



ST PAUL THE APOSTLE NEWSLETTER

4 February, 2015

Term 1 Week 2

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Prayer

God of Hope
Pour out your spirit of
home upon us all, as
we begin a new journey
in this community. May
the hidden and
unknown potential for
growth and new life in
the heart of all of us
take root in your spirit.
May it blossom and
flourish in abundant
fruit for the good of all.
This we pray in the
name of Jesus who is
hope. Amen

Contact Us

School

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

Principal's Message

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



Welcome back to Term 1 2015. I trust that you all had a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful time with your children. Thank you for sending your children back looking scrubbed and polished and ready to learn. They all seem really settled and back into learning straight away.

We have quite a few new members to the St Paul's family. Welcome to our three new teachers: Mr Andrew Lehman (Year 6), Mrs Karen Love (Year 3) and Miss Cara Burrell (Music). Welcome also to Amelia in year 6, Noah in year 4 and Steven in year 1.

A very special welcome to our kindergarten children: Olive, Sienna, Luke, Adeline, Thomas, Nathan, Blake, Oliver, Annabelle, Joshua, Sienna, Zed, Myles, Zara, Phoebe, Jenna, Matthew, Ashleigh, Jasmine, Banjo, Johanna, Alyssa, Jackson, Ronan, Eve, Ellie, Miray, Andria, Jerome, Liam, Kleo, Brooke, Blake, Lara, Tanner, Connor, Caitlin, Amelia, Olive, Samuel, Lucas, Joseph, Cooper, Johanna, Jack, Sebastian, Marcus, Michael, Chloe, Kayla, Cooper, Heidi, Chelsea, Alice, Marcus, Alannah, Rebecca, Eloise, Tyson, Owen and Emilie.

We hope you all feel part of our community really soon and enjoy everything St Paul's has to offer.

For some of our families however, it has not been a good start to the school year. You may have heard that Cubby House **before and after school care** centre closed its doors to the St Paul's children. With 12 hours notice, our families were informed that there was no place for them the next day at the centre. Needless to say parents were devastated and left with a huge problem with very little notice. On behalf of the families who have been affected by this issue, I thank you for the support you have extended to our families in need. They have been overwhelmed by the offers of help to transport and look after their children. Many of them asked me to pass on their thanks.

Parish

St Paul the Apostle Parish
40 Buckley's Road
Winston Hills, NSW 2153
Tel 9639 6316 Fax 9686 1727
Email: office@stpaultheapostleparish.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Liturgical Events

Week 1 – No Mass

Week 2 – No Mass

Week 3 – Whole School Mass

Week 4 – Ash Wednesday – Whole
School Mass 12:00

Friday – Welcoming Ceremony

Week 5 – No Mass

Week 6 – Stage 1 Mass (Yrs 1 & 2)

Week 7 – Whole School Mass

Week 8 – Stage 2 Mass (Yrs 3 & 4)

Week 9 – Early Stage 1 Mass (Kindy)

Week 10 – Stage 3 Mass to be held on
Sunday 29 March (Yrs 5 & 6)

SPORT DAYS TERM 1

KINDY – Monday & Thursday

YEAR 1 – Monday & Thursday

YEAR 2 – Monday & Tuesday

YEAR 3 – Monday & Tuesday

YEAR 4 – Monday & Tuesday

YEAR 5 – Monday & Wednesday

YEAR 6 – Monday & Thursday

I do have some news for the St Paul's community. Yesterday an application for our own OOSH was submitted. The CEDP have been very supportive and organised the application very quickly. We have identified a suitable space and are preparing to resource the centre. The DEC have said that they will fast track the application and I will keep you posted about the progress. I would like to thank CEDP for their prompt action – in particular Michael McGrath for all of the work he has done on our behalf in such a short time frame.

You may have noticed our new **vegetable gardens**. Look further into the newsletter for information about the garden activity and ways to become involved. We need a name for our gardening group who met for the first time on Tuesday. We planted, watered, weeded and propagated seeds. If you have an idea to name the group, please write it down and put it into the office tubs. I look forward to reading the entries and the adult gardeners will judge the suggestions!

What do you think of the **new look newsletter**? We would also like to name it and I invite you to make suggestions and either email them directly to me or write them down and bring them to the office.

Have a great week and a fabulous year everyone,
Marian Bell
mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au

RE News



“Now Simon’s mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them.” Mark 1:30-31

Welcome back to the beginning of another school year! This year, Mark's gospel will be the focus during the Church's ordinary time. His gospel was the shortest gospel and was written earlier than the others. As this gospel is unpacked during the year, we will hear about the actions of Jesus. Mark speaks of Jesus' ceaseless activity and his work with the sick, diseased, dead and evil spirits. Unlike the other gospels, Mark's starts with Jesus' public ministry and mission rather than his birth. He refers to the human and divine Jesus and allows us to see the many emotions Jesus experienced during his ministry. Mark also has strong links with St Paul and it is thought that he was with St Paul when he wrote the letters to the Colossians. We have much to learn about Jesus from Mark's gospels this year so let us embrace his readings and use them to spread the Good News to all we meet.

We have many new initiatives happening. One such initiative is a new prayer book, which can be found in our school office foyer. You are encouraged to enter the details of anyone you would like us to include in

Assembly Term 1, 2015

Assembly – Fridays 2:30pm

Week 1 – No Assembly

Week 2 – Whole School

Week 3 – No Assembly

Week 4 – Whole School – Year 6

Week 5 – No Assembly

Week 6 – Whole School – Year 5

Week 7 – No Assembly

Week 8 – Whole School – Year 2

Week 9 – Mini Vinnies

Week 10 – No Assembly

Uniform Shop Trading Hours

Thursday 2:30 – 4:00pm

Saturday 3:30 – 5:00pm

*For all uniform
enquiries please contact
Elle at on 0421 216 414
or*

elle@ozfashions.com.au

Library Borrowing Term 1

Kindy – Tuesday

Year 1 – Tuesday

Year 2G – Tuesday

Year 2N – Thursday

Year 3 – Thursday

Year 4 – Tuesday

Year 5 – Thursday

Year 6 – Thursday

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

our prayers. We will endeavour to include these names in our weekly newsletter so we can think of them during moments of prayer. It is so important, as Catholics, to be living our faith and one way to do this is to talk about how being Catholic is reflected in our lives.

When we talk about our faith we share with our children and others how important it is in our daily living. To help us share our faith this year, the Religious Education section of the newsletter will be renewed and adapted to include a 'Parent Reflection' section. If you are interested in sharing your reflections on the Sunday's readings or how your family lives your faith, please contact me at Istandring@parra.catholic.edu.au During Term Two Mini Vinnies will be organising children's prayer, which will be held every fortnight. More information regarding this will be forthcoming closer to Term Two. I am very excited about these new initiatives and look forward to working with you to strengthen our commitment to our faith.

God Bless,

Leanda Standring - Religious Education Coordinator

Curriculum Corner

Goal Setting Meetings

This year at St Paul's we **will not** be holding the parent information sessions and the ten minute chats as we have in past years.

Instead we will invite all families to make an appointment to meet with their child/children's teacher for 15 minutes in Week 5 and 6. This will be an opportunity for you to meet the teacher, share any information you have about your child and most importantly work with your child and their teacher to set some learning goals for the year.

More information about this will come out in a separate note next week. In the mean- time all classes will send home a note with any important information about their class and procedures for the year.

If there are any urgent issues that you need to discuss with your child's teacher before these meetings please contact the office to make an appointment.

Reading Books

Thank you to all the parents who kindly took books home over the holidays to cover. We still have about 500 books that need covering so if you have any spare time we would love to have your help. This can be done at home or at school. Last year we spent close to \$25,000 upgrading our reading books. Before we can send these books home we need to have them covered and stamped so that we can get many years use out of them. Please help out if you can so that the children can start to enjoy the new books.

Thank you again

Jane Mizek - Assistant Principal

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



Reminder

There will be a **Whole School Assembly on Friday at 2:30pm**. Everyone is welcome.

Student Attendance - New Guidelines

You will be aware of reports in the media that have referred to student's attendance at school – particularly in relation to discouraging children being removed from school during school term. As part of the implementation of the newly formulated National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included in Student Attendance Data as absences.

A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose. Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. If travel during school term is necessary the following considerations and procedures apply:

- Leave of ten (10) or more school days will require a formal application for leave in writing. This letter of request should be addressed to the Principal prior to commencing the leave period indicating the specific reason or purpose for the request of leave.
- If the principal accepts the reason for the absence, the absence will be marked as leave.
- If the principal does not believe the absence is in the student's best interests and does not accept the reason, the absence is unjustified and will be recorded as Absent.
- Partial Absences will be counted in the morning from any time after 8:55am. **Any students arriving at school after 8.55am must report to the school office accompanied by an adult to complete the necessary documentation.**

Dance Fever

This week children from Kindy to Year 6 commenced 'Dance Fever'. This will continue throughout Term 1 on a Monday. There will be opportunities later in the term for you to come and see what the children have been learning during these sessions. This encourages not only physical fitness but great social skills for our children. Some reflections from the children.

*On Monday we went to the parish centre and learnt three of the coolest dances. One was called Hip Hop. It was the best.
Georgina Mouawad Year 2.*

On Monday afternoon we went to the Parish Centre to participate in Dance Fever. Our fun and fantastic teachers were Miss Charlotte Cruze and Miss Jay. We learnt two dances Hip Hop and Lights, Camera, Action. It was fun.

Murphy Duncombe. Year 2

Medical Alerts

The health and wellbeing of our students is of paramount importance to us and keeping this in mind there are a few things that we need to ask you to do.

Anaphylaxis

We ask that parents of children who are at risk of **Anaphylaxis** provide the school with an updated **Anaphylaxis Action Plan**, signed by a doctor, together with an **Epipen or Anapen** and any other medication required. Our Staff are trained in the use of adrenaline autoinjectors in case of emergency and there is always a spare Epipen in the school office.

Asthma

Many of our children are Asthma sufferers – we ask that parents provide us with an up to date Asthma plan for their child at the beginning of each school year, together with their own Asthma medication. Please be reassured if your child forgets to bring their medication to school there is always Ventolin in the school office.

Food Allergies

Several children at our school suffer from food allergies – **some very severe**. We wish to remind you that in line with our policy we ask that you do not send gift items such as lollies, birthday cakes etc for your child to give to other children. At times, teachers do give food treats to the children but they always check the suitability of these treats with the parents of allergy sufferers.

We will continue to educate the children in the classroom about only eating their own food and we will keep you informed of any other protocols we may need to put in place.

Your cooperation with the above will help us to keep your children safe and well while they are in our care.

Parent and Friends News

St Paul's Gardeners

Hopefully many of you are aware that plans are afoot in an attempt to get some veggies growing at St Paul's. At the rear of the Kindy classrooms we have some pumpkins growing and we have successfully implemented four raised garden beds which are ready to be planted early Term 1.

In order to facilitate and maintain these veggie gardens, we will require tools and gardening equipment (gloves, watering cans etc) and plants or seeds/seedlings. If anyone has these items to donate to the gardens, please contact 0412 208 401 or email me at bethanybj@live.com.au. Likewise please contact me if you would like to be involved in any of the maintenance, planning, watering and running of the gardens. These veggie gardens will be of great benefit to our children on many levels, thank you for your support!





Happy Birthday

Raised Veggie Garden Beds are here!

On a cloudy, humid January morning, a small group of interested gardeners met at the school to transform an area of the playground into a veggie garden patch. After the essential trip for supplies to Bunnings, we managed to effectively fill the 4 raised garden beds with straw, manure and soil, ready for planting at the beginning of term 1. In addition to the 4 raised garden beds, we also worked on the surrounding landscape weeding, pruning and trying to nourish the neglected soil. We planted some marigold and lettuce seeds in trays and these will be ready for planting in week 2 of term 1 in the veggie patch.

Many hours were put in shovelling soil, digging, pruning and weeding. A special mention must be made of our hardest worker of the day, Declan A from Year 1 who worked tirelessly and relentlessly shovelling soil and helping everybody out for the entire 4 hours. What an amazing effort Declan! It was a very successful day, despite the persistent heat and humidity, and thanks to the following contributors; Mrs. Bell, Connie, Veronica B, Dave B, James B, Elizabeth B, Benjamin B, Katrina S, Zoe A, Declan A, Melissa O, Liam O, Warren P, Bethany P, Jaida P, Toby P and our special spectator mascots for the day Grace B and Mana P. Also a huge thanks to Trevor for preassembling the garden bed frames!

Bethany Power-Jones (Jaida 2N)

Reminder about Safety & Courtesy in the Carpark.

Please do not block disabled spots in the church carpark.

Happy Birthday to the children who celebrated their birthdays in the holidays and during the first week back at school.

Alexander Tannous, Elijah Uy, Benjamin Osborne, Thomas Daniel, Nikolas Forrest, Johnathon Haddad, Isabel Sloane, Alexander Silveri, Jackson Simpson, Rylee VanNesch, Jamon Abeywickrama, Eli Hill, Jacob Jasser, Kenzie Moujalli, Helena Rizk, Meegan Sewell, Clare Grubba, Angelina El-Bayeh, Christian Bugeja, Alyssa El-Bayeh, Eve Frome, Joshua Connor, Connor McDaniel, Kingsley Askew, Kate Sloane, Cassandra Wijaya, Benjamin Cartwright, Eden Boisse, Theodora Margaris, Eliza Gordon, Jessica Harkin, Joseph Tannous, Hannah Adams, John Al-Ekhtiyar, Georgia Hill, Annabelle Malouf, Alyssa Nakhoul, Joel Irving, Tahlia Poole, Chanel Elias, Tienna Brennan, Flynn Farrell, Darcy Hill, Josip Kujundzija, Jordyn Lord, Joel O'Brien, Cooper Provan, Zoe McIntosh, Austin Borg, Tamara Christie, Nicholas Disibio, Oliver Drover, Bryce Floody, Emil Khalil, Filip Kujundzija, Brock Prideaux, Lucas Scuderi, Sophia Fenech, Hayley Wallace, Connor Bourke, Ellie Geraghty, Olive Micallef, Emilie West, Oliver Cartwright, Joshua McFadden, Erin Thistlethwaite, Liam Smith, Mikkel Fares, Steven Chalhoub and Sophia Poole.



Catherine McAuley Westmead

Enrolments for Year 7 2016

**Closing Date for Year 7 2016 Applications 1st Round Offers is
Friday 27th March 2015.**

There will be two Open Mornings specifically for Year 7 2016 enrolments on:

**Tuesday 10th February and Wednesday 5th March 2015
9.15 – 11am**

These mornings will give interested parents and students the opportunity to tour our school on a normal school day. You will be able to view our school grounds and facilities, go into classrooms and meet our students and teachers. Enrolment packs will be available on the day.

To book places for a school tour on one of these tour mornings please contact our School Reception on 9849 9100.

The school will also be holding an Open Afternoon/Evening on Tuesday, 17th March from 4.00 – 6.30pm. This will provide another opportunity to tour the school with classrooms open and school tours running throughout this time. Following the Open event from 7.00 – 8.00pm there will be a Year 7 2016 Enrolment Information Evening presented by the Leadership Team. This will provide further information on the school and the enrolment process. Completed enrolment forms may be lodged at this meeting.

Any questions concerning the Open Afternoon/Evening or the Year 7 Enrolment Information Evening can be answered by phoning School Reception. Car parking for any of these school events will be available via Gate 3 off Darcy Road, Westmead.

Oakhill College Enrolments 2016 Enrolments for Year 7 2016

Applications for enrolment into **Year 7 2016** will close on **Friday, 20 February, 2015**. Parents who wish to apply for enrolment of their sons in Year 7 at Oakhill College in **2016**, and who have not yet submitted an Application for Enrolment, are requested to contact the Registrar before the closing dates on 9899 2288 or registrar@oakhill.nsw.edu.au



We have two competitions running! We are seeking names for the garden club and the new look newsletter.

If you have any ideas - please let the office know by phone, email (winstonthills@parra.catholic.edu.au) or note left in the office tub. Entries close on **Friday, February 13.**

Primary School Challenge

The Seven Network, have invited students to participate in an Australian themed competition to coincide with the launch of the new historically based television series – Australia: The Story of Us.

Students in Years Four, Five and Six are eligible to play along in a weekly online quiz where they answer questions related to significant events in Australia's history.

They will compete against other students in NSW for the chance to win a \$10,000 grant for our school, plus prizes for the whole family.

The competition starts on Sunday, 8 February and it is easy for students and parents to play along.

How Students can Win

1. Students watch Australia: The Story of Us on Channel Seven
2. Go to Yahoo7.com.au/StoryOfUs and answer the quiz questions related to that episode
3. Students sign up with their name and school details (with parent/guardian consent)
4. Each correct answer contributes to the final score
5. Minor prize winners will be announced on the website each week
6. Five finalist schools in each state will be invited to tell us why they should win the grant.

One winning school in each state will receive \$10,000.

*Reach new heights through a community
celebrating faith, life and learning*

TERM 1 2015 PARENT CALENDAR



WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Jan/Feb 1	26 Public Holiday	27 Staff Development Day Student Testing Day	28 Staff Development Day Student Testing Day	29 Students Return Year1 – Year6 Kindy Testing Day	30 Kindy Commence	31 Clothing shop Open Every Saturday 3:30 – 5:00pm	1
February 2	2 Dance Fever	3 Parish Birthday	4	5	6 Forensic Incursion Yrs 3 – 6 Parish Dinner	7 Clothing Shop Open 3:30-5:00pm	8
February 3	9 Dance Fever	10	11 School Banking Commences	12	13 School Census Day Opening School Mass 9:00am	14 Valentine's Day Clothing Shop Open 3:30-5:00pm	15
February 4	16 Dance Fever	17 Shrove Tuesday	18 ASH WEDNESDAY Yr 4 Communion Meeting	19 School Photo Day	20 Cyber Safety Welcoming Ceremony 9:15am Assembly Yr6	21 Clothing Shop Open 3:30-5:00pm	22 1 Sunday of Lent Blessing of Facilitators All Masses
Feb / Mar 5	23 Dance Fever HILLS ZONE SWIMMING Hawkesbury Pool	24 Natures Recyclers Infant Incursion P&F AGM 7:30pm	25	26 Natures Recyclers Primary Incursion	27 DIOCESAN SWIMMING Blacktown Pool	28 Clothing Shop Open 3:30-5:00pm	1 2 Sunday of Lent Clean Up Australia Day
March 6	2 Dance Fever First Communion Facilitators Meeting 7:30pm	3	4	5	6 Yr4 Excursion Sunset Disco 6pm Assembly Yr5	7 1 st First Communion Group Meeting 4:45pm Clothing Shop open	8 3 Sunday of Lent 1 st First Communion Group Meeting 10:45am
March 7	9 Parents Invited to view Dance Fever	10 Parents Invited to view Music/PE P&F Exec Meeting 7:30pm	11 Parents Invited to PE/Art Classes	12 Open Classrooms	13 Whole School Mass	14 2 nd First Communion Group Meeting 4:30pm Clothing Shop Open	15 4 Sunday of Lent 2 nd First Communion Group Meeting 10:30am
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK							
March 8	16 Fr Dave's Birthday Enrolments Commence Kindy 2016	17 St Patrick's Day Green Mufti Day Charity Event	18	19 Feast of St Joseph 2 nd First Communion Group Meeting TBA	20 Cross Country Assembly Yr2	21 3 rd First Communion Group Meeting 4:30pm Clothing Shop Open	22 5 Sunday of Lent 3 rd First Communion Group Meeting 10:30am
March 9	23 Dance Fever	24 Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day – BLUE Rooty Hill TBC P&F Meeting 7:30pm	25 THE ANNUNCIATION Cross Country Back-Up day	26 3 rd First Communion Group Meeting TBA	27 Stage 3 Touch Gala Day St Marys TBC Assembly Mini Vini's Receive Badges	28 Clothing Shop Open 3:30-5:00pm	29 Palm Sunday
Mar / Apr 10	30 Dance Fever Showcase 'Dance-a-Thon' TBC	31 P&F Meeting 7:30pm	1	2 Holy Thursday Term 1 Ends	3 Good Friday	4 Easter Saturday	5 Easter Sunday
April SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	6 Easter Monday	7	8	9 Fr Raining's Birthday	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS

Re: Whooping Cough - Public Health alert

There has been an increase of whooping cough (Pertussis) notifications in the Western Sydney area since June 2014, particularly in the 2155 postcode area.

In order to prevent further cases of whooping cough Western Sydney Public Health Unit advises the following:

If your child (or any member of your family) has any of the symptoms of whooping cough, such as a **dry or persistent cough**, which may be especially bad at night, please **see your doctor** and take this notice with you. A nose and throat swab test can be performed to confirm the diagnosis.

If your child has whooping cough, your doctor will arrange a course of antibiotic treatment. Antibiotics given early in the illness are effective in stopping the cough and in preventing spread to other people. If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough please advise the school and keep your child at home until s/he has taken 5 days of antibiotics.

A whooping cough fact sheet is enclosed. More information on whooping cough is available on the NSW Health website at

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/whoopingcough/Pages/default.aspx>

or please call Western Sydney Public health unit on 9840 3603 if you have any queries.

Thank you for your attention.

Come & Try Girl Guides at Winston Hills



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0414 490 210
www.girlguides.org.au**



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- **Street Beat Tap**
- **Boys Hip-Hop**



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- **Troupes**
- **Singing & Drama**
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Tania MacLeod (Principal)

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