



St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

19 November 2014

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

Last Monday Jane and I were invited to **Woodberry Village**. Traditionally the Year 6 students, teachers and some parents visit the village at this time each year to speak with the residents and share some stories. The children have been working on a pictorial story of their lives in scrapbook form as a memento. The ones I have seen are beautiful. During the morning the students shared their story and the residents shared their story too. It was one of the loveliest times I have witnessed and I am very proud of Year 6 students and the respect, kindness and patience they demonstrated. Many of the students spoke very naturally to the residents whereas others found it difficult. We should never underestimate what another generation can teach us. I wonder how many of the students hugged their own grandparents that little bit more? Congratulations to all of the children and a special thank you to Mrs Jackson, Miss Galera and Mrs Ricketts for organising this occasion and for supporting the children.

On Saturday November 22 we will have the **whole school working bee**. A separate note went out last week – unfortunately with the wrong date. Please try and come along – this is the last opportunity to clean up the school grounds before the end of the year. The more people that come the more we will achieve together. Thank you in anticipation of your very generous support.

Our whole school **Christmas Concert/Carols** will be held in the school grounds on Friday November 28 at 7pm. Families are invited to come along earlier and share a picnic dinner in the grounds. The gates will be open from 5pm. **You will need to bring along folding chairs**. The children are to assemble in their learning spaces at 6.30pm. Children are asked to wear Christmas colours – red, green, white, gold and silver. The children who will be performing the expo item will wear their expo costume – no need to change through out the night. The night will begin with a performance by the band, the expo item and the Nativity performed by the whole school. It is going to be a beautiful evening – we need to pray for a fine night!

On the weekend, the company who is laying our new **artificial 'grass'** is going to begin their work. The playground has been a concern for some time as real grass just does not grow and we need to do something to beautify the area and make it safe and comfortable to play on. This is very exciting and by the end of the week we should have a very smart looking bottom playground! This will need some adjustments in the use of the playground for next week but a little care and sacrifice will be all worth it in the end.

As you are aware we have been working with the **Year 5 students** about leadership. Our school leaders for 2015 are Jennifer Grubba and Louis Bahan as School Captains; Kate Sloane and Adam D'Costa as Vice School Captains and Alana Attard, Tahlia Poole, Gabriella Watkins, Nikolas Forrest, Jake Hardwick and Quinn O'Reilly make up the student leadership team for 2015. Congratulations to the team and I look forward to working with them. There are some leadership reflections further in the newsletter and I would like to finish with **Mia Pillay** (5N) and her acrostic poem on leadership:

Leadership
Encourage
And
Develop
Everyone
Responsibly
Selflessly
Honestly
Impressively
Positively.

Have a great week everyone,
Marian Bell

Religious Education

For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me. Matthew 25: 35-36



This Sunday the Catholic Church celebrates the end of the liturgical Year A with the Solemnity of Christ the King. Throughout the liturgical year, during ordinary time, the church has focussed on the readings of Matthew. This Sunday will be the last time we read Matthew this year. The Gospel reading (Matthew 25:31-46) will continue to focus on the public life of Jesus and then will move on to the passion and resurrection of our Lord.

Sunday's reading emphasises the fact that we do not always know when we are following Christ. It reinforces the importance of remembering that through everything we do and how we act towards others is a sign of our discipleship with Him.

As we head towards Christmas it may be an opportune time to reflect on the message within the Scripture and model it to our children. Next Tuesday the children are encouraged to donate a gold coin to enable teachers to purchase presents for those less fortunate than ourselves. At our Christmas Concert these gifts will be passed on to the St Vincent de Paul Society to distribute to families in our local community.

This year our concert will begin at 6pm on November 28. You are invited to join us and celebrate the end of another year together. It promises to be a wonderful concert, highlighting the creative talents of our students as they perform the Expo item. We will also celebrate the real meaning of Christmas, through song and drama, thanks to Mrs Nash. She has organised a Christmas item that allows all classes to join in sharing the story of 'The Birth of Jesus.'

Tomorrow our Year Six students will partake in their final visit to Woodberry Village. They will be entertaining the residents with a short concert. It has been a wonderful experience for all involved and a wonderful example of outreach.

God Bless, Mrs Leanda Standring (Religious Education Coordinator)

Prayer:

Dear Almighty Lord,

We pray to you for all the people who fought in wars for our country.

We feel deep sorrow when we look at those who have fallen, serving our country.

We can remember the soldiers who have died and their families by praying for them on ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day each year.

We thank these soldiers who have brought peace and freedom to our beautiful country.

Lest We Forget.

Amen

By Austin & Myles, Year 4

SACRAMENTAL UPDATE

Yesterday, all parents in Year 4 were sent a letter regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2015. If you did not receive a letter, or if your child is in Year 5 or 6 this year and has not received this Sacrament, please contact the office for a copy of the letter. Thank you.

Sandra Sheehan

Sacramental Coordinator.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL CAPTAIN

During the last couple of years at St Paul's I have noticed the sport uniform being worn incorrectly. Students at St Paul's are **NOT** allowed to wear 'Skins' under their sport uniform. Wearing 'Skins' shows your disrespect of the school uniform and our school. The only time wearing 'Skins' is permitted is during our Sports Carnival.

Monty Duncombe
School Captain

YEAR 5 STUDENTS' REFLECTIONS ON THE LEADERSHIP PROCESS

- Before nominated Year 5 student leaders began their speeches, Mrs Bell read a story based on leadership. It was called 'The Last King of Angkor Wat'. Mrs Bell then told us about some changes to the leadership roles in 2015. We then nominated 2 boys and 2 girls to be our captains for next year. Then all the ten nominees gave speeches. We then voted for school and vice-captain. Now we wait anxiously for the news of our new school leaders. Good luck to our good friends.
Kiarna Moujalli 5M
- Last week we were told who the 10 nominated leaders were for 2015. Most of the class were very proud of the children chosen. Although most of Year 5 were happy for those chosen, some of the students were disappointed because they really want to be leaders themselves, however they are excited about finding out and supporting our class buddies in their roles.
Joshua Barnes 5M
- On Friday 14 November, all of the nominated leaders presented their speeches to their parents and Years 4 and 5. All of the speeches were unique in their own way. During this time, some of the Year 5 students participated in filming, taking photos, welcoming parents, escorting parents, setting up and packing away chairs. There were also M.C.'s introducing the speakers. Everyone in the audience was very supportive.
Tristen Nguyen 5M
- On 14 November Year 4 and 5 listened to the ten nominated 2015 school leaders. They were all very humorous and quite inspirational. All the nominated children deserve prefect badges based on the delivery of their speeches. We were then asked to vote in order from 1 to 5 on who we thought the girls and boys prefects should be. Overall it was an interesting day. I wish all ten delegates the best of luck as they await their results.
Laura Campbell 5M
- First guest speakers came and talked to us about leadership and told us why leadership is important. The three people that came in were Mrs Hill, Mr Irving and Constable Louise Conroy. Then Mrs Bell talked to us about how the leadership process would work and we asked lots of questions. A couple of days later Mrs Bell read us a book about leadership. Then we nominated for 10 leaders. After a few days, the nominated people made speeches.
Lachlan De Macedo Pereira 5N
- Firstly Mrs Bell came and told us about the changes with leadership. I was surprised and a little sad but I got over it. On nomination day I felt really nervous. When I was told I wasn't a leader I was disappointed but at the same time happy for the nominees.
Tobias Mifsud 5N
- On 14 November, Year 5, Year 4 and the teachers voted for the 2015 school and vice captains. Before we all voted there was a long process. First Mrs Bell, Constable Conroy, Mr Irving and Mrs Hill had a talk with us. Next we nominated our 2015 leaders. The top 10 nominees were Kate Sloane, Jennifer Grubba, Tahlia Poole, Alana Attard, Gabriella Watkins, Nikolas Forrest, Jake Hardwick, Adam D'Costa, Quinn O'Reilly and Louis Bahan. Then we listened to their speeches and voted. Congratulations to all the nominees.
Scarlett Byrne 5N
- This year's leadership process was an exciting time. It had nerves and happiness. We had lots of important guest speakers and meetings with Mrs Bell. On nomination day we started with a story book called 'The King of Angkor Wat' and then we got to the good stuff, the nominations. Two days later we found out who the nominated people were. It was sad for some but happy for others. **Haylee Shelton 5N**

EXPO ITEM AT CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Dear Parents and Carers of Expo dance children,
The Expo dance item will be performed at the Christmas concert on Friday 28 November.

To prepare for this, the children will be having 2 lunchtime rehearsals next week. They will take place on **Monday 24 and Wednesday 26 November.**

We would appreciate your support in reminding your children of the rehearsal on this day. It might also be an idea to avoid lunch orders on these days, if at all possible, in order to maximise rehearsal time.

Thank you in anticipation,
The Expo team.

STAR SPOT

Monique Clenton, 6G, has been selected to play in the Hills Hornets Under 14 representative team. Congratulations and good luck, Monique!



SWIMMING CARNIVAL – HELP REQUIRED

We still require parental help for the swimming carnival to be a success. It will be held on Friday December 5 at the Aquatic Centre at Homebush. If you are able to assist could you please inform Mrs Lambert or leave a note at the school office. Unfortunately you will not be able to help if you have preschoolers or toddlers with you.

Many thanks, Fiona Lambert

NOTE FROM THE LIBRARY

Library bags ensure that the wonderful books in our library are protected on the way to and from school. I would really encourage each child to bring a library bag to school on their borrowing day. The library bags do not have to be homemade. They can be a material shopping bag or a pillowcase. Thank you.



Premiers Reading Challenge Certificates will be handed out on Monday 24 November at the morning assembly to the children who completed the 2014 challenge this year.

Special congratulations go to Jason Attard, Cameron Bliss, Corey Fitzsimons, Nicholas Long and Thomas Reid who will receive a **Platinum** Certificate for completing the challenge **seven** years in a row. Well done boys!

Gold Certificates will be presented to Sophia Barnett, Isobel Cassin, Stephen Courtney, Lucas Engesser, Bradley Peachey, Sophia Poole, Emily Prevett, Patrick Reid, Blake Shanahan, Cassandra Wijaya and Paige Williamson who have completed the challenge **four** years in a row.

Help Required

We currently have many new books requiring covering. If anyone can spare a little time to help cover these books please come and see us in the library. We are happy for you to take the books and contact home if you cannot stay.

WORKING BEE REMINDER

This Saturday November 22 we are holding a **whole school** working bee. All families were sent a notification letter last week. Hopefully each family will be able to send along at least one member to help out on the morning. BBQ lunch will be supplied.



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH PERFORMING ARTS AUSTRALIA

Bring out the best in your child with performing arts education!

A representative from NIYPAA will be visiting St Paul's on **Wednesday, 26 November 2014** at **2:00pm**.



Our representative will visit and speak to students in years 2-6 who are interested in try outs for the Australian Youth Dance Theatre or a voice appraisal for the Australian Youth Choir. We will distribute information letters for those involved to take home to parents.



Our programmes help young people discover their hidden vocal or dance talent. Students learn to sing or dance, develop their musicianship and performance skills, make new friends and become part of a wide circle of performers. Visit us at www.niypaa.com.au.

Year 2 Christmas Family Dinner

Come along to the Year 2 Christmas Family Dinner and have fun with the whole family!

The dinner is being held at Ettamogah Pub which is located on the corner of Merriville and Windsor Rds, Kellyville Ridge on Sunday 7 December at 4.30pm. The Ettamogah Pub boasts a Jumping Castle, Rock Climbing, Pool Tables, Arcade Room and an enclosed Playground to keep the kids entertained.

To secure a table we require a \$10 deposit on RSVP (this goes towards the 2 starter platters required in order to book a table). Please either hand directly to Mel or Kath before or after school in a labelled envelope, send it with your child in the home folder C/O Lily Moujalli 2G or C/O Thomas Daniel 2S or contact Kath for Direct Deposit details. Please let us know how many children and adults you plan to bring along when you RSVP.



RSVP: Monday 24 November. Bookings essential!

Kath Moujalli
Phone: 0421 641 828
Email: mrs mouj@yahoo.com.au

Melinda Daniel
Phone: 0447 674 807
Email: louiemel@hotmail.com

Dates to Remember

November

- 20 Kindy 2015 Orientation morning 9.15am-11am;
Uniform Shop open 8.30am-10.30am & 1.30pm-3.30pm.
- 21 Swimming Program finishes
Oakhill College Orientation Day
- 22 Whole School Working Bee
- 23 Feast of Christ the King
- 25 Gold coin day for St Vincent de Paul
P & F Meeting 7.30pm
- 26 National Institute of Youth Performing Arts Australia, 2pm
- 28 Christmas Concert 6pm
- 30 1st Sunday of Advent

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.

This event is FREE and is presented as a Community Service by

Soroptimist International of the Hills District Inc

supported by

The Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Committee
and other community service organisations



Building Healthy Relationships

free seminar and workshops

Providing professional information empowering women and men to make informed decisions for themselves and their families.

The issues addressed during the day will include family conflict and the effect of violence on children

Where: Castle Grand Community Centre
Pioneer Room
Cnr Castle & Pennant Streets, Castle Hill

When: Thursday, 4 December 2014
9.00am-2.30pm

FREE Admission | FREE Lunch & Refreshments | FREE crèche for 0-5 year olds
FREE access to Professional Advice | FREE access to translators

For bookings and further information contact:

Faye on 0435 232 261 or Bev on 9639 0638 OR

Email—soroptimist2153@gmail.com

