



NEWS @ ST PAUL'S

Term 3, Week 8, 2025

What's Inside

Principal

Page 2

Deputy Principal (Operations)

Page 5

Deputy Principal (Curriculum)

Page 6

Arts@St Paul's

Page 8

Sports

Page 9

GLAD Centre

Page 10

Chappy

Page 11

P&F

Page 12

Church

Page 13

St Paul's Aged Care

Page 16

Date Claimers

Page 18

Grandparents Day Celebration!

Grandparents Day was a truly special occasion, filled with love, laughter, and cherished memories.

We began the day with a beautiful joint church service, where students, grandparents, and staff came together in a spirit of gratitude and celebration. It was a meaningful time to reflect on the important role grandparents play in our lives and to give thanks for their wisdom, support, and love.

Following the service, our visitors were welcomed into the classrooms for a morning of fun and engaging activities. Students proudly shared their work, played games, and enjoyed quality time with their grandparents – a wonderful opportunity for connection across generations.

The celebration continued with a relaxed picnic in the Green Zone, where families gathered to enjoy lunch under the sun. Our talented school choir gave a heartwarming performance that added a special musical touch to the afternoon.

A big thank you to our amazing Parents & Friends (P&F) Group for generously providing tea and coffee and to the church community for putting on a delicious sausage sizzle – both were very much appreciated by all!

It was a day filled with joy and community spirit – a perfect celebration of the special bond between grandparents and their grandchildren.



From the Principal - Mrs Katrina Valencia



*Please Join Us For The
St Paul's Lutheran Primary School*

40TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebration Service

THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

Doors open 9:00am for a 9:30am start

TULLAWONG STATE SCHOOL HALL

60-94 Smiths Road Caboolture

RSVP By 10th October via this [link](#)



From the Principal - Mrs Katrina Valencia

Class Placements 2026

We would like to invite families to communicate any class placement requests for 2026.

I take a very cautious stance when inviting these requests from families. I have three children of my own and understand how much they would love to be placed with their best friend, or a preferred teacher. I also realise how important it is for them to grow as individuals and not be reliant on others for their academic and social successes.

I encourage all families to allow their children to grow spiritually, emotionally, academically, socially, and independently as they transition to their new class in 2026. I strongly encourage parents to place faith in the judgments and insights our teaching staff have into individual students and their school persona.

I have the highest regard for the quality and competency of each of our teaching staff in their professional capacity and greatly value their insights into our students. Further to this, each classroom teacher will seek feedback from their students on their current friendships. This information will assist with the construction of class lists for the 2026 school year.

Please note that any request for a specific classroom teacher will not be considered. As you can appreciate, staff movement amongst year levels is inevitable, and therefore specific teacher requests often become redundant. Furthermore, I believe St Paul's has an outstanding teaching team, each with strong relational and pedagogical skills.

If you believe there is an important consideration (that sits beyond friendship and teacher requests) that needs to be considered when placing your child for 2026, please submit this request in writing marked for the attention of Mrs Katrina Valencia to eduggan@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au. My commitment to you is that such requests will be considered, however, please understand that no guarantees can be made.

Ultimately, I will be guided by our teaching staff and their knowledge of your child, as well as any pertinent information you may be able to provide in relation to your child's specific learning needs. Please ensure that these requests are submitted in writing by Friday 10th October 2025.

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring the complex process of class placements for the 2026 school year is attended to in the most equitable and professional manner possible. Please be aware that once class placements have been allocated, there will be no further movement of class arrangements except in exceptional or uncontrollable circumstances.



From the Principal - Mrs Katrina Valencia

Changes to BlueCard System for Parent Volunteers

We wish to inform you of upcoming changes to the Blue Card system for parent volunteers, which will take effect from **20 September 2025**. These changes are part of ongoing efforts to strengthen child safety within schools and child-related activities.

Key Changes for Parent Volunteers

1. Parent Volunteer Definition:

The exemption for parent volunteers will be tightened. From 20 September 2025:

Parents will only be able to rely on the exemption if their own child is included in the voluntary service or activity. For example: going on an excursion with your child's cohort or assisting with volunteer work in the class with your child.

The inclusion of a parent volunteer's own child does not extend to whole-of-school activities, including volunteering in the uniform shop, tuckshop, or common activities run by P&F groups.

2. Overnight Volunteers:

All parent volunteers attending overnight camps or excursions will require a Blue Card. This means that for the upcoming Year 3 and Year 5 camps, this requirement will need to be mandated for all relevant participants.

What This Means for You

If your volunteering role falls outside the tightened exemption, or involves overnight activities, you must obtain a Blue Card, linked to our school, before participating. You can apply for a Blue Card via the Queensland Government's Blue Card Services website: www.qld.gov.au/bluecard.

To progress your application, you will need to provide the school with your reference number (Blue Card number, Exemption Card number, or Online Account number) and your Date of Birth. This information is required so we can link your application to St Paul's.

If you are unsure whether your volunteering role requires a Blue Card, please contact Emma Duggan at safetyofficer@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au or 5495 5899. We are happy to guide you through the process.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to maintaining a safe and caring environment for our students. We appreciate your understanding as we implement these important changes.



From the Deputy Principal (Operations) - Mr Matt Nicholls

Don't wait for bullying to happen to talk about it.

Understanding what truly counts as bullying can be confusing. When we or someone we care about is mistreated, it's easy to see it as bullying.

Have you ever been bullied? Sadly, most of us wouldn't hesitate to say yes.

But have you ever bullied someone? That question often makes us pause and think carefully. Our first instinct is to say, of course not, I would never! Yet this is where the lines can become blurred.

We want to believe it wasn't really bullying, so we make excuses:

It wasn't just me. I didn't do anything. He started it. It was an accident. It was just a joke.

But if we're honest, we may have to admit otherwise.

Bullying takes many forms. It can be subtle yet still very damaging. To answer honestly, we need to understand the meaning of bullying and ask ourselves: Was the action rude, mean, or simply part of a conflict? Or was it repeated, deliberate intent to cause harm—in other words, bullying?

- Direct bullying includes behaviours which are obvious and easily observed by others.
- Indirect bullying is not always immediately observable and acknowledged as bullying.

Lets properly define bullying first:

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm.

(Understanding bullying – bullyingnoway.gov.au)

There are 3 main types of bullying: Verbal, Physical or Social.

A while back, after some professional development, I reflected on the bullies from my own childhood. At times I was a victim myself, but I also remembered one boy who had it especially tough. I decided to reach out to him on social media and was saddened to learn that he is still sometimes troubled by the things people did to him. He was laughed at, teased for his interests, and excluded by others (social bullying). I saw people shove him (physical bullying) and threaten him (verbal bullying). He was seen as weak- an easy target for those who wanted to look strong by making someone else look small. He wasn't one of the "cool kids," and all of this caused him lasting harm. I am glad to say that after school he joined the army. The next time I saw him, years later, he was a man of impressive strength with biceps bigger than my legs! And yet, he was still the same humble, kind person I remembered.

I was guilty of being a bystander - I let it happen, even though I knew it was affecting him. At the time, I felt powerless. I didn't have the skills, the training, or the courage to stand up. Like many others, I let him down.

That's why we mustn't wait for bullying to happen before we talk about it.



From the Deputy (Curriculum) - Mrs Emma Bird

Read Write Inc. – Building Strong Foundations in Reading

At St Paul's, we are committed to giving every child the strongest possible start to their reading journey—and the impact of our Read Write Inc. (RWI) program is something we are incredibly proud to celebrate.

Grounded in the Science of Reading, RWI is a structured literacy program that supports our Prep to Year 2 students to develop essential skills in phonics, decoding, fluency, and comprehension. Every Monday to Thursday, students across these year levels take part in an hour-long RWI lesson. With up to 15 groups running simultaneously, each child receives targeted instruction at their "just right" reading level. This means no student is left behind—and every student is challenged just enough to grow in confidence and ability.

A key strength of RWI at St Paul's is our partnership with families. From the beginning of Prep, families receive RWI sound cards to support learning at home. These resources are not just for the early days—they're encouraged to be revisited all the way through to Year 2, reinforcing key sounds and supporting reading development beyond the classroom.

The transformation we've seen in reading outcomes across the school is a direct result of our ongoing investment in the program. Mrs MacFarlane, our dedicated RWI Reading Leader, works two days a week to guide, support, and coach our teaching staff and learning assistants. Her leadership helps ensure every group session is delivered with clarity and consistency.

We also make sure that all new students in Prep to Year 2 receive Set 1 and Set 2 sound cards when they're ready, setting them up for success from the outset. Our school's commitment to growth is evident in the weekly professional development sessions for teachers and learning assistants, which are central to refining our practice and keeping our teaching sharp.

Each year, we welcome Hayley from the Ruth Miskin Training Centre—the official RWI training provider—for a full day of targeted coaching. Her expert guidance ensures we continue to deliver the program to the highest standard and stay aligned with best practices.

Read Write Inc. is more than just a reading program; it's a school-wide commitment to literacy success. We're proud of what our students are achieving every day, and we're excited to continue nurturing a love of reading in every child at St Paul's.



From the Deputy (Curriculum) - Mrs Emma Bird

Progressive Reporting and Feedback at St Paul's

At St Paul's, we are committed to making student learning and progress as visible and meaningful as possible - for both students and their families. In Semester 2 of 2023, we moved to a progressive reporting model, which means families now receive timely updates on their child's learning throughout the term, rather than waiting until the end of a semester.

As we continue to refine this approach, we want to let you know that progressive reporting will now focus on clearly marked rubrics rather than separate written feedback. This change reflects how feedback happens naturally and continuously in a primary school setting - through regular conversations, goal setting, and targeted support every day.

What does this mean for you as a parent?

You will continue to receive:

- Progressive reporting via SeeSaw - by the end of each term, marked rubrics in English and Mathematics will be uploaded to a dedicated assessment folder on Seesaw. These rubrics are written in clear, specific language so you can easily understand your child's strengths and areas for growth.
- Twice-yearly parent-teacher interviews, where you will continue to receive in-depth, personalised insights into your child's learning.
- End-of-semester report cards twice a year.
- The opportunity to arrange a meeting time with your child's class or specialist teacher at any time during the year if you would like more information or to discuss progress in more detail.

What does feedback look like at school?

Because we see our students every day, teachers at St Paul's are able to provide ongoing, meaningful feedback that helps guide and improve student learning in real time. Feedback in our classrooms may come in different forms:

- Oral conversations between teacher and student
- Learning goals to help students focus on their next steps
- Written comments or annotations on student work
- Use of 'Bump It Up Walls' - visual displays that help students understand what success looks like and how to improve their work

Our feedback approach is always kind, specific, and helpful, and includes both what a student has done well and what they need to work on.

A Partnership in Learning

We believe that communication between school and home is a vital part of your child's learning journey. Our progressive reporting model is designed to keep you informed and involved, with timely, meaningful updates and opportunities to connect when you need more information.



Arts @ St Paul's

As we come to the end of another busy and joy-filled term, we give thanks for the many opportunities our students have had to create, perform, and grow through the Arts.

Choirs in Final Worship and Wellbeing

Our Junior and Senior Choirs will both share their gifts in the final Worship and Wellbeing service in a couple of weeks. We look forward to their singing as a joyful expression of praise and as a celebration of all they have accomplished this term.

Instrumental Program Highlights

It has been wonderful to see our Instrumental Program continue to grow this term:

- Our Instrumental Ensemble meets every Tuesday morning and is developing beautifully in sound and confidence.
- The Kids Rock Band is making excellent progress and is almost ready for their very first performance – stay tuned!
- Instrumental lessons are currently full, with a waiting list in place due to high demand.
- We are now taking expressions of interest for **saxophone** and **vocal lessons**, which we hope to offer in the near future.

Celebrating Student Success

At St Paul's, we love to celebrate the many ways our students shine in the Arts, both at school and beyond. This term, we would like to congratulate Benjamin Xiong in Year 4 on a very special achievement.

Over the weekend, Ben competed in the Queensland finals of the OSIC Piano Competition in the Grades 3–4 category. In his very first piano competition — and even his first time performing on a real piano — Ben placed among the top performers, earning an award. We are so proud of you, Ben!



Looking Ahead to Term 4

Next term promises to be another exciting one for the Arts at St Paul's:

- **Twilight Concert** – a highlight of our school calendar, showcasing the talents of choirs, ensembles, and soloists.
- **Piano & Flute Soirée** – a more intimate evening of music, celebrating the progress of our instrumental students.
- **End-of-Year Celebration Service** – featuring our Senior Choir and some very special guest performers as we give thanks for a wonderful year.

Thank You

We are grateful to our families, staff, and the wider St Paul's community for their ongoing encouragement and support of the Arts. Your partnership helps our students to grow in confidence, creativity, and joy as they share their God-given gifts.

We look forward to another term filled with music, creativity, and celebration!

Sports

Regional Athletics Results

Congratulations to our talented students Abigail and Penny who recently competed at the Sunshine Coast Regional Track & Field Competition!

Abigail achieved an outstanding result, placing 10th out of 22 of the best 12-year-old girls' discus throwers in the region!

Penny impressed in her nominated 200m and Long Jump events and was also invited to compete in the 4-event Tetra competition, where she placed 5th overall – what an incredible achievement!

We are so proud of both of you – what amazing athletes!



Year 3/ 4 Gala Day

Our year 3 and 4 students have been practicing their skills and are ready for a great day of sporting action next Monday. Parents are welcome to come along.

Soccer and Basketball - St Eugene College.
League Tag - Peterson Road Fields

Auskick and Superkick

What a great program! Once again, our huge group of Aus and Super-kickers have learnt some amazing footy skills.

There seems to be some confusion about who won the Parent V Student game in 2024 so it will be a hot contest this year.



Term 4 - What's On!

Coming up in term 4: St Paul's year 3-6 carnival. Nominations DUE: 17 SEPTEMBER

Please refer to parent correspondence sent home on the 1 September 2025 for further information and link to nomination form.



NEW program starting in Term 4

After school Football:
Wednesday afternoons.

More information on the way!



From the Library (GLAD Centre)

Well, what a fantastic Book Week!

Thank you to everyone who dressed up, read a book, visited the Library during Lunchtimes, and who got into the Book Week Spirit. It was a wonderful week.

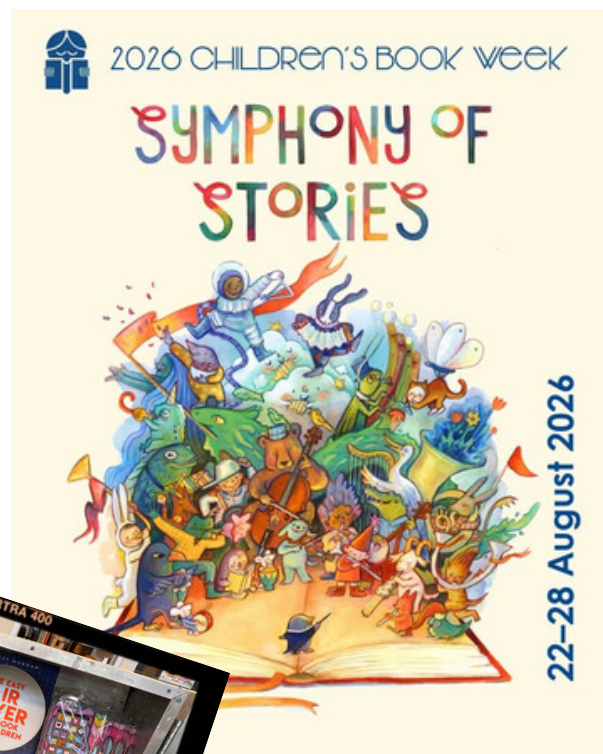
Once again, thank you to those who visited and purchased items from the Book Fair. Your generosity has enabled us to acquire many new library books, and I'm sure the students are looking forward to borrowing them.

Next week's Book Week theme has been announced – Symphony of Stories! What a spectacular theme. I wonder what fun we can come up with?

School holidays are fast approaching. Our students can borrow the week before holidays and keep their borrowing during the break. I hope you can use the time to read together as a family. Sharing stories is so much fun.

Happy Reading!

Mrs Pratap



From our Chappy

HeartKids Lolly Jar Winner Announced

What an amazing start we have had to raising funds for the HeartKids this term. Our lolly jar competition received over 120 guesses! But there can only be one winner, and with a guess of 358 the winner of the HeartKids Lolly Jar is:

Hannah from Year 3!!

Congratulations Hannah, we hope you and your family enjoy all 374 heart lollies!

If you or your family would like to know more about HeartKids and the wonderful work they do for families, head over to the [HeartKids website](#).



A big thank you to the Payne and George families for joining us at Worship and Wellbeing a few weeks ago, to help raise awareness for HeartKids.



From the P&F

Grandparents Day

We loved welcoming our Grandparents, Parents, and Friends to celebrate Grandparents Day. It is always so special to see our students spending time with their loved ones and sharing such a meaningful day together.

Father's Day

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Father's Day Stall and purchased the Dad Photo Frames. We hope all the dads and father figures enjoy their gifts and feel the love behind each one chosen.

Breakfast Club

We are seeking volunteers to help with Term 4 Breakfast Club. If you can spare just 40 minutes in the morning, your support would be greatly appreciated. Please email Chantel at pfvicepresident@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au if you're able to assist.

End of Term 4 Event

We're planning something special for the end of Term 4 and would love your input! Students can share their ideas at Breakfast Club and receive a little surprise for contributing. Parents are welcome to email their ideas to Michelle at pfpresident@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au.

A Big Thank You!

We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the following businesses for their generous support of our P & F:



Strawberry View Café



Pink Panther Barber



Dunne and Dusted Coffee Shop
Rothwell (D & D)

Your support makes a wonderful difference in our school community – we truly appreciate it!



Get in Contact!

Email: pfpresident@stpaulslps.qld.edu.au

Facebook: St Paul's LPS Parents & Friends Group



From the Church

SOME THOUGHTS FROM
Pastor Jay



When I think about the things I am most proud of in my life, its not my academic achievements, its not my sporting achievements, its not even my occupational achievements that first come to my mind.

The thing I am most proud of in my life is my family. I am the proud father of six amazing children. From 22yrs old right down to 6 yrs old. This coming November my eldest daughter is due with my first grandchild.

As a father, my most cherished possessions are handwritten notes from my children. My daughter, in particular, uses words of affirmation to express her love, so I have a drawer full of these treasures, from the time they could first write their names. Sometimes, their depictions of my parenting are flattering, but these notes inspire me to be a better father. They remind me of their values and what it means to be their dad.

As Father's Day approaches, we celebrate our fathers or father-figures and thank God for them. We may have good memories or painful memories, but the Bible reminds us of God, our perfect Father in heaven. He is always good, perfectly loves us, and is even better than the 'World's Best Dad'.

For example, in Matthew 6, Jesus taught his disciples to pray publicly as a model for talking to God. He said: 'This is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven..."' (Matthew 6:9).

When Jesus taught his disciples to pray, he taught them first to call God 'Father'. He could have used other terms like 'Rock' or 'King', but he highlighted the term 'Father'. This term is used in the Old Testament, such as Isaiah 63:16, but predominantly in the New Testament.

The God of the Bible is not an impersonal energy or a cold tyrant, but a loving Father in heaven. He is a personal and relational being that we can know, trust, and pray to. As a father, I love hearing my kids call me 'Dad'. It expresses our relationship—we are not boss and employee, but family. The same is true for all who trust in Jesus: we are adopted into God's family, so the Creator of the universe is also our Father.

Our Father provides for our physical needs, including food, shelter, and the use of our bodies. He cares about our daily lives and concerns. Fatherhood modelled on this will ensure our families have what they need, not just material things, but love, support, encouragement, face-to-face attention, physical activity, rest, safety, and prayer.

Our Father forgives us for our sins. It's hard to be a parent when our children rebel against us, but the Bible reminds us that we all do it. We all have sinned and fall short of how God wants us to live.

The Bible reveals God's incredible love for us, despite our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus, to live a sinless life, die in our place, and be resurrected. In Jesus, God treats us like the father in the Prodigal Son, showing mercy and forgiveness.

When I make mistakes as a father or my children do, I should remember Jesus' death as God's demonstration of his love. Reflecting on the cross helps me deal with my children with kindness and mercy, not judgment and condemnation.

My children inspire me to be a better father, but God's word, the Bible, teaches me to be the kind of Father God wants me to be. Passages like the Lord's Prayer point me to God as my heavenly Father, the model of perfect parenting—personal, providing, and forgiving.

This Father's Day, let's rejoice in our Father in heaven and our earthly fathers, and let our own fathering increasingly be shaped by his.





ONE FOOT FORWARD

The walk for mental health



Support My Challenge for Mental Health Research

Did you know that 1 in 5 Australians experience symptoms of mental illness each year? Mental illness can be debilitating and can have a devastating impact on not only those living with it, but those around them.

This October, Pastor James is taking part in One Foot Forward to help reduce the impact of mental illness and suicide.

He will be conquering 250km to raise funds for Black Dog Institute to put ground-breaking new mental health treatment, education, and digital services into the hands of the people who need them most. It would mean so much to Pastor James if you donated to support my challenge. Together, we can create better mental health for all Australians.

Help Me Reach My Goal

\$1000



Support my
250km
CHALLENGE
for mental health research





COFFEE AND KIDS

COME JOIN US FOR
A COFFEE, CHAT
AND PLAY!

FREE



INFORMATION



Every Wednesday (during school term)



9am - 10.30am



65 Smiths Road, Caboolture



All ages welcome

Run by St. Paul's Lutheran Church



Christmas Joy



Are you planning to get a brand-new Christmas tree this year? If so, **St Paul's Aged Care** would absolutely love to receive your pre-loved tree for our festive season celebrations! Your previously cherished tree would bring so much joy as we prepare for a big Christmas event with our residents.

Simply drop off to reception at 10-44 Tomlinson Road (just around the corner from school) by October 31st 2025, or call our reception to organise a time on 54951300. Your donation will help make Christmas truly magical at St Pauls Aged Care.



From Head Start Psychology

REGISTER at the WEBSITE : www.headstartpsychology.com.au

Just Be You!

This workshop will EMPOWER YOUR TWEEN
to FEEL AMAZING about who she is!

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY
WORKSHOP**  
Girls in year 3 & 4

MON 22ND SEPT
9am - 11:30am
NORTH LAKES COMMUNITY CENTRE

REGISTER NOW!

LLL - Proud Sponsors of our School

**Invest in your
community,
invest in you.**

Proud sponsor of the
Winter Carnival.

Find out more
lll.org.au



**Empowering
steps of faith**

Finance with a mission

Lutheran Laypeople's League of Australia Ltd (LLL) is not prudentially supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. Therefore, an investor in LLL will not receive the benefit of the financial claims scheme or the depositor protection provisions in the Banking Act 1959. Investments in LLL are intended to be a means for investors to support the charitable purposes of LLL.



DATE CLAIMERS

September 2025

7th - Father's Day

8th - Northern Cluster Gala Day - Year 3 and 4

19th - Last Day of Term 3 - Free Dress Day

School resumes on Tuesday 7th October 2025

October 2025

6th - King's Birthday Public Holiday

7th - First Day of Term 4

10th - Year 3 to 6 Swimming Carnival

10th - Year 2 Glasshouse Mountains Heritage Trail
Excursion

16th-17th - Year 3 Camp

19th - Sunday@ 5 - Year 4

22nd - Year 4 Excursion to CREC

24th - Prep 2026 Come and Play Morning

27th - Staff Appreciation Day

28th -31st - Year 5 Camp

31st - Day for Daniel

Year 5 Taste of Grace Visit

