



St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

13 August 2014

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

Last Sunday we held an **EXPO working bee**. There were many helpers – students, parents and staff. What I witnessed was so much more than a working bee. I saw members of our school community working side by side with people they would not normally. I saw teachers and children painting and laughing together. I saw staff members sharing the activity with their own families. I saw dads cutting and sawing to construct props. But more importantly I saw a beautiful community of people coming together with a common goal, supporting each other and encouraging each other while all the time smiling and laughing.



Thank you sincerely to the 13 staff members and their families for contributing to the success of the day. Thank you to the 40 (or so) parents and students who also helped throughout the day. What a wonderful team effort. In 2 short weeks we will watch our children perform on the stage knowing that the props and costumes have been made by our community members. Thank you and congratulations.

Please finalise the purchase of your **EXPO tickets** by the end of the week. They are \$20 each with 2 tickets available per family. We will have a few extra tickets to offer but we need everyone to purchase their first 2 tickets. I would hate anyone to miss out but we need to complete this process. Please come into the office or send the money in an envelope with your details clearly labelled with your name. If you want to go into the draw for an extra ticket – please notify the office.

From time to time we hear about some of the achievements of the students of St Paul's in the wider community. We would like to make a regular feature in the newsletter celebrating these achievements. It will be called **Star Spot** - have a look for our first entry in the newsletter today. We will be relying on parents notifying the school of your children's achievements – sporting, cultural, community or academic. I look forward to hearing about the successes. Please email or phone through a sentence outlining the activity by close of business on Mondays.

Have a great week everyone.
Marian Bell

Religious Education

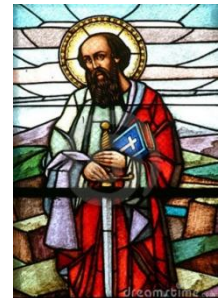
Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy.

Alleluia! (Alleluia Verse Assumption Mass)

On Friday we celebrate 'The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary'. As of 16 September 2001 the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference decided that in addition to all the Sundays in the year, the only feast days to be observed in Australia as Holydays of obligation are the solemnities of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Christmas Day) and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Holydays of obligation are feast days on which Catholics must attend Mass.

As Catholics it is our way of acknowledging the importance of this Feast Day as part of our belief. The Assumption of Mary recognises the unique position of Mary being a superlative human person, who was taken body and soul to heaven.



As well as being our Mother, Mary is also seen as a sign of hope and comfort to all Australians. As our patron Saint she offers calmness as we are tested by our own personal limitations and the circumstances that life presents to each of us. Mary through her life, shows us how hope can

overcome anguish, inner peace can overcome anxiety and a life lived in a positive manner can overcome many of life's challenges.

Just like all Mothers, Mary showed concern and guidance to Jesus, all through his life. The bible is full of stories where Mary showed us her humanness and connected with Mothers all over the world. There are countless messages within the bible where Mary models how we **should** live, such as: love God, love your neighbour, love yourself, be people of compassion and forgiveness. Just as Mary said 'Yes' at the Annunciation, her 'yes' was the beginning of allowing God into her life. If we join with Mary's "yes", we give ourselves the opportunity, as she did, to be perfected through our union with Christ.

We will be celebrating a whole school mass at 9.10am. All are welcome to join us. May you spend time with Mary on Friday and allow her love and compassion to guide you to a stronger relationship with her Son, Jesus.

God Bless, Mrs Leanda Standring (Religious Education Co-ordinator)

Prayer:

Mary, we ask you to help us to find peace within ourselves through your Son, Jesus. Through your intercession, may we be inspired to greater trust and hope in our ability to live our lives, as you did yours, and to bring Christ to the world. Amen.

HILLS ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Just a reminder the Hills Zone Athletics Carnival is tomorrow Thursday August 14. *All children in the Zone Team as well as the 10 Year 6 children going to assist on the day need to be at school by 7.15am for roll call as the bus will be leaving promptly at 7.30am.* Mrs Tannous and Mrs Misek will be escorting the children to the park. All Children need to wear their sports uniform.

A reminder to any parents assisting on the day - if you are able to get to the park a little earlier I will be there from 6.45am setting up and would greatly appreciate your assistance.

Fiona Lambert

Sports Co-ordinator

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos were distributed today. For a limited time you can download a high resolution print file for free which is complimentary when you have purchased any pack including a portrait. Simply visit www.advancedlife.com.au and enter your 9 digit student image code found on your package.



Year 6 students also have an opportunity to purchase a Year 6 Muck-up photo which is available to view and purchase on line using the **Order Code R1E 42W Q8C**. You can request an envelope from the office if you prefer to pay by cash or cheque.

EXPO COSTUMES!

As part of the Creative Arts Expo 2014, much time has been spent creating and purchasing costumes.



To assist with the storage and maintenance of these costumes, we are asking if anyone has any plastic (not wire) coat hangers at home that they no longer need. We are after a mix of pants/skirt and shirt hangers.

If you do have any and you would be willing to donate them to the school, please send them to the school office in a bag.

Thank you in anticipation,

Miss Natoli and the 2014 Expo Team.

STAR SPOT

We would like to acknowledge the achievement of **Joel Irving**, class 5M. Joel was one of 1206 competitors in his age group 0 - 12 years competing in last Sunday's 14km City to Surf. He finished in the top 8% with a time of 77 minutes and 59 seconds. Joel beat his last year's time by 8 minutes. Congratulations, Joel!



FROM THE LIBRARY

Book Week

Theme 'Connect to Reading'

Hopefully everyone is well underway with ideas for their costumes for the **Book Character Parade** that will take place in the playground **next Tuesday 9:15am** to celebrate Book Week. Children are encouraged to make an A4 poster identifying the book character they have chosen to dress up as, as this is not always obvious. The children also need to think about and be able to explain how they **connect** with their chosen book character. Parents are most welcome to join us in this Book Week celebration.



We have already received many entries for the various fun activities celebrating Book Week (colouring-in competition for K – 2, drawing competition for Yrs 3 – 6). Prizes will be awarded for the winners of these competitions. All entries are due back no later than **Friday 15 August**.

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

Deadline to enter the books read:

22 August

9 reading days to go!



The Challenge closes for students on **22 August**. 60 children have now completed the Challenge, however we still have a number of children who have not completed their reading records on line. Please see Mrs Taylor or Mrs Nobili if you are unsure how to record the books you have read. Congratulations to the following children have recently completed the Challenge: Oliver McKay, Lucas McClintock, Lily Moujalli, Carla Nohra, Megan Uy, Deklan & Liam Zelmanowski. Patrick & Thomas Reid. Well Done!

FUNDRAISING FOR MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS



Hi my name is Tim Ellis the Dad of Samantha (4TL) and Peter (KP), I am taking part in the 2014 / 90km Gong Ride to raise funds for people affected by Multiple Sclerosis (MS). MS is the most common disease of the central nervous system and affects more than 23,000 Australians. Please help support this worthy cause by sponsoring me. Thanks Tim.
<http://register.gongride.org.au/2014-Sydney-to-Gong-Bike-Ride/timellis>

Dates to Remember

AUGUST

- 14 Hills Zone Athletics Carnival
- 15 Feast of the Assumption - Whole School Mass 9:10am
Debate against St Michael's 11:30am
- 16-17 Fourth and final group preparation meeting for First Reconciliation
- 18-22 Book Week 'Connect to Reading'
- 18 Parents Representative Council Meeting, DAC, Mt Druitt, 7.00pm
- 19 Book Character Costume Parade – School Playground 9:15am
- 21 Year 6 to Voice of Youth cluster final, St Angela's Castle Hill
- 23-24 Saturday and Sunday – Vinnies Door Knock Appeal
- 27 Creative and Practical Arts EXPO, Hornsby RSL
- 28 First Reconciliation 7.30pm

Our Social Skills Focus for next week, Week 6 is:

Think of others and keep left when using stairs and pathways.

