



St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

17 September 2014

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

As we draw to the end of another very busy term, I want to stop and give thanks for all that we have here at St Paul's. It is a great opportunity to reflect on the many liturgies, excursions, sporting events, and community gatherings we have experienced this term. All of which is not possible without the support of everyone and for that, I am very grateful. People ask me about my move to St Paul's and what it means to me. I respond by saying that I love my new school and that it is all about **community**. By community I mean as a body of people who come together regularly in a variety of forums. We are the people of God and together we will continue to build our faith, to reach out to each other in support, to help our marginalised neighbours and to love God with all of our hearts. I invite you to pray this prayer for community:

*God our maker,
We praise you for the gift of community.
Thank you for the communities in which we work and live.
Thank you for the community that is your body, the Church.
Fill us with your Spirit today, so that, as one, we reflect your light and love to each other and to the world.
In Christ we pray, Amen*

(From the University of Notre Dame – Alliance for Catholic Education)

Last Friday night was our annual **movie night**. As it was my first – I was not quite sure of what to expect! It was a fun night and I was amazed at the number of people who came ready to enjoy the movie and each other's company. Congratulations to the merry band of workers led by Jennifer and Sean McIntosh who contributed to the success of the evening by their generous support. Thanks also to Earthworx for sponsoring the movie screen – it helped to keep the prices down and affordable for families. This is a great example of building community.

I am wondering if you are aware that we have an **inter school debating competition**? Over the last two terms 27 students from Year 6 have competed in a debate against Winston Heights PS, St Angela's Castle Hill, St Bernadette's and St Michael's Baulkham Hills. The very good – no excellent news I have, is that St Paul the Apostle is undefeated in 2014. Congratulations to our clever Year 6 students. But a big thank you needs to go to Miss Galera who coordinated the program and trained the students – in her own time. Thank you Sarah – your dedication and relentless energy for debating contributed largely to our success. Thanks also to Mrs Gray who transported the students to our away games. Tomorrow afternoon we are going to an afternoon tea presentation with the students. I am looking forward to the celebration.

You may have noticed that **Mrs Misek** is missing in action this week. Jane has been battling a cold for sometime that has progressed and now the doctor has told her to stay home and rest! She may come to school tomorrow but I hope she listens to reason! Also, Mrs Tannous who has replaced Mrs Lambert on LSL, has also been very sick and in hospital. I know you will join me in wishing Jane and Laura speedy recoveries.

Mrs Foster and I are keen to begin a **garden club** at St Paul's. I know that there are some parents interested in also being a part of the planning and we will meet early next term to get underway. Our plan is to produce vegetables and herbs that we can sell in order to purchase more seedlings and garden product. If anyone has a connection to any suppliers that are looking for an opportunity to donate anything to do with a garden, please email me on mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au Following on from an arborist's visit, there will be some trees cut down during the holidays. They have been identified as possible problems in the future and this action will be taken because the safety of our children is most important. Please email me if you have any concerns or queries.

Next term I would like to draw your attention to two dates. On Tuesday October 14 at 7.30pm we are calling a meeting of all interested parents, but especially Year 5 parents, to discuss the **student leadership** for 2015. Staff met to discuss their concerns around the student leadership and we have drafted a new policy and procedure for elections that we want to share with you. On Tuesday October 28 at 7.30pm we are going to hold a meeting to discuss our **uniform**. There have been many rumours about proposed changes but they are untrue. If there are improvements made, then I want the parent body involved from the outset. Once again, all interested parents are invited to attend and from that meeting we will invite 3 parent representatives to be a part of a working party with Mrs Misk and myself.

I do hope that you are able to have some down time in the holidays with your children. If you are travelling – go safely. I look forward to everyone's safe return on Wednesday October 8.

Marian Bell

Religious Education

God, who is rich in mercy... made us alive. Ephesians 2:4-6

Catholic Mission was started when one woman, Pauline Jaricot had a vision to help missionaries who were suffering from extreme poverty in countries all around the world. She decided to engage others in her mission and together they began to support the work of the missionaries. Today this organisation has grown to the largest mission agency in the world.



According to their website catholicmission.org.au, Catholic Mission is the largest international mission aid agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. They aim to 'Reach Out, Give Life'. Catholic Mission hope to live out the message of Jesus Christ by working alongside local church communities and support them with their individual needs.

Catholic Mission hopes to work locally and globally and follow the simple steps;

We answer the call to love God and to love our neighbour.

We work to establish the Reign of God.

We build communities of missionary disciples of Jesus who **share** their faith by **proclaiming** the Word, **serving** people in need, and **acting** for justice and creation.

Currently Catholic Mission reaches out to over one hundred and sixty countries around the world. In order for this good work to continue Catholic Mission raises awareness and funds by visiting schools. Today Catholic Mission gave the students from Year One to Year Six the opportunity to participate in workshops designed to highlight the needs of children around the world. The children in Year Five will be using the workshops to launch their fundraising for Catholic Mission. During the holidays, Year 5 will complete jobs around the house or local neighbourhood for a small fee. The money earned will be donated to Catholic Mission. The students will be encouraged to bring in their donations during Socktober, where every child will be encouraged to wear bright coloured socks to highlight the work of Catholic Mission. If you are interested in making a donation please visit their website for further information.

The students in Year 1/2 participated in a workshop called 'Know Me'. During the workshop the children are given the opportunity to participate in different activities that show how other children around the world live. It is an engaging workshop that helps the children develop their understanding of how lucky we are to live in Winston Hills and that not all children have the same life style or opportunities as us.

Year 3/4 participated in 'Dramatic Pictures'. During this workshop the children were made aware of how children around the world live. The workshop introduced the children to the hardships of children around the world who have to work for a living rather than playing normal childhood games. The children were encouraged to think globally and work on plans on how small changes in their lives can make a difference in the life of others.

Year 5 participated in activities that incorporated imagery and song to highlight the life of kids on the street. By the end of the workshop the Year Five students gained a better understanding of the how

these children survive in different countries around the world. They developed empathy for the reality of these children's lives and a realisation that their faith calls them to action.

Year Six students participated in a simulation game – 'The Have and The Have-Nots'. During the game the children actively joined in situations that highlighted the injustices and unequal distribution of food and resources, in the hope to gain an understanding of why it is important to share the wealth of the world.

God Bless,
Mrs Leanda Standring (Religious Education Coordinator)

Prayer:

Dear God,

Please help us realise that other people's lives are not as easy as ours. Encourage us to help them. Help us to respect other people's differences and help us to remember that you made us all different and unique and that is part of what makes us special.

Please help us not retaliate against others and help us to forgive and forget, making everyone our friend. Amen.

Madeleine Ireland

St Paul Award Recipients:

The following children received the St Paul Award at last week's Infants Assembly:

KI – Sarah Stewart KP – Kayla Wood. 1R – Helena Rizk 1L – Murphy Duncombe.
2G – Marcus Valjak 2S – Nicole Barker.

Congratulations to these children for living out our school values.

Mini Vinnies Report:

On 17 of September Anita, a worker from Catholic Mission, put on a very educational presentation on poor countries around the world, the lack of food and water, the feelings of the poor and child labour.

Catholic Mission sponsors 160 poor countries or villages. Anita also talked about how 20c can give one child a meal. Imagine how many meals \$10 can buy the poor children.

Anita compared our lives to the poor and suggested what we can do to help these children.

Here are some thoughts about the workshops we participated in today:

Dorothy encouraged us: Count how many taps you have and give thanks

Claudia - If you donate two dollars you can feed ten children. It only cost ten cents to make a bowl of food

James S - Children need five things to survive food, water, homes, education, medicine.

Very few people around the world have these things. In Australia we have all five things

Monique learnt that no matter how small we are we can all make a difference

Angelina R - learnt that sometimes when parents have to work they have to leave their children on the streets

Will learnt that many people in the world have to get their water from streams and rivers

Noah- I liked learning how much money food cost in poor countries and how much you can buy.



Georgina-I liked learning about how \$2 cost 10 meals for poor children.

Helena- I liked the pictures on the board and the activities.

Hamish- Learning about the poor's food and feelings



Complaint Handling Procedures

A reminder for our school community - if, at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or principal, to identify your concern.

It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and professionally fulfilling experience of our staff.

If you would like to raise a concern, the Catholic Education Office has guidelines for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to handle complaints either informally or formally is available from the school office and/or within then Complaint Handling Guidelines.

These documents can be accessed on the school website or system website www.parra.catholic.edu.au

MOVIE NIGHT

Despite gloomy grey skies and the threat of rain we sold 310 tickets with 104 families turning up and supporting our movie night last Friday. With the sales of the tickets, popcorn, fairy floss, cupcakes and our donations from the pizza man and Dipping Dots we will make a profit of \$2000. A big thank you to Danielle Bliss, Cheryl Long and Katrina Shatford for their delicious cupcakes that sold out in record time. Thank you also to Roisin and Peter Wall, Matthew Stewart, Jaye Harkin, Suzie McGrillen, Mal Green, Danielle and Daniel Bliss and Jessica Petkos for assisting in the set-up and helping on the night and to all the wonderful people that stayed back and helped with the clean-up after the movie. I would like to thank Juanita Gray, Gail Caruana, Pauline Knowler and Rita Nobili for all their help and a very big thank you to Earthworx for their sponsorship of the movie screen. The success of the night is due to the support, generosity and time given by many members of the school community.
Jennifer and Sean McIntosh



REMINDER

Don't forget to remind your children to put on a hat and some sunscreen when they are outside throughout the school holidays. The sun is getting stronger and it is still very important to be sun smart. Have a safe and happy holiday. Mrs Dunn

STAR SPOT

ABBIE CADMAN

ST PAULS NETBALL CLUB 2014

I would like to thank these people... Angela Green, Erin Bliss, Katrina Shatford and Christine Cadman.

Bridie, Adelaide, Zoe, Alanna, Emily, Zara and Sophia for being on my team if it wasn't for you we would not have got the encouragement award and we would not all be friends; because of Netball we all are friends. "I HOPE WE WILL ALL PLAY NETBALL NEXT YEAR!"



Abbey Cadman (2S)



TRENT & ETHAN MULHERON

Trent (4P) and his brother Ethan (3S) play in the Baulkham Hills Under 11's Hockey team. Last weekend they won their Grand final. Trent has shown greatly improved Leadership skills in his role as team captain; Ethan, although only 8 and playing in this team, scored the winning goal. Well done boys! Mum is very proud!





CONNOR AUSTIN

Connor Austin (6J) has played for the Castle Hill Rockets since he was 5 years of age. His team is made up of 15 beautiful, dedicated and enthusiastic boys from the Hills District. This was their first season playing on a full sized field. The boys finished the season as Minor Premiers having never lost a game. They scored 57 goals and only conceded 7 goals during the entire season. This could not have been achieved without the

dedication and passion of their coach, Dom Maceri, who taught them not only playing skills but a camaraderie and genuine friendship amongst the boys. These boys trained hard all season to maintain their perfect record but sadly, this weekend, the boys were unable to come away with a grand final win. Regardless the parents of these boys could not be prouder of their achievements and their sportsmanship throughout the season. Congratulations on a great achievement. Well done boys.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

As indicated on your School Calendar our next Staff Development Day will be held on **Tuesday, 7 October, first day of Term Four**. On this day the teachers will be working on Key Learning Area of Literacy. Children do not attend school on this day.



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.



L.Nash-Music

Dates to Remember

SEPTEMBER

- 18 3rd Confirmation Preparation meetings
- 19 Term 3 ends 3.20pm

OCTOBER

- 6 Labour Day Public Holiday
- 7 Staff Development Day – pupil free day
- 8 Term 4 commences for students; summer uniform to be worn
- 11 Feast of Margaret Aylward
- 14 Musica Viva K-4 Concert
- 16 Confirmation 7.00pm
- 17 Holy Faith Awards Liturgy
- 19 Confirmation 9.30am



David Elliott MP
 Member for Baukham Hills
 Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 1st September 2014

DAVID ELLIOTT CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION NOW OPEN

Member for Baukham Hills, David Elliott, is offering an early dose of Christmas cheer for all the Primary School students in the Baukham Hills electorate.

Mr Elliott is offering a \$100 Toys"R"Us voucher as the prize for his Annual Christmas Card Competition.

"Christmas always brings an air of excitement, and this is a great way to extend the excitement of the season just a little more," Mr Elliott said.

Mr Elliott said that all entries would be on display in his office after the winner had been selected.

"It will be a wonderful opportunity for the artistic abilities of our local students to be on display for all our community to see.

"I am very much looking forward to seeing the wonderful colour and creativity our students can produce for the festive season."

The successful design will feature on Mr Elliott's Parliamentary Christmas cards this year.

The theme for the competition will be "Centenary of ANZAC - A Soldiers Christmas".

The competition is open to Primary Schools within the Baukham Hills electorate, including:

- * Baukham Hills North Public
- * Burnside Public
- * Crestwood Public
- * Excelsior Public
- * Jasper Road Public
- * Matthew Pearce Public
- * North Rocks Public
- * Northmead Public
- * Our Lady of Lourdes Baukham Hills South
- * Redeemer Baptist (K-6)
- * St Michael's Baukham Hills
- * St Paul the Apostle
- * Tara Anglican (K-6)
- * The Hills School
- * The King's School (K-6)
- * Winston Heights Public
- * Winston Hills Public

Entries are now open and will close Friday 24th October.

The winner will be chosen by Mr Elliott's wife, Mrs Nicole Elliott, and the winning design, to be printed on Mr Elliott's official Parliamentary Christmas Cards, will include the student's name and school.

The winning student will be presented with their prize by Mr & Mrs Elliott in November, depending on school availability for an assembly.

Please send entries by post to Suite 1, 25-33 Old Northern Road, Baukham Hills 2153.

Media contact: David Elliott 0414 776 658

ST PAUL THE APOSTLE SCHOOL

TRIVIA NIGHT

MASK FUNdraiser

SAT 8TH NOV

PUT THIS IN YOUR CALENDAR!
 COME & WOW US WITH YOUR MOST
 CREATIVE THEMED GROUP MASKS!



\$15
PER PERSON

RAFFLE, AUCTIONS & LOTS OF PRIZES! MORE DETAILS AND BOOKING SLIPS WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS, SO START FORMING YOUR TABLE OF 8.