



# St Paul the Apostle School Winston Hills NEWSLETTER

26 March 2014

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

Yesterday was the **Feast of the Annunciation**. This is a significant feast for us all as Mary said yes to God and the Word became flesh. Mary's humility and unconditional love is an excellent example for us all. Imagine the trust and faith Mary must have had to say yes to the request to bear the Son of God. I am wondering how we say yes to God in the many encounters we experience each day? Do we accept His invitation and share it joyfully with the people around us? If we reflect on the Annunciation it gives us the opportunity to reflect also on our own vocation – the vocation that God has called us into. Amid the busyness of our lives I invite you to be like Mary and listen for and embrace God's call.

Every day is a **learning** day at St Paul's – learning for students and learning for teachers. From time to time, our teachers are called away for various courses and professional learning opportunities. Your children are well supported by the other teacher in the learning space and a casual teacher employed by the diocese. As well as professional learning opportunities that are offered outside of school, we work together to build each other's capacity to deliver the very best teaching and learning to your children. One of the ways we work with each other is to conduct learning walks through the classrooms throughout the week. These are opportunities to witness teaching and learning and to ask students some questions about their learning. The data collected from these walks is fed back to staff and they are asked to reflect and act upon the suggestions for growth. We are all asked to set learning goals each year and next week I will meet with Joy Short to discuss my goals as a principal. As always, if you have any questions about staff learning opportunities, please feel free to contact me. [mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Thank you to the many parents who have completed the **Quality Catholic Schools survey**. If you were selected to complete a survey, could I ask that you do it by the end of the week? All staff and all students in years 5 and 6 have been asked to complete this survey. It will give us good information to help with the future direction of St Paul the Apostle Winston Hills.

Next Tuesday night at 7.30pm in the school library is the term 1 **Parents and Friends meeting**. Everyone is most welcome and invited to attend and I urge you to come along and be a part of this vital work in building parent/school partnership.

Have a great week everyone,  
Marian Bell

## *Religious Education*

**"In my life I want to become better and do a little good."** – Frederic Ozanam

In an endeavour to develop the children's awareness of social justice issues, a Mini Vinnies group was established at our school in 2012. The group of children are selected from Year Four and serve our community over a two-year period. The committed members of the group meet every second week and discuss needs of our school community as well as spending time discussing world social justice issues. Throughout the year, the children also raise awareness of our faith and charities by entering classrooms or speaking at assemblies. One of the most important jobs the children have is leading our school in the Angelus. In Week Ten some of our members will be visiting classrooms to raise awareness of 'Project



Compassion' by highlighting the work of CARITAS. This week, our Year Six members of Mini Vinnies visited the Year Four classroom to share insights about belonging to the group. The children in Year Four are invited to apply for the position and will be chosen based on a given criteria. On Friday 4 April the Mini Vinnies commissioning assembly will take place where the successful applicant will receive a Mini Vinnies badge and certificate. If you are in Year Four and are interested in applying please write a letter explaining why you would like to be part of this group and send it to Mrs Standing **by 28 March**.



God Bless, Mrs Leanda Standing, Religious Education Co-ordinator

## SCHOOL FEES

There are still a number of families who have not paid the fees for Term 1. Unless you are on an arrangement these fees are overdue. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact Mrs Gail Caruana [gcaruana@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:gcaruana@parra.catholic.edu.au) to advise when the fees will be paid or to make an appointment with Mrs Marian Bell to discuss your situation.

We would appreciate your co-operation with this and invite you to follow up any unpaid fees. Thank you

## ICAS COMPETITIONS

This is a reminder that if your child is in Year 3 to Year 6 and they wish to enter the competitions we will need to have your entry form by this Friday March 28.

Also please remember that the children need to be at school by 7.55am on the day of the competitions. Thanks for your co-operation and note that no late entries will be accepted.

## CREATIVE ARTS EXPO REMINDER

Just a reminder that this Thursday 27 March we will be holding dance auditions in the Parish Centre for the Creative Arts Expo. Children are only able to take part in this audition if we have received a signed permission slip. They do not need to prepare a routine or bring anything with them to the audition. If your child is involved please ensure they are wearing sports uniform tomorrow. Creative Arts Expo Team



## P & F NEWS – Change of Dates

**Walkathon:** The Walkathon date has been changed to Friday 23 May.

**Mothers' Day Stall:** The Mothers' Day stall will now be held on Friday 9 May.

**Bingo Night:** The Bingo Night is being held on Friday 30 May. This is a very enjoyable fun family night out. We are looking for a group of parents to organise this event this year. If you are able to offer your help please let us know. You can contact Cheryl Long 0417674514, Jaye Harkin 0433282890 or leave a note at the school office.

Thank you, Cheryl and Jaye.



Is your daughter missing these sandals? They were possibly left behind after the sunset disco. Please enquire at the school office.

## Dates to Remember

### March

- 27 2nd preparation meeting for First Holy Communion
- 28 Kindergarten Mass 9.10am; Primary assembly –Year 5, 2.30pm Parish Centre
- 29 2nd Preparation meeting for First Holy Communion
- 30 3rd Sunday of Lent; Stage 2 Sunday Mass 9.30am;  
2nd Preparation meeting for First Holy Communion

### April

- 1 P & F Meeting 7.30pm in school library
- 2 School Cross Country
- 3 Gymnastics finishes
- 4 3rd Preparation meeting for First Holy Communion