



St Paul's Update

28 June, 2017

Week 10, Term 2

Dates for your diary

29 Jun	Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day - Penrith
30 Jun	Whole School Mass – Feast of St Peter and St Paul 12:00pm followed by Sausage Sizzle & Cake Stall
30 Jun	Last day of Term 2 - <i>Happy Holidays</i>
17 Jul	Return to school
17 Jul	Gymnastics commences – Whole school sport uniform
22 Jul	Reconciliation Discussion Second Meeting 2:30pm
23 Jul	Reconciliation Discussion Second Meeting 2:30pm
28 Jul	Grandparents Mass and Morning Tea

Please note:

**CANTEEN will be closed
this Friday 30 June.**

**All children to return to
school on Monday 17 July
in SPORT UNIFORM .**

A Note from Marian

Reports

By now everyone should have received the school report for semester 1, 2017. I would like to thank and acknowledge the teachers for their hard work in getting them ready for you. If you have any questions about the report, please feel free to make contact with the teachers concerned.

There was a 'glitch' in the system for the year 2 reports. The A-E grades are automatically allocated to each student that then forms the total cohort number. Unfortunately, the total number was not represented in the boxes. Thank you to the parents who have alerted us to this issue. We are trying to correct the problem and hope to have the amended numbers to you before the end of the week – if not as quickly as possible. Please accept our apologies for the error.

The school report you have received is an assessment of your child's learning for the first half of this year. It reflects both academic achievement and effort and is based on work samples, assessment tasks and observations of your child. The teachers use considerable professional expertise and judgement to arrive at each student's allocated grades and they have been meeting regularly to reflect on, analyse and compare each student's work against the syllabus standards.

Academic achievement is reported on using an A- E scale where the 'C' grade indicates a sound achievement of the syllabus outcomes for that stage. Please keep in mind that your child's grades may have varied from previous years, especially if they have moved into a new stage this year. Below is an outline describing the level of achievement for each of the grades from A-E.

A describes students who have an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content. They have a very high level of competence and can apply the skills and knowledge to new situations.






B describes students who have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content. They have a high level of competence and are able to apply the skills and knowledge in most situations.

C describes students who have achieved a sound understanding of the content and skills and have an adequate level of competence in these areas.

D describes students who have achieved a basic understanding and knowledge of the content and skills and have a limited level of competence.

E describes students who have achieved an elementary knowledge and understanding of the content.

To put the A-E reporting system into perspective, it may be helpful to look at the analogy below for driving a car.

E	D	C	B	A
<p>A person on 'L' plates, must always be accompanied by an experienced driver</p> 	<p>A person on 'P' plates drives independently but still learning.</p> 	<p>Full drivers licence, like most of us!</p> 	<p>Advanced driver training with extra skills.</p> 	<p>Grand Prix racer</p> 

Staffing News

As you are aware from last week's newsletter, Mr Chris is leaving us at the end of the term to work full time in the Hunter region. We are sad to see him go but wish him all the very best for his exciting career and future in teaching music to the students in his care.

Mrs Karen Holm will be replacing Chris until the end of the year. Karen may be known to you as one of our regular casuals and she brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the team. We welcome her to the St Paul's family. Karen will be taking a different aspect of the Creative Arts syllabus and working with the children in drama. She will be working with the outcomes in Making, Performing and Appreciating Drama. I draw your attention to the syllabus for further information:

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/creative-arts/creative-arts-k-6-syllabus>

Fortunately Chris has covered all of the music outcomes in each stage already this year. We were not able to appoint a suitable music teacher following our recent interviews and will begin the process of appointing a qualified music teacher for 2018 next term. Contrary to my secretaries' belief and lots of hilarity in the office!, I am going to be taking choir on Tuesday mornings at 8.15am. It will be a lot of fun and I hope all of the children who are currently in the choir remain and perhaps some new choir members from Years 3- 6 may join.

Other staffing news:

- Vicki Magro is getting married in the holidays. She and Dom are getting married in Surrey in the United Kingdom on Saturday July 8. Vicki will be taking some long service leave following the wedding. Mrs Lou Tedesco will be replacing her for the first two weeks of term. I know you join with me in wishing Vicki and Dom a wonderful wedding day and a very happy life together.
- Amber Paul will be taking the first week and a half of Term 3 as long service leave. Amber will be replaced by Helen Barton.
- Kath Paul will be taking the first 4 weeks of Term 3 as long service leave. Kath will be replaced by Melissa Poole.
- Margaret Govender will be taking the first 5 weeks of Term 3 as long service leave. Mary McKenzie (Mon – Wed) and Joyce Lord (Thurs – Fri) will be replacing Margaret.

I wish Vicki, Amber, Kath and Margaret all the very best for their long service leave and look forward to their safe return early in term 3.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday full of fun and laughter, rest and relaxation. I have never known a time at school with so much illness – we have had so many staff and children away. I hope that everyone gets rid of their 'bugs' and comes back to school fit and healthy!

Hope to see many of you at the parish celebrations for our feast day on Sunday following the 9.30am mass.

Marian Bell

mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au

Staff Development Day – Friday 18 August, 2017

This will be a pupil free day

P & F St Peter and Paul Sausage Sizzle – Friday 30 June

On Friday we will celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul. Saint Paul the Apostle is the patron saint of our school and Parish. As this is a special day for our school, the P&F will host a BBQ and Cake Stall immediately after our 12pm whole school mass. Parents and other family members are welcome to join us.



We are asking parents of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 to please help us out by providing sweet treats for this event. All donations can be dropped off to the office on Friday morning 30 June. Many thanks in advance.

School age students are asked to bring their money with them on the day. **Sausage sandwiches will be \$2.00 each, plus a range of cakes, biscuits, drinks and more will be on sale on the day.**

Proceeds from the BBQ will go to the St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal. We appreciate your support of this worthy cause.

School Attendance - IMPORTANT - Student Absence from School

If your child has been unwell and absent from school it is **ESSENTIAL** that a letter explaining the absence be forwarded to your child's teacher when your child returns to school. **If a note of explanation is not received within 7 school days of your child's return to school, the Catholic Education Department will mark the absence as unexplained and this will form part of your child's attendance record.** The Class Roll is a legal document and as such it is the school's responsibility to monitor student attendance. It is very important that the information in the Class Roll is accurate as this information is **reportable to the Department of Education.**

Leave from school within School Terms

Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during official school holidays. A Leave period of between **one and four (4)** school days will require a notification to the class teacher **prior** to the planned leave. If the leave is for **5 or more school days** parents are asked to complete an Application of Extended Leave Form A.1 which can be obtained from the school office. Once the leave is approved by Mrs Bell a certificate of permission will be sent home for you to take with you on your travels as proof that the leave from school has been authorized.

As you can imagine it is very important that we follow the above procedures and we do appreciate your cooperation.

Canteen

Please note the Canteen will be closed this Friday 30 June (last day of term).

New Finance System

As you may be aware the school will be commencing term 3 with a new finance system. In preparation for the system changeover we are unable to accept deposits or payments **in the office on Friday 30 June**.

Library News

Congratulations to Kyan F (Year 1), Lara L (Year 2) and Hayden D (Year 4) for completing the Premiers Reading Challenge this week. A reminder that on line reading records must be completed before **25 August** to complete the challenge. We hope that lots of reading will happen in the holidays and many of you will be able to complete the challenge.

Library Overdues

If you received an overdue notice this week could we ask that you please have a good look at home for any books outstanding and if they are not at home you are always very welcome to check the library shelves here at school. Sometimes children can accidentally put the books directly on the shelves before firstly returning them on the computer. If you are still unable to locate the books we ask that you either replace the lost book or pay for the cost of its replacement.

Learning Conferences

For those of you who have not done so already, please find below information about how to book an appointment to discuss your child's learning and set goals for the second half of the year. It is important that your child is present with you at these meetings.

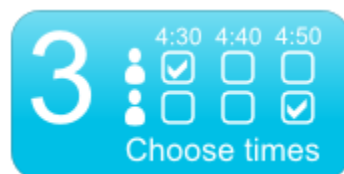
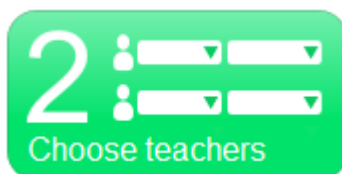
In some grades this year we are trialling conducting our conferences in Term 3.

Teachers interviewing in Week 4, Term 3 are KI, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6.

When booking, please take note carefully of the date that each teacher will be holding their learning conference. **The Bookings will re-open for Term 3 Interviews on Friday 30 June.**



Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
<http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code>
Enter **5bebf** school event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

St Paul the Apostle P & F

News and Events

Survey results are in!

Thank you to all of the respondents that completed the first P&F on-line survey. The survey responses from parents have provided incredibly valuable information about areas for improvement, future planning and stronger engagement with the wider parent community.



Our P&F committee got together to review and discuss results, this is what we found;

What you told us -

- Receiving information about P&F events/meetings via the newsletter was the preferred form of communication, and you like the reminders via our Facebook page.
- You need as much notice as possible to be able to attend meetings and events and like to be reminded multiple times across a platform of different communication channels.
- At the P&F meetings you would like there to be a topic for discussion
 - Number 1 topic was learning styles/approach
 - Parenting education and techniques
 - School policy
- You are quite happy with the balance between fundraising and social events and would like the current events to continue. Social events such as; Welcome Family fun night, mother's/father's day breakfast events, feast days, charity events, children's discos and also fundraising events; cakes stalls, sausage sizzles, raffles and school fete.

"Would like to see the trivia night and bingo night brought back"

"It's good we have social events not just fundraisers"

- You would like the money raised by the P&F to be spent on school equipment and teaching resources.

"Anything that enhances our schooling community to embrace a sense of belonging for all. Resources that give our children opportunities to explore and learn through different mediums."

"Toilets near the canteen"

"Should the school decide this in light of the needs of the student?"

"Representative clothing, ie. St Paul's zone shirts for students to borrow as they represent at zone or even Diocesan."

"Shade sail over the main quadrangle, too much focus recently on the iPads purchase."

- You had a strong positive response for the P&F organising the school fete and children's discos.

Where we can improve:

- Better notice of upcoming meetings and events
- Moving the meeting days and times around so that more people can attend and hold the topic discussions during the day for those parents that can't come to night time meetings.
- More inclusion of topics that include parenting techniques to assist you at home and a greater understanding of school curriculum and policies

What is next?

- Your P&F are listening and will continue to listen.
- We are looking at meeting dates, topics and external presenters for next term.
- We are currently looking at 2 options for an adult social night; comedy night or trivia.
- We have agreed there should be a bingo night for kids, we are working on dates and organising a running committee.
- In discussions about what we might be able to contribute in the area of representative sport gear.

We will keep you all updated early Term 3. Safe and Happy Holidays.

Your P&F Committee

Kylie Prideaux, Joe Naim, Mirna Jasser, Penny Wallace, Ammon Cassin, Leena Dib, Trish Mangione, Linda Spina and Rennee McClintock

YOUR P&F are listening! You can always be part of the conversation.

**Please note – only a sample of comments have been included above*

Ukulele Group – Term 3, 2017

Dear Parents

Next term I was hoping to run a group for Ukulele with children who have already participated in classes. Please advise me if your child would be interested. If we don't get enough children we can include new students.



Please contact me email: joan@bluebirdstudio.com.au or on mobile: 0409317610

Joan Wood
Ukulele Teacher



Happy Birthday to those celebrating birthdays this week and in the school holidays

Ella W, Nicholas M, Thomas B, Serena R, Lucy W, Luke B, Aarushi H, Abbey C, Annika M, Joseph N, Millicent P, Andria G, Ava S, Anders S, Sanjana G, Alice S, Joseph El-K, Grace L, Emma D

LET'S GET GALACTIC

Friday 14th of July 1:30-5:30pm

Are you in year 5, 6 or 7?

Do you want to make your very own water rockets and watch them fly?

Then come to the Astronomy centre at Tara Anglican School on the 14th of July!!

Email Mr Janzen by the 1/07/17 to grab a spot for \$25:

djanzen@staff.tara.nsw.edu.au

See you there!!

Masons Dr, North Parramatta

