Friday 20 May
♣ PFA
♣ East Timor Day - Special Lunch Orders Only
♣ Tours 11:30
♣ Assembly Grade 5/6 at 2.30pm
Saturday 21 May
♣ Tours 12:30
Monday 23 May
♣ Divisional Cross Country
Tuesday 24 May
♣ Eucharist family night 3
Wednesday 25 May
♣ Prep D & E Class Breakfast
♣ Tours 11:30
Thursday 26 May
♣ Mass Grade 5/6 N at 2.30pm
Friday 27 May
♣ PFA
♣ Tours 11:30
♣ Assembly Grade 3/4 at 2.30pm
Saturday 28 May
♣ Eucharist Presentation Mass
Sunday 29 May
♣ Eucharist Presentation Mass
Wednesday 1 June
♣ PSG Meetings
♣ Tours 11:30
Thursday 2 June
♣ Prep Prayer
♣ Eucharist Workshop
Friday 3 June
♣ PFA
♣ Movie Night
♣ Tours 11:30
♣ Assembly Grade 1/2 at 2.30pm
Saturday 4 June
♣ Eucharist Mass
Sunday 5 June
♣ Eucharist Mass
Tuesday 7 June
♣ NSAB meeting 5
♣ Confirmation Registration
Wednesday 8 June
♣ Tours 11:30
Thursday 9 June
♣ PSG Meetings

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**PRAYER**

**Glory be to the Son**, Who by His Precious Blood delivered me from hell, and opened for me the gates of heaven.

**Glory be to the Holy Spirit**, Who has sanctified me in the sacrament of Baptism, and continues to sanctify me by the graces I receive daily from His bounty.

**Glory be to the Three adorable Persons of the Holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.**

**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

If you have children starting Prep next year, please collect an enrolment pack from the office.

Enrolments for 2017 are due now.

**OPEN DAYS**

**ST. PAUL APOSTLE NORTH PRIMARY ENDEAVOUR HILLS**

**IGNITING THE MIND**

**PRINCIPALChristine White**

**9700 6068**

**TERMS 2016**

Term 1: 29th Jan-24th Mar Term 2: 11th Apr-24th June Term 3: 11th Jul-16th Sep Term 4: 3rd Oct-16th Dec

**SCHOOL SUPERVISION TIMES**

- 8.30am-1.40pm: Supervision before school commences at 8.30am. Children should not arrive at school before this time. Students need to be at school by 8.45am for a 8.50am start. School finishes at 3.20pm. Teachers are on duty until 3.40pm. Students need to be collected by 3.40pm. The school has an Out of School Hours Care Program to assist parents who work or cannot make it to the school by 3.40pm.

**SCHOOL GATES**

Please note that, for the safety of your children, the school gates will be locked between 9.00am and 3.10pm every day. The gates will be opened around 2.20pm on a Friday for parents wishing to attend Assembly. The gates will be locked again from 3.40pm. Please ensure that you do not park at the back of the school after this time as you will be locked in.

**CANTEEN**

The canteen operates every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please go to the school website for the current price list and ordering procedures.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

The Uniform Shop is open every Wednesday from 8.30am-10.00am in the Specialist Block. Uniforms can also be purchased directly from our suppliers, KLAD Sports (8 Macro Court, Rowville. 9763-0266). Good quality secondhand uniforms are also available. Please enquire at the school office.
Enrolments for siblings starting in 2017 are due now

If you do have a child or know of a child who will commence school in 2017, their enrolment applications are DUE NOW. Children who turn 5 before the 30th April are eligible to commence school. If you have a sibling of a child already at St Paul Apostle North, you must inform us, so that a place can be kept. Every child, including children of existing families, must complete an enrolment form. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website www.spanhills.catholic.edu.au or alternatively collect one from the school office. Enrolment applications are required before the end of May for 2017.

**Do you let your kids amaze you?**
by Michael Grose - Australia’s No 1 parenting educator

“I'm amazed at what children CAN do when given the opportunity and encouragement. I love the pride, confidence and sense of purpose/pleasure in contributing, each new skill achieved brings. The smiles are awesome too.”

A mother left this comment on our Facebook page recently in response to our post: “What would be the impact if you did less, not more for your children?”

Lovely answer!

It got me thinking that the joy that this mother took from watching her children develop independence was no accident. Her parenting style played a large role in her children’s independence. All power to her and her parenting style!

I’ve long believed that **adults are the gatekeepers for children’s independence.**

We open the gate to independence when we give children opportunities to develop **self-help skills** (carry their own schoolbags, get themselves up in the morning, tidy their own rooms); provide them with **real responsibility** (feeding pets, setting the meal table and preparing meals) and give them **autonomy** to make some of their own decisions (choosing clothes within limits, following own interests, making choices about pocket-money spending).

We close the independence gate when we **do too much** for children (tidy their toys away, pack their schoolbags, make **simple snacks**); **rescue** them from learning opportunities (take forgotten lunches to school, sort out their friendship problems, pay their library fines) and **neglect** to build scaffolds to independence (such as help them make their bed, walk half way to school, teach them to ride public transport).

It’s a quirk of parenting that many children think they are older than they are, and parents think their children are younger than they are. We underestimate children’s abilities to the detriment of their development.

**Are you an opener or closer of the gate to children’s independence?**

Think of independence as a continuum with opening the gate and closing the gate at either end. If your parenting is more at the closing end, then look for ways to move down the continuum towards independence building. My advice is to make small adaptations to your parenting. For instance, start with a child making their own snacks before moving to helping you to prepare a meal. But first you need to develop a mindset for independence building. That means, be on the lookout for opportunities for children to do things for themselves.

As many readers will know, I firmly believe that the job of parents is to make ourselves **redundant** from the earliest possible age of a child’s life. That means, that our interactions with kids have an endgame in mind – we want our kids to be able to stand on their own two feet **physically** (Don’t we get a kick out of them walking for the first time), **emotionally** (with support, of course) and to **navigate their world** without being reliant on others.

There is no better feeling as a parent, than watching your child beam with joy and pride when they’ve mastered a new skill, overcome a challenge or conquer a fear. It’s those times that make parenting so worthwhile. Those awesome smiles won’t happen by accident. They require a parenting style that gives kids a chance to be independent; that encourages them to be brave and offers them the safety net of emotional support when life throws them curve balls. Why not try it? Give your kids a chance to amaze you.

**NAPLAN is not everything**

Our Grade 3 and Grade 5 students participated in the annual NAPLAN assessments last week. They all seemed very positive and completed the assessments in Literacy and Numeracy to the best of their ability.

NAPLAN needs to be kept in context. It is just one assessment taken on a given day. It can only assess what can be measured. On its own, NAPLAN cannot describe the total picture of the wonderful abilities of your child. NAPLAN can say how your child did on what was assessed on that day but it does not tell you everything. NAPLAN does not define a child; the score is not a reflection of who your child is now or who they will become. NAPLAN, along with all the other information a teacher collects, is best analysed to determine the learning plan for the child. As with other assessments and learning tasks, NAPLAN provides teachers with information of what a child has learnt and what the child needs to work on next. Teachers continually engage in a dialogue with each child to let them know the learning goals and give them feedback to help guide the next stage of learning. Teachers will engage with each child to discuss their responses and help them see ways they can develop their skills. This makes constructive and positive use of any assessment.
Learning is a journey. There are many paths to success. One size does not fit all. All children learn to walk and learn to talk, unless there is a medical problem. They do this in many different ways and at different times. Walking before or after your first birthday, in no way determines your success in later life. We do walk when we are ready and when given the support. Once we learn to walk, we strive towards running and nothing stops us from adding other skills that enable us to explore the world. The transition is fluid and not determined by our age. This is the same as we learn at school. The learning of skills is achieved at different rates for different skills. We may be great in Mathematics, but that does not mean we are great at all concepts in Maths. We can be great at subtraction, but may need extra support with multiplication. We may be an excellent reader, but not be such a great speller. Teachers identify the child’s stages of development and provide the scaffolds to help them progress and learn each new skill. This is what we call personalised learning.

Skills also need to be refined, and applied in context. Just because we can write a narrative, does not mean we do not need to write another one at school. We work on refining our learning from one year to the next. When we consider an artist, they do not put down the paint brush after the first landscape and an Olympic athlete continues practising a skill to get to an elite level. This is the same in classes across the school. Skills are repeated each year as we support children to refine the skill to an advanced level. A simple narrative is written by a Grade 2 child; but by Grade 3 and 4 we continue to write our narratives but work on sorting our ideas to paragraphs. While in Grade 5 and 6 we may be working on our use of language to capture emotion and define a character.

A child’s grade or age does not determine the learning session. It is by really knowing each child’s needs, by diagnosing this through multiple sources of information that best determines the support required for the particular skill and for the particular stage of learning. One size does not fit all, one assessment is not everything. Please take up opportunities, talk with teachers to understand all that goes into supporting your child and ensuring the best possible outcomes.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent teacher interviews will be held on Monday 20th June 2016. The interviews are a chance to discuss your child’s progress during Semester One and set goals for your child’s learning for Semester Two. Thus we encourage parents to involve their child in these discussions and to bring them to the interview. The Semester One school report will be available to parents on Friday 17th June. Parent teacher interviews will commence at 1:30pm and conclude at 8pm. Parents will be invited to book an appointment via an online booking service. Details of the booking process will be sent home next week so that you can make an appointment at a time convenient to your family. We ask parents to take this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher and strengthen the home school partnership essential for improved outcomes for your child.

As interviews will commence at 1:30pm on Monday 20 June, school will conclude at 1pm for all classes.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**This Sunday’s Gospel Reading**  **John 16: 12-15**  **THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

*The Word of God*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.’

Our third Family Night will be held on Tuesday 24th May.

Children need to bring their workbooks and pencil case to this meeting.

Please arrive in time to sign in and be ready to begin at 7pm.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

One of SPAN’S favourite authors Dr Seuss’ books are available in our library for borrowing. Parents are welcome to borrow at any time during the day, or before or after school with their children. We have lots of new and exciting books for you to borrow. Please help your child search for any library books at home.

If you are able to help in our library for even 10 minutes, or take books home to cover, please come and see me.

Karen Unwin, Librarian
**CLASSROOM NEWS**

**Grade 5/6 News**

In Grade 5 and 6 we have been writing persuasive essays. We have learnt how to write a ‘Sizzling Starter’ to catch the readers attention. We looked at how to group similar ideas into paragraphs and expand on our arguments. We also learnt how to include a call to action in our conclusion. Here are some examples of our engaging introductions, interesting arguments and endings with impact. Here are some snippets of Grade 5/6P’s work:

‘Fast Forward 50 years from when you’re a kid: you’re sitting on a lounge, eating stale chips and watching telly; or, would you rather be playing soccer outside with your grandchildren? If you chose the second one you should go and join a club without just sitting and playing on the PlayStation/Xbox.

When you play sports you will become happy and healthy. During the training sessions or matches you can set goals and achieve them. For example you can set a goal to score hat trick goals during a match, so that you have to practise shooting and work on your fitness. Also when you play sports you can have 99% chance to get friends (found out by the scientific research of Noah). There are so many mental health benefits of playing sport, like personal confidence, family attachment, less risky behaviour, higher grades and greater involvement in volunteer work. You will also have a feeling of belonging when you make friends and join a club. (TrueSport.org)’ Noah

Spending time with your family is definitely more important than homework. You need to build relationships with your family but not with homework. Who makes a relationship with their homework? Family is important for developing social skills. If you want to get anywhere in life you need social skills, especially with your family. You also learn lots of other life skills with your family (example cooking, washing, cleaning and heaps more). So I don’t think that we should have homework instead of family time!’ Laura

After school we’re all tired and the last thing we think about is homework. This is the last thing children want, as our brains need a rest. We need time with our family and to play. We need to get fresh air. We need to know what nature is. You’re basically stuck in a room solving problems and staring, until you find the answer. That’s why we shouldn’t do homework.’ Stash

Dogs are a friendly bunch. They will love you unconditionally and be the first to greet you as soon as the door opens, unlike cats who only come when their food is being serviced; and even then it’s a struggle for their lazy little body. The pros of having a dog are great; better for your mental health, physical health and your dog can even build up your confidence. These loving animals always want to be with you, cats on the other hand are selfish little beings who only care about themselves and their own happiness.’ Sophie

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**WELLBEING**

Helping kids to think positively

Helping children to develop health thinking habits is vital and is the foundation of emotional resilience. At times we all think in unhelpful ways that we know makes us feel pessimistic, down or afraid. However if we think this way all the time, we develop thinking down. We can help our children become healthy thinkers by modelling positive thoughts and actions. We can point out gently to our children when they are thinking in a negative way (but not giving too much attention) and give loads of praise when we see our children facing difficulties with a positive attitude. Children also look carefully at parents to see how they are viewing difficult situations and in turn develop strategies and beliefs around what they see and hear. Below is a list of unhelpful and helpful types of thinking.

8 Types of Unhelpful Thinking

- **Catastrophic thinking** this is the worst thing in the world
- **Self-Downing thinking** putting yourself down
- **Perfectionistic thinking** Needing to be perfect

8 Types Helpfull Thinking

- **Perspective Thinking** means thinking it’s not the worst thing that could happen to me.
- **I Can do this thinking** means while this is hard, I can still do it.
- **Accepting Thinking** means thinking that when I make mistakes I am not hopeless and people will still like me even if I am not perfect. I still have my good points.
- **Fearless thinking** means thinking that it’s OK to make mistakes when learning new things.
- **Independent Thinking** it’s important to be myself and have a go at new things.
- **Confident Thinking** if I really put my mind to this I will be able to do it!
- **Persistent Thinking** we all have to work hard to achieve even though they may not like doing it.
- **Tolerant Thinking** things are hard / frustrating but I can stand it.
Please return Camp Sport and Excursion Fund (CSEF) Form to the School office by Friday 3rd June 2016, if you haven’t already done so for 2016.

The Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund is a Victorian Government initiative introduced in 2015 to assist eligible families to cover the cost of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Parents who haven’t already applied for this funding in 2016 are invited to apply by the Friday 3rd June 2016.

If you hold a means-tested concession card such as:
- Veterans Affairs Gold Card,
- Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC)
- Pensioner Concession Card (PCC)
- or are a temporary foster parent

you may be eligible for CSEF. Payment will be made direct to the school.

The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students

How to apply:
Fill out the application form found under School website (Camp Sport and Excursions fund) or drop into the office to obtain a copy. Once completed, please return to the office with your concession card so that a photocopy can be taken. Applications cannot be accepted without the original card being sighted.

Closing Date:
Eligible parents/guardians should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by Friday 3rd June, 2016 to ensure your child receives this funding as early in the school year as possible.

Further information can be obtained at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Please do not hesitate to contact the school office should you have any queries.

REMINDER Schoolpix Miscellaneous Group Order Form due by Friday 27 May 2016

Please return the Schoolpix Miscellaneous Group Order Form to the school by Friday 27 May 2016.

Raising Great Kids

For parents of children 3-8
Presented by Dr. Andrew Mullins, Author of ‘Parenting For Character’

Date: 20th May 2016 Time: 7.15pm
Location: L1, 64 Victor Crescent, Narre Warren

Hosted by Harkaway Hills College harkawayhills.vic.edu.au

Mother’s Day Breakfast Photos
EAST TIMOR DAY—Friday 20 May 2016
St Paul Apostle North are holding the annual East Timor Day on Friday 20 May. Our school is a proud partner of the Friends of Ermera program, a community based group operating in the City of Casey, who aim to help the people of Ermera continue to develop sustainable communities and provide education to young people.
Grade 5 and 6 leaders will be running rotational activities such as letter writing and traditional dance. The sessions will begin at 11.30am and conclude at 3.00 pm. Parents and family members are welcome to join us during the day.
We encourage students to wear the colours of the East Timor flag (red, black, yellow and white) for a gold coin donation. We will also have a special lunch order, with all profits being donated to the Friends of Ermera organisation.

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO OTHER LUNCH ORDERS ON THIS DAY.

PFA News
PFA Welcomes ALL Parents Friday 9am in the Parents Room
Funds raised Mother’s Day Activities 2016: This year we had a great turn out for SPAN Mother’s Day breakfast. We thank all who participated and especially those of you who helped, it’s really heart-warming to see everyone jump in and help!
We would like to thank you all who donated gifts for the Mother’s Day Raffle. We had 19 raffle prices because of your wonderful and abundant donations.
As a total we raised around $800.00.
School Banking: Don’t forget to hand in your Deposit Books first up in the morning to avoid disappointment! Please note: it’s never too late to join School Banking. Just ask us how.
Evening PFA meeting: We are going to be holding an evening PFA meeting on Thursday 9th June 7pm. We would really love to see those of you who can spare an hour or so for a chat, exchange of ideas and a cuppa!
Buy a brick: Buy an engraved brick to leave a long lasting legacy at our school by Friday 27th May 2016. Order forms are available from SPAN website alternatively, ask us for one.
SPAN Movie Night: We are holding our first ever movie night on Friday 3rd June from 6.00 to 8.00pm. We will be screening Alvin and the Chipmunks – The Road Chip (PG). Please complete the order form we sent home for food orders. Alternatively there are spares in the office.
School Dinner Dance 2016: Keep Saturday 23rd July 2016 free. Book in your baby sitter! SPAN parents and friends will be celebrating Christmas in July!
Contacts: there are so many ways to keep in contact with us. You can pop in on a Friday in the parents room, you can email us on spanpfa@gmail.com or you can call us. A few of our contact numbers are: Lina 0409 038 186, Neshe 0400 378 722 or Karen 0433 207 508.
Once again, please feel free to come in anytime. We are always in the Parents Room on a Friday and would love for you to join us. Also, if you have any queries or suggestions and you are not able to pop in, please drop us a line on spanpfa@gmail.com. We are always happy to hear from anyone and will respond to any query.

St Paul Apostle North Primary School OSHC
Welcome to OSHC!
Dear Parents and School staff,
Tips for helping children (and parents) feel comfortable in after school care:
1. Come into the program with your child to meet our Camp Australia team and find out what kind of activities they can look forward to.
2. Please let the Coordinator know by calling and leaving a message if the child is registered for After School Care and they will not be attending.
3. It is a good idea to enrol your child online 48 hrs prior to attending after school care if your child has any allergies or medical condition. Alternately, you are welcome to come and speak to the Coordinator a day or two prior for any medical conditions.
4. Feedback and suggestions are welcome, so, let us known how your child felt after their first visit.
5. Encourage your child to talk to the Educators if there is something in particular your child would like to do when they are in our care.

We’re here to make after school care visits the best experience possible, for you and your child.
If you have any questions about the program please feel free to drop by, meet the team and see what happens in After School Care first hand.
To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit www.campaustralia.com.au
Laura Cook – Camp Australia Coordinator
OSHC Number: 0402360219