Rio, Rio de Janeiro

This Friday, St Paul students, thanks to astute planning by our SRC body and Mrs Krieg, will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the atmosphere, excitement and anticipation generated by the commencement of the 2016 Summer Olympics.

For readers old enough, the Rio Games might re-kindle images of past Aussie triumphs - Cathy Freeman’s emphatic 400 metre win (Sydney 2000), Steve Hooker’s historic pole-vault clearance (Beijing 2008); countless swimming medallists (2012 aside); our brilliant Kookaburras and Hockeyroos; our awesome ‘Oar-some foursomes’. What new household names will emerge at these games? What wonderful ‘victory over adversity’ stories will be shared?

For the athletes directly involved, the extravaganza that is the Opening Ceremony will surely live long in their memories. One of my sisters, Patricia, a member of the Australian (now Opals) Basketball team at the Los Angeles and Seoul games, recalls her first Opening Ceremony experience: “The emotion, euphoria and anticipation inside the stadium was incredible. You were just lifted up by the very tangible goodness of the human spirit; a massive connection between all inside the arena, athletes and spectators alike.” She recalled watching Edwin Moses, the legendary US 400 metre hurdles champion, unbeaten in 109 races, deliver the Athletes’ Oath in poignant and memorable circumstances (you can Google it). In stumbling over the line... ‘in the spirit of true sportsmanship,’ he displayed both great poise and a degree of fallibility - he was human after all!”
The quest for fame and fortune, to achieve ‘hero-status’, drives all athletes to make huge sacrifices. For most, this entails honing their God-given talents through good old-fashioned sheer hard work. A few, sadly, have resorted to performance-enhancing drugs. Patricia remembers, with a tinge of humour, being selected randomly, along with two other team-mates after playing Russia at the Seoul games, to provide a ‘sample’ for testing. “Normally, this would not be a problem, but pretty awkward when you’re not alone in your toilet cubicle!”

Due to the prevalence of the drug scourge, the Athletes’ Oath has been amended, since the 2000 Sydney Games… ‘committing ourselves to a sport, without doping and without drugs, in the spirit of true sportsmanship’.

There is a promise which, as Christians, we can all celebrate, the promise of riches way beyond gold medals or financial endorsements. It’s a pledge, an Oath that will never be amended or changed. It’s all about God’s love grace and mercy, ‘For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish, but will have everlasting life.’ (John 3:16)

We are all on a level playing field in God’s eyes. Amazing grace!  (And – Go the Aussies!!)

Submitted by Kym Mickan

From the Principal

FIRST COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS
Sunday morning saw a full church for the welcoming of a number of young people for first communion. Congratulations in particular to Caleb Christian, Sophie Fox, Bethany Hall, Isaac Hartwig, Levi Heath, Alex Jeffree, Andrew Jenke, Leticia Scholz and Samson Venning who joined the table on Sunday.

OFFICIAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
I noticed many excited faces as students took home school photograph packs last week. I have had some positive feedback so far about the quality of the photographs and would like to know what more of you think. Given that we used a new photographer this year, we would be keen to hear thoughts from any parents or caregivers. Please email Kerry Harris on kharris@stpaulba.sa.edu.au or stop by the school office to give any of our administration staff feedback. Thank you!

Leila Mattner | Principal

General News

SRC CASUAL DAY
The SRC Casual Day is this Friday 5 August. This day also celebrates the launch of the Olympics in Rio! Students are invited to come along to school dressed in their favourite Olympic sport (runners, swimmers, tennis players, basketballers, or even a jockey!) for a gold coin donation. All money raised from the day will be used to support the Smith Family.

The Smith Family is a children’s charity helping disadvantaged Australian children to get the most out of their education, so they can create better futures for themselves: https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/.

We look forward to seeing lots of exciting dress ups on display.

ODD SOCKS DAY
In Year 5 we have been learning about people that are living in poverty and slums all around the world. We have also learned how in Australia we use up so much more of the world’s resources, more than most other countries and how we can tackle the amount of waste we create on a daily basis.

To raise awareness about these issues we came up with the idea of an Odd Socks Day. We chose this because wearing odd socks makes you feel a little uncomfortable and of course, odd! We don’t want to feel good about
how the people are living in poverty in Australia and all around the world. Odd Socks Day is a simple way of reminding ourselves and others that it's odd that we still accept poverty in the world. This doesn't cost any money. It's just a way of raising awareness and empathy.

We ask all students to wear odd socks on Friday 12 August to support this initiative. We think it would be great if parents and teachers could wear odd socks to school or work that day too. If people ask why, tell them 'I think it's odd that there's still poverty in the world'.

Please note you must still wear your normal uniform on this day but feel free to wear any coloured socks. If there's any questions that you have please ask any Year 5.

SPORTS PHOTOS
Next Wednesday 10 August, we will be taking sports photos for all students involved in team sports or SAPSASA events through the school. For convenience we ask that ALL students wear their sports uniform on this day.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART
This year the school will be involved in the Jump Rope for Heart Fundraiser event. We will officially launch the event on Thursday 25 August. Next week all parents will receive a link to register your child on line – please look out for this.

BOOK WEEK 2016
Book Swap
On Tuesday 23 August as part of our Book Week celebrations the Library will host a ‘Book Swap’. The Book Swap is a great opportunity for students to exchange a book they no longer need for something new! To participate in the Book Swap students need to bring along a book to swap. Students can bring their book to swap to the Library and they will be given a ticket that allows them into the Book Swap on the day. Only students with a ticket will be allowed to get a ‘new’ book at the Book Swap. Students are welcome to start bringing in their books to swap.

GOLDEN GIRLS GRAND FINAL WIN
Congratulations to St Paul Golden Girls (28) who defeated Valley Girls (24) in the Division 1, 11 and under netball grand final. Well done to all the team who each put in 100% to achieve the win. Thank you to super coach, Julie Scholz, plus all the families, extended families and friends that cheered the team on over the season. Go Golden Girls!

SHED MEN
The monthly Shed Men gathering will be held at Andrew Macdonald’s house, 9 Edgeworth Street, Prospect (the section of Edgeworth Street is not accessible from Main North Road, access is via Regency Road or Percy Street) this Friday 5 August starting at about 6:30pm. Usual stuff, meat, drinks and good conversation. The outdoor space is not enclosed and the BBQ will be our only source of heat. There is ample of shelter from the rain.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
New Scholastic Book Club brochures have been sent home today. Orders are due by Friday 12 August. Please put orders in a NAMED envelope to the office and check that all information on credit slips/cheques/order forms is correctly recorded. Thank you.

SPLASH REBATES
Did you know that all families are eligible for a rebate on their SPLASH fees? We require a CRN number from both the adult being billed and the child utilising the service. In addition the adult is required to have registered for the childcare benefit with Centrelink at some point in the child’s life. Child care rebate is not income tested and usually provides a rebate of approximately 50%. If you are not receiving a rebate currently and utilising SPLASH please give me a call or drop me an email and we will be able to assist you with the process.
LLL BANKING

Established in 1921, the prime purpose of the LLL (Lutheran Laypeople’s League of Australia Incorporated) is to assist the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA) in its mission and ministry of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The LLL serves the LCA in numerous ways but especially in aspects of business and finance. It operates savings accounts for LCA members and supporters who wish to assist LCA organisations.

Funds deposited enable the LLL to provide financial assistance to the LCA, particularly by way of low interest loans to LCA projects for building and equipping churches, schools, and care facilities.

Students are encouraged to consider opening a savings account with the LLL. Deposits can be made through the school on Wednesdays. Applications to open an account are available from the office.

Church News

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY INTRODUCTORY MEETING – FOR YEAR 8 YOUTH AND THEIR PARENTS

Young people who are in Year 8 this year and their parents are invited to a Confirmation Ministry Introductory Meeting that will take place on Sunday, 21 August, 11:15am to 12noon in the worship space (i.e. after the 10am Worship Service that day). Pastor Greg will explain his approach to Confirmation Ministry at St Paul and seek feedback on dates and times that best suit families. Please contact him by email pastorgreg@stpaul-church.org.au or phone 0423 151 367 if you are not able to attend and would like further information.

PASTY BAKE

St Paul Lutheran Church pasties will be available next Thursday 11 August for $12 per tray of 6. Please place your orders with Renate Burls on 8260 5758 or the school office on 8260 2655 no later than Wednesday 10 August. Thank you.

6/7SPY

6/7 SPY is having a break this week for the school camp out. 6/7 SPY for Term 3 will start back on Friday 19 August at 7pm. The theme for this term is ‘How to be Wise’. More details in the next INSPIRE. For more information contact Nicole Hall on 0412 686 342.