

# Building Bright *Futures*



# **NEWS @ ST PAUL'S**

Term 2, Week 6, 2025

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# Curiosity, Wonder, and Teamwork: The Magic of Our Outdoor Play Spaces

At St Paul's Lutheran Primary School, our outdoor play areas are much more than places to run and have fun. They are vibrant learning environments where curiosity blossoms, creativity flows, and teamwork shines.

One of the highlights is our mud kitchen, a place where children dive into sensory-rich play. Mixing mud, leaves, flowers, and water, students become chefs, scientists, and storytellers. What might look like messy fun is actually powerful learning: role play, problem-solving, and social skills all come to life with every "mud pie" or "leaf lasagna" created.

Nearby, our sand pits and elaborate water courses invite even more collaboration and exploration. Here, students work together to design channels, dams, and flowing waterways, experimenting with how water moves and changes course. These projects encourage children to communicate, test ideas, and come up with creative solutions. Questions like, "How can we make the water flow faster?" and "What happens if we block this path?" spark real scientific thinking and teamwork.

Through these interactive play experiences, students engage deeply with nature and each other. They develop critical thinking, resilience, and a love for discovery.

At St Paul's, we believe that play is a powerful teacher. Every day, in our outdoor play spaces, our students are exploring, imagining, and collaborating one adventure at a time.









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# From the Deputy Principal (Operations) - Mr Matt Nicholls

#### Taking Risks – Part 2

Last time we unpacked classroom risk taking for learning. This time, in Part 2, I'd like to unpack the positive effect of risk taking **IF** we are prepared to embrace the mistakes. Lets start by acknowledging, none of us like to get it wrong. We might feel embarrassed, judged, incompetent, ridiculed and lacking in confidence. By essence, it's a perception that because I'm not familiar with the task, there is no point me trying, because I'll clearly fail. No. To fail is great. I love the positive quote "To Fail: First Attempt In Learning". Trying is the first step in our journey.



It's said that Thomas Edison 'failed' 1000 times. He says, he didn't fail 1000 times, he found 999 ways that didn't work. But then found one that did work.

Cue a football reference: From my 35 years coaching at every possible level, the most common 'mistake' I encountered (even from some professionals) was not taking the risk on their weaker foot.

'Why didn't you take the shot?'

'Because it was my left foot!'

How do you know it won't work? Anything can happen. Lucky bounce, ricochet, defensive mistake, or you might even just hit it sweet and surprise yourself – hey I did it! The great Canadian Hockey legend, Wayne Gretzky once famously said, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." How true! If you don't shoot, you don't know what might have been. If you shoot and miss, you've just missed, but you can probably work out what caused the miss, so the next one has a better chance of success. The result: we learn from it!

There is not a successful person who didn't make possibly hundreds of mistakes (or had hundreds of rejections) on

their path to discovery and achievement. Be inspired by the failures of these icons:

One of the most famous basketball players of all time was dropped from his high school team. He said: "I have missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I have lost almost 300 games. On 26 occasions I have been entrusted to take the game-winning shot, and I missed. I have failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." Michael Jordan.



Image: Unsplash



Image: Unsplash

A certain movie director was trying to get funding for his sci-fi idea. The film was rejected by several Hollywood studios before 20th Century Fox agreed to take a risk on his vision. A chaotic, expensive and long shoot made it seem like a mistake. The first edit was a disaster, a small viewing was shown to friends. They hated it and it was a mess. He went back, re-shot some scenes, spent more money he didn't have on effects, re-edited, then got lucky with getting the best composer around to add the music score. He was determined to realise his vision and used those mistakes to make it what it became. The movie...Star Wars!!

How's that for evidence of risk taking?



## From the Deputy (Curriculum) - Mrs Emma Bird

#### Every Child, Every Day: Creating Strong Readers

At St Paul's, we believe that every child deserves the opportunity to grow as a confident, capable reader. A powerful article by educators Richard Allington and Rachael Gabriel, Every Child, Every Day (2012), outlines six key practices that help all students become better readers. Allington and Gabriel emphasise that effective reading instruction isn't about expensive programs or test preparation. Instead, it's about making sure every child engages in meaningful reading experiences **every single day**. Here are the six research-backed practices they highlight:

1. Every child reads something they choose.

When students can choose their own reading material, they're more motivated and more likely to develop a lifelong love of reading.

2. Every child reads accurately.

Children need access to books that match their reading level to build fluency and confidence. Struggling through text that's too hard can be discouraging and counterproductive.

3. Every child reads something they understand.

Reading is only meaningful if students comprehend what they're reading. Teachers work closely with students to ensure texts are both accessible and thought-provoking.

4. Every child writes about something personally meaningful.

Writing about what they read helps students process and retain information, and it deepens their understanding. When writing is tied to their interests, it becomes even more powerful.

5. Every child talks with peers about reading and writing.

Conversations about books and ideas help students think critically, express opinions, and learn from one another.

6. Every child listens to a fluent adult read aloud.

Reading aloud models expressive reading, builds vocabulary, and exposes students to texts beyond their independent reading level.

At our school, we integrate these practices across our classrooms. Whether it's through our library lessons, literature discussion circles, fluency reading time, or author studies, our goal is to support **every child**, **every day** to grow into confident and capable readers. Our consistent message across the school regarding homework is that **every child reads every day**, for at least 15 minutes. Children may read their home readers, picture books, non-fiction texts, novels, and other texts that you may wish to share with your child. We invite families to join us in this mission by encouraging reading at home, visiting the library together, and talking about books around the dinner table. Together, we can help all of our students grow as readers and thinkers.





## Arts @ St Paul's

It's an exciting season for the Arts @ St Paul's as we prepare for two major performance events this term!

Our **Piano & Flute Soiree** is just around the corner in **Week 7.** This intimate event showcases the talents of students learning piano and flute in their private instrumental lessons. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their progress and share music in a supportive setting.

In Week 8, we look forward to the Twilight Concert, where many of our ensembles and soloists will perform. This includes the Instrumental Ensemble, private instrumental students and all students from the Year 3 Strings Immersion Program. This is a highlight of our Arts calendar and a fantastic showcase of the variety of talent across our school.

The **Senior Choir** and **Junior Voices** are also preparing for their **Week 9 Worship and Wellbeing performance** and looking ahead to performing at the **Winter Carnival** in Term 3.

Our regular programs continue to thrive – with **Private Instrumental Lessons, Instrumental Ensemble** (Tuesday 7:30am), **Year 3 Strings** (Tuesday middle session), **Senior Choir** (Thursday 7:30am), **Junior Voices** (Thursday First Break), and **Kids Rock Band** (Friday First Break).

We can't wait to share all this great music with our community!



Private Instrumental Lessons

#### Tuesday

Instrumental Ensemble 7:30am Year 3 Strings Immersion Program

#### **Thursday**

Senior Choir 7:30am Junior Voices First Break

#### Friday

Kids Rock Band First Break

#### **UPCOMING PERFORMANCES TERM 2**

- Wednesday 4 June Piano and Flute Soiree
- Tuesday 10 June Twilight Concert (most Arts @ St Paul's students)
- Friday 20 June End of Term Chapel choir performance







## **Sports**



Junior Athletics Carnival Thursday 12 June 8:30am-1:30pm St Paul's Oval

Senior Athletics Carnival - Day 1 Thursday 12 June 1:30- 3:00pm 800m and Tug of War St Paul's Oval

Senior Athletics Carnival - Day 2
Friday 13 June
8:30- 3:00pm
St Paul's Oval

Play Fair Vouchers - New applications open 6 June! \$200 to help pay for children's sport.

https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/fairplay/apply





Athletics sprint and Long Jump Training Year 3 to 6 Wednesday 4 and 11 June - 7:15am



# From the Library (GLAD Centre)

#### How have we celebrated Family Reading Month?

Thank you to everyone who visited our first Book Fair for the year! I enjoyed chatting with the parents while you searched for books and other items. Your purchases helped provide over \$500 of free books for the library and other credit for future purchases. I hope you have enjoyed reading your new books!

The Premier's Reading Challenge is in full swing! Just a reminder to make sure forms are returned to me in the library to be eligible for the completion certificate. If you need a record form, follow the link to download one <a href="here">here</a>.



We are making a bookshelf in the library to recognise the students who have completed the challenge. When students return their reading challenge form, their name is placed on a book and put on our shelf. I'm excited that we

have four books already!



On Wednesday 21 May, St Paul's participated in National Simultaneous Storytime. During the day, classes read *The Truck Cat* and enjoyed an incredible, heartwarming story about home being where our people are.

Kindy visits are also in full swing, with our Cockatoo and Emu classes visiting the library weekly and enjoying story time. After reading a book together, our smallest students get to enjoy looking at a variety of books. They are encouraged to make up stories by looking at the pictures and learn about how to take care of books. It's always a fun time.





Thank you for participating in Family Reading Month this May! I would like to encourage all families to keep making books and reading an integral part of our daily lives—not just in May. There are so many benefits children can gain from reading and being read to. What a privilege we have to work together to increase our students' literacy skills.



# From our Chappy

#### **Love into Action**

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' (Luke 10:27)

Love isn't just a word or a feeling... it's also what we do – it's how we treat people. When we put love into action, we treat others the way we want to be treated.

When we show kindness to others, we can make other people feel noticed, respected and valued. Being kind is not a sign of weakness but one of strength – something that can change someone's life.

I want you all to take a minute to think about a time when someone was kind to you; when someone put love into action. I'm sure however big or little the act was it left you feeling noticed, valued and respected. Sometimes an act of kindness and showing respect can be life changing...

About two years ago in winter, I was driving home from the shops, it was right before dinner, it was dark, and where I live it's in the middle of nowhere – no streetlights, no shops and is an 80k zone.

On my way home I came across a person who was really confused, scared, and lost. I barely saw the person as it was so dark, but I knew deep down this person needed some help. So, I stopped to help this person. I showed them respect, and kindness and then was able to get them some help and reconnect them with their family.

Turns out this person lived close to the city, was so well and truly lost but was unable to communicate with anyone or get themselves help. This person turned out to be registered as a missing person with the police.

Now if I had chosen that night to put my own needs first – and I had needs, I still had dinner to get done, and all the other family stuff that happen at 6:30pm - then I would have missed this opportunity to treat someone with respect and kindness. I would have missed the opportunity to change this person's life.

Now I tell you this story not to brag but because truthfully, I often wonder what the outcome of that story would have been if I didn't treat that person the way that I would of want to be treated. If I'd picked my own desires above the needs of someone else.

That simple act of kindness – following the Golden rule - impacted not only the person I helped, but it also impacted their parents knowing their child was safe, and, it impacted **me**. I know that God can use any of us in simple ways to bring about change in people's life.

You never know how important that smile is that you give to a stranger, or the forgiveness you show when someone does the wrong thing to you, or the respect you show your teachers and parents. These things matter, they matter so much, and you may not get to know the outcome of how your kindness impacts others – but know that it does.

Our greatest example will always be Jesus. He lived a life that modelled the Golden rule. He put love into action when he died for our sins. He showed kindness and respect to all people, no matter their lifestyle, status, or choices. So, if you are ever in doubt of how to treat others – just look to Jesus.



## From the P&F

Last Thursday, 22nd May, Michelle, Chantel, and Riana met at Cafe 63 Morayfield to plan our upcoming term events. These events take a lot of behind-the-scenes work and planning. Our P&F Committee is made up of dedicated volunteers who generously give their time—often balancing work, involvement in other community groups, and family commitments, including children's after-school activities. Without this incredible team and our volunteers, we wouldn't be able to offer the wonderful events that benefit our students. A special thank you to our amazing parents and caregivers, especially those who support our Breakfast Club.

#### Why not join us?

Our next Planning Meeting will be held in July. Details will be posted on our Facebook page soon — we'd love to see you there!

### **Upcoming Events**

### Disco - Friday 6th June

Don't forget to book your Disco tickets via Flexischools! The cut-off date is Monday, 2nd June — no late bookings will be accepted. Get ready for an evening of dancing, music, fun with friends, prizes, pizza, and a disco party bag to take home.

Want to Volunteer at the Disco?

We're looking for Junior and Senior Disco Volunteers. Remember, the disco is a drop-and-go event. Please be aware that only registered volunteers will be permitted to enter the event. All volunteers must complete their Annual Volunteer Registration form in advance.

#### Junior & Senior Sports Carnival – 12th & 13th June

We will be running a sausage sizzle and selling yummy burgers at both carnivals. These need to be preordered on Flexischools. A limited number of items will also be available for purchase on the day. A detailed letter with all the information will be sent out soon.

#### **Father's Day Preparation**

We are currently ordering stock for Father's Day and working on an extra pre-order item. If you know a small business that would like to sell or donate items for our Father's Day stall, please email us at pfpresident@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au.



Get in Contact!

Email: pfpresident@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au
Facebook: St Paul's LPS Parents & Friends

Group



## From the Church



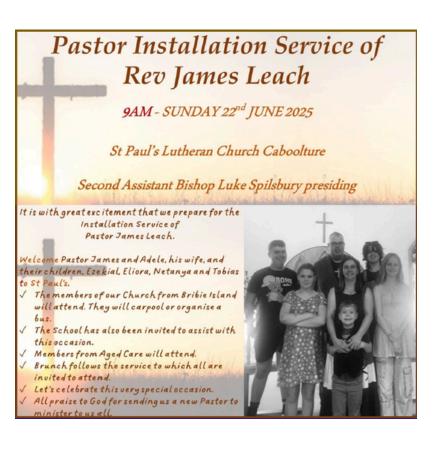
Don't miss this wonderful weekend hosted by
St Pauls Lutheran Church, Caboolture.
We are very excited about the planning in place for this
year's Googa camp with lots of adventure and fun activities.
More details to come but you won't want to miss it!
For enquiries, costs and accommodation options or to
RSVP email Maria at stpaulscab@gmail.com

# SPLC GOOGA FAMILY CAMP 2025

Arrive from 3pm Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Depart sometime after Lunch on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September









Theme: The Miracle of Jesus Special Guests: Prep

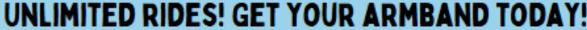
Sausage Sizzle to follow service.

# Winter Carnival - Saturday 19 July



# Winter Carnival - Saturday 19 July







# **40th Anniversary - Display**

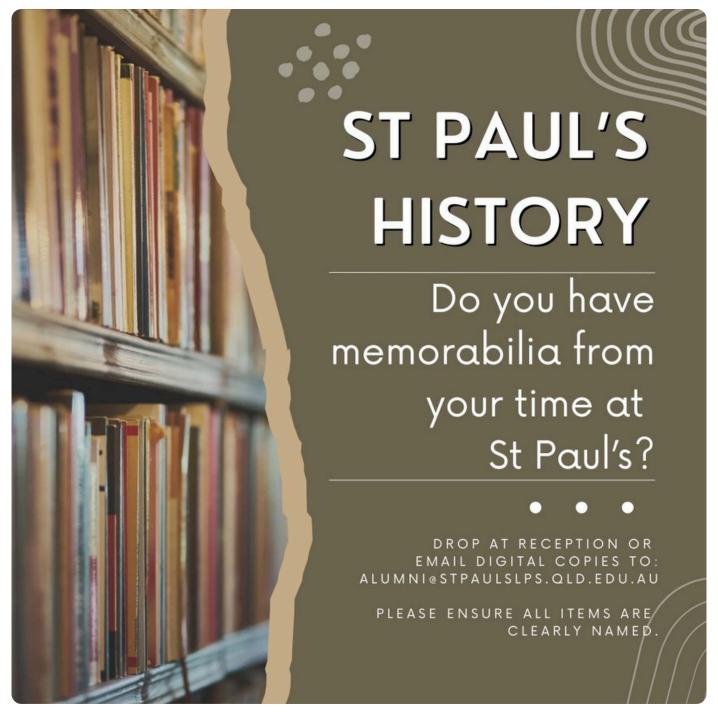
#### Are you a past St Paul's student? Or maybe someone else you know is?

As part of our 40th Anniversary Celebrations this year, St Paul's Historical Committee is looking for loans of memorabilia, keepsakes, and mementos from past St Paul's students to create a Historical Display and Video. Have you kept copies of old report cards, photos, or magazines? Do you have old school uniforms, badges, or notebooks in storage? We would love to use them in our display and video.

How can you get the items to us?

- Drop them at reception. Please ensure that items are clearly labelled with a name and contact details so we can return them to you. If they are documents, we will scan and print copies to protect the originals.
- Email digital copies or scans to alumni@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au.

If you have any questions, please email alumni@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au. We would love to hear from you!



Ph: (07) 5495 5899

# DATE CLAIMERS



## May 2025

30th- Year 5 Excursion to Gympie 28th - 30th - Year 4 Camp



### **June 2025**

1st - Sunday@5 Prep

3<sup>rd</sup> - Regional Cross Country

4<sup>th</sup> - Piano and Flute Soiree

6<sup>th</sup> - Year 5 and 6 Gala Day

6<sup>th</sup> - P&F Disco

10<sup>th</sup> - Twilight Evening - Arts @ St Paul's

11<sup>th</sup> - School Officer's Day

12<sup>th</sup> - Junior Athletics Carnival & Senior 800m Athletics

#### Event

13<sup>th</sup> - Senior Athletics Carnival

13<sup>th</sup> - Prep Excursion to White Ridge Farm

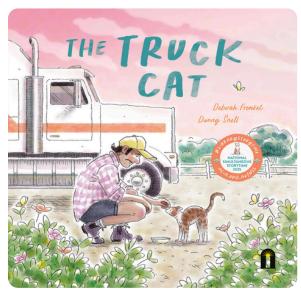
13<sup>th</sup> - Year 1 Ex<u>cursion to Australia Zoo</u>

15<sup>th</sup> - Sunday@5 - Year 3

19<sup>th</sup> - Safe on Social - Cyber Safety Incursion

20th - Last Day of Term 2

School resumes Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025



Images from National Simultaneous Storytime







