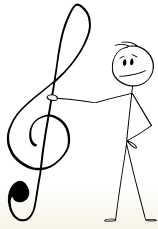
Creative Arts Connect Submission
- Eliana

We're excited to see what new
ideas emerge in Term 2!

Leah & Sarah

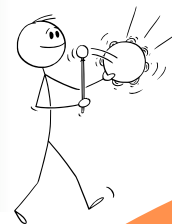


Music



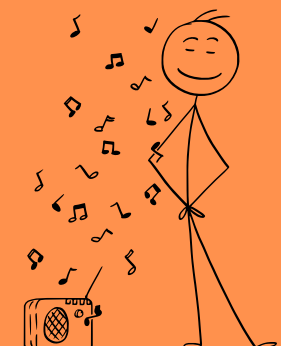
This term, in Music, all classes have explored the guitar, bass, drums, keyboards and vocals. We've enjoyed investigating digital music creation, beat making, and creating soundscapes with mini synths. Boomwhackers, a collection of tuned plastic tubes that you hit on the ground to make different notes, are also proving to be a "hit".

At the time of writing, Guitar Group had been practising various techniques, and rehearsing 'Wildflower' by Billie Eilish towards a performance at the end of term. Additional young people from all classes have been preparing for our first "Performance Week", where our YP are looking forward to singing, playing, and rapping for their friends and family.



In VET Cert II Music, our focus has been on setting up PA systems. Young people set-up, and ran, the audio systems for both our Swimming Day and Athletics Carnival. They also maintained their performance practice, performing songs by Billie Eilish, among other artists, for the school community.

John

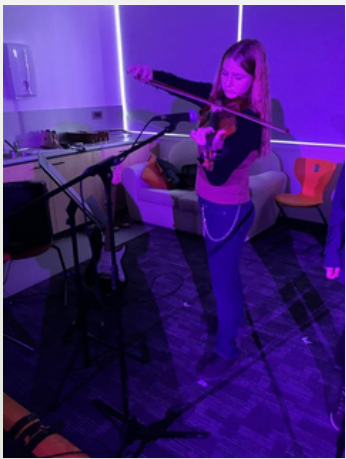


Performance Time

This term, we celebrated a special milestone with our first End of Term Performance Afternoon for families and carers.



It was a joyful event that highlighted creativity, courage and our community spirit. Our Young People proudly shared their work in Music, Drama and Art, showing their talent and progress from the term.



Families enjoyed the performances and exhibitions, and the event had a warm, supportive atmosphere where every young voice was heard and valued.

Leah & John

