Dear Parents and Friends of St Paul's,

Welcome back to our third term/second semester. Thank you to all the families for the support you gave to your children and the teachers by attending the Parent/Teacher Interviews. We hope to introduce some very positive improvements in the way we report each child's academic progress. We hope this will allow you access to real time information as soon as we have moderated assessment pieces. More to come in the coming weeks.

New Security Arrangements/Car Park – From the start of this term the front door of the school will always be locked and to enter, visitors must press the front buzzer to the right of the door. All children and parents/carers must enter the school via the side gates until they are locked at 9.15am. After this time, obviously the front door must be used. At the end of the day, parents/carers must enter and exit the grounds via the gates. Also, there seems to be a lot more congestion in the Car Park since we have returned. Just a reminder, it is often quicker to park away from the Parish/School grounds in Champ Street and take an extra few minutes to walk rather than wait for the Car Park to empty. Also this gives you a chance to chat with your child about the happenings of the day. A win-win situation!!

St Paul's Feast Day – On our last day of term we had a fabulous celebration of St Paul’s Feast day. The children gathered together when the Confirmation Candidates received their certificates and we had a very prayerful celebration of the Mass. The activities in the classrooms made the children more aware of how important St Paul is in the life of the Catholic Church and some of our parents provided a beautiful pasta lunch for the children. (photo included) Thank you to all the staff for making the day so special, in particular, Miss Gleeson, our REC, who coordinated the day.

Inservce Day – This term’s Inservce Day is to be held on Friday August 16th. The staff will be completing work on differentiated learning, RE and Assessment and Reporting. There will be no classes on this day.

Annual Community Report – Beginning from the last week of last term we included sections of the 2012 Annual Community Report in the newsletter. This week there are two more sections on what we have achieved in the “Education In Faith” and “Learning and Teaching” Spheres. As well if you go to the school website there is now a new tab “Annual Community Report”. We have included all Reports from 2008 – 2012. If you wish to read a hard copy of the full report, there are a number of Reports available that can be borrowed from the Office. Just ask Marilena or Fiona.

Historical Bricks – Weather permitting, the bricks will be laid this Saturday. They will be included in the area where the first pavers were placed. The forecast isn’t great for Saturday so we may have to wait another week or two.

Wireless Connection/Interactive Whiteboards – Over the holidays the wireless connection was installed and today and tomorrow the Prep classrooms will get their Interactive Whiteboards. Most of this work was made possible thanks to the great work that everyone did for our fete. Not only was it an exceptional community event, it also gave us the capacity to provide more contemporary resources for our children. Thanks to everyone.

Well the holidays started off badly with a loss to Brisbane but we came good against Freo and the Hawks. Finals will be here before we know it. Go Cats!

All the best, Paul

From Paul's Desk
Preps Excursion to the Museum!

On Thursday 20th of June the Preps went on a big excursion to the Melbourne Museum. We were participating in the exhibition “1,2,3 Grow” which was our Integrated topic for the term learning how humans, animals and plants grow. It was a great bus trip where after a few songs we arrived and headed off into many different areas of the Museum. We saw the Dinosaur Walk, Dynamic Earth, Bugs Alive and the big hit the giant squid in the Marine Life area, boy was it BIG! We had some real highlights where the children would ask some very significant and inquisitive questions for both staff and parents, particularly if things were real or fake (authenticity was apparently very important to our young explorers!) We had a quick stroll through the rainforest outside and a lovely play in the playground for lunch. We had an amazing time and learnt so much we all cant want to go back!

A special thanks to all the helpers for the day, we couldn’t have done it without you!
**Reflection**

God, our Father,  
Creator of all good things  
in the world and within our school community:  
We thank you for the gift of this day,  
for our families and friends  
and for this safe place to learn and grow.

We ask You to bless all who teach and learn.  
Through Your Holy Spirit,  
guide us as we grow in faith and love  
and give us the courage  
to be more like Your Son.

We ask this, in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

**Pasta Helpers**

Lori, Antoinette, Silvana, Tracey, Nikki, Jessica, Sandra & Sandra's mum. Thank you.

---

**RockBody Fitness**  
**BoxFit**

BoxFit is a new and exciting group fitness class that will be held in the multipurpose room on Tuesday mornings from 9.15am—10.15. BoxFit is a mixture of boxing and circuit class and is guaranteed to kick start your morning and burn off all that unwanted weight.

For enquiries contact  
Raluca: 0414 144 971  
Email: ralucalaza20@gmail.com  
Cost: $10

---

**POPY**

As a school we sponsor a little girl named Popy from Bangladesh. She is currently in year 5 and in very good health. Each day she goes to school by foot. At school the subject Popy excels in is Bengali, the subject she needs to work on is Science. An activity she enjoys is drawing. Also at school she participates in many sporting events and cultural activities.

Popy has a friendly personality and likes to go traveling on the weekend. Her favourite activity to do during the day is study and her favourite season is winter because of the festivals. Popy’s favourite festival is Puja. Her favourite game is badminton and her local game is Lulu. Her favourite food is meat and her best friend is Sniffy. Popy's favourite animal is a goat and her favourite flower is a rose.

The biggest impact in her life is education support because it has changed her family’s life. As we continue to sponsor Popy, her education and life experiences continue to grow.

---

**Learn to play tennis**

@ Coburg Tennis Club

Free tennis racquet with every NEW enrolment!

**Call Head Coach**  
Tass 0414 094 738  
coburgtennisclub.org

---

---
BOOK WEEK 2013 –  

“READ ACROSS THE UNIVERSE”  
19th – 23rd August

Book Week is always a highly anticipated event for the children at St. Paul’s. This year the children will participate in several Book Week related activities throughout the week, including:

- A study of the Book Week shortlisted books/novels/authors
- Excursion to Science Works and the Planetarium (Seniors)
- Visits to the Coburg Library
- An Italian drama performance for the whole school called “Dammi Il Cinque” organised by Signora Adele
- An author visit (Felice Arena – Australian author of the “Specky Magee” series, the “Andy Roid” series and the “Boys Rule” series of books)
- Shared reading activities with buddies and multi-age groupings.
- Book Week Parade Thursday 22nd August at 9.00am.

The theme does lend itself to a space theme, but children may like to dress up as book character (from the shortlisted books or their favourite book).

SO IT’S TIME TO BE CREATIVE!!!
The Language of Resilient Families

By Michael Gorse - The 1 Parenting Educator

INSIGHTS

303 Howard Road Pearsall

ANGELCARE

Parentzone

Term 3 2013

Bringing Up Great Kids

For registration and enquiries please contact:

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.

WHERE: Moondale Exercise Centre

WHEN: Wednesdays, 1st depot 9:30am

Get in touch with parents in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere

Develop strategies to manage problem behaviours and build your child’s resilience

Gain insight into your child’s feelings and behaviour

Enhance your understanding of child development 0-10 years

A free parenting group for parents of children 0-10 years

0447002966

6666 0780

299 Howard Road Pearsall

ANGELCARE

Parentzone
**Education in Faith**

**Goals & Intended Outcomes**

**Goal 1** - To implement evidence based assessment procedures

Outcome - That the teaching staff will gather and store evidence that supports their assessment of children’s progress in RE

**Goal 2** - To provide the opportunities for all members of the St Paul’s Parent Community to live and grow within their faith.

Outcome - That members of St Paul’s Parent community will identify the centrality of faith in their lives.

**Achievements**

The teachers continued to collect and moderate RE assessment pieces from each child then place this evidence in individual’s digital folder. Assessment pieces were generally in the form of worksheets but we were also beginning to collect project pieces and bookwork. Work continued on a tracking tool that would indicate the progress of each child in their development of RE knowledge and skills. The junior levels, in particular the Prep teachers, added assessment pieces to each child’s digital folder with clearly defined assessment expectations and outcomes.

Prayer became a focus point for our school community, in particular formal prayer. We attempted to take every opportunity to pray when the children and staff gathered with the wider community. Every day at 12 noon we would pray the Angelus and as there were many parent helpers present in the school, they would join in as well. Also at the end of every day we would gather together on the grassed area for final dismissal. Parents who had come to pick up their children were encouraged to join us in a prayer at the end of the day. At the assemblies held on Fridays by different Grades in the second, third and fourth terms, each presenting grade started the assembly with a prayer. Many of these prayers were written by the children in response to feelings, seasons, celebrations and a wide range of other themes. By a more visible prayer presence in the school, we were attempting to bring a deeper understanding and expression of each person’s faith in the community, be they a parent, visitor, child or staff member.

**VALUE ADDED**

- Sponsorship of Popy, our World Vision child
- Introduction of Sacramental banner – individual families complete a part and then all pieces sewn together
- Classes attend the Parish Mass each term.
- Religious Education lessons daily.
- Family faith nights are part of Sacramental Preparation.
- Grade 3 students made First Reconciliation.
- Grade 4 students made First Eucharist
- Grade 6 students received Confirmation.
Learning & Teaching

Goals & Intended Outcomes

Goal 1 - To maintain/improve ICT tools that lead to better practice in the key elements of Learning and Teaching and improved individual student outcomes.

Outcome - That ICT tools are maintained/improved that lead to better practice in the key elements of Learning and Teaching across all curriculum areas and improved individual student outcomes.

Goal 2 - To maintain and further develop shared pedagogical understandings and practices.

Outcome - That there is a whole school focus on purposeful teaching so that a broad agreement about successful pedagogy is consistently used by all staff.

Achievements

The table below indicates that the school is again performing very well in the Year 1 Literacy Level Benchmarks with 97.67% of all children reading at above Level 15 (State percentage 86.76) and 90.70% of our children reading at Level 26 and beyond (State percentage 53.36%). Each year our school is consistently above Like Schools and the whole of the State. We will continue to use the same approaches in the Junior Grades whilst always looking for new resources, structures and planning tools that will further improve programs.

Year: 2012 Year 1 Like Schools Group (expressed as percentage)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1 - 4</th>
<th>5 - 14</th>
<th>15 - 19</th>
<th>20 - 25</th>
<th>26 - 27</th>
<th>28 +</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our School</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>6.98</td>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>81.40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Like Schools</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>11.93</td>
<td>22.24</td>
<td>9.85</td>
<td>42.57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Schools</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>11.88</td>
<td>21.74</td>
<td>10.55</td>
<td>42.81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1+</th>
<th>5+</th>
<th>15+</th>
<th>20+</th>
<th>26+</th>
<th>28+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our School</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>97.67</td>
<td>97.67</td>
<td>90.70</td>
<td>81.40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Like Schools</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>99.80</td>
<td>98.66</td>
<td>86.73</td>
<td>74.65</td>
<td>52.42</td>
<td>42.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Schools</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>99.81</td>
<td>98.65</td>
<td>86.76</td>
<td>75.10</td>
<td>53.36</td>
<td>42.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The children achieved excellent results in Year 3 and Year 5 in the NAPLAN assessment areas that are measured across all schools. The first of these is the percentage of children achieving or above the National Benchmarks in the Year 3 and Year 5. These results are gained from the NAPLAN (National Assessments) that are undertaken by our children every May. Below are the results and the comparison with our 2010 and 2011 results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3 READING</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
<td>-3.4 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3 WRITING</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3 SPELLING</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
<td>-3.4 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3 GRAMMAR &amp; PUNCTUATION</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3 NUMERACY</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5 READING</td>
<td>86.4%</td>
<td>92.6%</td>
<td>6.2 +/- %</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
<td>+5.3 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5 WRITING</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5 SPELLING</td>
<td>91.3%</td>
<td>96.3%</td>
<td>5.0 +/- %</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>+3.7 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5 GRAMMAR &amp; PUNCTUATION</td>
<td>95.7%</td>
<td>96.3%</td>
<td>0.6 +/- %</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>+3.7 +/- %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5 NUMERACY</td>
<td>95.5%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>4.5 +/- %</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
<td>-2.1 +/- %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These results indicate that nearly all children in Year 3 and 5 are reaching the National benchmark minimum standards and there has been yearly improvement in all areas.

Once again we are noticing that the gains in Year 5 numeracy are being maintained. The data shows that the work we continue to do in this area is not only maintaining the gains made but continues to increase. It is believed that as more evidence based assessment drives the teaching and informs staff of the entry points of children’s learning, then this improvement will continue.

St Paul’s staff continues to enjoy a positive relationship with the school families. This is supported by the 2012 Insight SRC Parent Opinion Survey where ‘general satisfaction’ rated at 80%, and ‘approachability’ at 80%. The parent community takes an active interest in the school. The commitment to the Classroom Support Program is evidence of this support.

The Insight SRC Student Survey results, conducted in 2012, show that ‘student distress’ rates at 71% (the higher the rating, the less distress), ‘connectedness to school’ at 88% and ‘student motivation’ at 92%. These are extremely positive results and are echoed in the Parent Survey results where ‘connectedness to school’ rates at 84%.