WAITING, WAITING!

Cricket, I reckon, is one of the great ‘waiting’ games. It’s not everyone’s cup of tea, this game that, in its various forms, can keep players and audience waiting anywhere between three hours and five days to reach a resolution.

Anyone who shares my passion for the game of cricket will recall the hype and anticipation leading up to the ‘Pink Ball’ test match, just completed here at the Adelaide Oval.

We waited to see whether the pink ball would be more difficult to see. We waited to learn if the pink ball would wear out faster than the traditional red one. From an ex-player’s perspective, there’s the nervous ‘waiting-to-bat’ waiting, particularly evident when the opposition have a bowler capable of unleashing the ball at astonishing velocity; and the ‘character-building’ waiting, particularly relevant to bowlers. I recall, too often, waiting for two or more of my teammates to retrieve one of my dispatched deliveries from an adjacent backyard or creek.

Well, December’s upon us and the historic Pink Ball Test’s been decided and celebrated. But, of even more significance, another ‘waiting’ opportunity, Advent has arrived on the calendar. The four Sundays of Advent provide us with both the opportunity to prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth, the event that, as C J Lewis so aptly reflected, ‘is the central event in the history of the earth - the very thing the whole story has about’ and is a timely reminder that we are, in fact, waiting for Jesus’ return in glory.

What an amazing waiting period Mary and Joseph must have experienced once they had learned of the integral part God had earmarked for them in His rescue plan for human-kind.

Lord, By your Spirit, may this Advent season encourage us to reflect on your ultimate gift of grace in Jesus, and give us a quiet reassurance, in the busyness of year’s end, of your promise of salvation. Amen

Kym Mickan
PRINCIPAL’S PONDERINGS

Staffing
On Monday the school community received the staffing list for 2016. We are indeed fortunate to have such a strong cohort of teachers as we look towards next year.

While we welcome some new faces, it is also time to farewell Miss Kylie Karczewski who has taken a teaching position at The Hills Christian Community School at Verdun. Kylie has been a valued member of staff for the past five years. Also, Mrs Karen Brodie will be taking a year of leave to travel the world, returning in 2017.

As well, this year sees Sue Oster, our highly valued Lutheran School Support Officer, conclude her much appreciated service to the school community. She will be greatly missed.

In addition, the school celebrates with Jess Denko and her partner, Scott, as they look forward to the birth of their child in 2016.

Student Leadership Positions
Congratulations to the following students who have been elected to a student leadership position in 2016.

Student Representative Council
School Captains: Blayde Harten and Leticia Scholz
Vice Captains: Jaden Tape McGlashan and Laura Wildman
SRC Year 3: Imogen Davey and Flynn Carr
SRC Year 4: Callie Weiss and Fergus Venning
SRC Year 5: Jake Smith and Isabella Parker

House Captains and Vice Captains
Giersch Captains: Caleb Christian and Taylah Jaeschke
Giersch Vice Captains: Stefano Vorras and Ella Smith
Neumann Captains: Nathaniel Keeler and Alyssa Thomas
Neumann Vice Captains: Andrew Jenke and Madi Clark
Linke Captains: Ryan Schwarz and Lydia Paton
Linke Vice Captains: Steven Bolo and Maeve Healy

Languages School
The following students attend language school outside of school hours to either develop their cultural language or to learn an additional language. We congratulate them on their recent achievements.

Michael Cheng  Kevin Do
Lilli Drapaniotis  Tianney Hong
Trinity Hong  Hoai Huynh
Kelly Huynh  Diana Ignjic
Victoria Ignjic  Eleni Karykis
Antonia Koliakoudakis  Jaron Kong
Hanna Le  Jelena Le
Students School Report
Next Monday, students will be issued with their end-of-year report. Much happens in a school year, and I know our teaching staff take seriously the importance of each child’s progress as indicated in their report.

If you wish to discuss your child’s report with their class teacher, please make an appointment through the front office team. As you can imagine, the last week is very hectic, but time will be found.

INSPIRE - Final Week
Please note that this year’s final edition of INSPIRE will be issued on Tuesday next week.

DISA Survey
Thank you to the parents who completed this survey. Your input is valued.

Parent Update
A ‘Parent Update’ newsletter was sent out on Monday afternoon via email. If you did not receive this email, please contact the school office. Thank you.

Andrew Messenger
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

End-of-Year Service
Our End-of-Year Service will take place on Wednesday 9 December at 7 pm in the Endeavour Centre, Endeavour College, Mawson Lakes. Preparations and rehearsals are underway, and consent forms for a rehearsal at Endeavour College next Wednesday came home with all students directly involved this week. If you are unable to attend, please advise Mr Andrew Messenger as a matter of urgency, to allow for us to make necessary adjustments.

Lutheran Community Care Hampers
A sincere thank you to all students and families who donated items for the Christmas hampers. We had quite a collection under the Christmas tree. Michelle Busto, from Lutheran Community Care visited us in Chapel this morning to receive these donations and share a little bit about what they are used for.

Booklist Delivery
Students will receive their 2016 stationery packs tomorrow, Thursday 3 December. As these boxes can be quite heavy, some younger students especially may need some help from parents to carry them from the classroom after school. If you think this might
be a stretch, chat to your child’s teacher to arrange for the stationery to be kept in the classroom until Friday. If you have not completed your order, please do so online tonight to ensure your stationery is delivered in time tomorrow.

**Christmas Concert Thank You**  
This morning the families of our Reception students were treated to a Christmas concert sharing the nativity story. It was an entertaining reminder that we celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas: God coming to us in the form of a miracle baby. Thank you to all families who attended, to the Reception students for their hard work in rehearsals and wonderful singing and acting, and to Yvonne Folland, Karly Voigt and Megan Fyffe for their preparation and commitment to this event. If you would like a copy of the film from our dress rehearsal (where the alphabet was in correct order!) please bring a 8gb USB to the school office with your child’s name and class attached.

**Presentation Assembly**  
A reminder that a final presentation assembly for 2015 has been scheduled for 9 am on Friday 4 December, in the church. Julie Krause, from Australian Lutheran World Service will be attending so we can present her with a cheque for the money raised for our Village Partnership Program in Cambodia.

Leila Mattner  
Assistant Principal

**STANLEY’S STATE SOCCER REPORT**  
Last week Stanley Hlawn Ching represented South Australia in soccer at the Pacific School games here in Adelaide.

The humble, gifted Stanley reflected on his experience:  
'It was a great experience playing in the Pacific School games. We managed to win 4 of our 6 games, including a 12 - 0 victory against India. I played mainly in the mid-field or in defence.'

Stanley managed to score 4 goals, besides setting up a number of others. Congratulations on your team’s success and your outstanding achievements Stanley.

Kym Mickan  
Sports Coordinator

**UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**  
The Uniform Shop will be open during the holidays on:

- Monday 18 January 9 am to 1 pm
- Tuesday 19 January 9 am to 1 pm
- Wednesday 20 January 9 am to 1 pm
- Friday 22 January 9 am to 1 pm
If you are in need of uniform items but are unable to come in on these days simply email your requirements to Jane, uniformshop@stpaulba.sa.edu.au and she will have your order ready for pick up at the beginning of the school year.

Robyn Mader
Business Manager

SHED MEN

To all St Paul fathers,
You are welcome at the home of Sam Bey this Friday night, 4 December, for the monthly Shed Men gathering from 6 pm. Bring something to put on the bbq and drinks of your choice. Please refer to Parent Directory for address details or contact the school office.

Shed Men Committee

FROM THE LIBRARY

All Library resources - books, DVDs, CDs are now overdue. Please return these resources promptly to the Library. Readers will conclude at the end of this week.

Wendy McLeod
Library Resource Manager

A FINAL THANK YOU

As our St Paul organised sports programs reach their respective conclusions for 2015, it is timely and appropriate to say a big ‘thank you’, on behalf of all students involved, to the multitude of parent coaches and managers who have made it all possible. Your kindness and generosity in volunteering your time and energy are appreciated by all concerned. God’s blessings.

Kym Mickan
Sports Coordinator

SPORTS RESULTS

Netball
Diamonds
St Paul Diamonds played in a nail bitter against OLOH Gold in the semi final last Friday night. They were down to 6 players and ended up having a draw at the final whistle. This meant ‘extra time’ and the girls fought hard and ended up winning by 1 goal. What a fantastic effort. They play in the grand final on Friday 11 December. All the best, Diamonds!

Cricket
Senior
St Paul seniors played in a lightning carnival at Gaza Oval which saw them play 3 games against teams they hadn’t played against before. We were not able to field a full team which made it hard work for each game, however this did not deter them from having fun and they never gave up. This was evident in that their last game for the day was their best, scoring well and only just missing out on a win, so close.
INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE

Lost and Found
Please collect all lost property items from the table in the corridor near the canteen. We’re building up a nice collection of unnamed goods wanting to find their way home!

Lions Christmas Cakes
The school office is selling Lions Christmas Cakes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cake Weight</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.5 kg</td>
<td>$16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kg</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900 g Pudding</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kerry Harris
Administration Assistant

CHURCH NEWS

7 SPY
Christmas Party this Friday 4 December from 7 pm to 9 pm. Could everyone please bring a plate of food to share. Any questions, call or text Andrew Joppich on 0488 400 370.

Christmas Worship Opportunities
All are invited to worship at St Paul Lutheran Church. We welcome you to the following Christmas services:

- Sunday 20 December 8:30 am Traditional Service with Holy Communion, and Children’s Christmas Service
- Thursday 24 December 7:30 pm Readings and Carols Service
- Friday 25 December 9 am Carol Service with Holy Communion
- Thursday 31 December 7 pm New Year’s Eve Service with Holy Communion

Following Christmas, we invite you to attend worship every Sunday at 9 am up to and including 31 January. For more information please contact the Church Secretary, Ms Naomi Burls, on 8262 4690.

St Paul Lutheran Church

ADELAIDE STRIKERS HOLIDAY CLINICS

- What is it? Cricket clinics for 6-11 year old girls and boys
- When are they held? Sessions are from 7 - 28 January
- Where are they held? At various venues, metro and country
- Is there a cost? $99 (for 2 x 3 hour sessions)

For more information and/or to book go to: adelaidestrikers.com.au/fans or phone 0408 753 316