From Paul’s Desk

Dear Parents and Friends of St Paul’s,

There are many items to consider this week. Please read everything and jot down those that concern you in your diaries.

SCHOOL FINISHES 12.30PM NEXT THURSDAY WITH THE FINAL DISMISSAL FROM THE GRASS AREA.

After School Care Thursday December 21st

Immediately following the dismissal, the children who need the service will be taken to After School Care. For those children attending, a special Christmas party will begin at 1.30pm. There is a special flyer regarding the service on the last day attached to the newsletter. Booking must be made by Monday 17th December.

Staffing Changes – After eleven years service to St Paul’s, Mrs Kavanagh will be leaving us at the end of this year. Marguerita has been instrumental in building up all our resources and in the design of our library/resource space. On your behalf I would like to thank Marguerita and wish her all the best in the future.

Reports – All reports will be sent home this Tuesday. The style of school reports is mandated across Victoria. The reports are not meant to be an analysis of a child’s personality, rather a professional document outlining the child’s achievements and requirements according to standards and skills set by the educational authorities. The teachers have evidence to support the level achieved by each child in the areas measured.

Telstra Grant – The family of one of our children in Year 1, Suhita Chandrakumar, asked me earlier this year if I would be interested in applying for a Telstra Kids Fund Grant for the school. After initial work by the dad, Dhanesh who works at Telstra, we completed the application and we asked for funds for Sports equipment. I am very happy to report that we were successful and we received a grant for $1200. Mr Fimiani has already worked out were these funds will go. Thank you to Suhita’s family for considering us for the Grant. All these extra funds assist us in striving to provide the best resources to enhance your children’s learning.

Disco – Even though we were let down by our DJ, the children still had a great night. Thanks to all the staff that worked hard to make the music happen, especially Ms Bethany, Mr Maguire and Ms Elizabeth. Also, special thanks to Robert DalCol, who set up a light show to make the night more special. I have tried to find a time for another event but time is just too tight and we have a couple of special events for the children next week.

Senior Excursion - The Seniors will have their special day next Wednesday at the Swimming Adventure Park in Geelong. The kids are really looking forward to this day.

Prep – 4 Picnic Lunch – While the Seniors are away, the Preps to 4’s, will be walking down to Coburg Lake for lunch and a play from 12noon – 2pm. There will be a permission note going home tomorrow and we would love all those families who are free to join us at the Lake and make a picnic lunch with their children. Those children who cannot attend will have a picnic lunch with their teachers.

Orientation Session – The children will meet their teachers for 2013 in their classrooms from 11.45 – 12.45pm next Tuesday. The staff has spent many hours placing the children, attempting to achieve the balance between social, emotional and academic needs to achieve the best possible learning environment for all children. As always we know we can rely on your support to assure children that things will be okay even if they are a little disappointed.

Year 6 Graduation – This very special event takes place on Tuesday evening at 7pm with our Graduation Mass followed by a presentation and light supper (for children, their families and grandparents) in the Multipurpose Room.

End of School Year Mass – Our end of year Mass will be at 11.30am next Thursday. All families are most welcome.

Library Books – Please search your house for any library books and have these items returned to school as soon as possible.

Last Newsletter for 2013 – I will be sending home the last newsletter for 2013 next Tuesday. In the newsletter there will be a calendar that will have all the major events and activities that we have organised thus far for next year.

All the best, Paul
DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 18th December—Graduation Mass 7.30pm
Wednesday 19th December—Seniors Day out, Prep—4 Picnic
Thursday 20th December—End of Year Mass 11.30am
Thursday 20th December—End of School 12.30pm
Wednesday 30th January—First Day of School
Thursday 31st January—First Day of School for Preps

The Advent Virus . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
WARNING……WARNING: ADVENT VIRUS
Be on the alert for symptoms of inner Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The hearts of a great many have already been exposed to this virus and it is possible that people everywhere could come down with it in epidemic proportions. This could pose a serious threat to what has, up to now, been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world.
Some signs and symptoms of The Advent Virus:
• A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.
• An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
• A loss of interest in judging other people.
• A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
• A loss of interest in conflict.
• A loss of the ability to worry. (This is a very serious symptom.)
• Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
• Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.
• Frequent attacks of smiling.
• An increasing tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

St. Paul’s Church
CHRISTMAS
2012
TIMETABLE

CONFESSIONS:
19 Dec. - Wednesday 10:30 am
20 Dec. - Thursday 10:30 am
22 Dec. - Saturday 11:00 am & 3:00 pm
24 Dec. - Monday 10:30 am

ANointing of the SICK:
21 Dec. - Friday 10:00 am

VIGIL MASSES:
24 Dec. - Monday 6:00 pm & 10:00 pm

(NO MIDNIGHT MASS)

CHRISTMAS DAY
25 Dec. Tuesday
9:00 am English Mass
11:00 am Italian Mass
Summer Basketball Season started Saturday 10th November

We have vacancies in the following age groups:

Under 10 boys and girls (ages 8-10)
Under 12 Boys (ages 10-12)
Under 16 boys (ages 14-16)

We are inviting any children that are interested in playing Basketball to register their interest.

For further information contact Tania 0412 151 920 or dasilvatj@optusnet.com.au

La Befana
If you are looking for something to do with the children over the holidays why not take them to an Italian performance of “La Befana”. All children learn about the tradition of La Befana in LOTE classes with the Prep children only just having completed a unit of work telling of the friendly gift giving witch. The details stating the dates, location and price of the performance are listed below. Maybe you can sneak in some dolci and a coffee at Brunetti’s while you are there!!!!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children for the enthusiasm and interest shown in LOTE classes over the past year. They have worked very hard and we have had fun learning about the Italian culture together. I wish you all a safe and restful break as you enjoy some special time with your families.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti.
Signora Adele

La Befana : An Italian Christmas Folktale

11.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.
Friday 4th January, 2013
Saturday 5th January, 2013
Sunday 6th January 2013

La Mama Courthouse
349 Drummond Street, Carlton
Bookings : 9347 6142
www.lamama.com.au

Tickets : $12.00 Adults and children

Fun for the whole family. Now in its 8th year!

The story of La Befana, the Italian Christmas Witch, began a long time ago in Italy and arrived here with Australia’s Italians. On the eve of the Epiphany, the last day of Christmas, when the three wise men arrived at Bethlehem, children would hang out their socks. In the morning of the 6th January, they would find simple home-made gifts, put into them.

Writer / Performer/ Director : Carmelina Di Guglielmo

Special guest star James Liotta, and a talented cast of Fairies, Elves and Bush Spirits.