



St Paul's Update

21 October, 2015

Term 4, Week 3

Dates for your diary

23 October	Assembly Year 3 2:30pm
23 October	Year 5 & 6 Excursion to Manly - Surf Education
24 October	Garage Sale Trail - places still available!!
27,28,29 October	Kindergarten 2016 Transition Days
30 October	Holy Faith Awards - Liturgy 10:15am in the Church
30 October	World Teachers' Day

Reminder.....

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER

SWIMMING CARNIVAL, HOMEBUSH - MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER

PLEASE NOTE: WEEK 3 ASSEMBLY - YEAR 3 NOT YEAR 5

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

As a principal in the diocese of Parramatta, I am very fortunate to be offered many opportunities to nurture and support my faith journey. I have been invited to attend a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with 20 other principal colleagues and the Executive Director, Mr Greg Whitby. I will be leaving for the pilgrimage on Sunday November 1 and will return to school on Wednesday November 25. While I appreciate that this is not particularly a good time to be away from the busyness of school, I ask for your support and that you pray for us all on the pilgrimage. I certainly will be keeping the St Paul's community in my thoughts and prayers over this special time.

The school will of course be in the excellent hands of Jane Misek well supported by Leanda Standring. They are both available to meet with you or answer any questions or queries you may have during my absence. I thank them for their support as it enables me to attend the pilgrimage knowing that they are very skilled and capable of leading a school.

Last night we met with the kindergarten parents of 2016. It was a great night and there was a lovely atmosphere of excitement. Thank you to Amber Paul, Kath Ireland and Jane Misek for their input and enthusiasm. The feedback from the night has already been so positive because of their obvious commitment and love of teaching. Thank you also to the parents of existing students who led the discussions about the day to day issues of beginning school for the very first time. Special thanks to Mrs Cook, Mrs Khalil, Mrs Gonzalez, Mrs Power-Jones, Mrs Lafferty, Mrs Floody, Mrs Brame and Mrs Sitton. We also had some other guest presenters Sharyn Hunt from Westmead children's hospital speaking about Cystic Fibrosis; Kerry Maine and Jessica Kazoo from COSCH and Emma Hill speaking about the role of the Parents & Friends association. Thank you all for your generosity of time.

Please look further into the newsletter for a uniform update.
Have a great week everyone.

Marian Bell

Picture Books

Last term we took advantage of the fantastic sale ALDI had on picture books. As they were so cheap we were able to purchase many sets of 8 and we are extremely grateful to the parents who have helped to cover them. These are all quality texts written by well known children's authors.

This week these sets of books have been sent to our classrooms. You may even have your child bring home a picture book as their reader. When teaching children to read we are assisting children to make meaning of written text. Children can be accurate readers but are not always reading in a way that sounds fluent or phrased. In other words "Reading that sounds just like talking". Children can also be accurate readers but are often unable to relate to texts, to draw any understanding from what they have read or to infer hidden meaning. Picture books are great to develop to help develop these skills in young readers.

When choosing books for children, teachers try to provide access to a **diverse range of texts**, both literary and factual, so that they are exposed to a wide range of styles and genres. These include picture books, information texts and even children's magazines. In other words we need to use **REAL TEXTS!**

Picture Books are a great resource for teaching reading and comprehension because:

- they are short accessible texts that can be shared in a guided reading group in a single session of ten to fifteen minutes.
- they are constructed in a way that offers children a range of vocabulary and text styles as well as illustrations that help to carry essential elements of the story not referred to in the written text.
- Children can return to these texts, read them independently and recall features of the story.



If your child brings home a picture book as their reader please do not be concerned that it is not a levelled text. More than likely your child has developed into an independent reader who still needs practice at reading aloud to develop phrasing and fluency and adjusting pace and volume and intonation in order to enhance meaning and expression. Have your child practise reading aloud, play teacher and read to siblings, read to grandparents, pets or even to an iPad. Discuss connections that your child can make to the text and themselves or to other stories they know, discuss the pictures (often there is a message in the pictures not referred to in the written text) but most importantly make reading time an enjoyable time.

Uniform Update

I am hoping that by this stage, you have had an opportunity to visit the office and see the new uniform on display. I am keen to see how it looks on real models! Thank you to everyone for your feedback – both positive and negative. I take on board all that you have said and remind you all that it has been a 13 month process of creation by a committee of parents and teachers.

I must say that I am disappointed by some of the Facebook comments. It is not helpful to make negative comments that cannot be made face to face, if you have issues then please come and speak to me. Social media is not the place for complaints and gathering support of a negative kind.

I hope that the following dot points will assist with further clarification:

- The new uniform transition time is 2 years – that is all children will be in the new uniform by the beginning of 2018.
- This means that the children in years 4 and 5 *may* be able to get to the end of their schooling without having to purchase the new uniform unless of course they choose to.
- Veronica Brogden has begun a second hand uniform swap to assist with maintaining the current uniform. She will be at the garage sale trail on Saturday with her collection of second hand uniforms for a gold coin donation.
- **The current new stock will also be available for half price on Saturday – please see the attached flyer.**
- Transition also means that the children may be wearing parts of the old and new uniform.
- If you are purchasing new shoes, feel free to buy black shoes (as we know you have more choices) to wear with the old uniform.

If there are any other issues that need clarification, please feel free to email, phone or come into the office.

Marian Bell

mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au

'The Garage Sale Trail' - it is not too late book your spot now!!

Car Boot spaces and stall plots on sale now for \$25. What an opportunity to sell your no longer needed used toys, clothes, household goods and bric-a-brac. Anything goes! Support the environment by reusing, reducing and recycling - Support your school to raise funds for your kids.



Come to St Paul the Apostle Garage Sale Trail

Saturday 24 October 2015 from 9am to 3pm

Email or phone your friendly P&F member - Lauren Alley (loz12c@hotmail.com - 0421 818 606) Alyssa Dwyer - (alyssa_barry@hotmail.com - 0411 270 296) or Alex Mowbray - (alex.mowbray@gmail.com - 0416 094 454) We are also looking for volunteers to help out at the sausage sizzle and cake stall.



Last week we had the pleasure of welcoming the Mayor of Parramatta, Paul Garrard and Councillor Bob Dwyer to the School. We are the only school in Parramatta taking part in the Garage Sale Trail initiative. Look out for photos in the local papers.



Working Bee

Our whole school Working Bee was held on Saturday 17 October. Thank you to all the families that came along to help us get through the long list of jobs we had to do around the school. We achieved so much and would not have been able to do this without your help.

Thank you

Twilight Working Bee For those of you who were unable to attend on Saturday you have not missed your opportunity to help out. On Friday Night - 13 November, we will be holding our Twilight Working Bee. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there - we will work while the children dance at the School Disco!!



Basketball Gala Day

On Tuesday 20 October, students from years four, five and six represented St Pauls in the Basketball Gala Day at Penrith Basketball Stadium, Cambridge Park.

All students are to be congratulated for their cooperation and efforts on the day. Also a huge thank you to our wonderful parent helpers who assisted with coaching, scoring and managing teams, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Andrew Lehmann

NSW PSSA Track and Field Championships

Congratulations to Jenny Grubba, Eden Boisse and Brock Prideaux who after competing in the school, Zone, Diocesan and Mackillop Athletics Competitions represented Mackillop in the NSW PSSA Track and Field Championships last Wednesday and Thursday. Well done to you all, St Paul the Apostle School community is very proud of you.

Australian National Oz Tag Competition

Congratulations to Paige Williamson, Josh Featherstone, Jesse Featherstone and Charlie Rhodes who spent the weekend playing Oz-Tag. What an achievement to make it to National Levels, well done, we are all very proud of our sporting stars.

Sport Days

TERM 4



KINDY Monday/Tuesday
YEAR 1 Wednesday/Thursday
YEAR 2 Tuesday/Wednesday
YEAR 3 Tuesday/Thursday
YEAR 4 Tuesday/Friday
YEAR 5 Thursday/Friday
YEAR 6 Wednesday/Friday

Happy Birthday - to all those celebrating their birthdays from 21 - 28 October, 2015

*Gemma S, Milena L, Taylah P,
Georgia W, Zara D's Matthew C,
Nicholas B.*



Assembly Term 4, 2015

Assembly – Fridays 2:30pm

Week 1 – No Assembly
Week 2 – No Assembly
Week 3 - Assembly - Year 3
Week 4 – Margaret Aylward Liturgy
Week 5 – Assembly Year 1
Week 6 – No Assembly
Week 7 – No Assembly
Week 8 – Staff Development Day
Week 9 – No Assembly
Week 10 – Leaders' Assembly

Please note change to **Week 3 Assembly** – ASSEMBLY WILL BE ORGANISED BY YEAR 3 and NOT YEAR 5 AS PREVIOUSLY STATED.

St Paul's Netball Club Catch and Play Clinic

Just a reminder.... St Paul's Netball Club Catch and Play Clinic will continue on Friday 23 October at 3:45pm. The clinic will take place on the school's netball courts.

Spring Cleaning? - CD's and DVD's needed

We are still in need of old, scratched CD's and DVD's and used, broken crayons. Mrs Sargent will use these items for an upcoming art project. *Thank you in advance*



TRIVIA NIGHT THE OSCARS

Saturday 7 November, 2015



DOORS OPEN 7:00PM
FIRST QUESTION 7:30PM
FATHER SCOTT PARISH CENTRE

Bring Your Partner, Bring Your Friends & Come Wow Us With Your Most Creative Themed Movie Table For Your Chance To Win!

Form Your Table of 8 - Note: *Adults Only*

Please include payment (\$15 each person) with your Booking slip



\$ CASH ONLY \$

Date: 24 Oct

SALE!!!
Old Style
Uniforms
In Uniform
Shop

**LIMITED
SIZES AVAILABLE**

Time: 8am-3pm

50% off NEW Stock

Gold Coin for Second Hand Stock

Contact: Veronica

Phone: 0414 345 526

E-mail: veronica.parramatta@gmail.com

All students are gifted and talented....identifying personalised pathways to success

Term 4 PRC General Meeting – Mon 16 Nov 2015, 7pm

All catholic school parents and educators welcome!

Free presentation to all who attend the Term 4 General Meeting.

Presenters: Tim Hardy, Team Leader - Numeracy, Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta

and

Anthony McElhone, Principal, St Oliver's Primary School, Harris Park



Venue: Diocesan Assembly Centre(IFM), Grd Flr, Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marian St, Blacktown

Doors open 6.30pm for coffee & tea.

Further enquiries: Please email prcparrapresident@gmail.com

Please Note: Note-taking is the responsibility of each attendee for the benefit of themselves and the school community that they represent. Formal handouts from presentations is unlikely.