Principal's Message

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

As you are aware this week is Refugee Week. It is an annual event that promotes positive images of refugees and celebrates the valuable contribution refugees make to Australian society. The ultimate aim of Refugee Week is to facilitate better understanding between different communities and encourage successful integration, enabling refugees to live in safety and to continue making a valuable contribution to Australia. We are attempting to raise awareness of the plight of refugees here at St Paul's and I pray that we are a country that opens our doors to people who need refuge. For further information go to: http://www.refugeeweek.org.au/

Last Thursday night the school band performed for us in the Parish Centre. The Band concert showcased all of the children and their skills and talents. I was very proud of all of the students and delighted to listen to their music. I would also like to thank Miss Jenny for all of her work. It is very obvious the respect and love the students have for her and on your behalf, I congratulate her on the fine work that she does here at St Paul's.

On Friday night we had the school Disco. What a great night! I would like to congratulate the children on their behaviour and the way they entered into the fun of the evening. Thanks go to Leanne Rodriguez and her willing band of workers for their perfect organisation, running of and supervision on the night. I am very grateful and I know that the children are too. I would also like to thank Mrs Standring, Mrs Tedesco, Mrs Love and Mr Lehmann for coming along in support of the evening. I had no idea that they were all such good dancers!

Yesterday morning the principals in the diocese were invited to a breakfast meeting to hear an international speaker. Abdul Chohan is the Director at Essa Academy in the United Kingdom. He has nurtured teacher and student relationships by creating an anytime, anywhere learning environment. Under the guidance of Abdul's visionary leadership, Essa, once a failing public school, has seen a fundamental shift at the heart of its culture. Abdul spoke about the journey his whole school has been on over the past 4 years. Among the many messages I took away from that talk was the simple school vision – "All will achieve". His staff, parents and students all believe
that together they can achieve and are all there to support and help each other. I reflected on our parent/teacher meetings at the moment so vital to the development of the children. As a community we work together for the benefit of our children to give them the very best chance for success in life. I thank you for taking the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher and I thank the teachers for their work on the reports and making themselves available for the meetings. We are truly blessed with our professional and dedicated teaching staff and I thank them sincerely for the work that they do. If you would like to read more about Abdul Chohan and Essa Academy, go to http://www.essaacademy.org/

Have a great week everyone.

Marian Bell

Marian Bell
Principal
mbell@parra.catholic.edu.au

RE News

‘For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; ’ (Matthew 25:35)

On Thursday we will be raising awareness about the issues affecting refugees in Australia by wearing a colourful hat to school. Since Federation, Australia has grown into the country we love today because of the many contributions made by refugees to our society. Refugee Week originated in 1986 and was organised to coincide with World Refugee Day that is an annual event held on 20 June.

On Thursday the students in Years 3-6 will have the opportunity to listen to the stories of two amazing men, Mr Nguyen and Mr Cinya. They have experienced firsthand the difficulties refugees experience and have offered to share their journeys with our children. It is an amazing opportunity for our children and it is hoped it will encourage them to continue to have the courage to stand up for the plight of refugees all over the world.

Every Monday morning we gather together to sing the National Anthem and sing the words ‘with courage let us all combine’, these words honour the courage of refugees and of the people who speak out against persecution and injustice. It also reminds us of the role refugees and immigrants have in making Australia the place we love. It is easy for us to forget the courage they had to be a refugee.

Imagine facing persecution because of who you are or what you believe. According to the Refugee Week website refugees need courage:

- the courage not to dent identity or beliefs in the face of persecution
- the courage to leave all that is familiar and step into the unknown in search of peace
• the courage to keep going in the face of devastating loss, difficulty and despair
• the courage to begin again, to work hard and to maintain hope in an unfamiliar land

The Mini Vinnies team encourages you to choose one of the colours seen on the logo and to wear a hat in that colour on Thursday. By allowing your child to wear a different hat you are encouraging them to speak out against injustices and unite in a simple action. By doing so you are encouraging Australians to build a fairer society, where everyone's differences are recognised and used to build an Australia where everyone's contributions are acknowledged and celebrated.

Every child who wears a hat will receive the Refugee Symbol in acknowledgement of their participation.

God Bless,

Leanda Standring
Mrs Leanda Standring
Religious Education Co-ordinator
lstandring@parra.catholic.edu.au

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**Mini Vinnies**

**Winter Appeal 2015**

There is a donation box in the office – we are still appealing for blankets and canned/non-perishable food.

Any donations will be greatly appreciated. Thank you

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**Please pray for.......**

We ask you to keep Mrs Liz Mulheron and Mervyn Vasudewan in your prayers, both are in hospital this week.

We wish them both a speedy recovery – Get well soon.
Canteen Closure

Please note that the Canteen WILL NOT be open on Friday 19 June (Athletics Carnival) and Friday 26 June - Feast of St Peter & St Paul - (Sausage Sizzle).

There will be NO LUNCH ORDERS on either day.

Athletics Carnival - Friday 19 June

Due to the inclement weather there is a possibility that we will be unable to hold the Athletics Carnival on Friday 19 June. At this stage the Council have closed the grounds. A note will go home with children tomorrow afternoon and an email will be sent out to all parents advising the decision.

Feast of St Peter and St Paul

On Friday 26 June, the last day of this Term, we will celebrate the Feast of St Peter and St Paul. St Paul the Apostle is the patron saint of our school and Parish. As this is a special day for our school, we will celebrate with a Mass at 12 noon followed by a sausage sizzle lunch. Parents and other family members are welcome to join us. Please look out for the separate note coming home with more information about the sausage sizzle lunch.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

LIBRARY BOOKS

All library books need to be returned to the Library by FRIDAY 19 June at the latest.

BOOK WEEK

The theme for Book Week this year is 'Shine a Light on Books'. We are looking for lampshades or lamp bases that anyone would be prepared to donate to the library for use in our Book Week Display.

BOOK COVERING

We would like to encourage anyone who may have time to help cover books to please come and see us in the library. Any assistance would be appreciated and the
best times to see us are on a Tuesday or Thursday. We are happy for you to take books home to cover if this makes it easier for you.

Petrina Taylor
Teacher Librarian
ptaylor3@parra.catholic.edu.au

Curriculum News

Personalised Plans (PP's)

Personalised Plans (PP's) previously known as Individualised Plans (IP's) for students who currently have adjustments in place will be sent home this week. More information will be provided to you at your Half Yearly Interviews.

Mrs Claire Bayley
Learning Support Teacher
cbayley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Awards

**Student of the Week**

Student of the Week is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding application across all Key Learning Areas

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<tr>
<th>K1</th>
<th>Ellie G</th>
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<td>KP</td>
<td>Cooper S</td>
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<td>Benjamin S</td>
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<td>5ST</td>
<td>Aidan H</td>
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<td>6L</td>
<td>Adam D</td>
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<td>Joshua B</td>
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**St Paul’s Award**

St Paul’s Award is given to the child who demonstrates our five school values – Faith, Commitment, Leadership, Integrity and Empathy in their interactions with others

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<tr>
<th>KI</th>
<th>Alyssa E</th>
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<td>KP</td>
<td>Chelsea S</td>
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<td>Ryan W</td>
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<td>Alex T</td>
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<td>Lara C</td>
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<td>6M</td>
<td>Nikolas F</td>
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TSA Band Camp 2015!

Yes, it’s that time of year again! Pull out your best swimmers for the waterslide, your grooviest PJ’s for the pyjama disco and get into training for the staff V students beach volleyball match!! (Oh, and you should probably practise your band music too!)

Whilst most kids come to camp for the excitement of new friends, fun activities and a weekend away, the real benefit is in the valuable experience (both musical and social) gained from such intensive time spent in such a highly musical environment. With over 8 hours of face-to-face tuition over the weekend, there is over a term and a half worth of 30 minute lessons to be had! Camp is also a valuable experience for students that may be losing interest in music and need a boost of enthusiasm and practise to get them to a level where they can enjoy their music and performance.

Notes for camp should have already been received by band parents via email outlining details including cost, venue, times and dates. If you did not receive this email or you need another copy, please visit www.teachingservices.com.au and download the note from the ‘Band Notes’ section of the website. Permission notes, along with deposit, need to be returned ASAP to avoid missing out as the camp participation needs to be finalised at the beginning of Term 3.

Knights of the Southern Cross

Trivia Night

Saturday 20 June, 2015
7:15pm for a 7:45pm start
Parish Centre
St Paul the Apostle
Buckleys Road, Winston Hills

Fundraiser for Seminary in Morogora, Tanzania

Games, entertainment, raffles and great prizes. BYO Drinks & Nibbles. Tea/Coffee/Cakes will be provided.

Come and enjoy a great evening whilst at the same time assisting this worthy venture. Get your friends together for a table of eight @ $10 per person.

Bookings: Kors Van Eyk (9639 9192) or Nancy Hargrave (9639 6516)

If you would like to donate to this wonderful cause by way of prizes etc, please phone Kors – your contribution will be much appreciated.