

# St Paul's Post

At St Paul's we are Safe, Respectful, Learners

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Term 4, Week 2 23 October, 2020

### From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

A heartfelt welcome back to the last term for 2020. The children have settled back into the routines and expectations of school beautifully. They have been well supported by the staff and each other.

It is great to be back after my short period of long service leave. I certainly missed our beautiful school community! I'm very much looking forward to another term of faith, fun and learning and working in partnership in our Christ centred community of parents, children, teachers and pastors.

My appreciation to all the staff who took on acting leadership roles during my absence, in particular Mrs Misek and Mrs Brackenbury. We are blessed to have such a depth of leadership at St Paul's. I hope the holidays were a wonderful time to catch up with family and friends, to spoil yourself and others and to enjoy new routines together.

With spring upon us and the weather warming up, there's an air of excitement and renewed energy. I'm reminded of this each time I look at my garden and vegetable patch waiting eagerly for some of the crops to be ready to eat and the sunflowers to bloom. No matter what happens in the world or in life, the one thing that is certain is that God will bring new life in spring. If you have the opportunity to create a veggie patch or plant new flowers, I encourage you to do so with your children - not only will it provide you with edible fruits and vegetables, it may also provide you with new opportunities to connect, chat and have fun with them and also appreciate God's wondrous creations.



This term promises to be another busy one and one that will create new challenges as we continue to respond to COVID19 and I know that as a community we will work together to provide fun and safe opportunities for our children.

#### Playground update

Shade sail replaced - one of the shade sails in the playground has been replaced in the past few weeks. Now that there are some COVID19 restrictions eased, CEDP are in the final stages of tendering for our playground improvements.

Unfortunately, COVID19 restrictions prevent us from having the play items (Connect Four, building blocks etc) on the playground at this time. As soon as restrictions are eased these items will be returned to the playground.

Peace and Joy Mrs Megan Baird Principal

#### From the Assistant Principal

#### Celebrating Book Week

This year it has certainly been a different year for all of our students and many of the events that normally take place have had to be put on hold. We were commenting last week that our 2020 Kindergarten students have not had many experiences of being together as a whole group and we wonder if they remember what a large community they are part of. So it was with a sense of excitement that Mrs Baird and I decided to pull the stage out on Wednesday morning and allow each grade the opportunity to show off their modelling skills as they paraded their book week costume.



While this was a more subdued occasion than usual, the students loved the opportunity to clap for their classmates and to share their favourite book and character with each other. As a Mum I remember cursing book week as I tried to come up with an outfit that both myself and my son would agree on and one that was appropriate for school - there were times when it was a stretch to think which book the character he had chosen might be found in. However, all of these events form a very special part of our memories of our children's time at primary school and I look back on these photos with a smile on my face. While this year has certainly seen us celebrate events differently we hope that you will be able to look back and smile as you think of some of these special times where you have had to reimagine "normal".



#### **Religious Education learning**

#### Updated Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education now available online

For several years now, our Catholic community has been working together to update the way we share our faith with children and young people. An updated version of the Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education with references to the relevant sections of the Catechism of the Catholic Church is now available on the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta website together with a guide to help community members learn more. The Draft New Curriculum remains faithful to Sacred Scripture and Tradition while ensuring that the way that the learning and teaching happens is kept up-to-date. When it is launched in late 2021 the Draft New Curriculum will replace 'Sharing Our Story', the current curriculum that has been in place for more than 20 years.

#### **Confirmation 2021**

Students who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year will receive or should have received an email from the Parish Office outlining dates and times. If you have not received this information, please contact the Parish Office on 9639 6516.

#### Holy Faith Awards

We look forward to celebrating the Holy Faith Awards in 2020. Due to COVID-19 guidelines this will be a very different celebration. The students have voted and are very eager to hear who won for 2020.

Mrs Johra Brackenbury Religious Education Coordinator

# INQUIRY IN KINDY!

In Kindergarten, we have launched into our inquiry: *Special Places*. Students brought in a photo of a special place in their house and used various building materials to help them create and represent their special place. We are looking forward to learning more about our special places.















### **Inquiry learning**

Term 4 Inquiry learning has begun with all students engaging in an 'ignite'

opportunity. There have been a variety of activities taking place across the school including gallery

walks, interactive games and construction activities. I am looking forward to seeing where our learning will take us this term.

**Mrs Julie Hooper** 

Leader of Learning







# Literacy learning

#### Teachers are learners too!

This week our Teaching Educator from the Catholic Education office, Mrs Platts, visited us to work alongside teachers in their classrooms. Teachers were given opportunities to teach and receive feedback on their practice as well as to ask questions about current teaching strategies. This process has been an extremely valuable experience for our teachers which in turn will help our students to further improve in their learning.

Mrs Margaret Ferguson Leader of Learning

## **Numeracy Learning**









Mathematics is an important part of our school day at St. Paul's, and we will continue to provide students valuable learning opportunities throughout Term Four.

Across the school, students are engaging in a variety of Mathematics activities. They are exploring a range of concepts and are learning to recognise connections between the areas of Mathematics. Students are learning to appreciate Mathematics as accessible, enjoyable and an important aspect of lifelong learning.

Mrs Kieran Jackson Leader of Learning

#### **General School Information**

#### 2021 Bell times

There are some changes to our internal bell times in 2021 to ensure that we are meeting our legal requirements for the teacher enterprise agreement. The 2021 bell times are outlined below for your information. Please note that there are  $\bf NO$  **CHANGES** to the start and end of the day. The only changes are to the internal bell times.



8:52am		Music to move to assembly/line up area
8:55am		Official start of the day and first learning session. All children are expected to be ready for announcements at assembly or to be ready to move into classrooms for the first learning session.
8:55am - 10:55am	2 hours	Learning Session 1 (Infants grades incorporate "crunch & sip" into this session)
10:55am - 11:25am	30 mins	Recess
11:25am - 1:25pm	2 hours	Learning Session 2
1:25pm - 1:40pm	15 mins	Lunch - sitting and eating
1:40pm - 2:10pm	30 mins	Lunch - playtime
2:10pm - 3:10pm	1 hour	Learning Session 3
3:10pm - 3:15pm	5 mins	Student pack up and dismissal preparations
3:15pm		Official end of school day

#### School Uniform 2021

Due to Covid-19 there will be no uniform fittings for students. Orders are to be placed on the 'Qkr' app by MasterCard.

Delivery to the school is every Thursday afternoon during the school term free of charge and orders must be placed by 4pm Wednesday for delivery on Thursday

While we do not refund if you simply change your mind, we gladly exchange within 14 days if the sizing is incorrect. Returned merchandise **MUST** be in its original condition with all tags still attached and accompanied by proof of purchase. Worn items can not be exchanged.

Please place your uniform order as soon as possible to ensure you will be able to exchange uniform sizing if necessary and to guarantee students receive their uniform to start the new year. Please note: all orders for 2021 new students need to be placed before

Wednesday 11 November 2020 to ensure delivery before the end of the school year. The last delivery for St Paul the Apostle uniform orders is Thursday 12 November 2020. Please see size guide attached for an approximate sizing of uniform items.

If you have any other questions or enquiries please contact Elle via email: **elle@ozfashions.com.au** or call on 0421 216 414.

#### Catholic Education Office leaving the school policy

If you are leaving the school, **one term's notice in writing is required** (except for those graduating Year 6), otherwise you will be charged the term's school fees as per the enrolment agreement. Please include the name of the school your child/children will be attending in 2021. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### Changes to Family Levy

We advise that your school fee statement may look a little different next year. You will notice that the Resource Fee has increased and there is no longer a Family Levy as the Family Levy and Resource Fee have merged as per requirements from CEDP. In the majority of cases this has little or no impact. For families with 3 or more students there will be a slight increase in the combination of these fees. For 2021, there will be no increase in diocesan tuition fees or the building levy and therefore you will find that the total school fees increase is within the bounds of normal annual increases. Please contact the school office if you require any further information or if you need financial assistance. We are here to help.

#### Work, Health and Safety Reminders

#### Kiss 'n' Drop - Urgent Safety Issue

If you are using Kiss 'n' Drop in the morning, children **MUST** have their bags with them in the car. No child is to go to the rear of their car to collect a bag from the boot.

If you need to assist your child to get their bag out please park your vehicle and walk your child to the gate.

At all times the safety of our students, staff and parents is our top priority.

kiss drop & go!

Thank you for your support and cooperation in keeping all members of our community safe.

#### Social Distancing COVID-19

Our staff continue to be vigilant with monitoring and acting regarding children who appear to be unwell. Please keep your child at home if you think they are sick, runny nose, cough, headache etc If a child presents as unwell at school, they will be isolated from other children and staff in the sick bay or an area of the office. Parents will be contacted to collect their child immediately. We understand that this may be difficult but it is in the best interests of the school community as a whole.

- Additional cleaning is taking place on a daily basis.
- Our staff are reminding students how and when to wash their hands.
- There are soap dispensers in the toilets, and these are topped up regularly.
- Signs have been placed in classrooms and toilets to remind the children and to demonstrate to them appropriate hand washing procedures.
- Each class has been provided with hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes and additional paper towels.
- All learning spaces have designated "used tissues only" bins with lids which are emptied daily.
- The school has discouraged handshakes, hugs and kisses.
- Please limit the number of people in the foyer to five if there are 5 or more, please wait outside.
- Our amended line up afternoon dismissal procedures are in place and we ask that parents do not enter the space under the COLA, please wait on the outer area for your child.





# **Happy Birthday**

Happy Birthday to all those who celebrated their birthdays recently and who are celebrating in the next few weeks.....

Elouise D, Jessica M, Keira D'S, Oliver S, Olivia B, Zara D'S, Jasmine D, Frederick S, Dominic V, Monique McC, Kayla F, Lola H, Abraham K, Oliver McK, Tyson W, Cooper N.



#### **Student Awards**

Although we haven't been publishing student names in our newsletter this year, COVID19 has restricted our ability to hold assemblies. So, whilst restrictions are still in place, we will acknowledge students in our fortnightly newsletter.

# Congratulations!

## Sport Days - Term 4

Kindy - Monday & Wednesday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 2 - Thursday & Friday Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 4 - Monday & Thursday Year 5 - Thursday & Friday

Year 6 - Tuesday & Thursday

	St Paul's Awards	Student of the Week Award
KL	Scarlett V	Oscar A
KM	Marcus C	Alessia B
1H	Grace H, Reuben S	Ashton A, Ella B
1JC	Chase D, Annabelle N	Mia B, Olivia H
2BH	Mikaela K, Loretta B	Chloe M, Luke L
2D	Marcus B, Sarah W	Daniel I, Chase F
3L	Anthony E, Chloe a	Millie J, Nicholas C
3P	Annabelle G, Christian D	Archie F, Kelly D
4SA	Sarah B	Dylan B
4SH	Leila S	Raymond Y
5G	Heidi S, Olive A	Sebastian P, Zed C
5H	Ashleigh D, Lucas N	Alice S, Tom C
6PR	Taylor B	Filip K
6S	Oliver D	Lucy W

# **School Travel for 2021**



## 2021 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now <u>apply</u> online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should re-apply or update their details.

\*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new eligibility criteria, they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.