



# St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

11 June 2014

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

Last Friday at assembly the primary children and teachers listened to Felix from **St Jude's** in Tanzania. Miss Natoli's mum Renata has been to St Jude's and knows first hand of the struggles and triumphs of the school and the vital role it has in educating the very poor children of Tanzania. Felix told of his personal story and the children were very engaged throughout. He had a clear message for us - never give up on your dream and never take for granted the opportunities that come your way. We will continue to support The School of St Jude's and invite you to look at the following website for more information. [www.schoolofstjude.org](http://www.schoolofstjude.org)

Thank you for sending your children along to school in their **winter uniform**. I think the children look very smart when they wear it correctly. The tie for boys and tab for girls are a part of the uniform and need to be worn as well. I have noticed that some students are neglecting this part of the uniform and I ask that you ensure the correct uniform is worn. We have some second hand uniforms that may assist in keeping costs down. I have also noticed that coloured sports shoes are creeping back in on sports days. Please follow the policy stating mostly white shoes. To clarify last week's newsletter's comment about the **sports socks** – the sports socks need to be worn by all students from kindergarten to Year 5 by term 4. Year 6 students are not expected to purchase the socks but to continue to wear the brown socks for the remainder of their time at St Paul's. I apologise for the confusion. One last uniform issue – the school bag is also a component of the uniform. It is an expectation that all children have a St Paul's schoolbag. If for any reason your child needs to use another bag, please send a letter along to your child's teacher explaining the reason.

Thank you to the parents who have attended and will attend the **parent/student/teacher interviews**. It is desirable that the students also attend to speak about their learning. The teachers have prepared for these interviews and I am very grateful for their generosity. We have received some constructive feedback about the reports and the interviews and I would welcome your thoughts. Please feel free to email me: [mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Please add this date to your diary. Jane and I would like to host an **afternoon tea** for parents on Wednesday June 25 at 2pm. This is an opportunity for parents to come together to discuss any issues or celebrations with other parents; Jane and myself. Toddlers are most welcome. Look for an invitation coming home next week.

Our **Staff Development Day** for Term 3 is on Monday July 14. The staff will be attending Mary Mackillop place to learn about Australia's first saint and experience all that the centre has to offer. This is a pupil free day. Please contact me if child minding is a problem. Term 3 will begin for students on Tuesday July 15.

Have a great week everyone,  
Marian Bell

## Religious Education

**"Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind."** Philippians 2:2.

In 1967 Australia held a referendum about removing clauses in the Australian constitution which discriminated against Indigenous Australians. The results of the referendum were 90 per cent of Australians agreeing to make amendments to our Constitution. This was the start of the reconciliation movement. The outcomes of this momentous decision were far outreaching with the



establishment of citizenship and voting rights for all indigenous people. Since then the fight for recognition and awareness of the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders has continued to be forged.

In 1996 Australia celebrated National Reconciliation Week for the first time. It gave people the opportunity to focus on reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Many now see it as a time to reflect on the achievements so far and what still needs to be achieved through Reconciliation. National Reconciliation Week falls between 27 May and 3 June every year. These dates mark two important historical events for Indigenous Australians; the anniversary of the referendum and Mabo Day.

In recognition of our Indigenous Australians, our school introduced the 'Acknowledgement of Country' to our assemblies. Engaging in the practice of 'Welcome to Country' and 'Acknowledgement of Country' recognises the unique position of Aboriginal people in Australian culture and history. Aboriginal people are the original Custodians of the Land. Recognising and incorporating a 'Welcome to' or 'Acknowledgement of' Country when we come together for events, professional learning and ceremonies enables our diocesan and school communities to share in Aboriginal cultures and heritage so that we can facilitate better relationships between Indigenous people and other Australians.

God Bless, Mrs Leanda Standring (Religious Education Coordinator)

## SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

**Photo Day is next Wednesday, 18 June.** Photo envelopes went home Week 5 (28 May).

Please ensure that your child brings his/her photo envelope to school on Photo Day unless you have prepaid for your photos using the on-line payment facility. Children must bring their envelopes on Wednesday if paying by cash or cheque. Please ensure you have the correct envelope for individual photos. Sibling Envelopes should only be used for family photos; these can be obtained from the office. Family photos (siblings attending St Paul's) will be taken in the Parish Centre from 8:15am.



## SPORT UPDATE

It is a very busy time for sport on the school calendar at present with a number of events before the end of the term.

**Tuesday June 17** - Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day. Please ensure if your daughter is part of this team that they have returned their permission note so a carpool can be put together.

**Thursday June 19** - Primary Sports Carnival. Thank you to a number of parents who have volunteered to assist on the day. We still do require a few more parent helpers so if you are able to help please send a note with your child to Mrs Lambert.

**Please return all permission/travel notes by Friday (13 June).**

**Tuesday June 24** - Stage 2 Boys Soccer Gala Day. Trials have taken place this week and permission notes and medical emergency forms sent home.

**Tuesday July 22** – St Bernadette's Netball Gala Day. Girls interested in participating in this event must have their expressions of interest returned to Mrs Lambert by **Friday 13 June** so teams can be organised. Anyone later than this cannot be guaranteed a position in a team.

## A NOTE FROM THE LIBRARY

### Premiers Reading Challenge

Six more children have recently completed the Reading Challenge. Congratulations to Ciara Shanahan, Siobhan Cassin, Matthew Engesser, Harry Poole, Lucas Engesser and Cameron Bliss. We now have 15 children who have completed the challenge. There are still 50 children who are well on their way to completing the Challenge so keep up the good work and continue reading. Remember you only have until 22 August to complete the challenge!

### Helpers Required

We still require a few helpers to assist with repairing and covering books in the library. If you have some spare time just drop into the library on a Tuesday or Thursday and see Mrs Taylor or Mrs Nobili. You are welcome to take books home to cover if that is easier for you to manage.

## MUSIC PERFORMERS

Congratulations to all our musical children who gave a fantastic performance on Thursday June. All our children have been working very hard in class and lunch times. Well done everybody.

Leona Nash, Music

Thank you Leona for your hard work and for coordinating the extravaganza! Marian



## SCHOOL BAND

On Thursday evening, 5 June, our School Band held an 'Evening of Music' in the Parish Centre. It was great to see the enthusiasm of our talented musicians, who performed small group, as well as 'whole band' songs for parents, grandparents and friends.

Children in Junior Band are progressing steadily on their chosen instrument – learning how to care for/put together the instrument, and how to read and play many musical notes and rhythms. This term they have progressed to listening to each other playing different parts of music as a whole band, and we are now ready to begin learning many new band pieces.

Our Senior Band is also reaching a higher standard of playing on their instruments, and performing confidently and with great enthusiasm.

I would like to thank Mrs Bell and Mrs Nash for all of their help on the night, as well as the parents who do a great job bringing their children to early morning band rehearsals on time every Wednesday morning (Senior Band 7.50am, Junior Band 8.30am) - I would especially like to thank the children for their dedication to band each week – who all seem to enjoy being a part of such a great school band, and who are all playing their music together so beautifully.

*See you at our next concert!*  
Jenny Sparks, Band Director

## CATCH AND PLAY CLINIC

This is a reminder that the catch and Play clinic run by St Paul's Netball club is starting this Friday at Gooden Reserve, Kanili Ave, Baulkham Hills from 4-5pm. Please wear comfortable training clothes and joggers and bring a bottle of water. Any queries contact Angela Green on 0452 469 393.

## Dates to Remember

### June

- 13 Year 6 Debate **9.45am** Parish Centre; Primary Assembly – Year 5 prepare.  
School Discos: Infants 5.30pm -7.00pm; Primary 7.30pm-9.00pm  
**All Primary Athletics Carnival and St Bernadette's Netball Gala Day forms must be returned.**
- 15 Trinity Sunday
- 17 Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
- 18 Writing Competition 8am; **School Photo Day** (full winter uniform to be worn)
- 19 Feast of Corpus Christi; Primary Athletics Carnival, Rouse Hill