St Paul's Building Program Update June 2010

This is the fifth Building Report for the year. I have included the current status of each project currently under construction or about to be started.

1. **Administration Area** – As I said in last week’s newsletter, I have some more exciting news for the community on the Capital Works front. As you know from the first report this year, our school was lucky enough to receive a grant for $2million from the Rudd Government. This allowed us to construct the new building at the back of the school behind the presbytery. This Grant was part of the Building the Education Revolution Initiative that amounted to over $800 million being spent on Catholic Education Capital works in Victoria. This is the greatest amount of money ever provided for this type of work in our system’s history. Our Catholic Primary School communities across Victoria have benefited enormously and are now completing Capital works they could only dream of in the past.

The final stage of our school's master plan was to build a new admin/office/toilet block in the area between the school and the restaurant with the front facing the new car park. It was decided last year to apply for a Supplementary Capital Fund Grant provided by the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria to see if we could construct this building and refurbish the old admin/verandah area into two new classrooms to cater for future growth.

I am delighted to announce that we were successful in obtaining a $1.3million Grant to complete this project. This is most exciting news as it means we will now be able to provide a far more secure entry and exit point for the community as well far better security for the children during the school day. We have been advised that this project must commence by November this year. It is hoped that this final stage, including the new car park, will be finished by May next year. I will hold an information session late in third term about the project for all those interested.

2. **Playground Area** – The final part of the playground project, the laying of the artificial turf, is to commence next week, weather permitting. The wetter winter (or should I say normal winter – first time in ten years at least) has meant that they have been delays in the completion of projects and has pushed our time frame back). Once started the whole project should take about four weeks (again weather permitting).

3. **New Building** – The new building is still on track to be completed by the end of July. Plastering and the outside cladding and rendering should be
completed in next two weeks. As well the concrete is to be laid in the area between the classrooms and the new building over the holidays and the garden beds be constructed soon after. I think people will be very happy with the work once completed.

4. **St Paul’s Church** – Still same status as last month. Preplanned weddings to commence in August – fully functioning by the end of the year. Still hopeful about end of year and Graduation Masses.

5. **Solar Panels/Sustainability** – Still same status as last month. Finalising the installation of the web based Sustainability Education program.

6. **Car Park** – Car park tender will now be combined with the new administration/toilet block/classroom refurbishment project. Tenders to be asked for in September/October.

Kind Regards,
Paul Sheedy.
Principal