



Friday 20 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great excitement that I welcome you to St Paul's this year. If we didn't get to touch base at our GEM Day this morning, I hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable holiday break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new school year. Whether you are an existing family or a new family preparing to transition into our community, our wonderful staff look forward to connecting with you in the year ahead. I would like to share some important information with you all as we prepare to welcome the students back to school on Monday 23 January 2023.

STAFFING NEWS

I am very pleased to announce our Teaching Team for 2023.

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| Prep | Mrs Ruth Byers and Mrs Lianie Kriel |
| Year 1 | Miss Emily Jones and Mrs Zoe Matthews/ Mrs Julia Bowman |
| Year 2 | Mr Liam Beddall and Mrs Danielle Morris/ Mrs Amanda Walker |
| Year 3 | Mrs Carol MacFarlane, Miss Jenelle Cross and Mrs Jessica Tremayne |
| Year 4 | Miss Amanda Seemann and Mrs Michelle Hughes |
| Year 5 | Mr Adam Carrinton and Mrs Cathy Henderson/ Mrs Jessica Gillespie |
| Year 6 | Mr Jake Randall, Mrs Lynda Witham, Miss Selena Freshwater |
| Music | Mrs Lissa Sullivan-Ward |
| Japanese | Mrs Lana Harding |
| PE | Mrs Kathryn Mueller |
| The Arts | Mrs Marnie Ferguson |
| Learning Support | Mrs Laurinda Kadel (Prep – Yr 3) and Mrs Katrina Russell (Yrs 4 – 6) |
| Head of Teaching and Learning | Mrs Emma Bird |
| Deputy Principal | Mrs Marcia Jealous |
| Principal | Mrs Katrina Valencia |

Staffing Announcements

As you may have noticed above, Mrs Carol Ellwood notified the school at the end of the year that she was unable to continue in her role as Specialist Music teacher and Arts @ St Pauls Coordinator as she is needing to relocate to the southside of Brisbane to provide support and care for her parents. Mrs Ellwood was sad not to be able to see the children to say farewell, however, circumstances changed quite rapidly for her and her family. I know you join me in wishing Mrs Ellwood every blessing as she relocates, cares for her family and seeks employment closer to her parents.

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I am delighted to announce that Mrs Lissa Sullivan-Ward has accepted the position of Specialist Music Teacher and Arts @ St Pauls Coordinator. Mrs Sullivan-Ward comes with extensive experience in Music teaching, performing arts and tutoring across Independent Schools in Queensland, most recently teaching Music at St Peter's Lutheran College. Mrs Bird and Mrs Duggan will be carrying out an Arts @ St Pauls handover throughout the first few weeks of the term as they assist Mrs Sullivan-Ward in transitioning into the coordination role.

Due to personal circumstances, Mrs Kat Higgins has requested a period of leave during Term 1. Many of you would be aware that Mrs Higgins husband is extremely unwell, and it is important at this time that she focus her time and energy on supporting him through his ongoing treatments and care. We continue to keep Mrs Higgins and her husband in our prayers as they face this challenging time.

To provide as much stability as possible for our Year 1 students, I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Zoe Matthews and Mrs Julia Bowman have agreed to teach Year 1 for as long as necessary to support the students, Miss Jones and Mrs Higgins at this time. Mrs Matthews will be well known to you as one of our fabulous Prep teachers from 2022, and Mrs Bowman has worked in and supported students at St Paul's for well over 15 years.

Mrs Cathy Henderson (Year 5) will be reducing her hours in 2023 from full time work to four days a week, due to personal circumstances. Joining the Year 5 team will be Mrs Jessica Gillespie who taught our Year 3 students in 2023. Mrs Gillespie is an experienced Senior Primary educator and will bring many strengths to our Year 5 team.

UNIFORMS

Students in Year 1 – 6 are to wear their full Formal Uniform on Monday 23 January as we begin our new school year. In 2023, your child's uniform days have been allocated in line with our Specialist timetable for PE lessons. Prep students will continue to wear their Sports Uniform five days a week.

As a rule, all students will wear their **Formal Uniform on Monday** and their **Sport Uniform on Friday**. For your convenience, we have included each year levels uniform days below.

| Year level | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Prep | Sport | Sport | Sport | Sport | Sport |
| Year 1 | Formal | Sport | Formal | Sport | Sport |
| Year 2 | Formal | Formal | Sport | Sport | Sport |
| Year 3 | Formal | Formal | Sport | Sport | Sport |
| Year 4 | Formal | Sport | Formal | Sport | Sport |
| Year 5 | Formal | Formal | Sport | Sport | Sport |
| Year 6 | Formal | Sport | Formal | Sport | Sport |

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BRING YOUR OWN IPAD – YEAR 1 TO YEAR 6

Students in Year 1 to 6 will **not** require their iPads during Week 1. Should students bring them to school, they will remain in their pigeonholes until the end of each day. During this week, students and their teachers will be focussing on classroom routines, 'getting to know you' activities, cyber safety expectations and general development tasks to see where students are at in key areas such as Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Parents will receive a communication from Mrs Jealous (Deputy Principal) and Mr Hollands (IT Manager) outlining the beginning of the year procedures and expectations for devices. All parents will have received their iPad onboarding handout, with their child's book pack. Parents will need to complete this onboarding process **before** their child brings their iPad to school. As you are onboarding the device, you will be asked to agree to the terms and conditions of use of ICT's, including acceptable use of the school's Wi-Fi network before being able to onboard your child's device.

Further information to come in Week 1.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Following feedback from our families, we have decided to return to a PDF format for our fortnightly school newsletter which will simply be called – '[News@StPauls](#)'. The school newsletter will be in a 2-page, back-to-back format and will include a short devotion, Principal's or Executive message, a date claimers section and a space to advertise whole school key events that may be coming up. We will endeavour to keep it short, sharp, and relevant to assist busy families. The school newsletter will be sent to families in digital format only as St Paul's looks towards more sustainable practices, however, its format will make it easy for families to print if required.



Further to the fortnightly school newsletter, our all-star teaching team will be producing, and making available in digital format, a fortnightly class newsletter, aptly titled – '[The Inside Story](#)'. This newsletter will be year level specific, usually only one page long, and will include all important year level information. This will be distributed through SeeSaw.

[News@StPauls – Fortnightly \(even weeks\)](#)

[The Inside Story – Fortnightly \(odd weeks\)](#)

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

We will be trialling a new format for our Year Level Information Evening in 2023. Our goal is to combine our classroom information sessions, with an opportunity for parents and staff to meet and mingle as a community. Our Parent Information Evening will be held on **Thursday 2 February** and the format will be as follows:

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|-----------------|--|
| 5:00pm – 6:00pm | Session 1 |
| 6:00pm – 6:30pm | <u>Meet and Mingle</u> on the green and in the Undercover Area |
| 6:30pm – 7:30pm | Session 2 |

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On this evening, each year level will present their class information during Session 1 and Session 2. This will allow parents to choose which session they attend, and for parents with two or more children, it will allow them to attend Session 1 for one child and Session 2 for another, or even double up on sessions if both parents are able to attend. We are hoping that this new format will limit the number of nights families need to organise babysitting, will value our staff time with their families and will allow us to gather early in the year as a community. Classroom teachers will also be making their PowerPoint presentations available to parents through Parent Lounge.



INSTALLATION OF STAFF

Parents are invited to join with the community of St Paul's church as we install new staff into their positions for 2023, and bless all staff for their continued service to our students and families. The service will be held on Sunday 12 February at 9am in the Church. We hope to see you there.

We look forward to seeing you all bright and early on Monday 23 January as we begin Term 1. 2023 should be an exciting year and we are delighted to be walking alongside you and your child/ren on this journey.

Every best wish for a wonderful year.

Katrina Valencia
Principal

St Paul's Lutheran Primary School 2023 Dates



Term Dates

| | | |
|--------|---|------------|
| Term 1 | Monday 23 January – Thursday 30 March | (10 weeks) |
| Term 2 | Monday 17 April – Friday 16 June | (9 weeks) |
| Term 3 | Monday 10 July – Friday 15 September | (10 weeks) |
| Term 4 | Tuesday 3 October – Wednesday 29 December | (9 weeks) |

School Holidays

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|-----------------|---|
| Easter Holidays | Saturday 1 April – Sunday 16 April |
| Winter Holidays | Saturday 17 June – Sunday 9 July (including five Pupil Free Days) |
| Spring Holidays | Saturday 16 September – Monday 2 October |

Public Holidays

** Denotes public holiday within school holiday break.*

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Thursday 26 January | Australia Day |
| Friday 7 April | Good Friday* |
| Monday 10 April | Easter Monday* |
| Tuesday 25 April | ANZAC Day |
| Monday 1 May | Labour Day |
| Monday 14 August | Moreton Bay Show Day (EKKA) |
| Monday 2 October | Queen's Birthday* TBC |

Student Free Days

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday 31 March | Parent Teacher Conference Day |
| Monday 19 – Friday 23 June | Staff Planning Days |
| Thursday 30 Nov – Friday 1 Dec | Staff Planning Days |

***These dates are accurate as at 20 January 2023.*