



# St Paul's Update

**27 March, 2019**

**Week 9, Term 1**

## Dates for the Diary

29 Mar	Easter Basket Wrapping @ 9am in the Art Room
31 Mar	School Parish Mass @ 9:30 am, looking forward to seeing you there.
1 & 2 Apr	NAPLAN School readiness tests for Years 3 and 5.
3 Apr	Year 2 excursion to Sydney Aquarium
4 Apr	Dance Fever Challenge @ 4:30pm - Quay Centre, Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush

For the most up to date Parent Calendar information, please see the 'Events' section of our Skoolbag app or our website [www.stpawinstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stpawinstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Dear Parents,

Last night, we had our first General meeting for St Paul's Parents and Friends Association. It was a great turn out with over 25 attending. Parent and school partnerships are very important and support our school community. Thank you to our very generous P & F for all the work that they do, and the work they plan to do, within our school community this year. As a community of learners, we have a range of activities for you to be involved in this year, so if you haven't yet subscribed to our Skoolbag (instructions attached), please do as this is where you will find the latest information and an updated school calendar.

## Every Day Counts - Planned Leave (any leave other than sick leave)

The Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP), has procedures and guidelines in place to achieve high standards of student attendance in collaboration with parents. Parents are required, by law, to ensure that children attend school.

### Requirements for Exemption from attendance for student absence and travel:

#### → *less than 5 days*

A letter outlining the time and reason for leave should be submitted to the teacher at least six weeks prior to the planned leave.

#### → *5 days or more*

An application for extended leave form A.1 or Application for Exemption from Attendance at School is to be completed for the Principal's approval at least six weeks prior to planned leave. Please contact the office for these forms. If approved, the Principal issues a Certificate of Extended Leave. If the principal declines this application, a letter notifying parents that the application has been declined will be forthcoming. As a general rule, family holidays during school time are strongly discouraged by Catholic Education in the Diocese of Parramatta. The school is unable to accept responsibility for the work students miss while taking holidays during term time, except in the case of emergencies or for other pastoral reasons.

## Arriving late to school?

If your child arrives late to school (i.e. after 8:55am), the accompanying parent **MUST** complete a late slip in the school office. This is a legal requirement. Thank you for the effort you are making to have your child/ren at school every day!

## Thank you!

A tremendous thank you to everyone involved in our Cross Country yesterday. Events such as these are not possible without the support of parents, grandparents, carers and special visitors. We are very lucky at St Paul's to have such a generous community of helpers who are always willing to step in and lend a hand - thank you!

Peace and Joy!  
Megan Baird  
Principal

**Our Attendance Rate to date is: 93%**

### Prayer for Lent

*In the midst of this darkness, we continue to offer light,  
in the midst of terror, we keep walking in peace,  
in the midst of despair, we always hold out hope.*

*God who journeys with us and knows the depths of our sorrow,  
hear our prayers this day and come to the aid of your people. Amen.*



### Invitation to join us at Sunday Mass

Our school Sunday Mass will be celebrated this Sunday 31 March @ 9:30am. You are invited to join us for this special Mass in communion with your Parish. Our wonderful community will be joining together for morning tea following Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Stations of the Cross

We remind you that this year Good Friday Stations of the Cross will take Place on Friday 19 April @ 10:00am. We look forward to seeing you there.

### NAPLAN School Readiness Test

Next week on Monday (1/4/19) and Tuesday (2/4/19) all children in Years 3 and 5 will participate in the NAPLAN school readiness test. All children in these grades will need to have their own set of headphones (earbud style are fine) for this.

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability. If parents would like to familiarise themselves and their children with the look and feel of the NAPLAN online test a [public demonstration site](#) with sample questions is available [here](#).

**What is in those NAPLAN tests?**

WHICH ONE OF THESE EQUALS 564?

A)  $5 + 6 + 4$   
B)  $50 + 60 + 4$   
C)  $500 + 40 + 6$   
D)  $500 + 60 + 4$

The question above - taken from an example Year 5 NAPLAN numeracy test - asks students to demonstrate their understanding of *place value*: that is, to partition, rearrange and regroup numbers to assist calculations and solve problems. It's a concept most of us take for granted but one that enhances a child's understanding of mathematics.

Students learn about *place value* in the Australian Curriculum: Mathematics in Years 3 and 4, so by the time they reach Year 5, they should be able to answer a question like this one above. And if they can't, then parents and educators need to know about those gaps in learning as soon as possible.

So if you've ever wondered what is in those NAPLAN tests, rest assured that what students learn in the classroom is what they are tested on in NAPLAN. And if you'd like to see example tests or Australian Curriculum content for yourself, visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au) or [australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://australiancurriculum.edu.au).

acara AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING AUTHORITY

NAPLAN NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM Literacy and Numeracy

## Changes to the Parent Newsletter

As we begin to use our Skoolbag App more efficiently and effectively, please be advised that from Term 2, we will be publishing the parent newsletter once a fortnight beginning Week 2, Term 2.

We encourage all families to take advantage of the Skoolbag App, it is free to use, easy to download and keeps you in the loop. Please find instructions to download the App at the back of the newsletter.

## Coding/Robotics Groups

Beginning in Term 2 there will be a Coding/Robotics Group held one lunchtime a week. I am looking for expressions of interest from children who believe they would find this group exciting and challenging. No previous experience is necessary. Expressions of Interest are to be no more than 50 words and need to include your name, class, and why you would like to join this group (Previous Coding Group students are also eligible to apply). Please send your submission to the Office no later than Friday Week 10.

Looking forward to Coding with you!

Miss Paul

## PBS4L Update

At St Paul the Apostle we work collaboratively to become a better learner. This helps us learn to be aware of the needs of others and display patience and listen to the ideas of others.



## Sport News

In previous years an “expression of interest” form has been sent out to students to choose various sporting gala days that they would like to be considered for. This year the process will be slightly different. Students will complete a Google doc at school, in class time, and will select three choices from the options provided. We ask that you discuss gala day choices with your children so that they choose wisely. The sports that St Paul’s will be entering teams into this year are Basketball, Soccer, League Tag, Netball and Touch Football. As you are aware we try to accommodate the children’s choices but, as in the past, there are no guarantees.

## Representative Sport Trials

Thank you to everyone for your nominations. Please keep in mind that we are sent very strict guidelines from CEDP which we have to adhere to when approving students to attend these trials. Thank you for your understanding if your child was unsuccessful.

## 2020 Kindergarten Enrolment Applications

A reminder that all forms **MUST** be returned to the school office with accompanying paperwork by this **Friday 29 March** so that we can begin interviewing families.

## Leaving the School

Please be advised that if your family situation changes and you decide to leave the school it is a CEDP requirement that you provide 10 weeks notice. If this requirement is not met, 10 weeks school fees will be applied. This is only applicable during Terms 1, 2 and 3.

## Work Health and Safety Reminders

As part of the compulsory component of our WHS Emergency Procedures, St Paul’s primary is required to have several evacuation and lockdown drills throughout the year. Next week, we will be having a routine lockdown drill. To prepare and reassure the students the teachers will be explaining what to do during a lockdown and what it sounds like. Before the end of the term we will also have an evacuation drill. These drills helps us to practise being safe at school.

## Easter Eggs at School

As the Easter season and the common sharing of chocolate eggs is approaching, it is important to remember that there are a high number of children at St Paul’s who are severely allergic to nuts, eggs and/or dairy, etc. Parents are asked to support us by ensuring that lollies/chocolates/Easter eggs are not brought to school by the children, either for themselves or to share with others. Thank you for your continued cooperation in making St Paul’s a safe environment for all our children.



## 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, our Leaders of Learning, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Ferguson, our Religious Education Coordinator, Mrs Brackenbury, our Assistant Principal, Mrs Jane Miskek and/or Principal, Mrs Baird 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, Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) 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 within the Complaint Handling Guidelines. These documents can be accessed on the school website [here](#) or on the CEDP website [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

## Photographs taken at school

From time to time photographs may be taken of your child whilst they are at school. These photos may be used in school Newsletters, Skoolbag, publications and the school website. They may also be used by Catholic Education, Parramatta Diocese in their publications and website. If you do not wish your child's photo to be taken, please put this in writing and address to the Principal, Mrs Baird.

## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN ON: **April 10**

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by advancedlife Photography on Wednesday 10 April.

An envelope and flyer were sent home last week. Ordering is to be completed online where possible to reduce administration and potential security issues. If you choose to send cash, please **do not** do so prior to photo day. Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) using our school's unique **9 digit Online Order Code**.

Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please direct them via email to [enquiries@advancedlife.com.au](mailto:enquiries@advancedlife.com.au)

## Reminder: St Paul's Winter Uniform is now in stock

The last day of trading for this term is Thursday 11 April 2019 from 2.30 - 4.00pm. We will return Thursday 2 May 2.30 - 4.00pm. The uniform shop will not be open during the school holidays.

Thank you for your cooperation

Elle

Oz Fashions

0421 216 414



**9 Digit Online Order Code**  
**R1E 42W Q8C**

**advancedlife**  
photography & print specialists

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

Julian F, Jerome H, Oliver N, Peter E, Gabriella B, Isabella M



2019



## Reminder

Our eggciting Easter Raffle is here again. Each year this has been a very popular fundraising event for the students of St Paul's. To make this event successful the P&F are asking each student to donate an Easter egg or small bag of eggs to their class. Every child who donates will receive a free ticket for the class raffle. The Easter eggs will be made into baskets and raffled within the school, some will be donated to the Children's Hospital, Westmead, Ronald McDonald House, Westmead, St Vincent de Paul Society and our local Nursing Home, Woodberry Village.

- **Bring in your eggs!**

**From Monday 25 March until Friday 29 March**

- **Wrapping Easter baskets - Friday 29 March**

Volunteers wanted! If you can spare some time, we would really appreciate your help. Please join us in the Art room from 9am.

- **Raffle tickets on sale - 50c each**

We will be selling tickets after school.  
Look out for the raffle table in the playground.

- **Raffle Drawn – Monday 8 April**

If you have any spare baskets at home that you are able to send in, it would be very much appreciated. Thank you again for supporting the school in the Easter Raffle.

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION**



instructions for parents and community

1. Get your favourite mobile device
2. Open the App Store/Play Store
3. Search for "SkoolBag"
4. Download the free app
5. Open the app and add your school(s)

for Apple users



for Android users



for more info visit [skoolbag.com.au](http://skoolbag.com.au)

