



St Paul's Post

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

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Term 2, Week 2

8 May, 2020

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a difficult time for students, teachers, and families and we appreciate your continued support and understanding as we work together to respond to the necessary changes to learning in response to COVID-19. We know that COVID-19 has affected the reality of our world, both at home and here at school. We also recognise that children need to continue to engage in their learning. Schools remain open and our gradual return to school plan has been shared with our community.

Though we may be beginning Term 2 working and learning at home, we remain committed to supporting our students emotional, physical, spiritual, cultural and academic growth and achievement, in partnership with families. This has given us all an opportunity to think about how we will **continuously** learn, work and lead throughout this term.

Since we began with the learning grids last term, we have been continually working to adapt and re-imagine them based on teacher, student and parent feedback. Until all students return to school on a full time basis, there will be **one** framework for learning - the Learning @ Home grids. The Learning @ Home grids will be supported by Google Classroom and Zoom video conferencing opportunities. In this way, we can ensure that all children at St Paul's, whether they be learning at home or at school, are supported. This framework also provides flexibility for families and particular home circumstances. From Week 4, the Learning @ Home grids will be designed and shared on a **weekly** basis - via Skoolbag and Google Classroom.

The Zoom meetings with students and teachers now take the place of weekly phone calls to parents. So, I encourage all parents to maintain contact with their child's teacher via the grade email address when, and if, you have questions about your child's learning.

Mother's Day

Mothers, in so many ways, are one of the most precious gifts that God has given to all of us. We learn so much from the role modelling and care our mums give us. I'm very appreciative of my mum and of her unending love, support and encouragement and am blessed to still have her here with us to celebrate this Sunday. The unique qualities of our mothers, whether by God's side or with us, are indeed special and we give thanks to Our Lord for their committed care and love in our lives. This Mother's Day, I hope you take the opportunity to recognise what a blessing mums, and those who are like mums to us, are. Happy Mother's Day to all our mums and to all the special women in our lives!



We ask that you keep two members of our St Paul's Staff in your prayers. Mrs Taylor's Father sadly passed away in the holidays and Mrs Ricketts whose Mother passed away on Tuesday. We extend our deepest sympathies and pray that they may rest in peace.

Peace and Joy!

Mrs Megan Baird
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

During the holidays I did some cleaning and sorting. In a box of papers I found a speech my son wrote when he was in Year 2 to be voted onto the SRC at his school. I remember that he practised and practised and was rather pleased with his efforts, but I will admit that I had sleepless nights worrying about whether I should encourage him or take the easier path and suggest that perhaps he might not try out. I worried that he would not be able to learn the speech, that he would hate to give up his lunchtimes and that on the day, he would

make a mistake, get upset and embarrass himself. The teacher in me knew that it was important for him to have an opportunity to take a risk and to develop his own independence but the mother in me wanted to protect him from the ups and downs that come with risk taking. Sometimes, allowing our children to fly under the radar is the safer option for us as we don't have to feel their pain and disappointment – but it also means we can miss out on the pride that is felt when our children do take a risk.

Being a Mother is sometimes not an easy job, yet its rewards are unrivalled. Most mothers can relate to the many nights of laying awake wondering if we are making the right decisions for our family and our children. It is often easy to want to keep our children close to us to protect them from all the difficulties and hurts that are part of growing up and at times it seems that the "fulltime job" of being a mum is often undervalued and unappreciated. Yet, the true reward of being a mum or indeed being any significant carer in a child's life comes out in the many little things our children say and do – and in the way they grow and mature as members of our families and the wider community. These past few months have certainly taught us things about ourselves as mothers that we may not have known and have probably also given us all some greater insights into our children and their own strengths and challenges.

A Jewish Proverb says "A mother understands what a child does not say." Often it is the small things that Mums do that children remember such as "I love my Mum because she reads me a bedtime story" or "I love my Mum because she makes me a nice lunch". Those everyday things that we often do without even thinking are the things that are so important to our children and help form them into the people we hope they will grow up to be. Sadly, we will not be able to celebrate "Mother's Day" together as a school community this year, but on behalf of all the staff I would like to wish all of our Mums, Grandparents, Aunties and significant carers a very happy Mothers Day. While the past few weeks have had their challenges, perhaps one of the positives will be the new relationships we have had the opportunity to build with our children. With this in mind - put down the school work on the weekend and try to relax and enjoy time with family.

Regards
Jane Misek
Assistant Principal

P & F Thank you!

Thank you to our hard working Parents and Friends Association who have come up with new and creative ways to celebrate and acknowledge Mother's Day this year. If you haven't yet downloaded their new app, please do so. Instructions and information about the app were posted onto Skoolbag.

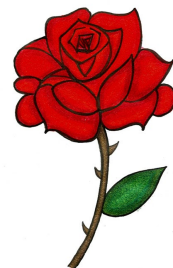
Religion

My Five Finger Prayer by Isabella 2BH

Thumb: Jack
God please look after my Family and Friends through Coronavirus.
Pointer Finger: Our Teachers
God please look after my lovely teachers this year.
Middle Finger: Prime Minister
God please look after the Prime Minister while he takes care of Australia.
Ring Finger: Sick people
God please look after the Doctors so they can look after the unwell.
Pinkie: Me
God please look after me during the tough days of this year.

Mother's Day Blessing

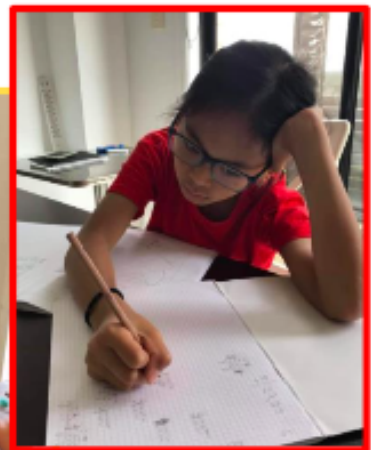
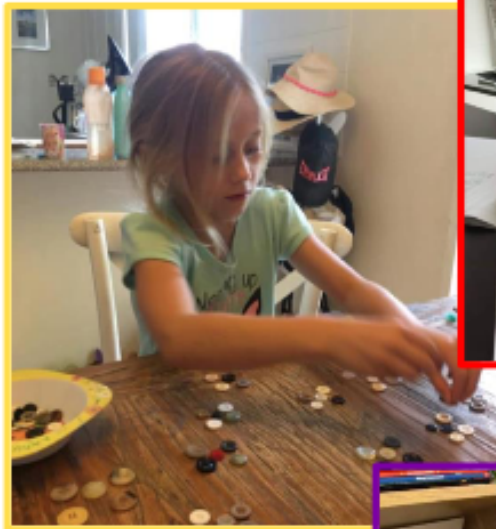
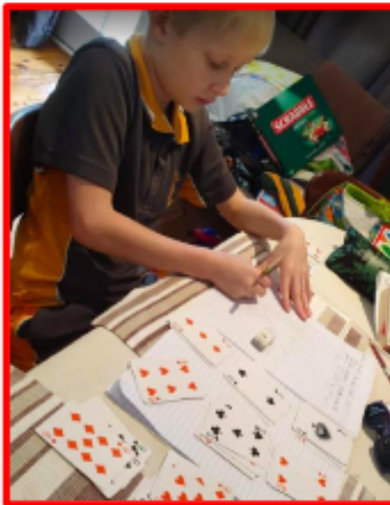
*Just as God gives to each rose a gentle touch of dew
And gives each evening sky the lovely sunset's hue.
May He give to you -
Great happiness and hearts' content and blessings from above.
God bless all our mothers, grandmothers, aunties, and mother
figures in our lives.*




Have a beautiful Mother's Day




Numeracy @ Home!

Thank you to all of the Mums, Dads and other family members for all of the support you have obviously provided to your child while learning at home. We have seen some great work coming back to school through Google Classroom, Facebook and Gmail.



Literacy @ Home




	Fact	Opinion
A pet	Cody is a kelpie	My pet dog Cody is the best pet you could ever have 
A season	Summer is the hottest season	Summer is the best season ever 
Your Favourite Food	Some pizzas are very cheesy	Pizza is very yummy 


Australia's Worst Drought in Ten Years

By Declan Abela 30/04/2020

Australia is going through a drought that seems to never end. We all need to help by saving water, donating and by giving our support. We can get through this together if we work together.



The drought has a big impact on Australia's Fauna (Animals). All of Australia's fauna have been affected by physical changes to their environment. Lots of the fauna like birds, kangaroos, koalas and many more of the fauna have lost their habitats. Lots of their food is gone and lots of animals are doing odd and strange things like bats are feeding during the day and some bird species are being seen in areas where they are rarely ever seen. Many humans are trying to feed the animals that have no more food but with not the right food the animals get sick from it and can possibly die.



Book Club

For those of you who are interested in purchasing any books from Book Club in Term 2, Scholastic are offering a Home Delivery option for this term only. A \$5.99 standard fee no matter how many books you purchase will be charged for delivery. You can download a virtual catalogue from <https://scholastic.com.au/book-club/virtual-catalogue-1/>

All orders will need to be completed via LOOP by 11 May. Instructions on how to order via LOOP can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please remember that there is no obligation to purchase any books.

Rita Nobili
Administration / Library Assistant

Library News - Premier's Reading Challenge

To experience a book a child can **listen** to the book, **participate** in a **shared reading** of the book or **read part or the entire book independently**.

All student Reading Records are submitted online by parents using their child/rens individual User ID and Password. If your child participated last year they use the same login and password as last year. Every class teacher has a copy of User ID's and Passwords in their classrooms in case you cannot remember them. Kindergarten and other new students to the school this year will have received a separate note with their User ID and Password.

All students entering and successfully completing the Premiers Reading Challenge will receive an official PRC Certificate. To successfully complete the Challenge the student must have an online reading record entered and validated by Friday 31 August.

For further information about the Premier's Reading Challenge and to access the book lists please go to <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

If you have any questions regarding the Premier's Reading challenge please see or email Mrs Taylor or Mrs Nobili winstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Congratulations to the following children who have completed the Premiers Reading Challenge. Loretta B, Evelyn H, Isabella O (Year 2), Austin C (Year 3), Nathan B, Jack O (Year 5) , Oliver M (Year 6) well done!

General School Information

Grounds update

As you drive by the school grounds you will have noticed that our pedestrian ramp and walkway is well and truly underway. These new additions will provide safer access to our school grounds to all in our community and encourage a safer flow of pedestrian traffic. No longer will pedestrian traffic have to use the parish driveway and face oncoming traffic when entering or leaving our school. **When this ramp and walkway is completed, the pedestrian gate on Buckley's Road will be closed.** Members of our community who usually utilise the pedestrian gate on Buckley's Road to enter or leave the school grounds on foot will be asked to do so via the new walkway. The pedestrian gate on Buckleys Road will only be available for use by students who are catching a bus home from school. We will advise parents via Skoolbag when this new procedure is in place. The builders have erected temporary fencing on Gregory's Green to prevent access to their building site. Thank you for your support and understanding as we strive to encourage a safe environment for everyone.

Playground update

Due to the economic impact of COVID-19, the other intended enhancements to our playground, such as the revamp of the amphitheatre, are currently being reviewed by CEDP. Although a final decision has not yet been made, please be assured that there **will** be some upgrades to our playground this year, however they may not take the full format of those that were initially designed. We will keep you updated via Skoolbag and our newsletter. Thank you for your understanding.

Work Health and Safety Reminders

Social distancing @ St Paul's

Please remember to maintain physical distancing from other parents and teachers when attending school, including when dropping off and picking up your children. Therefore, we ask that parents and carers leave the site as soon as their child has been dropped off or collected.

In order to promote social distancing, in Weeks 3, 4 and 5, we will continue to have a staggered collection time. As we develop our plans for Week 6 and beyond, we will keep you informed via Skoolbag.

COSHC

COSHC is operating as usual. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Brittany on 0429 017 382.



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

Isaac H, Savannah N, Chase F, Benjamin S, Kleo H, Mikaela K, Bradley R, Markus M, Harry B, Banjo D, Eliza F

MESSAGE FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

Dear Parents

Winter uniforms are available for purchase. Please make your purchase through the QKR app. The uniform shop will be open as usual on a Thursday from 2:30pm until 4:00pm. Social distancing will be in place.

Online orders will be delivered to the office for collection.
Thank you for your cooperation and support

Stay safe and well.
Kind regards

Elle
Uniforms
0421216414

Grade Emails

Grade	Learning @ Home email address	Stage Coordinator
Kindergarten	2114kinderlearning@parra.catholic.edu.au	Mrs Kieran Jackson
Year 1	2114year1learning@parra.catholic.edu.au	Mrs Kieran Jackson
Year 2	2114year2learning@parra.catholic.edu.au	Mrs Johra Brackenbury
Year 3	2114year3learning@parra.catholic.edu.au	Mrs Margaret Ferguson
Year 4	2114year4learning@parra.catholic.edu.au	Mrs Margaret Ferguson
Year 5	2114year5learning@parra.catholic.edu.au	Mrs Jane Misek
Year 6	2114year6learning@parra.catholic.edu.au	Mrs Jane Misek
All other correspondence	winstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au	

Book Club - How to order

How do parents order using LOOP?

1

Sign in or register an account at:
scholastic.com.au/loop

2

Click on **ORDER** and select school and child's class

3

Add child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)

4

Enter the product item number from the Book Club catalogue

5

Make payment via credit card

6

All orders are attached to the school account until ready to be submitted to Scholastic by the school.