

News @ St Paul's



Celebrating the Performing Arts

What magical evenings we have shared this term! Our Piano and Flute Soiree and Twilight Evening were true highlights - joyful celebrations of our students' talent, effort and courage.

For many of our young musicians, performing in front of an audience takes real bravery, and behind every piece were hours of quiet practice and steady determination. Their willingness to step up and share their music was wonderful to see, and a reminder of the important place the arts hold in nurturing discipline, creativity, perseverance and joy.

Our sincere thanks to our music staff, Michelle Blythe, Coralie Hall and Mrs Kirby, and to all who helped prepare these special events. We are also grateful to our families for encouraging practice and celebrating every achievement.





From the Principal - Mrs Valencia

Gratitude, Growth and the Gospel

As we continue through this exciting season at St Paul's Lutheran Primary School, I have been reflecting on three words that speak strongly into who we are and where we are heading: **gratitude, growth and the Gospel**.

We have so much to be grateful for. St Paul's is a school built on strong foundations: faithful service, dedicated staff, supportive families, wonderful students and a deep sense of Christian community and identity. Each day, we see children learning, friendships forming, staff going above and beyond, and families partnering with us in meaningful ways. These are blessings we should never take for granted.

As many families would be aware, St Paul's continues to receive an increasing number of applications for enrolment. Growth, or expansion, is one of our key Strategic Imperatives, as we seek to respond wisely and faithfully to the growing demand for places at our school. We understand that growth can sometimes bring a sense of change or even uncertainty. It can raise questions about what the future may look like and how we will preserve the special culture that makes St Paul's such a treasured community.

At the same time, growth also brings wonderful opportunity. It allows us to strengthen programs, invest in facilities, expand learning opportunities and welcome more families into the life of our school. Most importantly, it gives us the opportunity to share the good news of the Gospel with more children, more families and more people throughout our wider community.

At the heart of St Paul's is our desire for every child to know that they are deeply loved by God, created with purpose and invited to live with hope. As we grow, this remains central. We do not seek growth simply to become bigger, but to continue building a thriving Christian school where students are known, valued, challenged and nurtured.

Our commitment is to grow thoughtfully, sustainably and faithfully. We want to preserve the relational warmth, community spirit and Christian foundation that make St Paul's so special, while also stepping confidently into the opportunities before us.

With gratitude for God's faithfulness, and with the Gospel at the centre, we look forward to the exciting future He is unfolding for St Paul's. As Jesus reminds us in Matthew 5:16, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." As St Paul's grows, our prayer is that the light of Christ continues to shine through our students, staff and families, reaching more homes and more hearts across our community.



Expansion



Pathways



Staff



Community



Pedagogy



Formation





From the Deputy Principal (People & Operations) - Mr Keane

As I reflect on my first six months as Deputy Principal, I find myself filled with gratitude for the warm welcome I have received from every corner of our school community. Starting in a new school is always an exciting journey, but from my very first day, I was made to feel part of something truly special. The kindness, generosity and genuine care shown by students, staff and families have made these first months both rewarding and memorable.

What has stood out most to me is the incredible character of our students. Every day I am greeted with warm smiles, thoughtful conversations and countless acts of kindness. Whether in the classroom, on the playground, at assemblies or school events, our students consistently demonstrate respect, compassion and a willingness to support one another. They are a wonderful reflection of the values that make our school such a special place. There is a unique feeling at St Paul's that is difficult to describe until you experience it firsthand. It is a feeling of genuine care, belonging and connection. It can be seen in the way staff go above and beyond for students, in the partnerships we share with families, and in the way students look out for one another. It is a community where people are known, valued and encouraged to flourish.

Over the past six months, I have had the privilege of witnessing so many moments that capture the heart of St Paul's - moments of encouragement, celebration, resilience and faith. These experiences have reinforced what an incredible community this is and how fortunate I am to be part of it.

One of the things I have come to appreciate most is the strong sense of partnership that exists across our community. The support and trust shown by parents and carers, the dedication of our staff, and the enthusiasm of our students create an environment where everyone works together for a common purpose. It is clear that St Paul's is more than just a school; it is a community built on relationships, shared values and a commitment to helping every child thrive. This spirit of collaboration is evident in so many everyday interactions and is a significant part of what makes St Paul's such a welcoming and uplifting place to be.

Thank you to our students, families and staff for making me feel so welcome. I am excited for all that lies ahead and look forward to continuing to learn, grow and celebrate alongside this remarkable community. St Paul's is a special place, and I am grateful every day to call it home.





From the Deputy Principal (Curriculum) - Mrs Bird

Valuing the Journey of Learning

At St Paul's, we believe that learning is a journey - one that unfolds over time as children grow in understanding, confidence, resilience and character. Each child's learning pathway is unique, shaped by their strengths, interests and experiences. As a Christian community, we recognise that every child has been created with God-given talents and qualities, and it is our privilege to nurture these gifts as they develop.

Our teachers are deeply committed to helping students understand who they are as learners and how they can use their unique abilities purposefully. This includes supporting academic growth, encouraging persistence when learning is challenging, and celebrating progress along the way. Learning is not only about outcomes, but about the habits, attitudes and skills students build as they engage with new ideas and experiences.

As report cards are released, we encourage families to view them as one part of a much broader picture of learning. Reports provide a valuable snapshot of achievement and progress at a point in time, but they cannot fully capture the richness of daily classroom learning - such as collaboration, creativity, problem-solving and personal growth. These aspects of development are just as vital to a child's long-term success and wellbeing.

As part of our progressive reporting approach, families will also find English and Mathematics work samples uploaded at the end of each term on Seesaw. These samples are designed to give greater insight into the learning process, showing how your child applies skills and understanding over time. In addition, our Inside Story class newsletters continue to offer a timely snapshot of what students are learning, highlighting key concepts, experiences and classroom activities as they happen.

We are deeply grateful for the important role parents and carers play in partnering with us in your child's learning journey. Your encouragement, conversations at home, and ongoing support make a significant difference. As a school, we value our partnership with families and are committed to working together to help each child grow academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

Thank you for entrusting us with your children and for walking alongside us as we nurture confident learners who are equipped to use their gifts with purpose and joy.

Save the date: Our Whole School Learning Expo will be held on 13th August from 3:00 – 5:00 pm.



Arts@St Paul's

A Wonderful Term of Music and Performance

Our **Piano Soirée** and **Twilight Concert** showcased the hard work and musical growth of our students. It was a pleasure to see students perform with such confidence.



Junior Voices have been busy rehearsing for our end-of-term Worship & Wellbeing service, and we can't wait to share our colourful and theatrical performance of Don Gato!



Our **Senior Choir** also enjoyed a special excursion to the recording studio at **Grace College**, where they recorded a song written by **Pastor James and Mrs Kirby**, working alongside **Mr Poetschka**.



Despite a soggy walk to the studio in the rain, students arrived in great spirits and embraced the experience of recording in a professional setting. It was a memorable day and a wonderful opportunity to create a lasting musical keepsake.





Sport@St Paul's

It has certainly been a busy couple of weeks in sport, although the weather tested our flexibility and required a few changes to our schedule. Unfortunately, persistent conditions and a soggy oval meant we were unable to run our Athletics Carnivals as planned. Revised versions of these events will now take place in Term 3, and we look forward to giving students the opportunity to showcase their skills then.

Despite the disruptions, we were able to fit in an exciting few days of district trials for our older students who were eligible to attend. These trials are always highly competitive, and our students demonstrated not only their skills but also their resilience. With last-minute changes and adjustments, they adapted exceptionally. We are excited to see what they can achieve at the district level next term.

Our Year 5 and 6 students also enjoyed a fantastic Gala Day a couple of weeks ago, where they competed against other local schools in soccer and netball. It was great to see teams working together, supporting one another, and showing strong sportsmanship throughout the day. Events like these provide valuable opportunities for students to develop their confidence and cooperation in a team environment.

Back at school, another group of students participated in a basketball clinic. This was a great chance for them to build new skills, learn from an experienced coach, and enjoy some active, hands-on fun.

Overall, it has been a rewarding and active few weeks in sport. We look forward to improved weather and even more opportunities for our students in Term 3.





From the Library (GLAD Centre)

Class Borrowing Days

Prep: Friday

Year 1: Friday

Year 2: Tuesday

Year 3: Thursday

Year 4: Wednesday

Year 5: Monday

Year 6: Friday



Important Dates

June

Friday 19th: Last Day of Term 2

July

Monday 13th: First Day of Term 3

August

24th - 28th: Book Week - Save the date!



Skill versus Will

To create lifelong readers, we need to connect **reading skills** with **reading will**.

Reading skill is the mechanics of reading - decoding words, comprehending the text, making meaning from illustrations and inferring what is being said in between the lines.

Reading will is the desire to read - knowing our reading identity, what I like and don't like to read, and knowing how to find books that I might enjoy.

Both of these are important in the development of our students' desire to read for pleasure (which we know has many benefits). It is important that parents and teachers partner together to encourage the growth of both reading skills and will.

All of our wonderful teaching staff work hard to develop your child's reading skills and encourage their reading will. Our weekly library lessons demonstrate our schools commitment to creating strong readers. As a parent, you are also an integral part of this process! When you encourage your children to read and read with them, you are also helping to form your child's reading skills and will.

It can sound a bit daunting, but if you would like to learn more, check out these podcasts.



Both podcasts are available to stream on Spotify and Apple Podcasts.



- **Your Kid's Next Read:** This podcast is driven by author Allison Tait and Teacher Librarian Megan Daley. They're here to help you find the perfect next book for the young readers in your life – from board books to YA. Look at Episode 248 *The Skill and Will of Reading*.
- **Read Your Greens:** Hosted by broadcaster Kirsten MacGregor, this new podcast from Education Queensland is designed to support parents and carers in fostering a love of books and reading at home.

Small steps can have a huge impact on your child's reading journey. What could you start doing today?





From our Chappy

Last week, we practised a lockdown drill at school. Afterwards, I spoke with some students and reflected on the 'why' behind these practices. These drills are vital in helping us remain calm, confident, and prepared in the event of a real emergency—ultimately keeping us safe.

This led me to think about the other kinds of 'drills' we can practise in our own lives to prepare us for when challenges arise and to help protect our wellbeing. When it comes to mental health, there are simple yet powerful strategies we can build into our everyday routines. Recently, I have been reflecting on the importance of gratitude, empathy, and mindfulness, and how intentionally practising these can significantly support our wellbeing and resilience during stressful times.

God's Word encourages us in each of these areas. We are reminded to be grateful in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:18), to empathise with others (Romans 12:15), and to be still and focus our thoughts (Psalm 46:10; Philippians 4:8). Through these teachings, we are gently guided to care for not only our spiritual health, but also our mental and emotional wellbeing.

Why not make a gratitude jar as a family?





From our P&F

What a fantastic night at our School Disco! It was wonderful to see so many students having an amazing time dancing, laughing, and making memories with their friends. The smiles on their faces said it all!

A huge thank you to our incredible Volunteers, Deputy Principal Dan and Teachers who generously gave their time to help make the event such a success. These events simply could not happen without the support of our school community. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Dominos Caboolture Central Lakes for making sure our pizzas were ready on time for the students to enjoy for dinner.

Looking Ahead to Term 3

The P&F has an exciting term planned, including:

- Subway Day
- Grandparents Day – with tea and coffee available for our special guests
- Father's Day Stall
- The beginning of our Major Fundraising Event for 2026 – with more exciting details to be revealed at the start of Term 3!



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From the Church

Thank You, Prep Families!

What a wonderful morning we shared together at our recent Family Service!

A huge thank you to all our Prep students and their families who joined us as the children helped lead worship and taught us about the Fruit of the Spirit. The confidence, enthusiasm, joy, and faith shown by our Prep students were a blessing to everyone present. They reminded us all of the beautiful fruit that God grows in our lives through His Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The church community absolutely loved meeting the children and their families. It was a joy to see so many generations gathered together in worship, singing, praying, learning, and celebrating God's love. The smiles, conversations, and fellowship shared after the service were a wonderful reminder of the special partnership we share between church and school.

Our prayer is that every family who attended felt welcomed, valued, loved, and truly part of our wider church family. At St Paul's, we see our school families as an important part of our community, and we are grateful for every opportunity to connect, support, encourage, and grow together in faith.

Whether you have attended church regularly, visited for the first time, or are simply exploring faith and community, please know that you are always welcome. Our Sunday worship service is held every week at 9:00am, and we would love to see you there.

As a church family, we believe there is so much we can offer one another. We are here to walk alongside families through all seasons of life, offering friendship, support, encouragement, pastoral care, opportunities for service, and a place to belong. At the same time, the gifts, talents, energy, and presence of our school families enrich and strengthen our church community in countless ways.

Thank you again to our wonderful Prep students, teachers, and families for helping make this service such a joyful celebration of God's love.

Together, we continue to grow in faith and friendship as we live out our theme for the year: "Together: Bound in Love."

Your Servant In Christ
Pastor James (PJ)



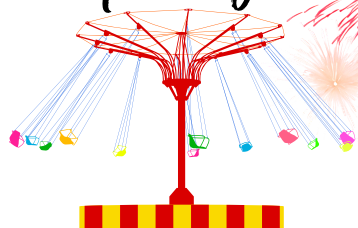


Upcoming Dates

July

- 13 - First Day of Term 3
- 20 - Year 1 Excursion - Sea Life
- 23/24 - Caboolture District Athletics
- 24 - Prep Vision Screening
- 31 - Year 5 Excursion - Gympie Gold Rush

Ekka Show Public Holiday - 10th August



August

- 4 - Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 9 - School Sunday - Year 2
- 10 - Ekka Show Public Holiday
- 13 - Learning Expo
- 17 - 21 - Bullying No Way Week
- 17 - P&F Subway Day
- 24 - 28 Book Week
- 24 - Book Blanket
- 26 - Book Parade
- 28 - Grandparent's Day

ST PAUL'S LEARNING EXPO

SPECIALIST EXPO IN GLAD CENTRE
3-4PM

FOOD TRUCKS
3-4PM

CLASSROOMS OPEN
4-5PM

STUDENTS MUST
BE IN THEIR
CLASSROOM
FROM 4-5PM.

THURSDAY 8TH AUGUST
3-5PM

