



# St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

8 October 2014

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

**Welcome back** to term 4. I hope you have all had some down time in the holidays and I trust that you are ready for another very busy term of learning and fun here at St Paul's. The holidays allow us the time to reflect upon and remember the many blessings we have in our lives. Apart from being grateful for all that we have, we give thanks to God for the care and protection we receive amid the world's current turmoil. During the holidays, there have been some staff members and members of their families who have been unwell. We ask God to look after our community and our family members who need help and pray that we can support each other throughout the term with love and kindness.

The importance of families and friends in our lives can never be underestimated. The month of October is **Mental Health Month NSW**. It is a part of a national mental health promotion campaign and I encourage you to connect with family members and friends to promote the well being of all. World Mental Health Day is on October 10 each year. The theme for Mental Health Month this year is '**beYOUUnique!**' This theme promotes acceptance and an understanding of the impact that being proud of who we are can have on our wellbeing. Let us celebrate our strengths and differences and be ourselves! The NSW mental health association of NSW has a great website <http://www.mentalhealth.asn.au/> I particularly like the section on stress less tips. Take a look!



Thank you all so much for organising your children to enable our **Staff Development Day** yesterday. We spent the day looking at literacy at St Paul's. We examined our NAPLAN results and identified strengths and challenges as a school and planned our way forward through the new English syllabus. As a staff we also identified the grades that need to update readers and we have a strategic plan to improve the resources in this area.

Along with the newsletter today we are sending home the Term 4 Calendar. Please take note of all of the important days coming up. Next Tuesday evening you are invited to a **parent information night** about the changes to student leadership for next year. We would like to especially invite the year 5 parents but all are most welcome to come along at 7.30pm.

As you are aware, **Mrs Standring** has had some time in hospital and she is making a good recovery. She would like to be back at work because she loves to teach, but she needs to remain at home until she is fully recovered. Get well soon Leanda – we miss your smiling face! And while I am speaking about hospitals, I just need to let you know that I will be away for a couple of days because I am having some knee surgery tomorrow. I hope to be back on Monday or Tuesday.

Have a great week and a fabulous term everyone.

Marian Bell

## *Religious Education*

**Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."** Luke 1:38

Welcome back everyone. I hope you have had a lovely, safe and peaceful break. I also extend well wishes to Mrs Standring who is recovering from some surgery she had during the holidays. Get better soon Mrs Standring!



The month of October is the month of the Holy Rosary. By praying the Rosary we grow in our appreciation of Christ and unite with Mary, the mother of Jesus, in our prayers. Throughout October, the children will be praying the Rosary at school. In the business of everyday life, it is easy to forget the impact that prayer has on strengthening our relationship with our family, our Lord and ourselves. I therefore invite you to make some time, throughout the month of October, to say the Rosary or a decade of the Rosary with your family. As Mary willingly accepted the will of the Lord, may we also, through our regular prayer, be strengthened in our ability to open our hearts to God's call.

Currently, the Year Five children are preparing to make their confirmation. Confirmation is the sacrament that celebrates the gifts that the Holy Spirit gives us to bring us closer to God. When we recognise and respond to the spiritual gifts within us, we become more God like. Through these gifts we are able to share in the mission of the Catholic Church and follow the path of Jesus. The Year Five children will attend confirmation practice this weekend before making their confirmation on either Thursday 16 October or Sunday 19 October.

Saturday 11 October is the feast day of Margaret Aylward, the founder of the Sisters of the Holy Faith. The Holy Faith Sisters were responsible for our school from 1974 to 1999. On Friday 31 October, a liturgy will be held at school, to celebrate Margaret Aylward and reflect on the many ways in which her spirit and traditions continue to influence life at St Paul's.

God Bless, Miss Gemma Natoli (Acting Religious Education Coordinator)

## **TOUCH FOOTBALL**

A reminder to the children attending the Touch Football Gala Day at St Mary's on Friday, you are asked to be at school by **7.15am**. The bus will leave at **7.30am sharp** – no waiting for latecomers. Thank you.

## **ASSEMBLIES - Fridays Term 4**

**Please note:** Assemblies are held in the Parish Centre at 2.30pm.

**Awards only** in Term 4 - no grade item.

**October:** 17 Infants

**November:** 7 Primary

**December:** 12 Whole School – Leaders prepare item

## **GRADE PE/SPORT DAYS TERM 4**

**Kindergarten** – Monday & Thursday

**Years 3 & 5** - Tuesday and Wednesday

**Year 6** - Tuesday

**Years 1 & 2** - Wednesday & Thursday

**Year 4** - Tuesday and Friday

## **Dates to Remember**

**October:**

- 10 Touch Football gala Day, St Marys. Bus departs 7.30am
- 11 Feast of Margaret Aylward.  
Confirmation practice for Thursday night group 3.00pm
- 12 Confirmation practice for Sunday group 3.00pm
- 14 Musica Viva K-6 concert, 'Sounds Baroque'  
Parent Information Night – Leadership – 7.30pm
- 16 Confirmation Liturgy 7.00pm
- 17 Infants Assembly
- 19 Confirmation Liturgy 9.30am
- 21 Kindergarten 2015 Parents' Meeting 7.30pm



### Christmas Concert Choir Rehearsals

St Paul's Primary School Choir

is now rehearsing our End of Year Christmas Concert.

New members from years 3-6 are welcome to join.



**Hercules** performed by **Sounds Baroque**- Tuesday 14 October, 2014-Parish Hall- Yrs-K-6



### ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

The Catholic Tribunal Staff and CCSS Solo Parent Services present an Information Session to help people understand how the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church is conducted. For the first time we will be holding an Annulment Information night at **Springwood**. The evening is open to anyone who is interested in gaining greater understanding about the Annulment process. **Venue:** The Parish Centre, 168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood. **Date:** Tues 14 October; **Time:** 7.30 – 9.30. **Cost:** \$5.00. Registration Essential: Ph 9933 0205 or Email: [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

### SUPPORT GROUP FOR YOUNGER WIDOWED PEOPLE

In response to requests and inquiries CCSS Solo Parent Services have started a new Monthly Support Group for younger widowed people. This support group will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, and the next group held on Tuesday 21 October. **Venue:** CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. **Time:** 7pm – 9pm **Cost:** \$5.00. **Details and Registration:** Ph: 9933 0205 or email [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

