



# St Francis Xavier Catholic School

## Gala Thanks

# WOW

## what a day!

Thank you to each and every one of you for all your support! It takes a huge community effort to put this event together.

There were so many people working behind the scenes, from all those families who brought in our requested items, through to those who donated goods, services and time for our auction, our wonderful sorters, the bakers of cakes and makers of curry, those that made craft items and lots of delicious sweets, our set-up and pack-up helpers and our gala day stall and ride helpers.

And we must not forget all our wonderful students who helped out in some way. It was great to see them get stuck in and support their school!

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually and we are likely to forget someone, please accept this as a personal thank you!

### THANK YOU ALL!

The water walkers and animal riders were enjoyed by all, the entertainment running all day was awesome, the food area worked really well and the back field looked fantastic. The day ran so smoothly, which resulted in a general feeling of excitement and drew many positive comments.

Once again the community gave feedback about what a fantastic event it is each year, providing an affordable day out for the whole family.

I'm sure you would all agree it was a great day and to you all we are truly thankful!

Funds raised on the day were **\$50,000**. Final expenses are still being calculated, but we are very happy with this fantastic amount.

We would like to say a special thank you to the Millar family for once again taking care of our road signage. This family is leaving the school this year, so if you are keen to do this job for us, keep it in mind and let us know next year.

### Gala committee:

A special thanks to some of our Gala committee members, who are stepping down next year.

You have all done a wonderful job, putting in a huge amount of time and effort to support the school and our children, so thank you once again!

### PS:

A big hand must go to our Gala Co-ordinator Aynsle Holland (and her family) for the countless hours she has put in to this year's gala! Thank you on behalf of the gala crew and the school community. We hope you enjoy your retirement from the Gala Boss job next year!



### Our wonderful staff

Special thanks must go to:

Our Principal Craig McKernan, Deputy Principal Glenys Jakicevich, Assistant Principal Colleen Ferguson and the fabulous office team of Pam Head, Deborah Rudolph and Raewyn Edwards-Bercic, without whose help this day would not be possible.

Our caretaker Sean Hacker did a fantastic job, going above and beyond for our children.. Thank you Sean!

We would also like to thank the teachers and teacher aides for the hours of extra time they gave us on and before the day.

Cheers to you all!



### The Gala Crew

A huge effort goes into the preparations for the Gala and this year was no different. Co-ordinating such an efficient group of people makes the job so much easier. The preparations prior are becoming very streamlined and knowing that competent people are there to help eases the need for rescue remedy (or similar)!

Once again the Gala Committee worked well as a team and they and their families need to be proud of their efforts, which in turn made the day the success it was.

Our sponsorship scheme sold very quickly as the businesses see the value in each level of sponsorship package.

A huge thank you to Colleen Ferguson who puts a lot of time into attending the meetings, feeding back to the appropriate people and organising the staff for Gala, not to mention preparation on the Friday and ALL day Saturday.

There are a number of co-ordinators who are choosing to stand down from the committee for next year and share the love. We have approx. 300 families at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School, so perhaps next year is your turn!!!

Thank you to all our Gala Committee, it has been a fantastic experience working with each and every one of you. To your families - thank you for lending you to us, and on behalf of ALL the SFXCS Community, God Bless YOU.

Aynsle Holland, **Gala Co-ordinator, AKA RETIRING Gala Boss**

**G.J. Gardner.** **HOMES**

## Sweets

Once again the sweets stall was the place to be! Loved the Beach theme! The fudge was superb, as was the team who made it.



Special thanks to the Mathews family who toffee the apples, Huanui Orchards for providing them, and the senior students and Lou who made a superb job of the lolly lei's again this year.

P.S: If you need any tips on fudge making for next year, Ann Sweeney is your woman!! Next year's theme is ???

## News...

We did struggle to get volunteers this year, so will be trialling a new system next year.

We also had some queries on the day about where the White Elephant and clothing/shoes stalls were. We feel that the time & effort it takes to co-ordinate these stalls, not to mention the people power on the day, outweighed the financial return these stalls generated in the past.

As a committee, we are focusing on a family fun day out, where you can come along with \$5 and be able to participate in a number of activities just like the old days! There are some rides/activities that cost a bit more than others, but it's a once-a-year thing, so we feel we are doing a fabulous job catering to ALL of the community.

## Join the Gala committee...

We need a new **Gala Co-ordinator** (aka Gala Boss) for next year, as Aynsle is stepping down. We also need new Co-ordinators in: **Toys, Sponsors, Newsletters, Rides & Outdoor activities, and a support co-ordinator for Food.** Or if you are interested in taking on a new role just let us know.

Many hands make light work, and it is a huge job organising the gala, so we would like to encourage you to think about joining the Gala committee.

Remember, it's for a great cause - your children!

## Congratulations to...

### Principal for a Day:

The lucky winner of the Rule the Skool Principal for a Day raffle, was **Katja Stupar**. She will take over the role for the day on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Lets see what she does!



### Free Gate Prize Draw:

We had lots of entries for the Free Gate prize draw. Pictured is the winner, Jesse Webber (right), with his new ipod Touch!



# 2015

We know, we've only just finished this one, but the planning for next year's gala begins already, with the confirmed date:

## Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Mark the date in your calendar now! We are expecting another great day next year.

## Cakes...

For those interested, we trialled this year giving only one cake box per family. Many people did request extra boxes which was fantastic. The interesting thing was, although 340 less cake boxes went out, the difference was only \$290 from last years takings, so if you exclude the cost of those boxes it was approximately \$40.00!!



We have uploaded lots of great photos from Gala day.

Be sure to check them out on our Facebook page, and while you are there why not "like" us and share with all your friends as well:

[www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicSchoolPTFA](http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicSchoolPTFA)

Our page is also regularly updated during the year with PTFA news and information.

## Website...

Our website also has lots of fantastic photos, recipes for all the yummy sweets, sponsor information & more!

Make sure you have a look: [www.sfx.school.nz](http://www.sfx.school.nz)  
(Click on "Our People/PTFA/Gala")

## What happens to the leftovers??

Nothing goes to waste from our Gala. SFXCS supports a variety of community groups by donating any remaining items from Gala Day to organisations like St Vinnie's, Hospice, Zonta & The Salvation Army.



## Join the PTFA !!

It is a fabulous opportunity to meet other parents and get involved in doing something really positive for your child.



The **PTFA AGM** is **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May @ 7.30pm** in the staffroom.

If you want have a chat to a current member, please give Serena a call, Tel: 435 6787 (hm).