FROM PAUL’S DESK

DEAR PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF ST PAUL’S,

CONFIRMATION 2012 – The celebration of Confirmation on Friday July 20th was a very special and reverent evening. Monsignor Greg Bennett, the Principal Celebrant, was very genuine in his praise of the children and the families at St Paul’s. Thank you to all the families for supporting Mrs Alfie, Mrs Simpson, Ms Stefanie, Mr Maguire and Ms Claire in the preparation of the children. We trust that our Year Sixes, like us all, will live out the gifts of the Spirit – Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgement, Courage, Knowledge, Reverence and Wonder and Awe.

STAFF NEWS – This Friday will be Signora Adele’s last day with us for an extended period of time. She enters hospital on Monday for a procedure. We trust and pray that all goes well for Adele. Ms Donna and Ms Maria will be taking over the Italian and Art duties in her absence.

WHAT HAPPENED AT SCHOOL TODAY? – One of the most frustrating discussions I had with my children was the response to this question. It usually involved a shrug of the shoulders with a grunt, or a “Not much” or sometimes my children headed straight for the bad stuff. I always knew that there had to be many good things going on as well. I often have parents say to me that their children don’t talk much about school. I found out that it was actually my problem – I didn’t ask the right questions. When I started asking questions like, “What was the best thing that happened at school today?” after a while more information flowed. It also made my children concentrate on the positive aspect of school first, then, if there was a problem, we were able to discuss this and ask questions about how the children solved the problem or if the teachers had to help, how and what was the outcome. If we as adults always look for the negative, what is that teaching our children?

It is important that we have our children understand that things can go wrong but it doesn’t have to wreck our whole day. We all have to learn to bounce back from problems ourselves; this is a huge lesson in life. At St Paul’s we strive to have a safe and secure environment for our children where we acknowledge that there will be disputes and sad times amongst kids. We will always be there to work through these times with our children as best we can but also, we strive to teach them, that they can recover from the upsets in their lives.
**The next fete meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th August at 7pm in the staff room. We would love to see new faces as new faces bring new ideas!**

Big test for Cats tomorrow night! Hope the boys give a good account of themselves. Hawks will be tough! Have a great weekend.

All the best, Paul

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**Subway Lunches** – Mrs Pat mentioned yesterday that due to the success of our first Subway Lunch Day last term, we will be holding three more of these before the end of term 3. The first of these is on Wednesday August 15th. An order form goes home with this newsletter. If you do not receive a form, they are available at the office.

**WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERS:**  
Envelopes were sent home last week. Orders with payment due on Friday August 10th.

**ASPA – AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS**  
The Australian Girls choir will be visiting St Paul’s on Monday August 6th at 1030. If any girls from year 2-6 are interested in being assessed in the group workshop, please return the flyer, sent home today, to the office.

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**Reflection**

What is the difference between an obstacle and an opportunity? Our attitude toward it. Every opportunity has a difficulty, and every difficulty has an opportunity.

-J. Sidlow Baxter

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**FUNDRAISING EVENTS TERM 3**

1. **Subway Lunches:**  
   - Wednesday 15th August  
   - Wednesday 29th August  
   - Wednesday 12th September

2. **Hot Lunches:**  
   - each Friday (pies, pasties, sausage roll etc.)

3. **Father’s Day Stall:**  
   - Friday 31st August

4. **Tea towel and apron drive** (with school logo and drawing from each child in the school)

5. **Family Portrait day** – Date to be confirmed.

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******WE NEED TRADIES******

A part of our fundraising money will be put towards rebuilding our BBQ area (in the alcove outside the Prep rooms). We are hoping to build an area with 2 BBQs, a sink and cupboards. We would also like to have the area tiled and a roller door installed to keep the area safe. We are in desperate need of trades people, who may be able to donate some time, in the following areas:

- PLUMBING  
- CARPENTRY  
- TILING  
- ELECTRICAL

If you are able to help in any way please see me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss what is required.

Pat
Dear parents,
Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time. Below is the roster for the rest of the term.
If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.
Warm regards,

Pat

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