

29 January 2020



Dear Parents and Caregivers of Year 6 Students

Welcome back to a new year at St Paul's for 2020. We hope that every family had a safe and relaxing holiday, and that you are all refreshed for Year 6! The teaching team for this term will consist of Mr Dom Riley, Mrs Deborah Cottrell and Mrs Julia Bowman. Mr Riley will be full time in the learning space and Mrs Cottrell will be job sharing with Mrs Bowman, working 4 days per week and Mrs Bowman 1 day per week. We would like to welcome Mrs Julie Boustead as the Year 6 Learning Assistant. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a gifted and skilled individual such as Julie working with us. We are excited with the range of strengths and passions in our teaching team and look forward to working with your child on their learning journey.

We would like to invite you all to a **Parent Information Evening** on Monday 10 February starting at 5:45pm in the Year 6 Agile Learning Lab. This opportunity will provide an overview of Year 6 in 2020. If you are unable to attend, we will send home an information booklet containing the information discussed.

This year swimming lessons will run in Weeks 2 and 3 (Monday 3 February to Friday 14 February) for 40 minutes per day. The students will be away from school from 11:15am to 12:25pm. This will be held at the King Street Swimming Pool. All students are expected to take part in the swimming lessons and come prepared with swimmers, a rash shirt, a towel, thongs and goggles (if desired) in a bag. Swimming caps will be provided by the school.

Other important dates this term will include:

- Years 3 to 6 Swimming Carnival at King Street Swimming Pool – Friday 31 January
- Staff Dedication Service at St. Paul's Chapel – 9:30am, Sunday 2 February
- Cyber Safety and Bullying Presentation – Monday 3 February
- District Swimming Carnival – Wednesday 12 February
- Year 6 Student Leadership Day – Monday 17 February (at St Paul's)
- Inter-Lutheran Swimming Carnival – Friday 14 February
- Student Leaders Induction at Senior Assembly – Thursday 20 February
- Parents Workshop VSC for Parent Volunteers – 2:00pm and 6:00pm, Tuesday 3 March
- Photo Day 1 – Thursday 5 March
- Prep to Year 6 Inter-House Cross Country – Monday 18 March
- Parent Conversations – 4:00pm – 8:00pm, Thursday 2 April
- Pupil Free/Parent Conversations, 8:00am – 12:00pm on Friday 3 April

In Christian Studies in Term 1, our topic will ask the question, *What is the purpose of life?* This unit will enable students to investigate and understand that a strong healthy self-concept derives from a relationship with God and a positive community life. The continuing development of self-identity involves examining the purpose of life and the contribution that can be made to others. This shapes how relationships are conducted and decisions about personal direction and action.

For our first Inquiry unit (with a main focus on History), the students will be asking the questions, "How have experiences of democracy and citizenship differed between groups over time?", and, "How have key figures, events and values shaped Australian society, its system of government and citizenship?" The students will explore the factors that led to Federation and the different attitudes to Federation and citizenship. Through studies of people's experiences of democracy and citizenship, the students will consider the significance of events, ideas and people's contributions in influencing the development of Australia's system of government.

For our second Inquiry unit (with a main focus on Science), the students will consider the effects drought, flooding and bushfires have on living and non-living aspects of our environment. They will explain the location, frequency and severity of these natural disasters in Australia. They will then explore a number of ways that prevention and preparedness minimises harmful long- and short-term effects of these disasters.

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In English, we will continue with our *Daily 5* program which will cover writing, spelling and reading. We will have formal and informal opportunities for the students to develop their public speaking and presentation skills.

Finally, in Health we will practise skills to establish and manage relationships, and examine the influence of emotional responses on behaviour and relationships. We will also investigate the role of preventative health in promoting and maintaining health, safety and well-being.

There will be a strong emphasis on presentation of work in class, as well as tasks to be completed at home. If work presented is unsatisfactory, students will be required to redo it. This will be discussed in more detail at the Parent Information Evening.

Students are reminded that they are required to check and pack their schoolbags daily so that they are organised with the necessary items to begin each day. They will need to bring a **freshly cleaned and filled water bottle** and **hat** each day, especially on Tuesday which is our P.E. day. We hope to see all students participate in *Crunch & Sip*, which should consist of fruit or vegetables cut into pieces for easiness sake (no dips please). Please also remember our school's **Peanut and Tree Nut Free** Zone Policy.

Here is a daily breakdown of what students should be prepared for:

Mondays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal Uniform Day
Tuesdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Uniform Day P.E and Music lessons
Wednesdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Uniform Day Senior Chapel – 8.35am; if your child wishes to bring an offering for our school charity it will be collected today
Thursdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal Uniform Day Senior Assembly – 8.35am Japanese and Library
Fridays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Uniform Day Senior Sport
Everyday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water bottles, Crunch & Sip, hats, iPad (fully charged every day!) Mobile phones to be handed in to the office before school each morning

As we have a strong open door policy we encourage any parents who may have queries or concerns about their child to make an appointment to discuss the matter as soon as it arises with their teacher. Email is the best way to communicate with us. Our e-mail addresses for parent contact are driley@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au, dcottrell@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au and jbowman@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au.

We are looking forward to having a successful and rewarding year working with you and your child.

May God's blessings be with you all,

Dom Riley, Deb Cottrell and Julia Bowman

Year 6 Agile Learning Lab Teachers