



# St Paul's Post

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Term 4, Week 8

6 December, 2019

## ***From the Principal***

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the second reading for this Sunday, we are reminded that the Scriptures teach us about hope, resilience and tolerance. A very timely message as we approach the end of a busy academic year where students, staff and parents alike may be tired and feel the pressure of the end of the year. So, with the countdown to the last day of school, I encourage everyone in our community to "be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus" (Rom 15:4-9).

## ***2020 School Leaders***

During Week 6, Mrs Misek and I had the privilege and pleasure of listening to our ten 2020 School Leaders speeches. The students were well supported by their parents and Year 4 and 5 peers.

Our school leaders in 2020 are:

**School Captains** - Daniel Jardak and Isla Smith

**Vice Captains** - Matthew Thompson and Ava Silveri

**School Leaders** - Markus Maroun, Saskia Bradbery, Grace Love, Declan Abela, Lily Brame and Josh Georges.

Congratulations to you all - the St Paul the Apostle School Community is excited to work with you next year.

## ***2020 Staffing Update***

At the end of the year, we say farewell to the following staff members who have made wonderful contributions to the St. Paul's community during their time here:

- Mrs Jane Shelton, who has taken on a Coordinator role at Our Lady Queen of Peace Greystanes
- Miss Tram Cao, who has been appointed in a permanent teaching position at Holy Spirit, St Clair
- Mr David Smith, who will be travelling next year and
- Miss Annika Ortanez, who concludes her IT Traineeship.

Ms Mirijana Loncar will be taking a leave of absence in 2020 to spend time with her son, Hugo.

In 2020, we welcome to our community of learners at St Paul's, the following staff members:

- Mrs Vanessa Holland, Miss Marissa Mentis, and Mrs Teresa Draybi - teaching full time
- Mr Matthew Newcombe, our new IT Trainee.

We are currently in the process of recruiting teachers and working towards having this process finalised over the next few weeks. Therefore, until we have our full complement of teaching staff, we are unable to allocate teachers to specific grades for 2020. As soon as we have secured our team for 2020 we will be in a position to inform you of your child's intended class teacher.

Thank you for your understanding as we work to have our staffing finalised as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Misek or myself via the office.

## ***2020 School Fees***

Attached to this edition is information from the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) pertaining to 2020 School Fees and School Based Fees. Should your family be experiencing financial hardship, please contact the office to make an appointment with me. No child should be denied a Catholic Education due to hardship and all matters will be treated with the strictest confidentiality.

## ***2019 Learning Update***

In this newsletter, our Leaders of Learning explain the progress of our 2019 goals in Religious Education, Literacy and Numeracy and below you can see the results of 2019 NAPLAN for our Year 3 and 5 students.

**St Paul the Apostle Primary School is a community of Safe, Respectful, Learners**

## ***Dates for your Diary***

For the most up to date Parent Calendar Information, please see the 'Events' section of our Skoolbag app.

**End of Year  
Thanksgiving Mass  
Friday 13 December  
9:10am in the Church  
All Welcome**

**Return to School  
2020**

**Thursday 30 January  
Students Years 1-6**

**Friday 31 January  
Kindergarten**

## 2019 NAPLAN

Naplan In May, Year 3 and Year 5 students took part in NAPLAN - National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy, a national testing program to assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian Schools. We are extremely proud of our students' wonderful results and congratulate them on their efforts and hard work.

Year 3, 2019 NAPLAN RESULTS	% of students in top three bands	
	School	Australia
Literacy	82	76
Reading	85	74
Writing	85	81
Spelling	76	70
Numeracy	82	67

2019 Year 5 NAPLAN RESULTS	% of students in top three bands	
	School	Australia
Literacy	70	58
Reading	77	66
Writing	58	48
Spelling	68	63
Numeracy	75	59

Peace and Joy!

Megan Baird  
Principal



### All Welcome - End of Year School Mass

Our whole school end of year mass  
will be celebrated on

**Friday 13 December at 9.00am.**

This is a special opportunity to gather as a school, celebrate the Eucharist and farewell families leaving our school community.  
We look forward to seeing you there!



### From the Assistant Principal

This week Mrs Love and I had the opportunity to attend two days of professional learning with Michael McDowell. Michael is the Superintendent of the Ross School District in San Francisco. He speaks about instruction, learning, leadership and innovation in Education and is the author of several books about project based learning.

During the two days we were challenged to think about rigorous programs of learning where there is clarity of learning outcomes for students, where students are challenged through targeted instruction and feedback and a culture that focuses on students taking ownership of their own learning is encouraged.

As parents we often ask our children "what did you do today?" and of course the response is always "nothing". Michael challenged all of us to flip this question and ask our children questions that focus on their learning.

- *What feedback did you get today and what did you do with it?*
- *What are you learning to do in Maths, Science, English...?*
- *How do you know if you are improving?*
- *Do you help others with their learning?*

When our children know what they are learning and how to improve their learning we are building *assessment capable learners* - children who know what to do when they don't know what to do. As we come to the end of the 2019 school year the challenge is for us to reflect on what our children have learnt to do this year? How has their learning changed and can they see how they have improved? When reports come home next week they will have areas of improvement for students as well as areas for further growth. I encourage you to look at these future goals in a positive way with your children. This helps them to know where they are going with their learning in 2020 and how they can get there.

On Thursday 12 December the children will have the opportunity to meet their teachers for 2020. We encourage you to speak positively about this with your child/ren. As always, the leadership team, in consultation with the staff work hard to ensure that all of our students are placed in learning environments where they feel safe and secure and valued by their peers and

teachers. In all of our learning spaces at St. Paul's, students work collaboratively across the grade on a daily basis and therefore work with all students and teachers in their grade.

We will also offer opportunities for extra transition for some students in the last week of school to ensure that they are able to start the holidays feeling positive about 2020. If you have any concerns please contact Mrs Baird or myself via the office.

### **Christmas Concert - Thank You**

A very special thankyou, with extra tinsel, to all for a fabulous Christmas Concert. Thank you Mrs Fiona Hill and Mrs Kieran Jackson and the staff for the extra work to make sure our Christmas Concert was such a success. Our students did a great job presenting and performing throughout the night.

Thank you to our parents and visitors for coming to make our night such a special event.

**Mrs Jane Misek**  
**Assistant Principal**



### **RE News** **Parent Helper Morning Tea**



The staff of St Paul the Apostle would like to thank you for your generosity and assistance throughout 2019, by inviting our Parent Helpers to morning tea on **Friday 13 December, following our End of Year Mass**. We anticipate that the morning tea will go from 10:30am – 11:30am in the Father David Scott Parish Centre, unfortunately students will not be able to attend but your toddlers are more than welcome.

We hope you will be able to join us and look forward to seeing you there.

Kind regards,  
The Grateful Staff of St Paul's



### **Year 6 Thanksgiving Mass - Tuesday 17 December @ 6:30pm**

Our Year 6 students will celebrate their final Thanksgiving Mass on Tuesday 17 December, 2019 starting at 6:30pm in the Church. Please join us after the mass for a light supper in the Fr David Scott Parish Hall.

**Mrs Johra Brackenbury**  
**Religious Education Coordinator**



### **Change of School for 2020**

We currently have a waiting list of families wishing to enrol their children for 2020. It would be appreciated if the school could be notified in writing of any children who may be leaving St Paul's at the end of the year from grades other than Year 6. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

### **Book Covering**

As a result of the generosity from the community **Colour Me Happy Athon**, the school has recently purchased a large quantity of new reading books for the children. Before they can be used by the students the books need to be covered to protect them. If you are able to help with covering, please come into the school office and we will provide you with the books and contact.

Thank you in advance for your help and continued support.



### **2019 Religious Education Goal update**

**Goal: For all students to articulate the link between Scripture and the living Catholic tradition.**

The staff and students have focused on the Mission program at the beginning of Term 4. The students have been involved in focusing on the big idea within their religion lessons. Their lessons have included working with Scripture and exploring what does this mean to them in today's society. They have been involved in living their Catholic Tradition through the involvement of 'Dignity Day' in which they brought in toiletry items for the refugee families. They are ending the year in which all classes are focusing on the Advent/Christmas season in which they were all involved in the collection of 'Christmas Coins' to purchase presents for children who are less fortunate than themselves.

Moving towards 2020 the community of St Paul the Apostle will continue to work on deepening the understanding of Scripture and identifying how we can use this Scripture and Catholic tradition to shape our daily lives.

**Johra Brackenbury**  
**Religious Education Coordinator**

## **2019 Literacy Goal update**

**Goal: By the end of 2019, students will improve their writing by demonstrating an awareness of audience and by making deliberate choices to structure their writing to achieve their intended purpose.**

### **Why is it important for students to demonstrate an awareness of purpose?**

When students (and adults) communicate, their purpose is not what *they* want to do; instead, it is what they want *their audience* to do or know as a result of reading what they have written or listening to what they have said. Thus, it involves the audience. To communicate effectively (that is, to achieve their purpose), they must adapt to their audience. Therefore, they must know their audience.

Knowing their purpose and audience helps students determine how and what they are writing and the language and structure of their writing. Audience is the intended group of speakers, listeners or viewers that the writer, designer, filmmaker or speaker is addressing. Students need to make choices about what type of text is appropriate for their audience. It is the same for reading, We choose books to read that will satisfy our purpose. Are students reading to be informed, entertained or persuaded?

Throughout the year, our students have had many opportunities to write for an authentic audience to achieve their purpose. Below are a few examples of these.

- Kindergarten wrote invitations to people in our school community to come along to their pizza party.
- Year 1 wrote letters to Santa and hand delivered them to him while they were on their shopping excursion to Winston Hills Mall.
- Year 2 wrote letters to the residents of Woodberry Village after meeting them on their farm day.
- Year 3 wrote and published a review of the Opera House Tours.
- Year 4 made picture books and presented them to the Year 2 students to read.
- Year 5 made board games and wrote rules and instructions on how to play and presented them to their parents for a 'games' morning.
- Year 6 wrote to council members, CEO's of supermarkets and big companies asking for more environmentally friendly incentives.

Teachers have had many opportunities to engage in professional learning this year. Our major focus this year was on developing Learning Intentions and Success Criteria. As you walk through the classrooms, you may have seen them hanging up on the walls on large butchers paper. Learning Intentions are descriptions from learning outcomes, of what learners should know, understand and be able to do by the end of a learning period. In addition to learning intentions, students may also have individual learning goals that they address in their learning. Success criteria are the measures students and teachers use to determine whether, and how well, learners have met the learning intentions.

**Margaret Ferguson**  
**Leader of Learning - Literacy**

## **2019 Numeracy Goal update**

**Goal: By the end of 2019, for all students to develop problem solving and reasoning skills to achieve at least one years growth in all four number domains.**

Reasoning skills are vital to developing mathematical understanding. With the development of mathematical reasoning, students learn how to select problem-solving strategies, draw logical conclusions, develop and describe solutions, and recognise how those solutions can be applied. Mathematical reasoners are able to reflect on solutions to problems and determine whether or not they make sense.

Over the course of this year, staff have engaged in a number of professional learning opportunities related to the development and assessment of reasoning skills. We have focused on making these skills explicit and visible to students in the classroom and employed *Talk Moves* to encourage students to explain and justify their reasoning, using mathematical language. Teachers have worked collaboratively to develop rich tasks to challenge our learners and modelled the use of reasoning and problem solving skills during reflections. There have also been professional learning provided to teachers through shoulder work with Numeracy Leaders.

The impact of these initiatives are evident when visiting all learning spaces. Student thinking and reasoning outcomes are visible in anchor charts and students are utilising specific mathematical terms when explaining their ideas. They are learning to prove their solutions and to assess their own understandings. The powerful work that has been done this year will continue in 2020.

**Kieran Jackson**  
**Leader of Learning - Numeracy**

## **Christmas Treats**

In these last weeks of school, children like to carry out the Christmas spirit by sending and receiving Christmas cards with lovely messages of joy and thanks. This is a lovely gesture and truly in the spirit of Christmas. A number of children at St Paul's have severe allergies or anaphylaxis. Therefore, we need your support to ensure that your child does not bring in any edible treats to give or share with other students. This includes any food or drink items, lollies, biscuits, gingerbread, chocolates, candy canes, marshmallows etc. We ask this so that we can strive to ensure that our school community remains safe for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.







## Christmas Concert 2019

Thank you to  
everyone who  
helped to make this  
such a joyous  
community event.

*Merry Christmas to all!*







## 2020 Information

Please note that, at the time of publication, some Staff Development Days (no students at school days) are yet to be finalised. As soon as these dates are confirmed in 2020, they will be added to the Parent Calendar (available on Skoolbag) and published in the School Newsletter, St Paul's Post.

<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Tuesday 28th January</b>	Staff Development Day confirmed - no students at school
	<b>Wednesday 29th January</b>	Years 1 to 6 MAI Assessment Interviews - by appointment only Kindergarten MAI interviews - by appointment only
	<b>Thursday 30th January</b>	<b>First full day at school for Years 1 to 6 ONLY</b> Kindergarten MAI interviews continue - by appointment only
	<b>Friday 31st January</b>	<b>Kindergarten first day at school</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Siblings of students at St Paul's commence at 9am</li><li>• New families to St Paul's commence at 9:30am</li><li>• "Tea and Tears" for K2020 parents at 10am</li></ul>
	<b>Thursday 9th April</b>	Last Day of Term 1
<b>Term 2</b>	<b>Monday 27th April</b>	First Day of Term 2
	<b>Friday, 3rd July</b>	Last Day of Term 2
<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Monday, 20th July</b>	First Day of Term 3
	<b>Friday 25th September</b>	Last Day of Term 3
<b>Term 4</b>	<b>Monday 12th October</b>	First Day of Term 4
	<b>Wednesday 16th December</b>	Last Day of Term 4
	<b>Thursday 17th December and Friday 18th December</b>	Staff Development Days - no student supervision at school

### Mathematical Assessment Interviews - all students (MAI's) - YEARS 1 - 6

Students in Years 1 - 6 will complete their MAI testing (by appointment) on Wednesday 29th January.

The first FULL day of Term 1, 2020 for students in Years 1 - 6 will be Thursday 30th January.

### Kindergarten 2020

Kindergarten MAI testing will be held over two days, Wednesday 29th January and Thursday 30th January. The first FULL day for our Kindergarten students will be Friday 31st January.

Notes will be going home soon to all families with details of how to book in for the MAI tests.

### Uniform Shop

Due to family circumstances, the Uniform Shop may not be able to open on scheduled operating days in January. We ask that where possible you organise uniforms for 2020 by close of business next Thursday 12 December. Thank you for your understanding.

Elle

elle@ozfashions.com.au 0421 216 414

### School Fees

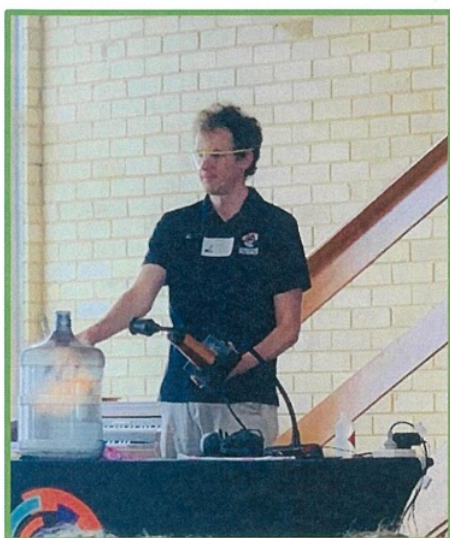
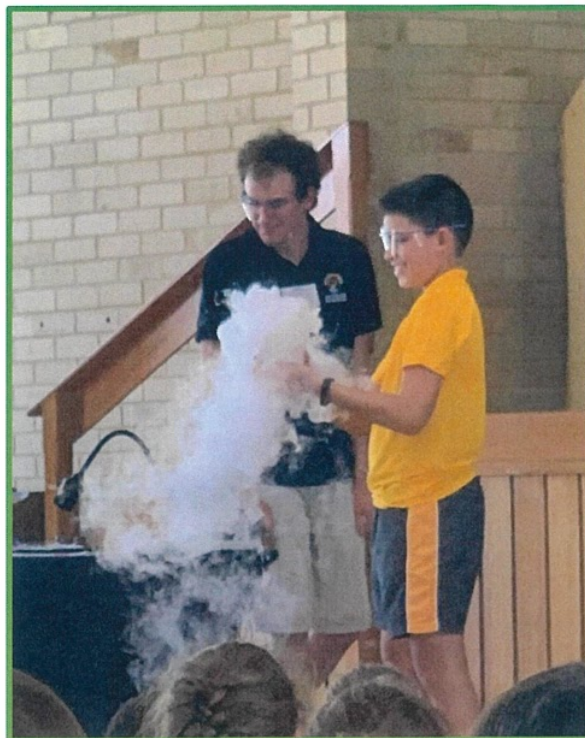
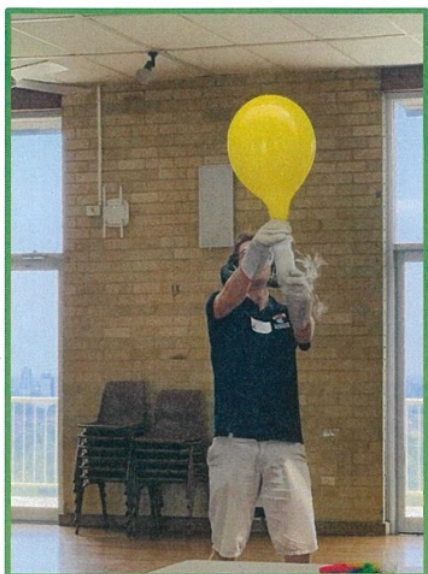
All school fees should be finalised by next Thursday 12 December. No cash or EFTPOS payments can be accepted in the school office after this date due to end of year processing.

Happy Birthday to those celebrating in the next few weeks -

Ryder N, Gabriella S, Tyler L, Xavier D'S, Lorena V, Joseph S, Savanna D, Jenna D, Savannah A, Sophie M, Zaya H, Mlay G, Georgia S, Sophia S, Ethan M, Ava S, Luke N.

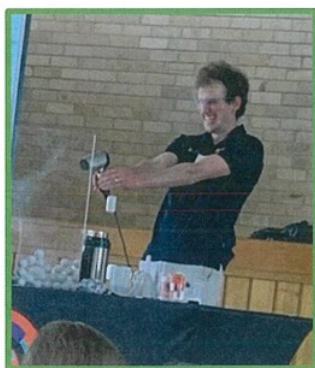






### Solids, Liquids, Gases & Plasmas

On Monday of week 7, students from Years Four and Five were treated to a spectacular showcase of exciting and energetic demonstrations, all about matter, energy and temperature. Students were amazed by sublimating dry ice, boiling-cold liquid nitrogen and flaming fireballs. Thanks, Mitch, for a very entertaining and informative afternoon.





# Read & win

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Win a  
**GOOGLE  
CHROMEBOOK**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of two Google Chromebooks or one of thirty gift vouchers valued at \$30.

The more books you read, the more chances you have to win.

Enter online  
[www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Competition opens  
on 2 December 2019 and  
closes at 5pm on 2 February 2020**

Terms and conditions apply.

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## Diocesan Fees Schedule 2020

### Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees - 2020

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fee can be paid upfront at the start of the year or as three equal instalments. The fee is only charged for the first three (3) children currently enrolled in the diocese (in other words there is no additional Diocesan Tuition Fee for the fourth child attending a systemic school in the diocese or other participating Catholic schools - **see 'Sibling Discounts' below**). To work out how much the fee is for each child, check the table below.

The 2020 Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees are as follows:

ANNUAL FEES	No charge for 4 <sup>th</sup> + children	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$ 1,224	\$918	\$612
	Years 1 – 6	\$ 1,581	\$1,185	\$792
Secondary	Years 7 – 8	\$ 2,190	\$1,644	\$1,095
	Years 9 – 10	\$ 2,430	\$1,824	\$1,215
	Years 11 – 12	\$ 3,102	\$2,328	\$1,551

The 2020 instalment rate is as follows:

INSTALMENT FEES	Charged in Terms 1,2 & 3	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$408	\$306	\$204
	Years 1 – 6	\$527	\$395	\$264
Secondary	Years 7 – 8	\$730	\$548	\$365
	Years 9 – 10	\$810	\$608	\$405
	Years 11 – 12	\$1,034	\$776	\$517

### Annual Diocesan Building Levy - 2020

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College, Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. This levy has replaced the various building levies that parents previously paid to school building funds (managed by either parishes or schools). ***The levy for 2020 is \$822 per family, payable in three equal instalments of \$274.***

### Annual Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents - 2020

The Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents for 2020 is **\$2,016 per student, payable in three equal instalments of \$672**. The fee applies to new students on the following Visa numbers: 173, 400, 401, 402, 405, 407, 408, 410, 411, 415, 416, 417, 420, 456, 457, 462, 476, 482, 485, 580, 590, 600, 601, 651, 771, 884, 944, 956, 976 and 977 including where any of these are the preceding visas for families on bridging visas 010 to 090.

Families charged this fee in 2013 will continue to be charged on a per family basis to the eldest student whilst the family has continuous current students.