



SEPTEMBER 2023

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KEEPING OUR CONNECTIONS

Friday 15th September 2023

Dear Families & Friends of St. Paul's,

As we come to the end of Term 3 I would like to thank you all for your support in educating your children throughout the term. The ten weeks of learning & teaching seem to have 'flown by', with the children having learnt much, managed the winter 'chills & ills' and grown both physically & mentally. I think we are all ready for a rest now and that is what the term holidays will allow us to do - to just slow down and enjoy the warmer weather of Spring.

Spring is a time of new life and longer days; it is a time when we can enjoy the weather getting warmer; and, it is a time to appreciate God's gift of creation - our world. As we come out of the cold & darkness of winter into the newness & freshness of Spring, we are reminded of just how amazing our world is and what a responsibility we have to care for it. Recent global events too are a reminder of just how fragile & unpredictable our world is; an earthquake in Morocco, floods in Libya and wild fires in Europe & Canada - all remind us that we live in a world which provides for us but which also takes from us.

The children have spent this term learning about the amazing gift of God's creation and the responsibility we all have to care for the world which we call home. We all, adults & children, have the responsibility to be good 'Stewards of Creation', in caring for & about the world while we are here; we also have the responsibility to leave that world in a better & livable condition for the generations yet to come.

So, as you all enjoy that warmth of Spring, I hope the break will be an opportunity to once again slow life down, rest up and prepare for the busyness of Term 4 and everything the end of the year brings.

Have a safe, happy & rest-filled holiday everyone.

Denis.

Denis J. Daly
Principal

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

Would you or someone you know like to become Catholic?

Is God inviting you or someone you know to follow Him in the Catholic Church? Have you been baptised Catholic but never confirmed? Our parish's program for adults who desire to be fully initiated in the Catholic Church begins at the end of September. The first session will be held at 9.30am on Saturday 30th September 2023 at St Mary MacKillop Parish Office. For more information and to register please visit www.stmaryoftheassumption.org.au/rcia or call the parish office on 9364 0440 Fr. Marcus Golding.



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS: TERM 4

The School Advisory Council meetings for Term 4 will be held in the staffroom on Tuesday October 10 & Tuesday November 28, at 7.00 pm.



Term 4

WORLD TEACHERS DAY: AUSTRALIA

We will celebrate World Teachers Day – Australia, on Friday October 27. This is an opportunity for students right around Australia to express their gratitude for the great work their teachers do helping them to learn & grow, at school.



HOUSE COLOURS SPORTS DAY

On Monday October 16 we will have our 2024 House Colours Sports Day. The day will be organised & run by staff from Kaboom, a company who work with schools to develop student skills in collaboration, cooperation & teamwork.



Term 4

PREP 2024 ORIENTATION

Orientation for our 2024 Preps will take place across five dates, as follows: Monday November 13; Monday November 20; Monday November 27; Monday December 4; and, Monday December 18 ('Step Up Day' for all students)



TERM 4 SCHOOL CLOSURE: FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3

Our Term 4 school closure will take place on Friday November 3. Staff will continue their professional growth & formation with Education Consultant, Deb Vietri. Deb's focus will again be on Priority 2 of our School Improvement Plan, focussing on 'Student Voice, Agency & Participation', with the associated goal to increase the students' engagement in their learning.



CAMPS: YEAR 4 & YEAR 5

The 2024 Year 5 camp will be held from Wednesday November 15 to Friday November 17, at Cave Hill Creek Camp in Beaufort; and, the Year 4 camp will be held from Wednesday November 22 to Friday November 24, at The Portsea Camp, in Portsea

SCHOOL NURSE VISIT

The School Nurse will conduct a follow up visit with Prep students at St. Paul's next term, on Tuesday October 10.



Term 4

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Our 2024 Christmas Carols & Picnic will be held on the evening of Friday December 8, from 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm. Further details will be provided on our return to school in Term 4.



REPORT WRITING: SCHOOL CLOSURE

The school will be closed on Monday November 6 for teachers to continue the writing of Student Achievement Reports.

TIME IN LIEU ACQUITTAL: SCHOOL CLOSURES

Under the new staff Catholic Education Multi-Enterprise Agreement (the Award), staff accrue time-in-lieu for hours worked outside of the normal school day. These hours may be accrued by staff expected to attend after-hours meetings, weekend school-related events, school camps, etc. The hours must be acquitted (paid back) before the end of the current school year. St. Paul's will acquit accumulated hours to staff on the following days: Monday November 6, Tuesday December 19 & Wednesday December 20. This means the school will be closed on those days





Book Week 2023

'Read! Grow! Inspire!'

Book Week is all about celebrating books as well as authors and illustrators. This year, St Paul's celebrated in style!

Teachers and students alike, enjoyed a fantastic, fun filled week. It was great to see our school community so excited about books.

Leading up to Book Week, in preparation of our author/ illustrator visit, all classroom teachers read various books written and/ or illustrated by Nicky Johnston. During her visit, Nicky wowed us all with her drawing ability and we were delighted with the activities she had organised. The students were engaged throughout her visit. It was an author visit we will remember for many years to come.

During Book Week, we made sure we celebrated the shortlisted books! Each teacher selected one of the books to create an interesting and exciting activity for the students to enjoy during our class rotations. This provided an opportunity for the students to work with different teachers while exploring the texts further. The students also enjoyed listening to the stories which were shared / read before school in the library, each morning.

Another highlight of Book Week was the creative performance by *Story Quest*. As a school, we sat back and relaxed while we enjoyed a captivating performance. The performance, which combined three of this year's shortlisted books, was enjoyed by all.

It was a joy to see the wide variety of book characters appear from our favorite books on the final day of our celebrations. The Book Week Parade allowed students and teachers to parade across the courtyard, displaying their stunning costumes and designs.

From the literacy activities covered in classrooms, our 'Guess The Teacher's Baby Photo' challenge, the Book Scavenger Hunt, imaginative building activity, a visit from a popular author, a riveting performance to a very special Book Week Parade, St Paul's was definitely able to celebrate Book Week 2023 in the best way possible...as a whole school community!

Narelle White & Leanne Polidano

Learning & Teaching Leader Literacy Leader

What's the Buzz at St Paul's

What's the BUZZ in Year 4 in Term 3

By Josie 4AM

In Year Four we have been doing fantastic fun work. We love our work. It's so fun and easy to do work when you learn it!

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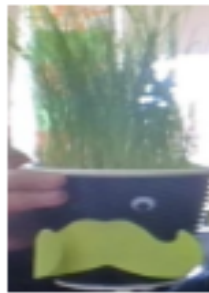
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Maths: In mathematics, we have been learning about fractions, time and conversions. In fractions, we have been focusing on equivalent fractions. We have also been learning how to work out large multiplication problems using two strategies - box method and algorithm. My favourite

is the algorithm.

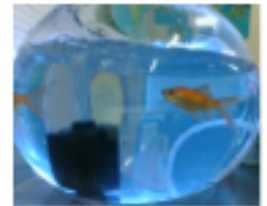
In Religion, we have been learning about the Creation Story. We learnt about different creation stories like the Aboriginal, the Chinese and

the Catholic creation story. In the Catholic creation story, the story was made in a particular order and God said that "it was good." We are God's stewards of creation and we have to look after our planet.



Inquiry: In inquiry, we have been learning about the environment, life cycles, animals, plants and habitats.

We have been learning about all these fun things. In our classroom, we have butterflies, an axolotl, 2 spiny leaf insects and 3 goldfish as our class pets this term, and we need to take care of them.



We have observed the life cycle of a butterfly. We planted some plants, like beans, sunflowers and grass. With the grass, we put googly eyes and a mustache on the cup and when the grass grows it will look like hair! We have also been growing mushrooms and eating

them raw and we made pizza using our mushrooms. The pizza we made was delicious!



Excursions and Incursions: This term we went to the Melbourne Zoo and saw all the animals. We also had an incursion where a lady came with lots of different Australian animals. I got to touch and pet lots of animals including a koala!



Dates 2023

TERM 3: MONDAY JULY 10 TO FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15

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- Monday August 21: School Closure – Staff Professional Learning
- Monday August 21 – Friday August 25: Book Week – ‘Read! Grow! Inspire!’
- Wednesday August 23: Author and illustrator, Nicky Johnston will visit the students
- Monday August 28: Book Week Parade
- Monday August 28: WAY TOO COOL performance
- Monday August 28: MACS School Improvement Surveys open
- Wednesday August 30 & Thursday August 31: Fathers’ Day Stall
- Friday September 1: Fathers’ Day Breakfast
- Tuesday September 5: School Advisory Council Meeting
- Friday September 15: Footy Colours Day & Sausage Sizzle
- Friday September 15: MACS School Improvement Surveys close
- Friday September 15: Term 3 ends

TERM 4: MONDAY OCTOBER 2 TO WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20

- Monday October 2: Term 4 starts
- Friday October 27: Mission Mass
- Monday November 6: School Closure – Report Writing
- Tuesday November 7: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
- Monday November 13: Prep 2024 – Orientation Session 1
- Wednesday November 15 – Friday November 17: Year 5 Camp – Cave Hill Creek
- Monday November 20: Prep 2024 – Orientation Session 2
- Wednesday November 22 – Friday November 24: Year 4 Camp – Portsea
- Monday November 27: Prep 2024 – Orientation Session 3
- Monday December 4: Prep 2024 – Orientation Session 4
- Thursday December 14: Year 6 Graduation
- Friday December 15: End-of-Year Mass / Year 6 students finish/ Year 6 Farewell Guard of Honour
- Monday December 18: Step Up Day
- Monday December 18: Prep to Year 5 Students finish
- Wednesday December 20: Staff finish / Office closes

