FROM PAUL’S DESK

DEAR PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF ST PAUL’S,

First Eucharist – Last Sunday the children and immediate family of our First Communicants participated in what was generally a lovely celebration of the Mass. It was an exciting time for the children and they were most reverent throughout the ceremony. I am sure the children and their families have many wonderful memories of the day. It is a little disappointing though that some of the congregation did forget that the Mass is a sacred occasion and that silence is an important part of the liturgy. We evaluate our Sacramental Program each year and look at how we can improve. It may eventuate that we ask the families who have their children involved in the ceremonies to remind their guests with an official school letter of the importance of respecting the sacredness of the Mass so that it is a truly memorable and sacred experience for the children. It was a little unfair on Fr Sean to have to stop the ceremony at one stage to ask people to reflect on what was happening especially when he makes the time to do a special Mass in the afternoon. But overall it was a great day.

Gifts of the Spirit – Last week I did not put in one of the Gifts so this week there are two.

Knowledge – To willingly learn about and develop our relationship with God and with other people, and to know the right way to follow Jesus and

Reverence – To have respect and care for ourselves, all people and all things in our world.

We can reflect on these two gifts as a whole. Our lives are full of relationships and at school, children are learning a lot about what it means to be a friend and how to make friends. They will get things wrong and we must be there to point out to them that you can’t get along with everyone and everyone won’t be your friend, BUT we must respect that all people have the right to not be deliberately annoyed by others just because they don’t get along. We must teach the children about respect through our modeling. Just a couple of questions. Do we talk negatively about other people who we may not like in earshot of our kids? What are we teaching our children about relationships when we might be voicing negative opinions out loud, when they might be best kept away from impressionable children?

In-service Day Monday September 10th – Last Monday the staff completed a great amount of work on the new AusVels Curriculum that will be introduced in 2013. We paid particular attention to the areas of Maths and Literacy. We explored the Standards that are used to measure the individual development and the descriptors that guide our Teaching and the children’s Learning. It was a most productive day. We respect that the In-service Days can create difficulty for parents especially in the area of child minding and so when we have these days, we certainly work as hard as we can. Just a reminder that our final two in-service days will be held on Thursday November 29th and Friday November 30th. Once again I believe all day care will be offered by our Out Of School Care Service Provider, Academy 4 Kids, on these days. More details will be sent home to parents.
Continued:

as the days approach.

End Of Term – Believe it or not next Friday is the end of third term. The children will have a casual clothes day and it is a footy day theme. We ask that the children make a gold coin donation and this money goes towards our World Vision sponsored child Popy. THERE WILL BE NO LUNCH ORDERS NEXT FRIDAY AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE BEGINS AT 2.30PM.

School Surveys – Thank you to those parents who have completed the surveys. If you are yet to complete your survey remember that you can do it online or use the hard copy provided. Tomorrow is the last day to hand in the survey or complete it online.

All the best
Paul

**Fete News**

**Fete Class Representatives**

The fete committee is still seeking parent representatives from each class. This will be a rewarding job of the parent, and helps to make the fete—great. You do not need to be available during the day so it’s ideal for the working parent to be able to make a contribution to the school fete.

**SPORTS NEWS**

All interschool sports teams will be involved in finals this Friday.

Netball will be playing St. Matthews in the grand final at St. Matthews.

Football and Tee-ball will be playing St. Josephs in the minor final at Gillion Oval, Hope St. West Brunswick.

Good luck to all competing teams.

Next Thursday 20th September, the tee-ball team and the football team will be playing St. Matthews in a make-up game. The venue for both teams will be the St Mathew’s school grounds.

PE Dept.

**PREP MUMS DINNER**

CHANGE OF DATE: The dinner is now on THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH

VENUE: Post Office Hotel

**SENIOR STUDENTS MATHS CHALLENGE**

The Commonwealth Bank Maths Australian Challenge is an online maths competition. It is part of the Australian Education Games, and takes place over two days with each day focusing on a different element of mathematical skill and knowledge.

The challenge kicked off on 4 September with Curriculum Mathletics, where students were challenged with 50 mathematical concepts. On 5 September, students used their mental arithmetic skills using Live Mathletics. The Hall of Fame displayed the highest point scoring students and schools, according to the rules of the competition, throughout both days of the event.

The senior classes participated in this event and we are pleased to announce that Andrew Zheng SS finished 8th on the Hall of Fame list of students in Victoria, and St Paul’s school finished 16th in the top 20 listed schools in Victoria.

Well done to Andrew all the senior students.
Dante Alighieri Poster Competition

Congratulations to Luke Solano, year 3, a 1st Prize Winner and Isabella Solano, year 5S, a 3rd Prize winner for their winning poster entries.

The poster theme was: **I miei sport e passatempi preferiti.**
(My preferred sports and hobbies.)

Luke and Isabella with their awards received at Melbourne University.

Craft Club

The craft club meets on **Wednesday Morning 9AM.**
All parents welcome

The next meeting we will be making the fairy wands for the fete.

WANTED: Donations of trims for wands. Pom poms, crystals, felt shapes, ribbons, glue sticks, bells, feathers etc. **Small left overs from your home projects welcome.**

The sale of the library bags was very successful and further orders have been made. DONATION of suitable material to make bags required.

Do you have CONTACTS in the haberdashery, material or curtain industries for discount or donated remnants? This type of contact would be much appreciated by the craft group.

Contact details can be left at the office.

Quiz Corner Answers

Week 8
1. Goldilocks
2. Eeyore
3. Pinocchio
4. Baloo
5. A Troll

Quiz Corner

1. Who were all the King’s horses and men unable to put together again?

2. What is the name of the Lion in The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe?

3. What is the name of the wizard at the court of King Arthur?

4. Who was the boy who never grew up?

5. What is the name given to animal that eat plants only?

6. What are the three primary colours?