



# St Paul's Post

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

St Paul the Apostle Primary School  
44 Buckleys Road  
Winston Hills NSW 2153  
Telephone: 02 8841 3800  
Email:  
[winstonhills@porro.catholic.edu.au](mailto:winstonhills@porro.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.stpawinstonhills@catholic.edu.au](http://www.stpawinstonhills@catholic.edu.au)

Term 1, Week 10

1 April, 2021

## ***From the Principal***

Dear Parents and Carers,

### ***A personal thank you***

A very special thank you to the beautiful, compassionate St Paul's community for their outpouring of support and prayers for myself and my family on the recent passing of my Dad, Colin. Losing a loved one is never easy, yet the support, care and thoughtfulness of my school community is very much appreciated and gives me some comfort. Thank you!

### ***Learning @ St Paul's***

In 2021, our Formation Goal is to continue to explore the link between Scripture, our Church and our world through deep engagement, inquiry and reflection that will challenge student thinking.

In 2021, our Learning Goal is to continue to develop Assessment Capable Learners. Our students will be challenged by their learning, can articulate what they are learning about and why, what their next steps as a learner are, and to whom or where they can go to for support for their learning. During our instructional walks through the learning spaces, Mrs Misek and I, along with the leadership team ask these questions to the children. Perhaps you could ask your child these questions to elicit your child's responses? It may give you great insights into what they are learning about at school (and why) and what your child believes are their next steps in their learning journey.

### ***Parents and Friends***

A very big thank you to our Parents and Friends Association for facilitating our first General Meeting last week. Once again, we had a great turn out and we are so appreciative of our hard-working committee and supportive parents who work in collaboration with the school to continue to build and celebrate our community. 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.

### ***End of Term 1***

It's hard to believe that we have come to the last week of Term 1. The term has gone very quickly. Thank you to all our children, families and staff who have helped in many varied and different ways over the term. I thank you all for your continuing support. Best wishes to everyone for a happy and holy Easter and an enjoyable and restful two weeks with family and friends. We look forward to commencing the new term with you on Monday 19 April.

### ***A prayer for all those affected by the floods (from the Mini Vinnies team)***

*God our Creator,*

*Please watch over the people who have been affected by the floodwaters. Please pray that emergency services are able to reach them and that they will recover soon from this time of hardship and suffering in their lives. Please help them get back home to their normal lives soon.*

*We bless these people and we hope they will feel you around them at this time.*

*Amen*

### ***Peace and Joy***

**Mrs Megan Baird**  
Principal

## ***From the Assistant Principal***

### ***Easter Hat Parade***

This morning we were so pleased to be able to welcome so many families back on to our school site for our Easter Hat Parade. Children and teachers all got involved and we had some very interesting and creative designs. Thank you to all of our families who have patiently waited for the opportunity to be back at school. How wonderful it has been that we were able to welcome everyone





back in time for our Easter prayer liturgies and our celebrations at the end of Term 1. Congratulations to all of our Kindergarten children who have made it to the end of their first term at "big school".

We wish all of our children and families a very happy and safe Easter break. We thank you for your continued support as we navigated through the continuing changes associated with COVID throughout this term and we look forward to the many opportunities to continue to work together next term.

**Jane Misek**  
**Assistant Principal**



### **School Fees**

School Fees are now due for payment. Thank you to those families who have already paid. If you need assistance with setting up a payment plan, please contact Berna Robson in the office by phoning 8841 3800 or emailing her at [brobson1@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:brobson1@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### **RE Learning**

#### **Holy Week Morning prayers.**

Thank you to the staff and students for presenting prayers to remind us of this very important time in our Liturgical year.

Kindergarten and Year 1 reminded us about Palm Sunday and how we 'Welcomed our King'.



Year 4 invited us into the Last Supper, the last meal Jesus shared with his friends. He asked them to 'Do this in memory of me'.

Year 3 took us to the Garden of Gethsemane where we prayed with Jesus, asking God to 'stay with me'.

Year 5 reflected on the Crucifixion of Jesus. Year 2 placed Jesus in the tomb while 'we are waiting' for what will happen on Easter Sunday.

#### **Monday 19 April at 8:55am Morning Prayer led by Year 6**

Please join us on Monday 19 April at 8:55am on the top playground where Year 6 will lead prayer about the Resurrection. We request that all visitors to our school follow the COVID social distancing guidelines for adults to ensure the safety of all. All adults attending must check in using the school COVID QRCode and maintain the 1.5m rule for social distancing.

#### **Stations of the Cross**

In these very different times we have been unable to organise and present the Children's Station of the Cross on Good Friday. To encourage participation in this very special event the Year 6 students have organised a photo and prayer presentation of the Stations of the Cross. These will be uploaded to our School Facebook page and shared with the parish Facebook page.

We would like to encourage you to take some quiet prayer time on Good Friday to view the Stations of the Cross and pray the prayers.



**Mrs Johra Brackenbury**  
**Religious Education Coordinator**

*The staff of St Paul the Apostle wish you and your family  
a safe, Happy and Blessed Easter*



## Numeracy Learning

This week, we once again welcomed Mrs Geraldine Caleta (Teacher Educator- Numeracy) who primarily worked with staff in identifying common 'sticking points' in children's learning of Mathematics.

Staff worked collaboratively to analyse data and realign class programs to meet the needs of individual children. The importance of the 'Literacy Block' was highlighted, including the need for consistent warm up activities (with a focus on quantity), rich tasks allowing for deep thinking, and reflections involving student centred discussions highlighting reasoning skills.

We look forward to continuing this hard work again next term and implementing new learning into our teaching practices.

**Liz Sargent**

**Leader of Learning**



## Literacy Learning

This term the staff have been working across their stage in professional learning communities on Tuesday afternoons. Each stage has focused on looking at their data in reading and comprehension from the end of 2020 to the beginning of 2021 and investigating ways they can cater for individual student learning needs in literacy.

Each stage had an individual focus (outlined below) that supported our school goal.

**Early Stage 1 and Stage 1** - How can we improve student engagement by providing interesting and challenging independent literacy learning tasks according to student needs?

**Stage 2** - How do we provide targeted questioning and effective feedback to support reading comprehension?

**Stage 3** - How can we implement a fluid and engaging literacy block, which is differentiated and promotes opportunities for feedback?

This was a very focused and targeted opportunity for teachers to work together to ensure that we are offering all students the best possible opportunities for learning. Each day all students take part in 100 minutes of literacy learning and teachers at St Paul's are committed to ensuring that we make the most of this valuable learning time.

I encourage you to continue to support your child's literacy development through regular reading in the holidays and through lots of opportunities for talking and listening.

**Michelle Brett**

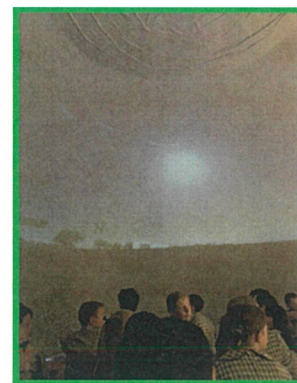
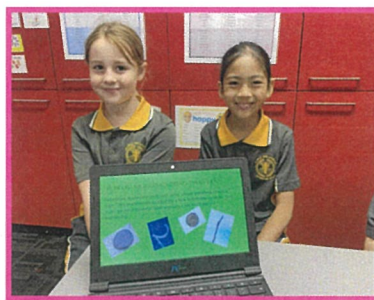
**Leader of Learning**

## Inquiry learning

Across the school, students have been working hard to investigate and answer their driving question. This term we have seen a range of activities happening including discovery walks, comparing the past and the present and even our very first incursion for the year. We are looking forward to seeing many more incursion and excursion opportunities take place throughout the year. Here are a few photos of the wonderful learning our students have been part of this term.

**Julie Hooper**

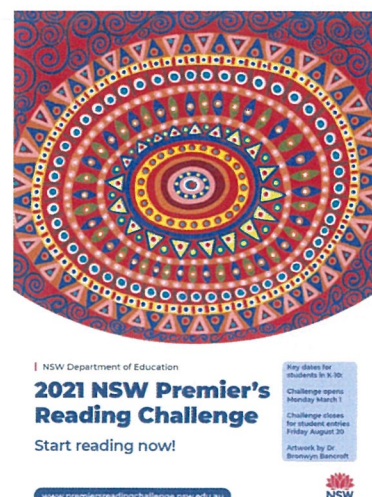
**Leader of Learning**





## Premiers Reading Challenge

The school holidays are a fantastic time to read! The Premier's Reading Challenge officially opened on Monday, 1 March 2020 and will run until Friday, 20 August. Participation in the challenge is optional but we would love as many students as possible to enter the challenge this year, it is such a great way of encouraging your children to read for enjoyment. 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 all User ID's and Passwords in their classrooms in case you cannot remember them. New students to the school this year should have received a separate note with your User ID and Password. All students entering and successfully completing the Premiers Reading Challenge will receive an official PRC Certificate. Happy Reading!



## General School Information

### Changeover into Winter Uniform Monday 10 May 2021

Children may continue to wear their summer uniform for the first three weeks of Term 2. However, if the weather turns cold before Monday 10 May, children may wear their winter uniform. Children must either wear their **full** summer uniform or **full** winter uniform on these hot or cold days until 10 May. From Monday 10 May, all children are expected to wear their full winter uniform. **Please label all items clearly**, especially hats and jackets. Children are responsible for their own belongings. Lost property is placed in a tub in the Undercroft.

### Complaints Handling

The CEDP Managing Complaints policy is available on the CEDP website and [here](#).

### Building Child Safe Communities - Volunteer Undertaking

**As we get back to our 'new normal' after COVID19, we will hopefully be able to welcome our volunteers back to classrooms at some point later in the year. To get us ready for this, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) has launched a new and improved Volunteer Training System, see below for more information.**



### All Volunteers will need to submit a **new** Undertaking in the new system.

In Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP), we see parents and carers as partners in your child's learning journey. Parents and carers are encouraged to become involved in our schools in many important ways such as supporting classroom learning, being part of advisory groups, mentoring programs, coaching sporting teams and supporting other extra-curricular activities, canteen support and other kinds of help. A range of checks and undertakings are required for people who work for or provide services to CEDP. These checks reduce potential risk and form part of our strategy to build child safe communities.

CEDP has launched a new *Building Child Safe Communities* form and online training module that all volunteers are required to complete.

The purpose of this training is to inform you of the standards of behaviour and other requirements that must be adhered to when volunteering for CEDP.

The undertaking should take no more than 5 minutes to complete and the training module approximately 10 minutes. Once the form and training modules are submitted, an automated email will be sent to you within two business days to confirm the status of your submission.

The undertaking form will expire within two years or when your Working With Children Check expires (if applicable), whichever is sooner. At that time you will need to complete the undertaking form and training module again. You will receive an automatic reminder email when this occurs.

Further information on the new online form and training module can be found at [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au) and clicking on *about us/building child safe communities*. Within the form you will also find help sheets and a video tutorial to assist you.

Thank you in advance for your support.

### No Dogs on School Grounds

Just a reminder that dogs are not allowed on school grounds at any time without specific approval, in writing, from the principal. Guide dogs and assistance dogs are given favourable consideration. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in keeping our children safe at all times.





## 2021 School Dates

### Term dates for 2021 for students

Term 2 - Monday 19 April to Friday 25 June

Term 3 - Monday 12 July to Thursday 16 September

Term 4 - Tuesday 5 October to Wednesday 15 December

### Staff Development Days

Each year schools are allocated 6 days for professional learning. These days are used to improve the skills of our teachers, school leaders and school support staff. The opportunity for all staff to be involved in whole school planning and quality professional learning helps to enhance outcomes for our students.

**Our Staff Development Days for 2021 are listed below. There will be no supervision at school on these days.**

Staff Development Days 2021 - No children at School	
Term 2	Friday 11 June
Term 3	Friday 17 September
Term 4	Thursday 16 & Friday 17 December

## COVID19

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. You are asked to take your child for a COVID19 test and your child should remain at home until a negative COVID test is received and sent through to the school office. We understand that this may be difficult but it is in the best interests of the school community as a whole.



## Happy Birthday

*Happy Birthday to all those who celebrated their birthdays recently and who are celebrating in the next few weeks..... Michael S, Isabella M, Madeleine C, Harriet F, Jason B, Annabelle C, Charlotte Z, Romao S, Abigail D, Grace B, Alessia B, Nate B, Jacinta V, Lacey M, Sybella M, Nathanael S, Eloise V, Olivia W, Rose B, Theresa S, Leila S, Lola G, Anthony T, Ruby M, Lucy C, Liam H, Isabella F, Thomas C, Serea H, Charbel C, Isabella O, Marcus P, Heath D, Owen W, Sienna A, Kayla S, Piper H, Joshua E.*

	St Paul Award	Student of the Week
KG	Levi C	Scarlet C
KM	Arrell N	Julian B
1A	Savannah N	Abie K
1I	Frederick S	Scarlett C
2D	Emerald C	Savannah M
2L	Grace H	Khyah P
3L	Georgia S	Samuel H
3P	Elouise D	Marcus B
4H	Anthony E	Olivia B
4PH	Joshua S	Kelly D
5H	Sarah	Gabriel
5L	George	Elias
6R	Owen	Jackson
6LS	Nathan	Andria