

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Week 6

26 May 2020

St Paul's Lutheran Church Services Sunday are NOW ONLINE.

If you have questions about the Christian Faith, please contact Pastor Mike on 0421 131 965 or 5432 4419

Diary Dates

2020

Tuesday 9 June

P&F Executive Meeting, 3.15pm (Cancelled)

Wednesday 10 June

School Officer Day

Thursday 25 June

Students finish Term 2

Friday 26 June

Student Free Day - Report Proofing

Monday 13 July

Student Free Day - Staff First Aid Training

Tuesday 14 July

Students begin Term 3

Wednesday 15 July

Semester 1 Reports available on Parent Lounge 3.00pm

Emerging from Hibernation

Our PM has suggested that we're emerging from hibernation. Everyone back at school this week is another step out of a shutdown. This is a global challenge and we're all together in this. Celebrating the special week this is for St. Paul's, it seems appropriate to enjoy the following words that St. Paul wrote: (Letter to Romans 8:31-39):



What can we say about all this? If God is on our side, can anyone be against us? God did not keep back his own Son, but he gave him for us. If God did this, won't he freely give us everything else? ... Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble, suffering, and hard times... danger and death?

No! In everything we have won more than a victory because of Christ who loves us. I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future, and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Pastor Mike

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It's my pleasure to welcome back everyone to living and learning at St Paul's again! We have really missed seeing and having all the students being part of classroom learning, specialist lessons, morning tea and lunch time play, the daily greetings, smiles, conversations and social interaction – if anything, the Covid-19 restrictions have reminded me that we are wired as social beings and need to be part of face-to-face social interaction. I have been humbled by the incredibly positive feedback, acknowledgements and thanks expressed by so many families for the high quality of the Distance Learning Program provided across all year levels. Many families have also expressed their appreciation for the daily and weekly pastoral care focus which has been part of our online learning platform. I thank all the staff and other support people who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to deliver the high quality of these programs and services.

This week's newsletter also allows me to personally acknowledge and thank every family for the way in which you have embraced, made sacrifices, kept motivating, showed great patience and perseverance but very importantly grew with us as we together navigated our way through our Distance Learning Program. Just as our teachers initially felt overwhelmed when the theory and planning behind Distance Learning was put into practice, I am sure that you as the parent body also went through a similar journey – what an incredible growth mindset journey we have all been on as a school community!

The next step in our journey is to now charter a new course for all our students, parents, teachers and learning assistants post Covid-19. It would be a travesty if we just "locked away" the many learning successes which have come from our online learning platform and go back to same old, same old! The Passion Project initiative has allowed the children to focus on hobbies and interests and just like the Scandinavians, we can now embrace this aspect of daily life as having a positive impact on a person's wellbeing and quality of life. The future job market will continue to demand and be characterized by constant change and our children are now better equipped to seeing themselves as succeeding in an uncertain future – a growth of the soft-skills which are at the core of our agile learning mindset and philosophy at St Paul's. Increased one-on-one time with your children has provided families the opportunities to eldership, where parents can share their wisdom and vulnerabilities with the children.

As a school, we are also currently going through the exercise of reflecting on what parts of online learning now need to be consistently built into and be part of the daily learning program. I think for most of us there was never a direct resistance to using technology, but more of an uncertainty of how the regular use of technology will consistently benefit student learning positively. In order for us to get this mix right, we will also be debriefing with the students and you the parents about which parts of the online learning platform worked well and best for them. Next week we will send out a quick 5 minute survey [2 questions] to every family asking you for feedback about which aspect you and your child[ren] enjoyed working on and which parts of the distance learning platform you would like to see continue as part of your child's learning at St Paul's.



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome to St Paul's the Magennis, Rosie and O'Brien families who have joined us over the past few weeks. We look forward to a rich and transparent working relationship with you as we together grow and nurture your child[ren] over the coming years.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy week.

Yours in Christ

Anton Prinsloo
Principal

Quote of the Week: "Don't be afraid of change because it is leading you to a new beginning."
[Joyce Meyer]

PS: I'm still trying to work out what all the fuss was about toilet paper!

FROM THE DEPUTY

Welcome Back

It is nice to have all our families back now. We really did miss you. But we thank you for your support.

Named Uniform

Please make sure that all uniform items are named, especially jumpers and jackets. With the cooler mornings, many students come to school wearing jumpers or jackets and take them off as the day warms up. If the item is named it can be returned to the right owner. This unfortunately is not the case if unnamed.

Toys/Sports Equipment at school

Students are NOT allowed to bring toys or sports equipment to school unless it is for some sort of presentation etc in the classroom. We do not want much loved toys or expensive sports equipment being lost or damaged.

Home Folders

All students should take their Home Folder to and from school every day. Students are asked to put their iPad in their Home Folder as well as any Home Learning.

Canned Food

We ask that you do not send any food to school in pull top cans. The sharp edges are seen to be a risk to the students.



Chappy Week

This week is CHAPPY WEEK. We are very grateful for Chappy Teneille and all that she does for our community. Please remember to thank her when you see her on campus during this week - Wednesday and Thursday.



Glad Centre is open.

Once resources have been returned they will be put in a 3 day holding pattern before being allowed back on the shelves. This is a quarantine procedure that will allow sufficient time for any contaminated resources and surfaces to self neutralise. Social distancing markers have been put in place at the Returns Desk. Extra cleaning of shared spaces will also be happening.

We look forward to being able to offer our students borrowing again from the GLAD Centre. If you have any questions about this, please contact our Deputy Principal, Mrs Kube.

Drop- Off and Pick -Up Zone

Thank you for your patience and co-operation with the Drop- Off and Pick -Up Zone as we refine the process now that all students have returned. Please remember that students are not permitted to walk across the carpark by themselves and students are to get in and out of the car on the kerbside. The driver is to remain in the car. If you need to help your child, then it might be best for you to park and collect them.

Lois Kube
Deputy Principal

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Enrolments

We are accepting applications for PREP 2021. If you have a school age student or know anyone who does, please make contact with the school office to obtain enrolment information. We have a school age calculator on our website home page or via this link: <http://stpaulslps.qld.edu.au/age-calculator-book-a-tour/> .

Uniform Shop

At this time we will be accepting orders for uniform items via Flexischools and over the phone to the school office. When your order has been processed we will deliver the items to the classroom for your student to bring home. If you are unsure of sizes please let the school office know and we will have them try the item on before we send it home. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to opening the Uniform Shop as soon as we can.

Ian Bloxham
Business Manager



FROM THE HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge has begun. The Challenge runs from now until 28th August.

- Students in P-2 need to read (or experience) 20 books.
- Students in Years 3-4 need to read 20 books.

Students in Years 5-6 need to read 15 books.

Books will be logged on See Saw, with an activity that has been set up especially for your child to record the books they read. At the end of the challenge, students will receive a certificate from the Queensland Premier.



Last year, Year 2 had the most books read, with one student reading over 400 books in the 3 month period! How many books will we read as a school this year? We look forward to seeing every student engaged in the challenge and setting their own personal best records for reading.

Happy Reading!



iPad Screen Time

As per previous notice to parents, Peta Hare will be rolling out Screen Time restrictions that restrict access to home games, Face Time and iMessage during school hours. This is being done to ensure that iPads are being used as a learning tool only during schools hours.

Emma Bird
Head of Teaching and Learning



KINDERGARTEN

Please help spread the word, Pre-Kindy is taking enrolments for 2021. Places are filling fast so please contact us to book your place asap. We look forward to speaking to you soon.

Sam Beaman
Service Leader



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Last week we received a thank you from one of the families who received the Good Samaritan Shoe Boxes for Christmas.

The message read:

Hello, I'm Fhuna, mother of the two kids, a 3 year old and a 7 year old who received your love and kindness through sending them a gift. Thank you for your thoughts and care.
God bless you all and thank you for these wonderful things.



Chappy Teneille Kirby



The recent home-schooling experience of Australian students is about to end with most states and territories transitioning kids back to school. For parents, many of whom have discovered just how complex teaching can be, the return to school will be a welcome relief. For children, going back to school may bring a mixed bag of feelings. Eager anticipation about reconnecting with friends and teachers will probably be accompanied by a level of anxiety about what school may be like upon return.

School undoubtedly will be a different experience for students post COVID-19. For a start they've just experienced a prolonged period of remote learning and an absence from their friends, which will take time to process when they return to school.

With organised extra-curricular activities put on hold most children have had a great deal of free time, which has placed the locus of control firmly in their hands. I suspect many kids will grieve their lack of freedom, as they've had a glorious glimpse of what an unstructured life is like. It may take some time for them to get back into the swing of school life.

With the return to school imminent here are some sensible strategies to make adjustment easier for students.

Get ready for a return

Worriers and anxious types in particular like to know what's ahead so your approach will make a difference. Prepare your child for a return by discussing the safety procedures the school will be implementing. Let young children know that an adult won't be accompanying them past the school gate. Ask your child what they are looking forward to and check in with how they are feeling about a return. Validate any fears and apprehensions and correct any misconceptions.

Go slowly

This period will mirror the start of the school year when your child had to adjust to new teachers, different classmates and a new year level. Adjusting to change takes a great deal of personal energy, so your child or young person may become tired, grumpy, even moody at home. Make allowances for these personal changes and make sure they have plenty of free time to unwind after school.

Focus on reconnection

Make reconnection the theme for your child's return to school. He or she will have to reconnect with friends, teachers and learning, which takes time. In all likelihood, your child's teachers will use many strategies to help your child connect with their friends, reflect on their time at home and move them back into full-time learning mode. Support these activities and keep your learning expectations for your child in check.

It may take the rest of the term for some children to adjust to their life back at school.

Stay calm

Anxiety is very contagious, so it's easy for us as parents to take on our children's worries and fears. The reverse is true, and kids can pick up our worries, taking them on as their own. As a buffer against anxiety ensure you do something each day that brings you some joy, whether it's listening to music, going for a walk or having a coffee with a friend.

Look after yourself

In recent months parents and teachers have been doing significant emotional labour. The learning and adjustment curves have been massive, with little time to relax and take a break. Consider your own emotional resources and make your wellbeing a priority, which will make it easier for you to stay calm if your child experiences difficulties.

Communicate confidence

It's a fine line that many parents walk between being flippant ('you'll be right') and showing confidence ('you'll do okay') when kids struggle to adjust to change. My research into childhood anxiety reveals that children and young people want parents and teachers to understand their fears and anxieties, and to coach them to negotiate difficulties including adjusting to change. You can support your child through sharing stories of resilience, focusing on the positives and letting them know that will eventually adjust.

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown up many difficulties requiring us all to quickly adapt to new situations. Flexibility is a prime characteristic of resilient people, so if nothing else, getting through these challenging times will make us all more resilient.

SCHOOL TIMES

8.00am

Students Supervised

8.20am

Warning Bell to Classes

8.30am

Learning Begins

10.50am - 11.30am

Morning Recess

12.50pm - 1.30pm

Lunch

3.00pm

End of School Day

**ALLERGY SAFE
AREA**

NO NUTS

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Senior Assembly Postponed

Thursday 8.35am

Junior Assembly Postponed

Friday 1.30pm

CHAPEL TIMES

Senior Chapel Postponed

Wednesday 8.35am

Junior Chapel Postponed

Wednesday 9.05am

Let's be  friends

@StPaulsLutheranPrimary School

@StPaulsLutheranKindy

@SPLCCaboolture

Join the P&F closed group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SPLPSPandF/>

UNIFORM SHOP

Wednesdays

8.00am-9.00am

& 2.30pm-3.30pm

Fridays

8.00am-9.00am

Orders can be submitted online on Flexischools and delivered to students on uniform shop days.