

31 January 2019



Dear Parents and Caregivers of Year 6 Students

Welcome back to a new year at St Paul's for 2019. We hope that every family had a safe and relaxing holiday, and that you are all refreshed for Year 6! We would like to welcome Mrs. Julie Boustead as the Year 6 Teacher Assistant, and Mrs. Peta Hare and Mrs. Linda Larkin as the Year 6 Learning Support Assistants. We are incredibly fortunate to have these gifted and skilled individuals working with us.

We would like to invite you all to a **Parent Information Night** on Monday 11 February starting at 5:45pm and ending at 6:45pm in the Year 6 Agile Learning Lab. This opportunity will provide an overview of Year 6 in 2019.

This year swimming lessons will run in Weeks 2 and 3 (Monday 4 February to Friday 15 February, excluding Tuesday, 5 February) for 40 minutes per day (80min on Friday 15 February). This will be held at the King Street Swimming Pool. Letters containing further information about this will be sent home to you if you were unable to complete them on FAD Day. 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:

- Staff Dedication Service at St. Paul's Chapel, 9:30am on Sunday 3 February
- Year 6 Student Leadership Day, Tuesday 5 February at St Paul's
- District Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 13 February
- Chocolate Fundraising Drive begins on Wednesday 20 February
- Inter-House Swimming Carnival : Friday 22 February
- Parents Workshop VSC for Parent Volunteers, 1:30pm and 6:00pm on Tuesday 5 March
- Cyber-Safety Week from Monday 11 March to Friday 15 March
- Inter-Lutheran Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 12 March
- Photo Day 1 on Thursday 14 March
- Gala Day 1 on Friday 15 March
- Inter-House Cross Country on Monday 18 March
- Chocolate Fundraising Drive money due back on Thursday 21 March
- Gala Day 2 on Friday 29 March
- Music Showcase, Tuesday 2 April
- Parent Conversations, 4:00pm – 8:00pm on Thursday 4 April
- Pupil Free/Parent Conversations, 8:00am – 12:00pm on Friday 5 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 Integrated Studies unit, the students will be asking the question, "How has Australia developed as a society with global connections, and what is my role as a global citizen?" The students will explore the diverse environments, peoples and cultures within the Asia region and at a global level and expand their mental map of the world. Students will examine Australia's various connections with other countries and places throughout the world, how these are changing, and the effects of these interconnections.

In Science in Term 1, the students will explore how energy is used to make changes in their world, including energy from the sun, water and wind. They will be introduced to alternative energy sources and investigate how to use electricity efficiently in order to reduce the burning of fossil fuels.

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

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 Night.

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 filled water bottle** and **hat** each day, especially on Tuesday which is our P.E. day.

For Term 1, the whole school will be trialling a change to the eating and playing times. At Morning Tea, the students will now be playing between 10:50am and 11:20am, and eating between 11:20am and 11:30am. At Lunch, the students will now be playing between 12:50pm and 1:20pm, and eating between 1:20pm and 1:30pm. Because of these changes, it is now even more important for students to participate in *Crunch and Sip* around 10am. 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, hats, iPad (fully charged every day!) • Earphones bought as part of the stationary order are to be left at school • 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 rbellert@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au, driley@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au and hbaker@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,

Ray Bellert, Dom Riley and Hayley Baker
Year 6 Agile Learning Lab Teachers