



ST PAUL'S POST

Weekly Newsletter

12 August, 2015

Term 3 Week 5

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Our School Prayer

*Heavenly Father
At St Paul's we pray
that you watch over us
in all we do and say.
Help us to live our
values of empathy,
leadership,
commitment, integrity
and faithfulness.
Guide us to be victory
through faith. We ask
this through Christ our
Lord, Amen*

Principal's Message



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St Paul's,

Last Saturday, August 8, was the feast day of **Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop**. She is Australia's first saint and I received this beautiful prayer last week and I invite you to pray it with your families:

St Mary of the Cross Prayer

Most loving God, we thank you for the example of St Mary of the Cross, who in her living of the gospel, witnessed to the human dignity of each person. She faced life's challenges with faith and courage.

We pray through her intercession for our needs.

*We give thanks, gracious God,
that St Mary of the Cross is for the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta, a
heavenly patroness and advocate.*

Through her prayers, increase our knowledge and love of you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Mary of the Cross, Pray for us.

Our cake stall at Bunnings last Sunday was a huge hit! As I came up the escalator, I was delighted to see such a beautiful display - it was really eye catching. Most people who walked past the stall, came back on their way out to purchase some goodies. Thank you so much to all of the families who baked for the stall - there was such a variety and everything I sampled was delicious! Thank you to the team of parents who assisted with the stall on the day. I know it was a long day for many of you. I really appreciate that you took time out of your busy lives for the St Paul's community and I thank you sincerely for your generosity.

Last Monday at assembly, I asked teachers to be vigilant to check uniforms. There are many interesting and colourful jackets appearing each day. I can appreciate how cold the mornings have been and the need to wear extra warmth, but please wear the extra jackets underneath the school jacket. Some children are also wearing long sleeved items underneath their short-sleeved sport shirt. I believe that the practise has been to wear a yellow skivvy underneath the sport shirt. The wearing of the yellow skivvy is fine -

Contact us

School

St Paul the Apostle School
44 Buckleys Road
Winston Hills NSW 2153
Tel 9639 2555 Fax 9686 2212
Email:
winstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Parish

St Paul the Apostle Parish
40 Buckleys Road
Winston Hills NSW 2153
Tel 9639 6516 Fax 9686 1727
Email:
office@stpaultheapostleparish.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

13 Aug – Hills Zone Athletics
14 Aug – Year 4 Excursion
15 Aug – Feast of Assumption
18 Aug – P&F Meeting – Safety of our Children
21 Aug – Diocesan Athletics
21 Aug – Staff Development Day
22 Aug – Vinnies Door Knock Appeal
25 Aug – Book Week Parade
26 Aug – Voice of Youth Finals
26 Aug – Year 2 Excursion
28 Aug – Book Week Incursion

it is the multi colours that are against the school uniform policy. The coloured shoes have also made an appearance. The uniform calls for mostly white sandshoes with white laces please. I ask that you uphold the uniform policy. It is a simple request that teaches children the importance of rules and regulations - that they will encounter throughout their entire lives. The teachers have received some notes explaining different reasons for some exceptions and we appreciate the advice as long as it is a short term solution. Please feel free to ring or email me for further clarification.

As far as our new uniform goes, we will very soon have some mannequins displaying the uniforms. The committee believes that we have offered some good alternatives for extra warmth in winter. We have looked at a warmer jacket as well as a cardigan, vest and jumper to cater for all individual needs of our students. The sport uniform stands on its own with a long sleeved shirt option for winter. The new Kindergarten children will be expected to purchase the uniform but please remember, there is not an expectation to put your child (Year 1 - Year 6) into the new uniform immediately. There will be a 2 year turn over time frame. Some parents have also enquired about shoes, we will be moving into black shoes. If you need to purchase new shoes, you can select either black or brown during this transition period. I am very much looking forward to showcasing our new uniform in the very near future.

Next Tuesday evening is a **Parents and Friends meeting**. It is advertised as an executive meeting in the calendar but we would like to extend the invitation to all members of our community. We want to use the opportunity to speak about aspects of life at school that not all parents have the opportunity to attend on other occasions. Last meeting, Jane spoke about Reading and how to help your child at home. The people who attended enjoyed the opportunity to listen and share ideas. She also repeated the session last Monday morning. Next Tuesday evening, we are presenting 'Safety & Wellbeing of Children at Our School'. We would like to discuss the safety audit and ways we deal with bullies at St Paul's. We want to put these issues into our own context. I encourage you to come along.

Have a great week everyone,

Marian Bell
Principal
mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
FRIDAY 21 AUGUST, 2015
PUPIL FREE DAY

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Liturgical Events

Unless otherwise stated Mass will commence at 9:10am

Week 1 – No Mass

Week 2 – Grandparents Mass
Year 5 & 6

Week 3 – No Mass

Week 4 – Whole School Mass
Year 1 & 2

Week 5 – No Mass

Week 6 – No Mass

Week 7 – Sunday Mass 9:30am
Year 3 & 4

Week 8 – Fathers' Day Mass
Kindergarten

Week 9 – No Mass

Week 10 – No Mass

Assembly

Term 3, 2015

Assembly – Fridays 2:30pm

Week 1 – No Assembly

Week 2 – No Assembly

Week 3 – Assembly - Year 4

Week 4 – No Assembly

Week 5 – Assembly Year 5

Week 6 – Staff Development Day

Week 7 – Book Week Incursion

Week 8 – No Assembly

Week 9 – Assembly - Year 6

Week 10 – Assembly - Year 2

Religious Education

“Therefore, if anyone is on Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.”

2 Corinthians 5:17-19.



The children in Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) are currently investigating and reflecting on the importance of reconciliation and healing. Children in these grades are involved in units of work guiding them to a deeper understanding of the ‘Sacrament of Penance’. As part of these units the children are given the opportunity to reflect on their humanness. It is important for the students to understand that sin is a deliberate choice to do wrong. Sin is before all else an offence against God, while at the same time it damages communion with the church, and breaks relationships with others. We are all sinners and therefore need to ask for forgiveness, through the Sacrament of Penance. It is a difficult concept to come to terms with, for students as well as their parents. One of the hardest times as a parent is allowing our children to make mistakes, and guiding them to accept their responsibility in breaking their relationship with God, friends and the church.

As the children in Year 3 prepare for their first reception of the Sacrament of Penance may they grow in their understanding that God’s love is unconditional. Keeping this in mind the children also need to come to an understanding that their choices and actions contribute to building or breaking relationships. It is important for them to see that through our experience of forgiveness and healing we can strengthen our relationship with others. This can only be achieved if we acknowledge our wrong doings and ask for forgiveness and guidance on how not to continually make the same mistake. May we keep the children and their families in their prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of Penance, which will be celebrated in our church, Wednesday 26 August, 2015.

In 2003 Bishop Manning requested an annual report on student learning in Religious Education. This request combined with the pastoral letter, Catholic Schools at a Crossroads, in which the Bishops of NSW and ACT identified the need for a systemic external assessment of Catholic Religious Literacy, led to all Year Four, Six, Eight and Ten children in every school in our diocese participating in the Religious Literacy Assessment. The children in Year 4, 6, 8 and 10 will participate in Part A, which is an online question and answer test. The online assessment reflects all concepts covered during their schooling. Currently the children in Year Four are participating in Part B which allows the children to respond to the unit of work - ‘Reconciliation: God’s Forgiveness and Healing’ in a creative manner. The children complete the task at school and then the Year 4 teachers and myself assess their responses, based on a criterion organised by the CEDP. (Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta). To maintain consistency throughout the diocese, one member of the Year Four team from every school in our diocese are

SPORT DAYS TERM 3

KINDY Monday/Tuesday
YEAR 1 Monday/Thursday
YEAR 2 Monday/Tuesday
YEAR 3 Monday/Tuesday
YEAR 4 Monday/Wednesday
YEAR 5 Monday/Thursday
YEAR 6 Monday/Thursday

Bell Times

Block 1: 8:55 – 11:00
Recess: 11:00 – 11:30
Block 2: 11:30 – 1:00
Lunch: 1:00 – 1:45
Block 3: 1:45 – 3:15

Library Borrowing Term 3

Kindy – Tuesday
Year 1 – Tuesday
Year 2G – Tuesday
Year 2N – Thursday
Year 3 – Thursday
Year 4P – Tuesday
Year 4J – Thursday
Year 5 – Friday
Year 6 – Thursday

Please ensure your child brings their library bag on their Class Library day.

invited to attend an afternoon where they will be given the opportunity to cross check the results. All participating students will receive formal feedback early in Term Four.

God Bless
Mrs Leanda Standring
(Religious Education Coordinator)

Mini Vinnies Report

The Mini Vinnies Team are proud to announce a new initiative for families. The **prayer bag** is an opportunity for families to come together and say a prayer together at home. We encourage you to write a prayer in our **School Prayer book**. **Set up** a sacred space and take a **photo** of your family **praying together**. Add it to the 'Prayer Book'.

The 'Prayer Bag' will be handed out on **Mondays and Wednesdays**. If you are interested in participating in this initiative please record your name in the book in the foyer or send a brief note to **Mrs Standring** and she will organise a time for your family to experience it.

We are excited about sharing our faith as a family and invite all families to join us.

Thank you,
Mini Vinnies Media Team

Introducing the Prayer Book --This year 2015 in term 3, we are introducing a Prayer Book. The prayer book has the school prayer in it so we can use it during assemblies. For parents that go to assemblies in mornings and Friday afternoons, we will also hand out a **copy** so you can use it when the school prayer is being said. Each grade has a different booklet cover with the winning drawings from the St. Patricks day drawing competition.

by Tia and Stephanie

Introducing the New Prayer Bag -

This is an opportunity for you as well as your family to set up a prayer space in your own home. Our prayer bag is a back pack. In the back pack you will discover plenty of prayerful ornaments to help create a sacred spot for your family. Also in the bag is an album for you to put pictures of your family praying.

If you would like to participate, please go the sacred space in the office foyer and put your name on the list.

By Aarushi and Sophia



Please note that
the Library is open
for all children
Monday -
Thursday from
1:25-1:45pm

Catholic Out of
School
Hours Care
Open 6:30am - 6:30pm

There are still spaces available,
please do not hesitate to
contact Jess on 0429 017 382.

Child and Parent enrolment
forms are available on the
COSHC website. For further
information, please visit
www.coshc.catholic.edu.au
then select "FIND A COSHC"
and click on "Winston Hills – St
Paul the Apostle" to download
and print the required forms.
Please direct all COSHC
inquiries related to the COSHC
service at St Paul the Apostle to
0429 017 382 or
coshcstpaulwinstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Please keep in your prayers the Wehbe Family, their grandfather died recently. May he rest in peace.

Skip-a-thon 2015

This year we will be replacing the walk-a-thon with a skip-a-thon. It will take place on Monday 7 September and will be one of the major fund raising events for the year. We are aiming high and hope to raise close to \$20,000. The money raised will go towards the purchase of playground and classroom resources that will benefit all children across the school.

We have a team of hardworking parents and teachers seeking donations for our skip-a-thon. The more prizes we can get the more exciting our raffles will be. If you are able to donate any items either sport related, vouchers, or anything fun for children as prizes please contact the office.

Thank you for your support
Skip-a-thon Team

Parent Information Sessions

On Monday we ran a repeat of an information session that was held at a P&F Meeting last term on How to Support Your Child With Their Reading. This session was run in response to requests from many parents to hold the session during the day when more people could attend. Unfortunately only three parents came along. We went ahead with the session and it was a great opportunity to discuss learning at St Paul's and to share ideas about supporting learning in a small group. We are aware that it is often difficult to attend these meetings but we are also aware that many parents are asking for information sessions and looking for ways to support learning. In order to help us make these sessions easier for people to attend could you please take the time to complete the survey below by clicking on the link -

Click here [Parent Information Survey](#)

Hopefully we will be able to arrange some repeats of the reading session at a time that is more suitable for everyone.

Thank you
Jane Misek
Assistant Principal

Important - Working with Children Check

Parent helpers are required to have completed the CEDP online Child Protection Training for Volunteers which can be found at <http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au>.





Happy Birthday

To those children celebrating their birthdays between 13 and 19 August

Isabella P, Christian W, Jacob D, Giada L, Gabriella L,

Uniform Shop Trading Hours

Thursday 2:30 – 4:00pm
No Saturday Trading until further notice

For all uniform enquiries please contact Elle on 0421 216 414 or elle@ozfashions.com.au

It is also a requirement that you have completed the NSW Working with Children Check for Volunteers which can be found at www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au.

Please ensure these are both completed before volunteering. Parents who have not completed the above are not eligible to be chosen to assist.

News from the Library

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

55 organised students have already succeeded in completing the Reading Challenge. Just a reminder that the Challenge finishes on **21 August** so keep reading and recording.

Congratulations to the following children who have recently completed the Challenge:

Johanna O (Kindy), Benjamin O and Lucas S (Year 3).

A reminder to the children who have registered that there are only **9 days to go** on line and record your books read.

BOOK WEEK

To celebrate Book Week (22 - 28 August) students from K - 2 will participate in a colouring-in competition and students from Years 3 - 6 will participate in a drawing competition. Students are encouraged to be creative in highlighting the book week theme 'Books Light Up Our World'. All entries are due on Thursday 13 August. Two prizes will be awarded to each class.

The Book Week Parade will take place on Tuesday, 25 August. Students are encouraged to dress up as a book character that lights up their lives in some way. Creativity, not expense, is the key.

Petrina Taylor

Teacher Librarian

ptaylor3@parra.catholic.edu.au

Genes for Jeans Day

Thank you to all those who wore their Jeans last Thursday in support of Kindy's Annual Fundraiser. We raised \$266.00 for the Genes for Jeans Day Charity - A great effort.

Catholic Out of School Hours - Staff Development Day - Care

As families are aware, Friday 21 August, 2015 is a Pupil Free Day at St Paul the Apostle School. Catholic Out of School Hours Care is able to offer limited places for care on this day. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Priority will be given to families already enrolled at the service.

Please note; A minimum number of enrolment applications for the day will be required for all day care to proceed. If this number is not reached, care will not be available on the Pupil Free Day.

Further enquiries are to be directed to Jess, the COSHC Supervisor on 0429 017 382 or by email coshcstpaulwinstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Please remember
some of our
children have food
allergies, we are a
NUT FREE school.
Help us keep our
children safe

What a success....

P & F Fundraiser Cake Stall at Bunnings

On Sunday 9 August, the P&F organised a fundraiser at Bunnings in Seven Hills. Wow, what an amazing outcome - a total of \$1018 was raised. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the help and generous support from our St Paul's parents. Many parents took time out of their busy Sunday to come along and help sell the many beautiful cakes and sweet treats that were kindly donated.



Thank you again for your generosity.



NED Show

The NED spirit is well and truly alive at St Paul's and I would like to thank all the staff and parents who assisted with the sales of yoyos during the NED pay it forward sale. In particular, Mrs Power Jones, Mrs Gordon, Mrs Shelton, Mrs Usher, Mrs Long, Mrs Tannous, Miss Veling, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Misek and Mrs Bell.

Help!!!

You may be aware that we ran out of the some NED merchandise such as the holsters, the NED YO and the EXCELERATOR yoyo. Some of you already pre-paid for one of these items and your names were placed on an order list which has unfortunately gone missing. If you or your child has pre-paid for one of these items, I ask that you please confirm your order details by emailing your child's name, the merchandise that you ordered and the amount you paid in full to Mrs Bulgeries at gnatoli@parra.catholic.edu.au by Friday 13 August.

Thank you for your support and understanding with this.
Mrs Bulgeries

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER



MASTERS SAUSAGE SIZZLE NORTHMEAD Sunday 23 August, 7.30am - 4.30pm

We are kindly asking for parent and student volunteers to help us out at this school fundraiser. Money raised will help our whole school community, so thank you very much in advance. We will need help with serving, cooking and selling, so if you can assist us in any way we would really appreciate it.

We have set-up an hourly roster system, using our on-line booking system www.schoolinterviews.com.au. Please feel free to book in more than an hour if you have the time, plus if you do not wish to use the online booking system and would prefer to let us know directly, please feel free to contact us.

For **Masters Sausage Sizzle** at Northmead use the school event code: **JJ4ED**

Thank you again for your continued support.

Mirna Jasser 0414 896 037 or Danielle Haddad 0419 440 922.

Catherine McAuley Westmead School Open Morning



9.15 – 11am

Thursday 3rd September and Tuesday 3rd November 2015

Enrolments for Year 7, 2017

Catherine McAuley is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2017. Each year the demand for places at Catherine McAuley exceeds what is available. Join us on either of our two upcoming school tours especially for Year 7 2017 applicants but open to any year group.

Our Open Morning is a great opportunity to tour around our school grounds, view our fantastic facilities and meet our students and teachers. You will have the opportunity to go into classrooms and see them in action. Both children and adults are most welcome.

Please contact School Reception on 9849 9100 if you would like to attend. Our school tours will leave at 9.15am and car parking will be available in the visitor's car parking area via Gate 3 from 9am onwards. Ask for details when making your booking.