**IMPORTANT DATES**

Friday 9 December
- PFA
- Grade 6 Graduation Assembly
- Choir at Knox 9am-11am
- Choir at Endeavour Hills 5.30pm

Sunday 11 December
- Choir & Family Carols after 6pm Mass

Tuesday 13 December
- Gr 6 Graduation at 6pm in Church and Hall for Presentations, Dinner + Disco

Wednesday 14 December
- Orientation Grades 1-6 from 9.30am – 11 am
- Grade 6 Students start at 11.30am

Thursday 15 December
- Whole School Mass 9.15am
- Thank You morning tea for parents at 10:30am
- Bush Dance 11.30am—1.30pm followed by a sausage sizzle.
- Assembly Farewell Mrs. White 2.30pm
- Senior Basketball

Friday 16 December
- PFA
- End of Year Assembly and Farewell at 9:30 am

School finishes at 1.20pm

**SCHOOL REOPENS ON 1 FEBRUARY 2017**

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**INTERVENTION NEWS**

**PRAYER**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary 8 December

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, did prepare a worthy dwelling place for Your Son, we beseech You that, as by the foreseen death of this, Your Son, You did preserve her from all stain, so too You would permit us, purified through her intercession, to come unto You. Through the same Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

To Carol Matheson on her retirement

Celebration of 29 years at St Paul Apostle North – Friday 2 December 2016

Today we congratulate and thank Carol for her 46 years commitment to Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Carol commenced her teaching career at St Anthony’s Noble Park where she worked for 6 years, then moved to St Gerard’s North Dandenong for just three years. We just missed each other as I started at St Gerard’s from 1983... Carol then went to Resurrection Keysborough for 8 years and then to St Paul Apostle North, where she started in 1988 when the school was just three years old. Carol has been an integral part of the story of St Paul Apostle North Primary School for the past 29 years. What an outstanding contribution to the education of our children here in Endeavour Hills.

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**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 or 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, KLAS Sports (8 Macro Court, Rowville. 9763-0266). Good quality secondhand uniforms are also available. Please enquire at the school office.
During the past 29 years Carol has lived through many changes.

- She has seen three Principals come and go Mr Tom Lindeman, Mr Gavin Murphy and now me Mrs Christine White. (‘I said you cannot go until I go Carol and we kept to our pact.’)
- She has seen the school change from muddy clay paddocks to having an oval, from portables to contemporary learning spaces... There was a little tear to see her portable being the first one lifted high into the sky and cut into halves as it was loaded on to a truck. We all had mixed feelings that day as the whole school watched in amazement and with a few butterflies about what this change would bring.
- Carol has experienced a few changes to curriculum!!! We often smiled at the change of names and the re-badging with a twist of many familiar strategies. Carol implemented CSF Curriculum Standards Framework in 1995, Curriculum Standards Framework 11 (CSF 11) in 2000. Just 6 years later there was VELS Victorian Essential Learning Standards, VELS was superseded by AUSVELS the Australian Curriculum in 2013. So now that there will be a 6th change in curriculum in Victoria in just 22 years with the new Victorian Curriculum to be implemented in 2017. Carol has finally said that’s enough!!
- During Carol’s time at SPAN, what used to take 9,000 floppy disks now takes 1 GB of storage space. A “tweet” was something you heard from a bird. No one was keen to see her portable being the first one lifted high into the sky and cut into halves as it was loaded on to a truck. We all had mixed feelings that day as the whole school watched in amazement and with a few butterflies about what this change would bring.

I have known Carol since I commenced as Principal in 2007 at SPAN. I remember Carol’s protests about the standard of oral language of children starting Prep deteriorating each year. Carol in a quiet but determined way shared her thoughts about a PD she had been on. She thought I should check it out. I eventually did and after her regular prompts, our school embraced The Walker Learning Approach in 2009. We have certainly seen not just our oral language but also our reading comprehension levels rise as a result.

Over the past 10 years, I have had numerous parent requests for their child to be taught by Carol. Carol now has the children of students she has taught wanting to be in her class. The reasons are numerous... They all know that she will be firm but kind, that their child will learn and be empowered to become independent and will learn all that they need to know. They know that there will be consistency and most of all they know she loves teaching and has a heart of GOLD.

I have been continually impressed by Carol’s willingness to embrace challenges and her flexibility and openess to try out suggestions. Despite wanting to resign before the building of the MLC in 2010, Carol stayed and set up her learning space ready to embrace learning in a contemporary space without four walls!! She embraced the changes in furniture to even having tables that were up against windows, she created nooks, set up communication boards to make learning visible and exciting investigations that often included a variety of little creatures that prompted writing. Even just a few weeks ago, Carol added provocations to her RE classroom displays after a staff meeting about prompting wonderings and deeper thinking. Carol’s room is warm and friendly and always organised. She can put her finger on things quickly or will follow up promptly with requests. I love going into her classroom to see children learning and be caught up in her excitement at what the children can now do.

Carol is one of those gems who gives whole heartedly, will always be respectful even if she disagrees; the most you may get is a raised eyebrow and maybe a quiet, discreet chat about her concerns. Carol is the keeper of our story and she gets our little ones off to a flying start with the school prayer and lots of wonderful learning. We are all going to miss Mrs Matheson at SPAN. Carol has touched the hearts and minds of our children and our staff. We are so grateful that Mrs Carol Matheson has been such an important part of our school community.

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments but what is woven into the lives of our children and community.” Thank you for weaving a rich and spectacular tapestry.

Thank you Carol and we wish you the very BEST for the future. We do hope you stay in touch and we hope we can call on you from time to time as a CRT. SPAN has been blessed by your dedication and commitment to our children and to Catholic Education. Congratulations on a splendid career.

You are the Giving Tree – Thank you for making a difference to the lives of our students.

Christine White, Principal
on behalf of St Paul Apostle North school community
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

THIS SUNDAY’S GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 11: 2-11

THE WORD OF GOD

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus said to them in reply, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me.”

As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, “What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

CLASSROOM NEWS

Art News:

It has ben a wonderful year full of great creations. One of the highlights has been the selection of three student’s artworks to be exhibited in the Catholic Education Week Visual Arts Exhibition in 2017. Congratulations to Emily, Liam and Jericho.

Ms Slater

Twilight Sports News: Last Monday we were fortunate with the weather and were able to hold the Twilight Sports at St John's Regional College. Excitement was in the air as our four houses Nagle-Blue, Martin-Gold, Mackillop-Green and Daneo-Red battled it out in sprints, ball games, obstacle course and a fun run. Everyone who competed received house points and ribbons.

Congratulations to Nagle-Blue House for winning the Champion House Trophy and to Daneo-Red House for winning the Team Spirit Trophy.

A special mention to our Span Gift winners (fastest runners in the school) - Joe and Joleena.

Finally, sincere thanks must be given to our Span Community for the success of the Sports.

A big thank you to the P&F for organising and running the BBQ; Neshe for transporting equipment and sound system; Monique for transporting equipment; parents and grandparents for coming along and supporting their children; teachers and LSO's for officiating and to all the students who partook in the events.

A mighty effort Span!

Thank you Mrs. Morgan

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Dear Parents, St Paul Apostle North Primary School would like to thank you for your help and support during 2016. The contribution you have made has been truly appreciated.

The Staff of SPAN would like to honour your involvement in the school by inviting you to a special Morning Tea to be held on:

Thursday 15th December at 10.30am in the PLC
Following the End of Year Mass
‘Farewell Day’ for Mrs. Christine White
15 December 2016

After ten wonderful years at St. Paul Apostle North, it is time for us to farewell Mrs White as she moves to another school. Mrs White’s vision has contributed to the transformation of our school. Her dream to improve learning, engage families and build contemporary learning spaces has resulted in the beautiful school we enjoy today.

We are planning a special ‘Farewell Day’ on Thursday 15th December, program as follows:

9.15 am Farewell Mass in the PLC - Families invited
11.30 am - 1pm Blackberry Jam Bush Band

Sausage Sizzle LUNCH
lunch order forms will be sent home
2.30pm Farewell Assembly in the PLC Families Invited

The Whole School Group Photos can be purchased online at online.schoolpix.com.au

First group photo is $25.00
Additional different group photo is $12.50

BLUE CODE: T7MX7UCG

Order before Sunday 11 December 2016 for FREE delivery back to the school.

Orders placed after this date will include a $14.95 fee and be posted to your nominated address.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE BY CAMP AUSTRALIA
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 Laura Cook – Camp Australia Coordinator OSHC Number: 0402360219

Enrol Now! - Secure Family Day Care for 2017

bestchance is a not-for-profit with 120 years of child/family support, with qualified educators offering stimulating and educational in-home child care from 8 weeks -12 years.

- Weekly playgroups including our bush playgroup
- Natural environments encouraging imaginative play
- Regular support and monitoring from our coordination team
- Parents can claim CCB and CCR rebates
- Experienced and new educators welcome to join our team

Call Family Day Care on
1300 2 AIM HIGH (1300 224 644)
www.bestchance.org.au | familydaycare@bestchance.org.au

Last Day of School
Next Friday 16 December
School finishes at 1.20 PM