



St Paul's Post

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

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Term 1, Week 8

18 March, 2022

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

The devastating floods over the last few weeks have significantly impacted many families in our local school communities. For some this is the second time in two years that they have had their possessions and homes lost or damaged. This situation has also been heartbreaking in many other regions in NSW and Queensland. It is estimated that up to 2,000 homes and businesses have been lost in the Diocese of Lismore with at least four Catholic schools needing to be rebuilt.

The Catholic Education Department Parramatta have declared Friday 18 March to be CEDP Flood Relief Appeal Day with all schools asked to fundraise for this very important cause. It is very heartwarming to know that our school community, ably led by the Mini Vinnies, Scarlett S and Emma D, had already decided to do our own fundraising on Thursday 17 March. Yesterday we celebrated a St Patrick's mufti day with all funds raised going towards the flood appeal. It was beautiful to witness the sea of green and knowing that it was because we, as a community, were doing something to help others in need.

Lent is a time of personal reflection on how we can reach out to help those in need. It is also a time for almsgiving - a moment for us all to go 'into the deep' to stand with those who are suffering. Yesterday St Paul's certainly went "into the deep" to help those in need, raising nearly \$900. Thank you for generosity.



Mrs Kathryn Newman
Acting Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Disabled Parking

We are very fortunate to be able to have the use of the parish car park to aid in the drop off and pick up of our children. Thank you to those parents who are ensuring the safety of our children by following the car park rules. A reminder that the **disabled parking spots** are for use only by drivers who have a disability permit. Please show respect to others by remembering to park in the appropriate spots.



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

Kindergarten Enrolment Applications 2023

Just a reminder that Applications for Kindergarten enrolment 2023 close on Thursday 31 March. We encourage you to get your forms in as soon as possible. If you have friends or family interested in applying please remind them to collect forms from the office.

Today is National Day of Action Against Bullying

Teaching and learning about bullying has an important role in creating a positive school climate. Today all children took part in activities to raise awareness about actions we can take together to prevent bullying in our school. Please support this initiative by also



talking with your children at home about this important issue. St Paul's Community says loud and clear "Bullying - No Way!"

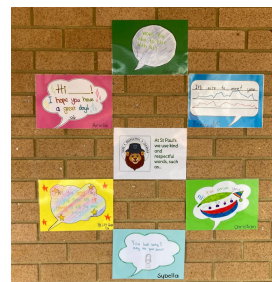
Mrs Johra Brackenbury
Acting Assistant Principal

From the Religious Education Coordinator

Harmony Day

Harmony Day, which is observed each year on March 21, celebrates diversity, aiming to foster inclusiveness, respect and the idea that people of all different cultures can make a valuable contribution to society.

Harmony Day across Australia is traditionally a day to celebrate Australian Multiculturalism and the successful integration of migrants into our community. Australia is one of the most successful multicultural countries in the world and we should celebrate this and work to maintain it. The message **Everyone Belongs** is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all. This is a particularly important message for us to share with our children. Living and working in harmony together is important for families, classrooms, playgrounds and our wider school community. It is important that we work together to teach our children to respect and understand each other and our differences. This message of respect and belonging can be lived by each of us, every day, not just on Harmony Day. It is important that as teachers and parents we work together to build a sense of belonging for all of our students by helping them to develop the skills to work with others, to play cooperatively, to help others, to have a sense of empathy and to work as part of a team.



O' God You create all people in your image. We thank you for the astonishing variety of people and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever widening circles of friendship and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; Through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

2022 Sacramental Programs

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our Year Four students continue to make preparations for their upcoming Sacrament of Reconciliation. An important reminder to parents of children enrolled to make this sacrament to please ensure your child has completed the Student Workbook and bring this with them to their preparation classes. Please make note of the following dates:

Group 1

Preparation Meeting: Sunday 20 March, 2pm -3pm

Prayer Ritual and Sacrament of First Reconciliation: Saturday 26 March, 1:30pm -2:30pm

Group 2

Preparation Meeting: Sunday 27 March, 2pm -3pm

Prayer Ritual and Sacrament of First Reconciliation: Saturday 2 April, 1:30pm -2:30pm

We continue to keep these children in our prayers, and ask for God's blessings and mercy.

Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Registrations for children wishing to make their First Holy Communion will be opening at 9am on Monday 21 March. Registration will be available for children in Year 4, or above, who have (or will have) made their First Reconciliation. Parent and Student Workbooks will be available for collection in the weeks ahead from the Parish Office. Stay tuned for more information!

Holy Week Prayer and Liturgy (Monday 4 April- Friday 8 April)

Holy Week is always a moving and poignant time in our Church's calendar- it is the pinnacle of our faith! That is why, at St. Paul's we believe it is so important that we share Holy Week celebrations with our wider school community.

This year, the children and staff of St. Paul's invite you to join them in a Holy Week prayer beginning Week 11, Monday 4 April.

Prayer will commence daily at 9am on the school playground (with the exception of Friday April 8, which will commence at 2:30pm). All are welcome to attend.



We are encouraging the children to be reverent and respectful during these liturgies so as to make this time meaningful and prayerful. Your support and role modelling is appreciated.

Term 1, Week 11 Monday April 4, 2022	9am	Kindy and Year 1: Jesus our King is Welcomed to Jerusalem
Tuesday April 5, 2022	9am	Year 3: Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet
Wednesday April 6, 2022	9am	Year 4: The Last Supper
Thursday April 7, 2022	9am	Year 2: Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane
Friday April 8, 2022	2:30pm	Year 5: Jesus' Crucifixion and Death
Term 2, Week 1 Tuesday April 26	9am	Year 6: Jesus' Resurrection

Upon our return to school in Term 2, Year 6 will lead our Post-Easter celebrations.

We look forward to coming together as a school community and bearing witness to our faith.

Mrs Liz Sargent
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

From the Leaders of Learning **The Little Scribe Mini Writer's Festival**

St. Paul's will once again take part in Australia's largest online interactive writing festival from 30 May to 3 June. Teachers and children will choose to attend pre recorded author workshops from their favourite Australian authors. Some of Australia's most loved authors taking part in the festival include Jackie French, Andrew Daddo, Deborah Abela, James Foley and Michael King. During each 45 minute workshop children will work with an author on a writing challenge. Children explore a new writing skill each session and are inspired and encouraged to create characters, build scenes, devise mind maps and design book covers. The festival is supported by the Australian Book Council of Australia. This year's Children's Book Council of Australia Book Week theme 'Dreaming with eyes open' will be woven through every session. Teachers have already begun to explore the available resources and plan an engaging, inspiring and fun writing program for Term Two.

The Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L)

St. Paul's PBS4L framework supports positive behaviour. As a school we recognise that positive reinforcement is the most powerful behaviour change. By encouraging and reinforcing students for following the expected behaviours we foster a positive school climate. This week students have received a lion stamp on their 'roar card' to acknowledge when they have used kind words and manners inside the classroom. When students demonstrate a safe, respectful or learner behaviour that shows they have made an effort to meet the PBS4L focus of the week they receive a lion stamp on their roar card. This acknowledgement is handed out by any staff member including the classroom teacher, support teachers and teacher assistants. Once a child in infants receives 10 lion stamps, and a primary student receives 20 stamps they receive recognition through an agreed activity.



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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

Personalised Plans

Every student at St. Paul's has their own goals, strengths and interests. Staff respond to every student and their unique characteristics with high expectations for achievement. Providing personalised learning and targeted support is one way to achieve this. Over the week some families would have received a copy of their child's Personalised Plan. Personalised Plans are documents that record adjustments and differentiated classroom practice that help students participate in the curriculum on the same basis as their peers. Adjustments are regularly reviewed by staff to see if they are still relevant and required and to see if further

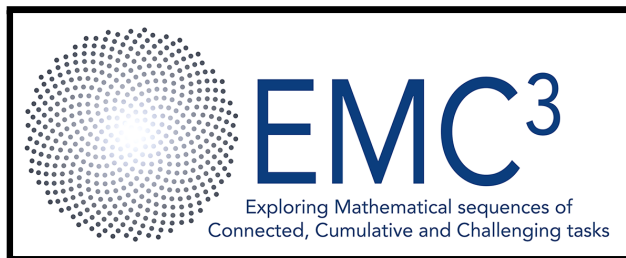
support measures need to be in place. Consultation and collaboration with both students and parents are an important part of personalised planning and support. We look forward to meeting with the parents of some families next week to discuss further support related to curriculum access, behaviour support, participation, medical needs and/or learning support.

Mrs Michelle Brett
Diversity Leader

EMC3 Sequences

This week, we have welcomed Mrs Geraldine Caleta to St. Paul's. Geraldine is a Numeracy Teacher Educator for Catholic Education- Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) and works to support the ongoing professional development of our staff.

This year, our school has been fortunate to be chosen to begin working on a new professional learning project: EMC3. EMC3 is a project funded by the Australian Research Council that explores the "impact of sequences of connected, cumulative, and challenging tasks, which build a trajectory of consolidated learning, on student learning and teacher knowledge. The EMC3 project aims to enhance the cognitive and affective experiences of students when learning mathematics, with the intention of improving learning outcomes." (EMC3, 2022) The body of research is evidence based, and the following highly qualified professionals have worked to develop a series of teaching sequences to connect, cumulate and challenge children in the area of Numeracy. They include: Emeritus Professor Peter Sullivan (Monash University), Professor Janette Bobis (The University of Sydney), Dr Ann Downton (Monash University), Dr Sharyn Livy (Monash University) and Dr James Russo (Monash University) More information about this research project can be found here: <https://www.emc3mathsteaching.com>



This week, under the guidance of Mrs Caleta, staff began the EMC3 journey, initially familiarising themselves with the project, sequences and professional reading. Over the coming weeks, we hope to implement our learning to support the ongoing learning outcomes for all children. An update on Numeracy in our classrooms will be provided at future assemblies and in newsletter items. We thank Mrs Geraldine Caleta, along with the CEDP Numeracy team for supporting our staff in our professional learning.

Mrs Liz Sargent
Leader of Learning

TREADLIGHTLY SCHOOL RECYCLING SHOE DRIVE

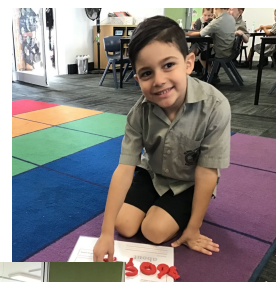
In Week 9, St Paul's will be participating in the 'TreadLightly School Recycling Shoe Drive'.

TreadLightly takes unwanted sports and active lifestyle shoes and gives them new life as retail, gym and playground flooring in an effort to help keep shoes out of landfill. To support this initiative, we invite you to bring in any old or unwanted shoes from home between **21st - 27th March**. We can collect sports and active lifestyle footwear, including slides and thongs. Please note that we cannot collect formal leather school shoes. A full list of the shoes that can and cannot be collected can be found here: <https://treadlightly.asga.com.au/what-we-take/>. There are prizes to be won for the school that collects the most shoes. At the end of the week, we will count how many shoes we have collected as a school community. We appreciate your support in helping our school step up for the planet!



Learning in Year 1

Investigations - Each morning Year 1 participate in play based learning. During investigations students work on developing their communication, problem solving and collaboration skills. There are also opportunities for students to work towards achieving personal goals. Every fortnight, students communicate with the class and work with their teacher. Everyday a variety of stations are set up in the learning space and students have the choice of what they would like to investigate.



Reading groups - This week in reading groups students have been using 'hands on' materials to learn about words. They have enjoyed using play-doh, magnetic letters and mini white boards for this activity.



LIBRARY NEWS - PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE



Welcome to the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge - The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in children, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each child to read, to read more and to read more widely. The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is open to all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 10. The Premier's Reading Challenge officially opened on Monday 28 February, 2022 and will run until Friday, 19 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 User ID's and Passwords in their classrooms in case you cannot remember them. 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 Premier's 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 2 September.

Students must complete a set amount of reading to meet the Challenge, see table below.

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC book lists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9
7-9	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9

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 email the school office at winstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au and your query will be followed up.

General School Information

COVID 19 - Learning Support

If your child is in isolation for seven days because a member of the family has tested positive, the school will support your child's learning through Google Classroom and you will have access to the learning resources provided by Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta which is specific to each grade.

<https://remotelarning.parra.catholic.edu.au/home> If your child is in isolation, and you would like this support, please email winstonhills@parra.catholic.edu.au During this period of isolation, we also encourage our children to read on a daily basis. Children who have tested positive for COVID 19 are encouraged to rest and focus on their recovery.

COVID 19 Back to School Safety

A reminder that if your child tests positive to COVID-19, it's important to let the school know as soon as possible and to notify NSW Health through the Service NSW App.

Looking out for COVID-19 Symptoms

For safety, schools will also be monitoring students' health and asking families to collect students who display COVID-19 symptoms. If they display any symptoms they should take a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) or a PCR test. If the test is negative but symptoms continue, your child **MUST** stay home and take another RAT or PCR test in 24 hours. If that test is also negative, your child may return to school if another diagnosis is confirmed eg Hayfever etc. A medical certificate is required for this.

Please note that if there is a case of COVID-19 in your child's class, year or other grouping, your child can continue to attend school if they have no symptoms, in line with NSW Health advice.

A reminder - Arrival of children in the morning

At the start of the year, it's always important to remind our community that staff are on duty for supervision of children **from 8.25am** and that parents are responsible for their children until teachers go on duty at 8:25am. Students enrolled in, and attending, before and after school care in the separate facility, which

shares part of the school premises, have separate arrival and supervision arrangements with that facility. Students not enrolled in before and after school care are considered to be in the care of parents or carers before 8:25am. Students arriving prior to 8:25am do so at your risk and will not be supervised. The school commences supervision and care for students and permits student arrival on school premises from 8:25am each school day. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

No Smart Watches at school

Students accessing the internet for their learning sign a ICT agreement at the start of every year. It has also been our custom and practice at school to have any students with mobile phones drop them at the office in the morning and collect them in the afternoon. If you need to contact your child urgently, please call the office. **Please be advised that students are not to wear smartwatches to school.** The reason for this is that these watches can be distracting from our core focus on learning, especially if students are receiving and sending messages during school time. These watches also have the capacity to photograph and record, which is not appropriate in a school setting. Other watches such as analog, digital and step measuring watches are acceptable. We thank you for your understanding and support in helping us keep our community safe.

2022 School Terms & Important Dates

Term 1	Friday 28 January - Friday 8 April
Term 2	Tuesday 26 April to Friday 1 July
Term 3	Monday 18 July to Thursday 22 September
Term 4	Monday 10 October to Friday 16 December

Staff Development Days 2022

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. Our days for 2022 are as follows:

Friday 28 January, 2022
Monday 31 January, 2022
Friday 10 June, 2022
Friday 23 September, 2022
Monday 19 December, 2022
Tuesday 20 December, 2022

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all those celebrating their special day in the next few weeks.

Harrison B, Abigail D, William G, Serenity H, Edison M, Callum H, Henry A, Savanah N, Sienna K, Julian F, Oliver N, Maria B, Michael S.

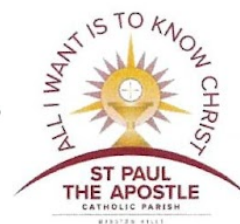
Awards

	St Paul Award	Student of the Week
KA	Sophia K	Kiri G
KM	Cassidy N	Gabriel M
1A	Thea	Elijah
1M	Olivia W	Evie G
2A	Antonio S	Scarlett V
2M	Frederick S	Scarlett S
3A	Grace F	Jordan M
3M	Bridgette B	Michael M
4A	Jessica M	Mackenzie N
4M	Georgia S	Marcus B
5A	Nicholas M.	Selena A.
5M	Ayden C.	Christina A
6A	Dylan B	Theresa S
6M	Maxwell M	Sybella M



Lenten and Easter Services – April 2022

Everyone is welcome to attend the following liturgical services.



Reconciliation

- every Saturday: 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm
- Friday April 1st and 8th (after Stations of the Cross)
- and other times as noted below.

Holy Week and Easter Triduum

Palm Sunday 10th

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm | 8:00 am | 9:30 am * | 5:00 pm

** If weather conditions permit, please assemble in the carpark outside the Parish Centre for a Blessing of Palms procession that commences 9:30am SHARP.*

Monday 11th to Wednesday 13th

Morning Mass: 9:10 am (preceded by Rosary at 8:40am)

Holy Thursday 14th (no morning Mass today)

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 pm (followed by Reconciliation)
Church is open for silent vigil until 10:00pm

Good Friday 15th (no morning Mass today)

Liturgy of the Hour: 9:00 am
Passion of the Lord: 3:00 pm (followed by Reconciliation)
Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday 16th (no morning Mass today)

Reconciliation: 11:00am
Easter Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

Easter Sunday 17th 8:00 am | 9:30 am (there is no evening Mass)

Holy Week Masses livestreamed to Facebook:

Mon to Wed 9.10am | Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday 9:30am

Divine Mercy Novena

Commences and takes place in the Marian Chapel immediately after the Lord's Passion.
Held 3:30pm daily until Saturday April 23rd, in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday on April 24th.

For information and updates please:

visit our Facebook page: facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish
or our website: stpaultheapostleparish.org or phone 9639 6516