



**ST PAUL
LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

Living and Learning Together in Christ

inspire

VOL 18 ISSUE 35 | 14 DEC 2016

Upcoming Events

WED 14 DEC

- 7pm End of Year Service at Endeavour College

THUR 15 DEC

- Staff Professional Development

FRI 16 DEC

- Staff Professional Development
- School Office Closes

MON 23 JAN

- School Office Opens

THUR 26 JAN

- Australia Day Holiday

SUN 29 JAN

- Staff Installation and Dedication Service at St Paul Lutheran Church

MON 30 JAN - FRI 3 FEB

- Staff Professional Development

WED 1 FEB

- Term 1 Commences
- Opening Chapel

WED 1 FEB - MON 6 FEB

- Reception School Visits

FRI 3 FEB

- Shed Men

TUE 7 FEB

- Receptions' First Day

A child born to save us all

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.
Matthew 2:10-11 (NIV)

A child was born to save us all, but in a crib he slept.

Visitors from near and far, but still his mother wept.

First cries and calls, as newborns do, but these did not amaze.

The heart of this new mother grieved, she already knew His fate.

For this child's path was chosen, in joy and sorrow mixed.

Creation had been broken, and He was sent to fix.

No hammer, plane or chisel, would help though with this job.

This baby sent to save us, would die amongst the mob.

But from this birth you're chosen, and by this death you're saved.

So give thanks and count your blessings as you exult on Christmas Day.

Merry Christmas from St Paul Lutheran School



From the Principal

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Looking back upon 2016, which has been a year of significant change, I am grateful for our school staff, families and students for their support and generosity in all things. I feel incredibly blessed to be responsible for the wonderful community that is St Paul Lutheran School. As we near Christmas, my prayer for you all is that you can find time to be with family; to rest and reflect after the busy-ness that is life; and to rejoice in the celebration of the birth of our Saviour Jesus.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT THANK YOU

Last Wednesday we were treated to a Christmas concert from the Receptions 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 and Claire Fisher for their preparation and commitment to this event.

FAMILY FAREWELLS

At Friday's presentation assembly, we had the opportunity to farewell a number of students who are leaving St Paul at the end of the year. We pray for God's continued blessing on the following families who are moving on in 2017:

Haak, Perrie, Hosseini, Owens, Purohit, Rathjen, Hardy, Price, Jaeschke, Foscett, McLellan, Wang, Bugeja, Prenzler, Wildman, Godau.

FAMILY NEWS - GODAU

I converse with many families as they make preparations for the coming year. A recent conversation with Axel Godau regarding the next step in their family's journey was particularly inspirational. They are moving to Indonesia in February of next year to continue the work they have already begun in planting a church.

Please pray for Vivi, Axel, Philip and Tenry as they step out in faith to pursue God's calling for them.

Leila Mattner | Principal

From the Director of Learning

The conclusion of the school year means time to reflect and take stock. When teachers sit down to do reports at the end of the year they are able to see the evidence of student growth, but there are also the 'what ifs?' and 'what could have been?' type questions. How are you and your family looking at the school year? What reflections are going to contribute to further growth next year? The last page of your child's report is a good starting point for these conversations.

When I look back at the school year it's hard to focus on one particular thing that stands out as a highlight. Camps are always a great way of seeing students outside their comfort zones and away from the formality of the classroom. Events like Wakakirri and the school concert allow students to express themselves and challenge themselves in front of audiences. Seeing the Reception classes at the end of the year and remembering them on their transition day is always a great way of seeing growth and development and parent involvement in the life of the school as volunteers never ceases to amaze.

But for me, particularly in my role, it is the incredible hard work of teachers that stands out most. The goals that teachers set for themselves through the development of the St. Paul Pedagogical Framework and the time and effort that has gone into making this a reality, cannot really be quantified or articulated. But, just like with our students, reflection will occur, new goals will be set and a desire to make 2017 an even better school year will set in.

Merry Christmas to you and your family. Celebrate with those you love and give thanks for the birth of a child who was destined to die for us. *"She will give birth to a*



son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21(NIV)

Jason Fay | Director of Learning

General news

SPORTS UNIFORM FOR LAST DAY

Students are encouraged to wear PE uniform tomorrow, Wednesday 9 December to ensure that their official summer uniform is clean and ready for the End-of-Year Service.

OFFICE HOURS

The School Office will close on Friday 16 December and reopen on Monday 23 January. Leila Mattner, Robyn Mader and Jason Fay will be in the office at times during the break so please email should you need to contact these staff members in this period.

RECEPTION STUDENTS IN 2017

In 2017, Reception students will commence school on **Tuesday 7 February**. Reception teachers will coordinate student and family visits at school in the week prior to this to develop relationships amongst the teacher, the parents and the students.

THANK YOU FROM THE LIBRARY

I would like to say a big thank you to all our fabulous library volunteers. These people have assisted me in swapping readers, covering books, re-shelving and creating displays throughout the year. I am very appreciative of their time and efforts. Thank you to Jennifer Pfeiffer, Lyn Ratsch, Michelle Copeland, Edda Paton and Kylie Rathjen. I wish everyone a blessed and restful Christmas.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS THANK YOU

The Parents and Friends Committee would like to thank the families of St Paul for their support and participation in fundraising events held this year. To allow us to purchase an item of significant value we will

hold off spending the money until later next year after future fundraising efforts.

What you may not realise is that the P & F has a lot of difficulty enlisting parent support in the organisation of events for the community. Over the last three years there have been around five key people who have taken on this responsibility and they have done a wonderful job. Unfortunately, this can not be sustained and future events are at risk of being cancelled if we can't get more parent help. We recognise that life is busy and as such a new approach to how the P & F operates will be implemented in 2017. This new format will say goodbye to evening meetings and the year-long commitment. Further details will be released next year but in the meantime please have a think about how you can assist in ONE of the following events scheduled for 2017: Disco, Mother's and Father's Day Stall and Picnic in the Park.

Church News

ST PAUL YOUTH

SPY End of Year Breakup – Fast Food Progressive Dinner this Friday 16 December. Meet at McDonalds Collinswood at 7pm. Bring \$10. Open to all St Paul Youth and Pre Teens from Grade 6 up. RSVP or for more details call Nicole on 0412 686 342.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The Children's Christmas Service is a highlight of our worship program at St Paul. Service will be held as a combined service this Sunday 18 December at 9:30am (with no services at 8:30am or 10am that day). Please plan to come along to celebrate the gift of the Christ child, and to thank God for the way he ministers to us through the children of St Paul.

OUR VISION:

Connected.
Innovative.
Grounded
in Christ.

OUR VALUES:

God's Word

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Acceptance

Romans 15:7

Excellence

1 Corinthians 10:31

Respect

Luke 6:31

Compassion

1 John 3:18

Hope

Titus 3:7

Community

2 Corinthians 13:13

Love

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

PROUD MEMBER OF:



A Christ-Centred Community of K-12 Lutheran Schools

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ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH SERVICE TIMES OVER CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve, 24 December 7:30pm Readings Service with Carols

Christmas Day, 25 December 9:30am Service of Carols with Holy Communion

New Year's Day, 1 January 9:30am Service with Holy Communion

All welcome!

Sundays in January 2017 through until 5 February 2017: One service each Sunday: 9:30am Service with Holy Communion

Please contact the church office on 8262 4690 or www.stpaul-church.org.au for any additional information.

