



# St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

20 August 2014

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

**Prayer** is a form of communication – it is one way of talking to God. At our staff meeting on Tuesday Daryl Castellino, our Evangelisation and Religious Education Teaching Educator from CEDP, led our staff through an afternoon of prayer – inviting us to pray in different ways. It was a beautiful way to conclude a very busy day and from the conversations I heard, I believe that all staff felt the same way. But like all good learning – it left me with more questions than answers. What importance do I place on prayer in my life? How do I enable time to pray in the busyness of life? How do I teach my children to pray? I wonder what questions prayer raises for you?



Yesterday we celebrated **Book Week** with our book week parade. Despite the wet weather, we managed to give everyone the opportunity to parade and show off their wonderful costumes. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the parade. Thanks to all of our creative geni who designed and made the exciting costumes. A special thank you to Mrs Taylor who coordinated the parade and made it happen. It was such a fun morning and a great way to remember to stay connected to reading and to quote Mrs Taylor we should all “read, read, read!”

**EXPO news.** We have a list of families that have requested another ticket for the EXPO performance. Please collect from the office by Friday afternoon because on Monday we will be selling any uncollected tickets.

**Tomorrow is our dress rehearsal for the performance. You are invited to come along at 2.30pm. Please note the change in time. We are preparing for wet weather and we will need to have 3 performances to accommodate the whole school as well as parents and grandparents. The choir will perform for the parents at 2.30pm just before the dress rehearsal.**

I am looking forward to next Wednesday when our hard working EXPO children and teachers will finally see the fruits of all of their hard work. It is going to be magnificent!

Last Thursday St Paul the Apostle Primary School hosted the **Hills/Hawkesbury Zone athletics carnival**. It was a huge undertaking led very ably by Mrs Fiona Lambert. Congratulations to Fiona on a job very well done. She has received much praise and thanks for the work that she did and for the way the day ran so smoothly. Thanks to Mrs Misk, Mrs Dunn and Mrs Tannous for supporting Fiona and for helping on the day. Thank you also to the following parents who worked all day – Alison Engessor, Cheryl Long, Kathryn Walker, Skye Duncombe, Jackie Bateup, Kira Moujalli, Danielle and Daniel Bliss, Vanessa Egan and Sean McIntosh. I believe that some of you worked without a break – thank you from the whole school community.

**Stage 3 mass** is on Friday. The students and teachers from Years 5 and 6 have prepared a liturgy and you are most welcome to join us for mass at 9.10am.

Have a great week everyone.  
Marian Bell

## Religious Education

**Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.** Philippians 4:6

Prayer is such an integral and important part of our lives as Catholics. It is a conversation with our Lord. According to the Catechism, prayer is the lifting up of our minds and hearts to God, to adore Him, to thank Him for His benefits, to ask for His forgiveness, and to beg of Him all the graces we need whether for soul or body.



In our busy lives it is so easy to forget the impact prayer has on our relationship with our Lord. We rush from one activity to another always imagining that the next event is so important we don't have time to stop and visit the house of our Lord – our church. And yet the most suitable place for prayer is in the Church – the house of prayer- made holy by special blessings and, above all, by the Real presence of Jesus dwelling in the Tabernacle.

During the next week may our hearts and minds be open to finding a few minutes every day to speak with our Lord. I invite you to walk into the church on your way home, or before you drop the children off at school and spend some time in the presence of our Lord and allow yourself to adore and worship Him.

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

### *Prayer:*

Dear Lord Jesus, we pray for the health of all our grandparents and the grandparents who are feeble in hospital or are too unwell to get out of bed.

When I think of my grandparents, they always expand my happiness and bring love into my heart. We pray for the grandparents who are still alert and love seeing our faces. Thank you Lord for giving us our grandparents. Amen

Nicholas Fenech



### **STAR SPOT**

Thomas Daniel 2S, participated in the city to surf on Sunday 2 August with his Dad. Mum and Dad are really proud of his effort especially as he played 7 soccer games on Saturday for his gala day! He did really well for his first time completing it in 2:18:08. Well done, Thomas.



### **SCHOOL FEES**

School Fees are now due. Unless you have an arrangement in place please make sure you have paid by this week. Anyone experiencing financial difficulty is asked to contact the school office.

Thank you.

Jenny Grubba

### **HILLS ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

On Thursday 14 August 2014 students from St Paul the Apostle represented our school at the Hills Zone Athletics Carnival. It was a very busy day with teachers, parents and students assisting with the running of the carnival. We had a successful day on the field and we took great pride in watching the team cheer one another on as each event was held throughout the day. A special thank you

Nicholas Long

to all the parents who volunteered their time to cover field events, marshalling, recording and announcing. Thank you also to the parents who supported us with the students in the stands, listening out for announcements which helped ensure everyone made it to their event.



**Congratulations** to the following students who placed on the day and will be attending the Diocesan Carnival on Friday 22 August:

Nicholas Long: 1<sup>st</sup> place Senior 800 m & 2<sup>nd</sup> place Senior 200 m  
Jennifer Grubba: 1<sup>st</sup> place Junior Shot Put; 1<sup>st</sup> place Junior Long Jump & 1<sup>st</sup> place junior Discus

Charlie Egan: 2<sup>nd</sup> place 9 Years 100 m;  
Brianna El-Bayeh: 3<sup>rd</sup> place Senior Long Jump  
Nikolas Forrest: 3<sup>rd</sup> place Junior Shot Put

Holly Walker: 3<sup>rd</sup> place 9 Years 100 m

Special congratulations go to **Jennifer Grubba** who was Junior Girl Runner-up on the day. Mrs Fiona Lambert and Mrs Laura Tannous

**Look who dropped into the Hills Zone Carnival at Blacktown last week!**



## **Creative Arts Expo Dance Rehearsals**

*Thursday 21 August – Full Dress Rehearsal after lunch (separate note for cast)*

*Friday 22/8 at 8am in the Parish Centre: Whole Cast*

*Monday 25/8 Lunchtime in the Parish Centre: Whole Cast*

## **ST PAUL'S MOVIE NIGHT**

As per the school calendar, the St Paul's Movie Night will be held on Friday September 12. We would like to see everyone come along in their favourite pj's or onesie. The students will be soon voting on which movie we will be viewing on the night. Please keep your eye out for the separate flyer that will be sent home with your children asking for the number of tickets that you require and if you are able to help out on the night. Homemade pizzas, dipping dots ice cream, popcorn, fairy floss, cold drinks, cupcakes, tea and coffee will all be available on the night.

## **Dates to Remember**

### **AUGUST**

- 18-22 Book Week 'Connect to Reading'
- 21 Year 6 Voice of Youth cluster final, St Angela's Castle Hill  
Expo dress rehearsal in the Parish Centre after lunch
- 22 Year 5 & 6 Mass 9.10am
- 23-24 Saturday and Sunday – Vinnies Door Knock Appeal
- 27 Creative and Practical Arts EXPO, Hornsby RSL
- 28 First Reconciliation 7.30pm
- 31 Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2 ) Mass 9.30am Sunday

### **SEPTEMBER**

- 3 Testing Day for Oakhill College
- 5 Fathers' Day Breakfast, Mass 9.10am. Fathers' Day stall commences after Mass
- 7 Fathers' Day

**PLEASE NOTE: MASS ON FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER FOR FATHERS IS A WHOLE SCHOOL MASS WITH THE LITURGY PREPARED BY KINDERGARTEN.**

### **Catherine McAuley Westmead School Open Morning**

9.15am – 11.00am Tuesday 2 September 2014

### **Enrolments for Year 7 2016**



Catherine McAuley is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2016.

Each year the demand for places at Catherine McAuley exceeds what is available. Join us on our upcoming school tour and avoid the crowds in Term 1 next year.

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.

**Minutes of St Paul the Apostle School  
P&F General Meeting  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

**Meeting Started: 7:35pm**

**1. Welcome**

Prayer by Marian Bell

**2. Apologies**

Megan Prevatt

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous general meeting (10<sup>th</sup> June 2014) were accepted by Sean McIntosh and Alyssa Dwyer.

**4. Matters arising from previous minutes**

Danielle Bliss advised she has not heard anything further about the representative jerseys. She will follow up with Fiona Lambert.

Tim Ellis asked about the review of the Uniform Shop. Danielle advised that the committee is still working through this issue and there is nothing to report at this stage.

**5. Correspondence in**

Vanessa Cassin provided a list of correspondence received.

**6..Treasurers Report**

Tim Hamilton provided the Treasurer's Report. The current amount of funds available is \$42234.16. There is \$46316.38 on hand but a number of cheques are yet to be presented. The Term Deposit has been rolled over for a further 3 months.

**7. Parish Priest Report**

There was no Parish Priests report.

**8. Principals Report**

Marian Bell presented the Principal's Report.

Term 3:

- ✓ Day 1 of this term was a staff development day – we went to Mary MacKillop Place for our spirituality day. An excellent day – great way to start the term.
- ✓ Other professional learning for this term – all staff are up to date with our anaphylaxis training, there is a new student information system called FACES that is being rolled out this term – it requires a considerable amount of training by 4 key members on staff – Jane Misek, Leanda Standing, Rita Nobili and Juanita Gray. They will then return and teach the rest of us. The roll out is for 3 weeks in September and we will be well supported by the office. I will be attending the Principal's Master class in August. There were 5 teachers who attended a maths course last week that reported that it was a very worthwhile day that has already had an impact on their teaching. DIN – diversity is the norm course for Gemma N and Vicki M
- ✓ Quite a few excursions this term – Yr 1 to the farm, Yr 2 to the aquarium, Yr 6 to Minnamurra Falls, Yr 5 camp, Kindy incursion from CSIRO – mini beasts; Rip and Surf education talk for Yrs 5 & 6.
- ✓ RE program – Grandparents Day – mass, open classrooms and morning tea; Mary MacKillop feast day mass – August 1; Feast of the Assumption – August 8; Stage 3 mass – August 22; Parish mass – August 31; year 4 and year 6 children will complete a Religious Literacy Assessment – diocesan wide; First reconciliation – Thursday August 28; Father's Day breakfast, mass and stall; Catholic Mission talks for whole school and the Vinnies door knock appeal on Saturday August 23.

- ✓ EXPO news – rehearsal is well under way and the item is looking great. The tickets have been printed and will go on sale next week. There are only 2 per family. EXPO date is Wednesday August 27. There has already been a lot of work behind the scenes with some very generous parents and teachers helping out. I am thinking that we really need to acknowledge everyone's contribution – wondering about how??
- ✓ EXPO working bee last Sunday was a wonderful event – thanks to all of the families who came and offered their time and talents
- ✓ Sport this term is conducted by Sport in Schools Australia every Monday. Chn seem to be enjoying it. They are also participating in their weekly sport lesson with Angela Dunn. Netball gala day last Tuesday – we sent 7 teams and I believe it was a great day. Zone athletics carnival is on Thursday August 14.
- ✓ Tree assessment has been conducted and there is a summary for any who are interested. We need to urgently cut down 5 trees with several others needing attention. Three companies have been asked to give quotes – the first will be on Monday.

## 9. Social Co-ordinators' Report

Cheryl Long & Jaye Harkin presented the Social Co-Ordinators Report.

### P&F Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Social Coordinators Report

Walkathon: The walkathon was very successful this year making a profit of \$13,488.40. Many thanks to everyone who participated, made a donation or helped on the day. Thanks also to the office staff for their ongoing assistance in all P&F matters.

Fathers Day Stall: The Fathers Day stall is being held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Shirley Massoud & Veronica Brogden have purchased all the gifts. We have purchased white paper carry bags and we will give these out the week prior to the stall to all the classes and ask the teachers to give the children 10min to decorate them. The children will then bring the bags with them to the stall and all their gifts will be put inside. We are hoping this will reduce the need to wrap all the gifts in cellophane.

Movie Night: Movie Night will go ahead on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Organisers are well under way to finalising everything. I am trying to source a donation to help cover the cost of the screen to help reduce the price of the tickets. In the next few days the list of movies will be decided upon.

Trivia Night: The date of the Trivia night has been changed to 8<sup>th</sup> November.

Jaye Harkin suggested that we will hold a hot dog day before the end of this term. Date to be decided.

Cheryl Long

## 10. Maintenance Report

Brendan Byrne was not at the meeting so Sean McIntosh gave an update.

The last working bee was washed out so an EXPO working bee was held instead. Lots of props were made on the day.

There will be a whole of school working bee in Term 4.

## 11. PRC Report

There was no PRC report. It was mentioned that there is a PRC meeting next Monday (18<sup>th</sup> August).

## 12. General Business

- a) Fathers Day Breakfast.

Marian Bell & Jane Misek advised that they would like to have a Fathers Day Breakfast this year. They plan to hold the breakfast on the same day as the Fathers Day Stall and will also have open classrooms for the dads to view from 8:30 – 9am.

Nikki Cummins & Kate Fitzsimons offered to cook bacon and egg rolls on the BBQ. Alyssa Dwyer, Cheryl Long & Jaye Harkin also volunteered their services.

b) Publicity Officer Position

The vacant position on the P&F Committee was discussed. Alyssa Dwyer expressed an interest in doing the duties as a job share with two other parents. She will discuss with them and get back to Danielle Bliss about it.

c) Other Matters

There was a favourable discussion about the improvements in the car park.

Nikki Cummins raised the idea of a vegetable patch and the possibility of getting some grandparents involved with the project. Marian thinks there might be a suitable spot where one of the large trees are going to be removed and is very excited about the idea. There was a general discussion about this and those present thought it would be great for the children. There was a brief discussion about the number of government grants available to schools. It was suggested that it would be great if a parent would be willing to take on researching and writing applications for these.

Vanessa Cassin asked Marian what the results of her investigations into changing the stage were. Marian advised she is now considering the purchase of a portable stage. Mal Green enquired whether we still had the portable stairs that used to be attached to the stage for fetes. No one knew for sure where these were or how big they were. Marian is aware a lot of parents would like the Christmas concert returned to the school and hopes this might be possible with a portable stage.

Jane Misek would like there to be a discussion about technology in the school at some point. Initially the wi-fi needs updating. This will cost at least \$27000. There is also a problem with aging and unreliable laptops in the classrooms. It was suggested that funds raised at the Trivia Night could go towards purchasing technology. Marian and Jane are going to put together a wishlist.

**13. Meeting Closed**

9:00pm