St. Paul Apostle North Primary School

Term 2 Issue 2.4

Thursday 2 June 2016

PRAYER

O Jesus, who hast loved us with such exceeding great love as to give us the ineffable gift of the Holy Eucharist, inflame us with a burning zeal to promote Thy glory by preparing worthily the little children who are to approach Thy holy table for the first time. Protect, O Sacred Heart of Jesus, these young souls from the assaults of evil, strengthen their faith, increase their love and endow them with all the virtues that will make them worthy to receive Thee. 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 3 June
- PFA
- Movie Night
- Tours 11:30 am
- Assembly Gr 1/2 at 2.30 pm

Saturday 4 June
- Eucharist Mass

Sunday 5 June
- Eucharist Mass

Monday 6 June
- NSAB meeting 5
- Confirmation Registration

Tuesday 7 June
- Tours 11:30 am

Wednesday 8 June
- PSG
- Mass 5/6 O

Friday 10 June
- PFA
- Tours 11:30 am
- Assembly Prep at 2.30 pm

Saturday 11 June
- Eucharist Mass

Sunday 12 June
- Eucharist Mass

Monday 13 June
- Queen’s Birthday
- PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Wednesday 15 June
- St Paul’s Day South School

Friday 17 June
- PFA
- Assembly Mandarin

Monday 20 June
- P.T. Interviews
- School closes at 1pm

Tuesday 21 June

Thursday 23 June
- Gr ½ Eucharist Celebration Mass

Friday 24 June
- PFA
- Assembly General

End of Term 2

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-3.40pm. 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.
Last week the Church celebrated the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as Corpus Christi. In every celebration of the Eucharist we remember the way that Christ fed the crowds who came to him and how he gave his entire life for us. He feeds us too when we remember and receive Christ’s self-offering, his body and blood in the form of bread and wine in the Eucharist.

This week and next week during our weekend Masses, we will have children from our school and parish making their First Eucharist.

The children have been preparing for Eucharist at school, at home and by attending Family nights over the past few weeks with their parents. It has been wonderful to see their participation as they focused with Fr Tim on the first session; and then with Fr Xavier at Family night two and three on the parts and meaning of the Mass.

**We Gather** – They have reflected on the importance of coming together. Eucharist is about community. We are nourished by coming together to pray and celebrate.

**We Listen** – We listen to the Word of God and understand what it means to us in our life today in 2016. What is Jesus saying to us now? What are we called to do?

**We Celebrate** – We prepare and receive the Body and Blood of Christ. We, though we are many, are one. We remember and we are nourished to let the light of Christ be alive in us.

**We go out** – We are commissioned to leave and be the light of Christ. To go out into our world and make a difference. To be the light of Christ and follow in his footsteps.

A very warm ‘Congratulations’ to all children who will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist over the next two weekends. Many thanks to all the children’s parents and families for working in partnership with us and sharing this sacred time. May your faith journey together, continue to be filled with God’s love. We invite all our school families to pray for our children and their families. If possible, come along and support our children on this first of many Eucharistic celebrations in this life.

CONGRATULATIONS!

**Annual Report and Review**

I am currently completing our Annual Report to the community. Once the report has been read by the Catholic Education Office it will be uploaded to our school website. The report outlines our achievements and progress over the past year on our school improvement goals and objectives. The School Improvement Plan is also displayed in our staff room and outlines our 2016 Annual Action Plan. There are five key spheres of School Improvement Plans for Catholic School in the Melbourne Diocese. They are outlined below with our key improvement goals:

1. **Faith Education** Strengthens the Catholic Identity of the school. E.g. dynamic Religious Education program that links faith and life.

2. **Learning & Teaching** To depth thinking and learning, in particular, to improve the comprehension and application of numeracy skills. E.g. mental computation, data analysis to personalise learning needs.

3. **Wellbeing** To embed social and emotional learning strategies consistently across the school. E.g. build resilience.

4. **Leadership** To improve organisational health and continue to develop a rich professional culture. E.g. coaching for improvement and consistency.

5. **Community** To be an outward facing school and engage in authentic partnerships with families and the broader community. E.g building relationships and links, PFA and NSAB.

Our School Improvement has recently been reviewed and our report validated. Mrs Meredith Nolte is an external validator and is not a member of our school staff or a staff member at Catholic Education Melbourne. Meredith’s profile describes her as follows: ‘With over 30 years’ experience in Victorian education, including school and executive level leadership, I am skilled in delivering expert consultancy and training, understanding client needs and presenting business solutions in school accountability, school improvement, leadership development, curriculum and assessment. My current work in the education sector includes school review and evaluation, planning and delivery of customised leadership and professional development, coaching and mentoring, strategising community engagement and training for school councils.’

Meredith will deliver her report to the school staff on the 7 June and then to the NSAB North School Advisory Board that evening. The new School Improvement plan was developed with our staff and parent representatives after a thorough consultation with students, parents and staff. Responses were gathered from surveys as well as during interviews. The school will work with Catholic Education Melbourne – Southern Area Office, to set targets and plan our action to meet our goals over the next improvement cycle from 2017 to 2020. We are excited to work in partnership to ensure success.


**Reading your child’s report** By Michael Grose

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

*Could try harder . . . always does her best . . . lacks concentration . . . easily distracted . . . a pleasure to teach . . .*

Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well, but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.
Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report, do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?
   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high, then kids can be turned off learning. Too low, and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?
   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?
   Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.
   School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive, while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format, school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

   Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:
   **Focus on strengths.** Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths, even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

   **Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning.** If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

   **Broaden your focus** away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and cooperation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

   **Take note of student self-assessment.** Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

   **Discuss the report** with your son or daughter talking about strengths first, before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

   After reports are read and discussed, celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

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**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

This Sunday’s Gospel Reading  Luke 7: 11-17

**The Word of God**

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, “Do not weep.” He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!” The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, crying out “A great prophet has arisen in our midst, “ and “God has visited his people.” This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

**Congratulations to all the Children receiving their First Holy Eucharist**

Alannah, Alicia, Andrea, Chloe, Christina, Dirance, Frankie, Jayme, Jonathan, Klara, Lanah, Lara, Laura, Matthew, Sarah, Tahlia and Tayshaun

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**CLASSROOM NEWS**

**Grade 1/2 News**

Grade 1/2 C has new class pets. Welcome Nippers and Bluey. Nippers decided to nip Miss Winter on its first day in the classroom. It’s a very cheeky hermit crab. We have been learning about adjectives in preparation for narrative writing.

Come in and see some of our hermit crab adjectives.
In writing, we wrote poems about people who show light in our lives.

In maths we are learning about giving and following directions. Here is a map with directions to different parts of the classroom.

Art News

Visual Art: It has been a busy time, as always, in the Art room with students continuing to create vibrant and exciting art works. We have seen lots of wonderful masterpieces go home for Mother’s Day that the children made with great enthusiasm and excitement. Oil pastels have featured in the junior years with plenty of creative drawings and experimentation with techniques to make bold, imaginative designs. Grade 3/4’s have been building up their collage skills with some bright peacock designs about to feature on our displays—stay tuned! The Grade 5/6’s are investigating landscapes and developing skills to create colour value with acrylic paint and water colours. They will be using these skills to paint atmospheric landscapes, with a focus on creating distinct foregrounds and backgrounds in their chosen image.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Social Justice Leadership Group Report

This term the Social Justice Leadership Group would like for the students in our school to participate in an ongoing term event, The Warm Clothes Drive. Did you know that 23,000 people are living on the streets of Victoria. This Winter will be a cold one, so the Social Justice Leadership Group are asking you to donate: umbrellas, raincoats, old jumpers and jackets, coats, scarves, blankets and beanies. We would appreciate anything wearable that could keep a less fortunate person warm this winter!

Garden Leaders Report

This week the Garden Leaders ran a gardening clinic with the Juniors to plant spinach, parsley, and different flowers in pots. When the plants grow up enough, we will put them in one of our gardens and the Garden Leaders will take care of them, except on Tuesday’s when the Juniors will come and water their plants. Other Juniors can make a new plant if they haven’t planted one already. The clinic was a big success.

WELLBEING

Characteristics of Resilient Kids

What is Resilience? Resilience is the ability to cope and stay healthy in spite of the negative things that happen through life. Resilience is being able to cope with life’s downs and to recover well when things go wrong.

Building resilience in children includes 5 areas:

1. Personal coping skills which include thinking in a healthy way so children can put things into perspective and build self-confidence.
2. Interpersonal skill development which includes making friends, managing feelings, dealing with conflict, seeking help and solving problems.
3. Developing individual coping strategies such finding something fun to do, meditating, writing in a journal and using an emotional thermometer.
4. Nourishing the spirit by putting into place a variety of preventative strategies that help to minimise stress such as spending a lot of time engaging in free play and being creative.

5. Providing lots of opportunity for children to make mistakes, deal with problems on their own and giving children appropriate independence.

Characteristics of Resilient People

- Ability to ‘bounce back’ and ‘recover from almost anything’.
- Optimistic, flexible thinking skills.
- Have a “where there’s a will, there’s a way” attitude.
- Tendency to see problems as opportunities to learn and grow
- Ability to “hang in there” or persevere and persist.
- Have a healthy, authentic self esteem.
- Capable of setting clear, realistic and attainable goals.
- Have a healthy social support network.
- Seldom dwell on the past or the future.
- Learn from previous challenges and mistakes.
- Able to put things into perspective
- Have a well developed sense of humour.
- Have meaningful involvement with others and in their community.
- Treat themselves and others with respect.
- Have problem solving and conflict resolution skills.
- Value free time, relaxing and spending time on hobbies.

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK WEEK 2016

Australia! Story Country 20-26th August:


Please start thinking of a costume for our Book parade.

As part of our book week celebrations Author Jane Godwin will be coming to our school on Monday 29th August 2016.

Jane Godwin is an Australian children’s book publisher, and also the highly acclaimed author of over twenty books for children. Jane’s most recent novel is *Falling From Grace*, and her most recent children’s picture book is *Hattie Helps Out*, co-written with Davina Bell and illustrated by Freya Blackwood.

Some picture books Jane has co-written are – *Little Cat and the Big Red Bus, All Through the Year*, *Today we have no Plans*, *Starting School and What Do You Wish For?*

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 even for 10 minutes or take books home to cover please come and see me.

Karen Unwin, Librarian

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Family Conferences – Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews

Monday 20 June, 2016 from 1.30 pm - 8.00 pm

Parents are asked to book your appointments online. Bookings are now open.

Please follow the steps outlined below:

1. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
2. Enter the Event Code *peuv5*
3. Click on GO.
4. Enter your details. i.e. your full name and email address, the number of students you wish to book appointments for and the student’s name.
5. Select the Teachers.

Parents with an email address will have their bookings sent to them automatically. If you do not have an email you will need to hit the ‘Print’ button at the end.

If you need to change your appointment you can re-enter the site and change your appointment prior to the day of the interview.

If you do not have access to a computer you can visit the school we will help you with your booking.

We look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child’s learning journey.

Reminder

Scholastic Book Club Orders due tomorrow
Friday 3 June 2016

Public Holiday

MONDAY 13 JUNE
QUEENS BIRTHDAY

MONDAY 20 JUNE
SCHOOL CLOSES AT 1 PM
For Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews
PFA NEWS

PFA Welcomes ALL Parents Friday 9am in the Parents Room

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!

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.

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 48hrs prior to attending after school care if your child has any allergies or medical condition. Alternatively, 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

School Dinner Dance 2016: Keep Saturday 16th 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

THE BIG
FREEZE
WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL
JULY 2-10, 2016
GRANBOURNE RACECOURSE

NO, NOT, NOT, NOT, YOU DON’T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT.

NOMINATE A GREAT TEACHER TODAY

Do you know a teacher you’d like to thank? A Day Made Better gives you the opportunity to thank a primary or secondary school teacher who is making a difference. If chosen as one of 10 winners, they’ll receive $5,000 worth of supplies and an Apple iPad for their classroom. Help us recognise these inspiring people by nominating them today.

NOMINATE A TEACHER YOU’D LIKE TO THANK BEFORE JUNE 17TH Great teachers are worth celebrating.

ADAYMADEBETTER.COM.AU