



St Paul's Update

6 March, 2019

Week 6, Term 1

Dates for the Diary

7 Mar	Open Day for Kindergarten 2020
8 Mar	Year 6 Assembly 2:30pm
11 Mar	Dance Fever continues
11-15 Mar	Student Led Conferences - Goal Setting Meetings

For the most up to date Parent Calendar information, please see the 'Events' section of our Skoolbag app or our website www.stpawinstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents,

Everything we do in our Christ centred community at St Paul's is underpinned by our Gospel values. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support of our school and I look forward to celebrating Catholic Schools Week with you and with our prospective families this week. It is only in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.

Thank you to our very generous and supportive community who came together to welcome our new families, students and staff last Friday with our "Welcome" liturgy. What a lovely tradition and one which demonstrates great compassion and a true sense of welcome.

Over the past couple of weeks, as a community of learners, we have welcomed a number of staff from the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) who have been working with our teachers to provide information and support for our learning goals. As a result, we have fine-tuned our Literacy goal to have a greater writing focus whilst still keeping a spelling element within it.

This week, Mrs Margaret Ferguson our Literacy Leader of Learning explains our goal and simple ways in which you can help your child at home.

Peace and Joy!
Megan Baird
Principal

The Season of Lent begins:

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. During Lent Jesus asks us to do good deeds without showing off to others. Lent is a time to reflect and pray.

We encourage you to reflect on these questions:

- Have you ever known someone who helps people but does not make a big deal about it?
- What kind of things did this person do?
- Why didn't they make sure everybody knew about their good deeds and kindness?



Catholic Schools Week

As we celebrate Catholic Schools week we pray:

Lord Jesus,

You came among us as teacher, to reveal to us the Father's endless love and mercy.

Our Catholic schools continue to give witness to your compassion and wisdom, seeking always to ensure that we are all welcome no matter who we are.

May our Catholic schools continue to be places of connection and sources of hope and enthusiasm for our young people and their families.

May the work of our Catholic schools always be guided by the inspiration of your Spirit.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,

Amen.



**May you walk with Christ,
Johra Brackenbury
Religious Education Coordinator**

Literacy Action Plan Goal 2019

Over the last month, the teachers at St Paul's have been carefully analysing the learning data for English. After careful consideration and analysis, we have developed a goal where writing will be the focus for 2019. This goal does not take away a focus on reading because as writers, students need to use what they know from reading to develop as writers. They will identify what good writers do by reading good quality texts and transferring these skills into their own writing.

For 2019, our Literacy Goal is:

Students will improve in their writing by developing an awareness of audience and making deliberate choices to structure their writing to achieve their intended purpose.

One of the best things parents can do to help their child become a good writer is to engage in regular reading. Regular reading is a stepping stone to better writing and helps kids' strengthen their writing skills. It helps expand children's vocabulary and shows them different ways of using words. This also makes it easier for them to use these words in their own writing. With younger children, make sure you're reading together every day and encouraging their love of reading as they grow. Start reading early—many children who devour books grow up to become strong writers themselves.

**Mrs Margaret Ferguson
Literacy Leader of Learning**

Open Day Tours - Thursday 7 March, 2019

Just a reminder that on Thursday 7 March, 2019 we will be offering the opportunity for **prospective parents** to view first hand our learning spaces in action and have a general tour of our school. We are offering two sessions which will take approximately 45 - 60 minutes. Sessions are from 9:30-10:30am and 2:00 - 3:00pm. If you know of anyone interested in enrolling in our school for 2020, please encourage them to contact the school office on 8841 3800 to book in a time slot.

Student Led Conferences - Goal Setting Meetings

By now all parents should have received a letter about our student led conferences to be held next week (11-18 March). If you have not made an appointment we would like to remind you that the website will close this coming Friday at 5pm.

To make a booking please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and log in with the code **S4NF3**.

I encourage all parents to take advantage of this valuable opportunity to meet with your child's teacher for 2019 and set some goals together for their learning. Research shows that when parents and schools work in partnership, children do better. They are more engaged with their school work, go to school more regularly and have richer interactions with their teachers and peers. Goal setting together means that everyone (parents, students and teachers) is aware of how the student can improve and all are engaged in the learning process.

Mrs Jane Misek
Assistant Principal

Playground update

Thank you to all those who have submitted their suggestions for updating the play equipment area. If you haven't yet submitted your suggestion, please drop it off in the office or email to the school.

PBS4L Update

Yesterday all students received a letter about designing a new mascot to supportive PBS4L at St Pauls. The identity that has been chosen for our school is a Lion. St Paul was often referred to as being 'As brave as a Lion.' The image of the lion will be used as part of our positive reinforcement for students who are showing that they are SAFE, RESPECTFUL and RESPONSIBLE LEARNERS. Please encourage your child/ren to submit their ideas.



Work Health and Safety Reminders

Love Thy Neighbour

Please respect all properties neighbouring the school and ensure that our parking does not adversely affect our local neighbours, and the safety of everyone. Our neighbours have a right to access their driveway and parents must not park across driveways or drive in an unsafe manner. A reminder that police and council officers regularly patrol (as has been the case recently) and fine drivers. Thank you for your commitment to a safe and supportive school environment.

Disabled Parking Spaces

Please only use these spaces if you are the holder of a disability parking scheme permit. This must be displayed on your windscreen. Thank you for your cooperation in supporting members of our community.



Late Arrivers

If you arrive at school 8:55am or later and the access gate is closed, parents MUST walk their child / children into the school office to sign a 'partial absence slip'.

Cross Country

Our annual Cross Country will take place on Tuesday 19 March at Gooden Reserve, Gooden Drive, Baulkham Hills. Your children will have received a note with all relevant information. **Please complete the permission form/medical form and return to your child's class teacher by this Friday 8 March.**



As you are aware, events like this cannot run smoothly without your support. We still require assistance in supervising the children as they run the course, lap markers and timekeepers. We are hoping that the Cross Country should be finished by lunchtime. If you are able to help, please either include your information on your child's form, contact the school office 8841 3800 or email Miss Paul by email winstonhillssports@parra.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your continued support

Amber Paul
Sport Coordinator
winstonhillssports@parra.catholic.edu.au

School Fees

The billing and Receipting team at CEDP advised that school fee invoices were finally posted on Monday 4 March. Statements were expected to be posted the previous week but were delayed due to a technical malfunction. Families should receive their invoices in the mail this week but please don't hesitate to contact Berna Robson in the office if your statement does not arrive.

Premiers Reading Challenge

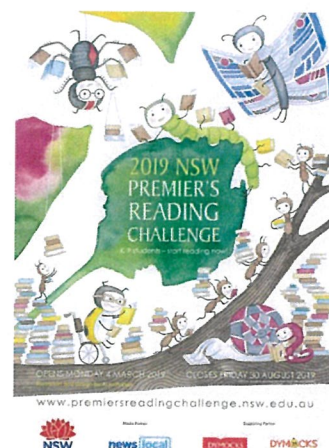
The Premiers Reading Challenge officially opened on Monday 4 March and will run until Friday 30 August. Participation in the challenge is optional but we would love as many students as possible to enter the challenge this year, it is such a great way of encouraging your children to read for enjoyment.



To experience a book a child can listen to the book, participate in a shared reading of the book or read part or the entire book independently. Our school library has some of the books on the PRC lists and many of these are labelled with a special sticker. The local library also has many of the books on the list.

All student Reading Records are submitted online by parents using their child/ren's individual User ID and Password. If your child participated last year they use the same login and password as last year. Every class teacher has a copy of User ID's and Passwords in their classrooms in case you cannot remember them. New students to the school this year will receive a separate note with your User ID and Password.

All students entering and successfully completing the Premier's Reading Challenge will receive an official PRC Certificate. To successfully complete the Challenge the student must have an online reading record entered and validated by Friday 30 August.



Students must complete a set amount of reading to meet the Challenge, see table below:

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC booklists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9

For further information about the Premier's Reading Challenge and to access the booklists please go to <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

If you have any questions regarding the Premier's Reading Challenge please see or email Mrs Taylor ptaylor3@parra.catholic.edu.au or Mrs Nobili mnobili@parra.catholic.edu.au

Book Club

Scholastic Book Club order forms for Term 1 were sent home yesterday. This issue will be due back to school on Monday, 11 March. Online ordering via LOOP will close at midnight Monday, 11 March.

A reminder that we will not accept cash as payment for these orders. Cheques are to be made out to 'Scholastic Australia'. If using the online ordering system there is no need for you to return the order form.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

Jacinta K, Hayden D, Jade B, Jacinta S, Estelle D, Marc K, Jasmine P, Peter K, Jessica K, Sebastian P



A day here or there doesn't seem like much but absences
add up 2 days a month adds up to 4 weeks a year /
20 days a year which is over one year of lost learning.
EVERY DAY COUNTS

every learner
every day ✓

Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

St Paul the Apostle Parish Sacramental Program

Eucharist Program

Parent talks for the Sacrament of the Eucharist will take place in the Church on Wednesday 13 March at 7.30pm or Thursday 14 March at 10.30am. The resources required for preparing your child for the Sacrament of the Eucharist will be available for collection at these talks.



Enrolment forms for the Sacrament of the Eucharist must be lodged at one of the enrolment Masses. The dates for these are:

6:00pm Vigil Mass Saturday 16 March

or

9.30am Mass Sunday 17 March

The enrolment form you receive will show the date your child has been allocated for their First Holy Communion. Please note that I will action any requests for swapping of days after all enrolment forms are received and only if someone is willing to swap.

The dates and time for First Holy Communion this year are:

Sunday 19 May @ 9.30am Mass

Sunday 26 May @ 9.30am Mass

Sunday 2 June @ 9.30am Mass

Sunday 9 June @ 9.30am Mass

If you have not received your child's enrolment form, please contact the Parish Office.

First Reconciliation

In April an invitation to attend a meeting to find out about the Sacramental program will be sent to parents of children in Year 3. The invitation will be sent via your child's home folder.

If you do not receive a letter and would like your child to prepare for their First Reconciliation, please contact the Parish Office.



Confirmation

Confirmation will take place on Thursday 24 October and Friday 25 October at 7pm. The celebrant for both Confirmation Masses will be Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen, Bishop of Parramatta.

If you are new to the school and you would like your child to prepare for any of the Sacraments, please contact me at the Parish Office.



Sandra Sheehan
Sacramental Coordinator

Parish Office 9639 6516 or 0405 085 457



ST PATRICK'S DAY

Green Cake & Jelly STALL

Friday 15 March

The P&F are again holding the St Patrick's Day GREEN cake and GREEN jelly stall at lunchtime on Friday 15 March. This has always been a popular and exciting event for the kids where we sell a variety of cakes and jelly cups ranging from 50c - \$1.00.

We will need the help of parents or carers from **Kindergarten & Year 5** to **donate or bake** some cupcakes, slices, biscuits or jelly with a **touch of green**, that we can sell at the stall. Any donations should be dropped off to the school office on the morning of the 15 March.

Please remember that we are a nut free school. Gluten free is welcome!

We will also need **helpers** on the day for set-up and selling, so if you can assist us anytime between 12.30pm - 2.00pm, we would love to see you there. Please sign-in at the school office. Your children would be thrilled to see your smiling faces and feel free to dress with a touch of green! Thank you in advance.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

FOOD ALLERGY WARNING: Food prepared or purchased for this event may contain wheat, fish, eggs, soy, nuts, or dairy products.