It’s Springtime!!

“...first clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.” Matthew 23:26

For some, spring is a time of cleaning, rejuvenating and throwing open the doors and windows and letting the fresh air into a house that has been held captive for three months. For many the annual Spring clean is a time-honoured tradition where everyone pitches in to make your house all sparkly and clean. With a more abundant source of light, your eyes may be drawn to things that were hidden by the gloom of winter – dust in the corners, a film of dirt on the windows, a pile of junk in the corner.

Others see spring as a time when the weather starts to warm up so we can get outside and take advantage of the sunshine – perhaps to tend a garden. It is the season for new growth – where life begins to show again in the deciduous trees, where flowers start to colour the earth and where you have to navigate the minefields that are the magpie nesting grounds.

With so many opportunities to take stock of and have a good clean out, and with so many reminders of the joys of watching life bloom and grow all around us, spring appears to be a good time for us to also clean up our lives and to embrace new beginnings. Maybe you have habits you want to break like not spending enough quality time with your loved ones. Maybe you have thoughts or actions that you need to “clean-out” or new ones to embrace? Perhaps you need to clean out all of the junk and dirt in your life so that God can shine through. Maybe it is a good time to evaluate how you are using the gifts and talents that God has blessed you with or to complete a mental checklist of whether or not you have shown a servant’s heart to those in need.

Upcoming Events

THUR 22 SEP
• German Day
• Woodend Primary School Jump Rope Demonstration Team
• 1:45pm School Tour

FRI 23 SEP
• Class Carer Coffee and Chat

MON 26 SEP
• Concert Matinee Performance

TUE 27 SEP
• Final Dress Rehearsal and Performing to Students and Kindergartens
• SAPSASA State Athletics Day

WED 28 SEP
• Concert Matinee Performance

THUR 29 SEP
• 9am Closing Chapel Service
• Concert Evening Performance (Students may leave early this day)

FRI 30 SEP
• Optional Attendance Day
• Term 3 Concludes

MON 17 OCT
• Student Free Day

TUE 18 OCT
• Term 4 Commences
• Opening Chapel
Psalm 51:10 says “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.” I pray that you can clean out the things that are getting in your way of serving Christ to your greatest potential and that you may be renewed and refreshed in relationship with Him. This time of the year can truly be a chance to grow in God and start fresh. It’s time to roll up the sleeves and just get in there and clean.

Submitted by Bec Mattner

From the Principal

JUNIOR CONCERT
Yesterday a concert notice went home to all families outlining some important details for the Junior Concert next week. If you need to clarify any information, or did not receive a notice, please ask at the school office or speak with your child’s classroom teacher.

Additional concert tickets available now for both evening and matinee performances! Please contact the office on 8260 2655 for extra tickets.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
Even with concert next week, there is still time for a Community Conversation in the morning (28 September). If you are interested in joining me, please contact Ann Belcher in the office on 8260 2655 or at admin@stpaulba.sa.edu.au. Next term these conversations will continue fortnightly on Wednesday mornings, and several other opportunities will be advertised for afternoon and evening sessions.

INFLUENZA
I’d like to extend my thanks to all families for responding to recent communication regarding influenza in the school community. We have since been advised that more than one case of the virus has made its way into our school. Thank you for being vigilant in observing the symptoms presented by your children and for refraining from sending your children to school when they are unwell. Our teachers continue to work with students on appropriate hygiene and we ask that you also continue to do so at home, including teaching thorough hand-washing, use and disposal of tissues, and coughing into an arm or sleeve, rather than onto hands. With the coming school holidays also comes the opportunity for students to relax and refresh. Similar to school days, please consider keeping your child home from vacation care if they are unwell.

From the Director of Learning

Let’s try a little quiz.

Without any research, can you place these events in chronological order?

- Australia adopts decimal currency
- Cuban Missile Crisis
- First moon landing
- Cyclone Tracy
- Harold Holt drowns
- Referendum gives citizenship status to Aboriginal Australians

Chances are that you may not be able to do this off the top of your head. If you attempt this little quiz, your first instinct may be to look the answers up or even ask someone for help. For my generation, this was a typical classroom activity. Here’s the question, now let’s go to the library and see if you can get it right. The research and then the staging of the information was the task. Sound familiar? But now, let’s try a different question.

Which of these historical events is the most momentous?

- Australia adopts decimal currency
- Cuban Missile Crisis
- First moon landing
- Cyclone Tracy
- Harold Holt drowns
- Referendum gives citizenship status to Aboriginal Australians
This is how we want students today to learn. Access the information and then interpret/analyse/evaluate/appraise/justify. The research bit is easy. The thinking is the challenge.

HOMEWORK
How do you feel about homework? Is it an added stress on an already busy family timetable or is it a welcome insight into your child’s learning and development?

Prior to beginning the next school year, St Paul will review its policy on homework. If you’d like to let me know your feelings on anything related to the issue of homework, please feel free to drop me an email at jfay@stpaulba.sa.edu.au.

General News

SCHOOL COUNCILLORS WANTED
The Council is the board of directors for the school and is responsible for financial and operational oversight (not day to day management), budget setting, policy setting and strategic direction. The St Paul Lutheran School Council is elected from and by Members of St Paul Lutheran Church along with some appointed from the wider community. In 2017 there will be some vacancies on Council for both Member and community positions and we are seeking nominations. If you have any questions or would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please contact us at council.chair@stpaulba.sa.edu.au or phone Michael Hall on 0417 969 217.

OPTIONAL DAY FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER
Friday following the evening concert performance will be an optional attendance day for all students from Reception to Year 6. Students who do come to school will be supervised in mixed-class groups and will support the concert clean-up. In order to assist us in planning, please complete the ‘Optional Attendance Day’ form sent home today to avoid multiple absentee follow-ups. Thank you!

STUDENT FREE DAY MONDAY 17 OCTOBER
St Paul staff will be using this day as a professional development day. If you need care for the day, SPLASH will be operating from the hall. Please contact Rebecca Heinjus on 8262 2170 or email splash@stpaulba.sa.edu.au to book care for this day and for any vacation care requirements.

JUNIOR CONCERT HELPERS NEEDED
We are looking for parent volunteers for the Junior Concert. If you have some spare time and could assist with serving refreshments or ushering on Wednesday 28 September matinee performance or Thursday 29 September evening performance, please contact Catherine on 8260 2655 or place your name on the sign-up sheet near the canteen.

SPLASH VACATION CARE
A reminder to all parents that places can now be booked for SPLASH Vacation Care. The program will run from Tuesday 4 October until Monday 17 October [Pupil Free Day]. Forms and programs were sent out last week to all parents but more copies are available at the school office or the SPLASH sign in desk. Please fill in one permission form and booking sheet for each child. Places are limited to ensure that we have enough staff to provide a safe and fun time for the children. All bookings must be received by next Tuesday 27 September.

FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION 2016
Congratulations to Ryan Schwarz for winning our SPLS Library and SPLASH footy tipping competition. Over 120 students participated in the tipping challenge with some tough competition at the front of the pack! Thank you to all the students and staff and parents who participated.
Church News

6/7 SPY
St Paul Youth will restart for Term 4 on Friday 4 November. Watch this space for more details shortly.

GODLY PLAY AND PRE TEENS
Our Sunday ministries for children during the 10am service will stop on Sunday 25 September for a short break over the holidays. We start back in Term 4 on Sunday 23 October.

For more information about any child, youth or household ministries here at St Paul Lutheran Church contact Nicole Hall on 0412 686 342 or like our facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/stpaulba/].

PLAYGROUP
Playgroup @ St Paul is on holidays for the next few weeks. We restart for Term 4 on Tuesday 25 October at 9am in the Church Hall. Our theme is ‘On The Farm’. We will be focussing on things we find on farms and are expecting a visit from some friends from the farm. Please come along and join us with your preschool children. Cost is $2.00. Please contact Nicole Hall on 0412 686 342 for more information.

COLIN BUCHANAN CONCERT
See Colin singing favourite family Christian music. Held on Thursday 6 October from 9:30am at Adelaide West Uniting Church, 312 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Brooklyn Park. To book your tickets visit the Koorong website: [https://www.koorong.com/].

GERMAN DAY
This Thursday 22 September is ‘Deutsch for a Day’ at St Paul Lutheran School. The following items are available from the canteen on the day. Please place orders at the canteen.

• Gingerbreads (Recess & Lunch) $0.20
• Berlinas (Recess & Lunch) $1.50
• Kartoffelschnitzen (Potato Wedges) (Lunch) $2.50