



St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

9 April 2014

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

As a part of our formation, the leadership team has been working through a text *Forming Intentional Disciples* by Sherry Wedell. The book has been a wonderful catalyst for opening up conversations about our faith and our beliefs. Our sessions always begin with prayer and I would like to share this morning's prayer with you all.

*Lord Jesus,
I seek to be a genuine follower of your ways.
Give me courage to act as you showed us. Give me the courage to live the message of your words.
Give me courage to be truly open to acknowledging your presence in my life.
'My heart is restless, until it rests in you.'
Let me rest in you Lord.
Amen*



Term 1 has drawn to an end and I am so very grateful for my time here at St Paul's. Before I came to this school, I was told about this wonderful community – and my advisors were not wrong. I would like to thank the parent body for your friendly welcome and acceptance of the changes we have made. To the students – I am so very proud of all of you and have enjoyed watching you learn. To a very dedicated and hard working staff, thank you so very much. The children are in such good hands with people who genuinely care about each and every student who strive to help them to reach their full potential. I would also like to thank Jane Misek. We have been travelling on this journey together as a new team and every step of the way I have felt supported by Jane and I look forward to the years ahead leading St Paul's.

I need to inform you that I will be having 4 weeks long service leave at the beginning of next term. This has been a long-term plan to travel with my family to celebrate a 'significant birthday' of my husband. Jane Misek will be acting principal and Leanda Standing will be acting assistant principal. You are in excellent hands so all queries, concerns or celebrations can be directed their way.

Finally, I wish you all a very Happy and Holy Easter and encourage you to get involved in the parish liturgies.

Holy Thursday	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	10.00am	Children's Stations of the Cross
	3.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion; 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday	6.00pm	Lighting of the Easter Fire followed by the Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday	8.00am and 9.30am	Masses

Have a great holiday!
Marian Bell

Religious Education

"Let the little children come to me." – Matthew 19:14

During his ministry Jesus often spent time serving others and inviting others to follow his example. As is seen in Matthew 19:14, Jesus welcomed the little children, although the disciple rebuked them. Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14) Over the last few weeks ten young children from our parish community have been living the message of the gospel by meeting weekly and preparing for the ministry of Altar Serving. During their preparation the children learnt about the different protocols and duties involved in serving. At Sunday's 9.30 am Mass the parish community welcomed the new servers into this special ministry. The special occasion was marked by new servers being commissioned into



their role, current servers renewing their commitment and the presentation of the St Steven's medal. Following the mass the children and parents were invited to a special morning tea to celebrate.

Congratulations to our new altar servers: *Joseph Badaoui, Louis Bahan, Scarlett Byrne, Adam D'Costa, John Del Rosario, Annabelle Hamilton, Madeleine Ireland, Jesse Massoud, Tobias Mifsud, Stephanie Ogle and Quinn O'Reilly.*

The St Steven's medal is awarded to servers reaching the age of fourteen whilst still active in the ministry. Six ex-students were awarded the medal on Sunday. Congratulations to the following students: *Daniel Barker, Lani Massoud, Sophis D'Silva, Brendan Martin, Felicity Ogle and Amelia O'Reilly.*

On Friday our new Mini Vinnies recruits were commissioned at a special whole school assembly. We were lucky enough to have Mr Martyn Ellis (Youth Liaison Officer for St Vincent de Paul) speak to our school about the importance of following Jesus' example by raising awareness of social justice issues. He then joined Mrs Bell in presenting a Mini Vinnies badge and certificate to the following Year Four Mini Vinnies members: *Alyssa Dib, Isabella Dominello, Ebony Elias, Samantha Ellis, Claudia Farran, Nicholas Fenech, Jacob Frangi, Daniel Gonzalez, Aidan Hart, Darby Heaton, Georgia Hill, Hayley Keenan, Maree Khalil, Gabriella Lazzaro, Giada Lazzaro, Annabelle Malouf, Alyssa Nakhoul, Stephanie Ogle, Emily Pereira, Tia Sarju, and Claudia Ters.* Next term these children will join our current members and continue to highlight how we too can serve others.

On Sunday we begin our journey into Holy Week by commemorating the Passion of Christ. Holy Week ends with the death of our Lord on Good Friday. Whilst Holy Week is solemn and sorrowful, it also anticipates the joy of Easter through the recognition of God's goodness in sending His Son to die for us. There is no greater love. There are many occasions during the week to join our congregation in prayer, including Good Friday's dramatisation of 'Stations of the Cross'. Thank you to all the children who have been diligently preparing for this occasion. I look forward to joining you at 10 am to lead our community in prayer and reflection. May I take this opportunity to wish you a safe and joyous Easter.

Thank you to all of the mums who came together and helped wrap the Easter eggs ready for this week's Easter Raffle. Here are a few photos of the mums. Thank you for serving our community.



God Bless,
Mrs Leanda Standring (Religious Education Co-ordinator)

SPORTS UPDATE

Last Wednesday the Cross Country was held on the school grounds. Firstly a huge thank you to the many parents who gave up their time to help with supervision along the course. It was wonderful to see so many children enthusiastic to enter and "have a go " .

Congratulations to the following children who will represent St Paul's at the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country next Term on Tuesday, 6 May. These children placed 1st to 6th in their age group as well as finishing within the qualifying time. *Austin Borg, Theron Letherbarrow, Lucas Engesser, Charlie Egan , Will Clark, Ethan Mulheron, Holly Walker, Taylor Dimitranis, Jessica Harkin, Shianne Massoud, Lewis Duncombe, Joel Irving, Jack Beeche, Jordan Bugeja, Thomas Ng, Stephen Courtney, Paige Williamson, Riley McIntosh, Jennifer Grubba, Kate Sloane, Tienna Brennan, Victoria Petkos, Jacob Voll, Dylan Bosnich, James Halwe ,Jamie Moujalli, Joshua Featherstone, William Green, Ebony Borg, Halle Borg, Jorjah Hawkin, Alyssa Soldatos, Corey Fitzsimons, Marc Seif, Jason Attard, Connor Austin, William Egan, Monty Duncombe, Holly Rachwal.*

All Cross Country permission envelopes, money and emergency contact forms need to be returned before the end of term. Thank you.

Congratulations to *Cameron Bliss* who attended the Parramatta Diocesan trials for Rugby Union last Friday and was selected to be part of the Parramatta Diocesan Rugby Union Team for 2014.

It was a shame that both the Girls Soccer Gala Day and Stage 3 Touch Gala Day were postponed this week due to ground closures. The Girls Soccer Gala day has been rescheduled for Tuesday, 17 June. The new date for the Stage 3 Touch Day is yet to be confirmed.

Sports Coordinator, Fiona Lambert

NAPLAN 2014 – years 3 and 5

Parents of children in Years 3 and 5. Please ensure your child gives you the letter from BOSTES copied on bright **green** paper. This information relates to the 2014 NAPLAN test.

EASTER RAFFLE

A very big thank you to all the mums who helped wrap the prizes for the raffle. There are 260 prizes to be won. Tomorrow morning is your last chance to purchase your tickets as the raffle will be drawn during the day tomorrow.

MOTHERS' DAY STALL

Please note in your diaries that we will be wrapping the Mothers' Day gifts on Friday 2 May.

Thank you for your support. Jay Harkin and Cheryl Long.

REMINDERS

FOOD ALLERGIES

Several children at our school suffer from food allergies –**some very severe**. Action plans are currently in place to administer medication to these children if it is required. To assist the staff and to help safeguard the health of these children **I ask that you impress upon your own children the dangers of sharing their lunches with other students**. In line with this policy we ask that you do not send gift items such as lollies, easter eggs, etc for your child to give to other students. At times, teachers do give food treats to the children but they always check the suitability of these treats with the parents of allergy sufferers. We will continue to educate the children in the classroom about only eating their own lunches and I will keep you informed of any other protocols we may need to put in place. Thank you for your co operation.



TERM TWO

Term 2 for students commences on **Tuesday 29 April**. Monday 28 April is Staff Development Year 5 visit Gilroy College for the musical 'Hairspray' on Tuesday (full school uniform).

The dismissal bell will go at 3.15pm next term.

TOMORROW Thursday 10 April

Tomorrow is crazy sock day. Children can wear any socks and any coloured shoes tomorrow. They are welcome to wear their tracksuits, even if no sports. This is just for fun to celebrate the end of term!!

St Pauls' Choir

***During Term 1, our choir children have been rehearsing a musical titled 'The Dragon Returns'. We look forward to the performance in Term 2.**

Expo Choir



***20 children have auditioned successfully for The Expo Choir and will receive a notification letter this week.**

All choir children will continue rehearsing and performing 'The Dragon Returns' in Term 2

Leona Nash-Music.

