PRAYER

A Special Prayer for Fathers, Grandfathers and Father figures

God, bless all the fathers, grandfathers and father figures in the world who have done their best to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like You are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way. Amen

PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

Saint Teresa of Calcutta - “Carrier of God’s Tender and Merciful Love”

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta will be canonised on Sunday 4th September and will be known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta. She is to be made a saint in the Holy Year of Mercy.

The Holy Father’s desire is to have Mother Teresa’s canonisation during this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, particularly during the Jubilee celebration for workers and volunteers of mercy. The whole pontificate of Pope Francis is marked by attention and love for the last, the least and the lost, for the marginalised, for those at the peripheries of human existence – the poorest of the poor. How fitting, then, to have Mother Teresa to be, we could even say, the Saint of this Jubilee! This is fitting as Mother Teresa is known worldwide inside and outside the church as an icon of God’s mercy to those in need.

“Carrier of God’s Tender and Merciful Love” has been chosen as the theme for her canonisation.

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 2.10pm 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, KLA Sports (8 Macro Court, Rowville. 9763-0266). Good quality secondhand uniforms are also available. Please enquire at the school office.
Mother Teresa insisted that love ‘cannot remain still. It has to get into action, and that action is service.’

Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta India. Mother Teresa ‘translated’ this to ‘carriers of God’s love.’ She urged her followers to ‘serve the poor with tender and compassionate love.’ This is ‘carrying’ the love of Jesus who, she was absolutely convinced, ‘loves each one of us tenderly with mercy and compassion.’ and ‘wants us to love each other as He loves each one of us with a tender love.’

As we approach the canonisation of Mother Teresa, we may be encouraged by her example and message of God’s tender and merciful love to put ‘love into living action’ as she did, to do ‘ordinary things with extraordinary love.’ We may not be called to do exactly what Mother Teresa did, but we can do what God entrusts uniquely to each one of us. Mother Teresa understood this so well:

‘As I often say to people who tell me they would like to serve the poor as I do, What I can do, you cannot; what you can do, I cannot. But together we can do something beautiful for God.’

Let the love start in our homes and schools and spread like wildfire. Let us each reflect about the ways we are carriers of love today.

A CALL TO MERCY: Hearts to Love, Hands to Serve.

http://youtu.be/RYex8kpB-OY

Help us Improve our school
Insight SRC School Survey 2016

St Paul Apostle North has participated in the Insight SRC surveys over the past nine years. The annual survey of all staff and Gr 3-6 students as well as 50 randomly selected parents informs our School Improvement Plan and refines our Annual Action Plans.

This week, 50 randomly selected parents will receive a letter requesting that they complete this survey as a representative of the parent community. We ask that you please take the time to respond, as your feedback will be extremely valuable to us. The effectiveness of the feedback is dependent on parents’ involvement. Your response is completely confidential.

The survey can be completed online. Please refer to the instructions in the letter for the website and login details.

We ask that you complete the online surveys by Friday 16 September 2016.

To encourage your response, we will place your name in a special raffle. We ask that you let the office know when the survey has been submitted online.

The prize will be a Village Movie $50 gift card to be drawn on 16 September at our assembly.

Naplan 2016 – Reaching for the STARS!!

Our 2016 NAPLAN results have arrived and they are testament to the excellent learning community that we have at St Paul Apostle North Primary School!!

NAPLAN, of course, only measures what can be accessed via a test format and not the breadth and depth of the entire curriculum; or even areas that are essential for twenty first century thinking and learning. However, we do use it to set benchmarks and raise the learning standards for our children. NAPLAN is just one of many indicators we use to gather data on our performance as a school. We never only look at one year but at the trend data of at least five years to gauge growth and set goals.

As we begin the analysis of the data with staff, I am delighted and very proud of the results that I am seeing. I am so proud of our students, our parents and just so very PROUD of our staff. Our trend data is strong against like schools and the State. We are trending upwards or are on par with previous years in the majority of areas tested.

Of particular delight is our Grade 3 2016 data. We have continued to make great gains in all areas of Literacy assessed. We have been trending upwards. We had excellent results in 2015 but this year we have even BETTER results compared to the previous five years! All our collective work across the school, with the implementation of consistent strategies across learning communities and across the school is reaping the rewards. We can see improvements not just in our NAPLAN test but this is also verified in other forms of data collected.

The two year growth analysis of students from Grade 3 to Grade 5 is also strong. We have taken children from where they are and have seen a great two year growth.

Mathematics is an area where our results have remained the same and we continue to see fluctuations between cohorts of children. It is the area of our focus like many schools in Australia. Analysis of results certainly shows that our children have the basic skills necessary; however they are not always able to apply these skills in real life contexts. This is an area where parents can support the school. At home, children need to be engaged with you in tasks to see and apply maths in context, rather than do more text book exercises.

In real life, if we are sewing or renovating, we need to select the right tool for the job. At a basic level we can hammer a nail when someone shows us; or can sew a straight line under direction. However, to be a builder or a dressmaker we need to make decisions about the best tool and process as we tackle each task. In the same way, we keep children dependent if we are always directing them and not encouraging thinking and application of skills to solve problems.

I encourage you to let children see ways you use maths in your life; when you cook, plan a party, set the table, when you build, when you plan a holiday, purchase plants and decide where you will plant them or go for a drive. These are some opportunities to estimate, check, measure and apply the mathematics in real contexts.
As a school we will be focusing on engaging children in mathematical thinking and reasoning to improve their ability to apply maths in real life problems. We will be offering Maths sessions for parents so that you can see how we teach Maths in Term 4. Check out Class Dojo for insights of concepts being covered at school. Let us work together and lift our numeracy sky high as we are doing with our literacy.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**THIS SUNDAY’S GOSPEL READING**  
**LUKE 14:25-33**

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, ‘This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.’

Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.”

### CLASSROOM NEWS

**Prep News:** The Prep Children have been enjoying their Perpetual Motor Program (PMP) sessions all year. This program has been very beneficial with the development of concepts in Maths and Literacy. The program assists with the development of gross motor and fine motors skills. It aims to develop children’s perceptions and understandings of themselves and the world around them.

We still require helpers to run the small groups. If you are free to help for half an hour on Tuesday mornings please talk to your classroom teacher.

A big thank you to the parents who have already volunteered. You have helped make the sessions successful. The Prep Team.

**IT news:** Tips for iPad use at home

iPads are amazing learning tools, they are functional, purposeful, light and easily portable. Imagine your child carrying a library in their bag everyday. iPads connect the child to the world and beyond, something we as parents could have never dreamt of while we were their age.

While iPads have their benefits, they also come with their set of challenges. At school, students often follow guidelines set by their teachers, however parents can feel challenged and sometimes helpless if their child spends a lot of time glued to their iPad.

Parents can be justified in having these dilemmas and feel helpless in knowing how to correct their child. What keeps children amused and entertained has changed drastically over a very short time.

Expectations, behaviour and rules differ from family to family. Guidelines for using technology at home should be in line with family rules and could be set by parents. Discuss, negotiate and plan with your child their behaviour using technology. Write a plan and leave it on the fridge or anywhere in the house so that everyone in the house is aware of rules regarding the use of technology. Include consequences for breaking the rules and don’t forget to mention a date to review the contract and make changes if needed. Keep it simple. Teaching children to be accountable for their actions often encourages them to think about choices they make.

Ms Fernandes ICT co-ordinator

**Footy Day:**

*Join in our annual Footy day celebrations on Friday 16th September. (Last day of Term 3)*

Come to school in your favourite football team’s colours and make this one day in September a day to remember.

There will be fun ‘footy’ based activities throughout the day concluding with a “Footy themed” Assembly at 2:30pm

Children are asked to donate a gold coin, which will go towards the Fight Cancer Foundation. By wearing your colours you will be supporting Aussie Kids and Teens living with Cancer.

A raffle will be drawn during Assembly. Tickets for the raffle are 50 cents each. Children will be able to buy tickets throughout the week.
**District Athletics:** A couple of weeks ago we sent a strong team to the District Athletics Carnival and were placed 4th in a very competitive field. Our students should be very proud of how they performed on and off the track. They showed exceptional talent and sportsmanship. It was also great to see many proudly wearing their place ribbons.

Congratulations to the following students who have made the District Athletics Team at the Divisional Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 14 September. We wish them all the very best in their events:


Thanks to any parents who were able to come & support our athletes and to Miss Lucas, Miss Verstoep & Mrs Bonner for doing an excellent job supervising our students at the carnival.

Well done SPAN!

Ms Morgan

**BOOK WEEK:** The theme for Book Week this year was “Australia: Our Story, Our Country”.

This year our book week celebrations have been fantastic and extremely busy. We started with the Book Fair and continued with The Reading Hour, the Book Parade, author visits from Jason Boulter and Jane Godwin. We were visited by Shirley Balcombe from the Aboriginal Catholic Mission who spoke to our Grades 3-6 about Aboriginal culture and history. We held Pyjama Day and the children read stories with their buddies. It has been a huge celebration with lots of fun, learning and happy faces.

A big thank you to all the parents, students and staff for supporting our Book Fair, it was a lot of fun and students were very engaged looking at all the new books. It was a great success with all profits going towards buying new stock for our libraries. We have over $600 worth of new books from the profit we made.

Congratulations to Dirance of Grade 3/4 R who won reviewer for the month of July with The Read like a Demon programme, for writing an amazing story. Well Done Dirance!

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**COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS**

**SPAN Production 2016**

**WE WANT TO BE HAPPY!**

9 September 2016 at 7pm

At the Drum Theatre

226 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Tickets for the concert are on sale from the Drum Theatre website [http://www.drumtheatre.com.au/](http://www.drumtheatre.com.au/) or PH (03) 8571 1666. They are priced at $25.00 per ticket. Due to a change in the ticketing policy of the Drum Theatre, the school no longer has any control over the sale of tickets. It is important to book your tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.
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.campausralia.com.au

Laura Cook – Camp Australia Coordinator

OSHC Number: 0402360219

Dairy Assistance Funding 2016

In 2016 the Victorian Government implemented a response package to assist dairy farming families. This included assistance for primary and secondary students attending schools (government and non-government schools) where one or both parents:
- own an operating dairy farm
- are share farmers on a property primarily operating as a dairy farm
- hold a lease for an operating dairy farm work as an employee on an operating dairy farm and this is their main source of employment.

The CSEF eligibility criterion is being extended consistent with the 2016 drought response. Families that have previously qualified for the 2016 CSEF Drought assistance are not able to also access the CSEF Dairy assistance funding.

The Dairy Assistance CSEF payment will be paid to the school that the student is currently enrolled at the start of Term 3 2016.

Parents can apply for the dairy assistance funding by completing an application form and lodging it with their child’s schools by 14 November 2016. The school will allocate the payment directly to benefit the eligible student.

For more details and application form, please visit the following website: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csef.aspx

An application form can be collected from the School Office.

Uniform Shop News: Klad Sport at 8 Macro Crt Rowville, will close at 4.30 pm on 15 September 2016 for school holidays for 1 week and re-open on 26 September 2016.

PFA NEWS

Reminder Father’s Day Breakfast tomorrow
Friday 2 September from 8am to 9am in the PLC
Book Week Photos