FROM PAT’S DESK

DEAR PARENTS AND FRIENDS
OF ST PAUL’S,

Today we held our Mother’s Day morning tea. Thank you to the mothers who attended and brought along a delicious array of foods, and congratulations to Eugenie Belli who won the door prize. It was great to see some new faces and, hopefully, we will be able to organise more of these types of social gatherings in the future.

Today was also the first meeting of our Parents and Friends craft group (which will be getting together each Thursday at 9:00am). They are hoping for more members as time goes by.

NAPLAN – Next week our Year Threes and Fives will be completing their NAPLAN assessments. Our teachers use many assessment tools to monitor children’s progress and to inform their future teaching. The NAPLAN assessments simply provide another snapshot of your child’s progress. We always want our children to do the best they can in any activity but it is important to understand that NAPLAN is a test that gives the teachers and parents some more information, used in conjunction with comprehensive assessments already in place.

YEAR 4 PHOTOS – The Year 4 class photo has been scheduled for Wednesday 25th July, with the whole school, staff and captains photos. The office would like all orders to be returned to Miss Elizabeth in the next couple of weeks. If you do not have a photo pack these may be collected from the office.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS – My apologies for the errors that I made in the original Parent Teacher form – the dates have been clarified (blue form) and hopefully didn’t cause too much confusion. Thank you for returning your slips so promptly. Times are filling up quickly, but there are a few time slots still available. Your time allocation slip will be sent home towards the end of the week.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY REPORT – Each year Paul writes a Community Report, providing an overview in 5 main areas - Education in Faith, Learning & Teaching, Student Well-being, Leadership & Management and School Community. In addition a school overview, Principal’s report and the school’s financial performance is included. Each week, the newsletter will feature an excerpt from this report for you to read. The whole report will feature on the school website and a hard copy can be found in the school’s reception foyer.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL & RAFFLE – A reminder that the Mother’s Day stall will be held tomorrow morning (after the Year 4 assembly), and the raffle will be drawn later in the morning. There are many raffle prizes and some great gifts for mum! Please make sure any late raffle tickets are returned in the morning. I know there are many excited children looking forward to buying a special something for mum (or grandma, aunty, guardian etc.).

Wishing all mums a very special day on Sunday …….. I’m hoping to be spoilt by my boys and I hope you all enjoy some well-deserved pampering too!

Cheers,
Pat
Catholic School Identity Surveys
The school still requires at least 35 to 40 families to complete the surveys. The instructions on how to access the website (www.schoolidentity.net) have been included below.

1.
The website access password is: Oceania (case sensitive)

2.
Click ‘TO THE SURVEYS’

3.
Click ‘New User’. If you have already started the survey and wish to return type your username and password into the boxes on this page.

4.
Find St Paul’s School, Coburg (E1034) from the list of school and press ‘Next’.

The site will now give you a password. WRITE THIS DOWN as it is your own personal log-in. You will need this to return to the survey if you leave before finishing.
CLASS REPRESENTATIVES – FETE

The fete committee is still requesting parents to become fete representatives for each class. It is a great way to be involved in the fete and will really help to make the day a success.

Please let the office know if you would like to represent your child’s class.

FOOTY TIPPING

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The leaderboard has stayed the same as all the leaders tipped 8. Well done to Alessia Deluca who tipped 9 for the round!

Drama Academy

SELF-DEVELOPMENT THROUGH DRAMA!

Boost your child’s creativity, confidence and communication skills.

FREE TRIAL TUESDAY 22nd MAY

Prep–grade 3 only

Contact the Principal Joanna Melo Howard to book your place – 90168928 / 0415899217
www.helenogrady.com.au
A leaflet has been sent home regarding an entertainment book. The book, a school fundraiser, includes vouchers for restaurants, shopping, travel, hotels, sporting events and entertainment and is fantastic value at only $65. Ask friends and relatives if they are interested in purchasing a book. They also make a great gift! There is a copy at the office for anyone who is interested in having a browse before buying. **Orders are due by Monday, 21st May.**
EXCERPT FROM THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY REPORT:

**SCHOOL OVERVIEW**

St Paul’s continues to grow. In 2011, enrolments peaked at 258 children (168 families) and there were ten classes – Prep (2), Yr1 (2), Yr2, Yr 3, Yr 4 (2), and two Senior Classes (Yr 5/6). There is significant demand for primary and pre-primary education in the Coburg area. It is expected that the school will see consistent enrolments around fifty Prep students each year well into the future. As well it is expected that students in other grade levels will enter the school as families choose to buy property closer to the city and send their children to the local schools.

All major Capital works were completed in 2011. The final stage, Administration block, two new classrooms, staff and boys toilets and a new Car park were finished by November. The community has been very patient throughout the past five years. We have experienced two fires and around $4.8million worth of Capital works. This has meant that there has been a great amount of disruption to entering and exiting the school grounds and even access to the school buildings. In 2008/2009, staff had to monitor road works on Sydney Road every morning and evening to ensure that the children could access school safely! This went on for eighteen months! We now have a beautiful school with many new facilities that will cater for twenty-first century learning and teaching and a fully secure school where access can be monitored at all times.

The School Improvement/Annual Action that took place at St Paul’s was focussed on the standards to assess Religious Education and the collection of work samples/data. The teaching staff has made great progress in the collection of material completed by children in all areas of the curriculum which is stored in digital folders. This material includes video and recording of children and scanned and moderated work samples assessed against State Standards (VELS). The collected work samples in these folders serve a number of purposes beside assessment records. They are used in Parent/Teacher Interviews, are easily accessible when the school is required to present documentation for legal circumstances and at the end of the seven years of schooling, we burn all this material on to a disc and present it as a memento of the work each child has completed at St Paul’s.

Growth and improvement are the ‘buzz’ words for the future. We aim to provide a quality Catholic Education for all the families in the Coburg area. Just a few short years ago the school leadership had the difficult task of limiting the number of children who could attend St Paul’s This will not be the case in the future with enough space and equipment to cater for a two stream school.

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

As stated in the School overview, 2011 was a momentous year. We completed our Capital Works Master Plan. This is a significant achievement. The Master Plan was developed in 2003 and it was expected that we would be able to complete the capital Works planned by 2025! With the BER and NSP money provided by the Federal Labor Government in 2009/2010 ($2.125 million), the generous support of the Parish (servicing a 20 year loan of $2.82 million and paying in excess of $60000 per year for a lease on land owned by the Anglican Church) and a Capital Grant provided by Catholic Capital Grants Commission under the Catholic Education Office Melbourne organisation in 2010/2011 ($1.3million), we were able to complete the Master Plan in November 2011. Fourteen years ahead of schedule! This means that many more Catholic children will benefit from these facilities than was originally planned – and staff and parents as well!

We now look forward to the future full of confidence. It is not an exaggeration to say that the St Paul’s community has faced some extremely difficult times over the last few years. Throughout this time I have continually asked that people keep the faith and look to the future. I would like to thank all those that have kept strong and now are enjoying the benefits of their patience.
What my Mother Taught me:

1. My mother taught me **TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE**. - "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I've just finished cleaning."

2. My mother taught me **RELIGION**. - "You'd better pray that will come out of the carpet."

3. My mother taught me **LOGIC**. - "Because I said so, that's why."

4. My mother taught me **MORE LOGIC**. - "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."

5. My mother taught me **FORESIGHT**. - "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."

6. My mother taught me **IRONY**. - "Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about."

7. My mother taught me about **CONTORTIONISM**. - "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"

8. My mother taught me about **STAMINA**. - "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."

9. My mother taught me about **WEATHER**. - "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."

10. My mother taught me about **HYPOCRISY**. "If I've told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"

11. My mother taught me about **ENVY**. - "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."

12. My mother taught me about **ANTICIPATION**. - "Just wait until we get home."

13. My mother taught me **MORE ANTICIPATION**. - "Just wait until your father gets home."

14. My mother taught me about **RECEIVING**. - "You are going to get it when you get home!"

15. My mother taught me **MEDICAL SCIENCE**. - "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."

16. My mother taught me **ESP**. - "Put your jumper on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"

17. My mother taught me **HUMOUR**. - "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

18. My mother taught me **HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT**. - "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

19. My mother taught me **WISDOM**. - "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."

And my favorite:

20. My mother taught me about **JUSTICE**. - "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you ... ."
“Golden Triangle” in 12 Days: Visit Baijung, Xi’an, Shanghai. Includes Economy class air travel with Cathay Pacific Airways, Coach travel and English speaking guide, Twin share accommodation, 3 meals a day as per itinerary, plus more. COST: $3,970.00 per person. Departs October 14th 2012.