



**ST PAUL
LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

Living and Learning Together in Christ

inspire

VOL 18, ISSUE 26 | 28 SEPT 2016

Upcoming Events

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
- School Council Meeting

FRI 21 OCT

- SRC Loud Shirt Day for Cora Barclay
- Endless Praise Music Performance

MON 24 OCT - WED 26 OCT

- Year 6 Murray Bridge Camp

MON 24 OCT - FRI 28 OCT

- Book Fair

TUE 25 OCT

- 9am School Tour

WED 26 OCT

- 9:30am Principal's Community Conversations
- 6pm Principal's Community Conversations

Be Thankful!

Would you describe yourself as a thankful person? Thankfulness is not just a matter of manners. It is something that shapes quality of life. A growing body of research suggests that maintaining an attitude of gratitude can improve psychological, emotional and physical well-being. Grown-ups who are grateful have more energy, more optimism, more social connections and more happiness than those who do not. Researchers report similar benefits in children and adolescents. Kids who feel and act grateful tend to be less materialistic, get better grades, set higher goals, complain of fewer headaches and stomach aches and feel more satisfied with their friends, families and schools than those who don't, studies show.

Thankfulness is not an automatic behaviour. It is an attitude and a perspective that has to be learned and practiced intentionally. Children do not say "thank you" automatically. They learn to do so through their parents, after many reminders, consistent modelling and much encouragement.

Ephesians 5:19-20 says, "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Faith and thanksgiving are close friends. Faith trusts in the goodness of God, even in times of hardship and trouble. It believes that God is somehow working in all situations to bring good to those who love him, and so produces gratitude and hope. It is always ready to see blessings where others see none, and to celebrate what one has, instead of focussing on what is absent.



Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire ... if you did, what would there be to look forward to? Be thankful when you don't know something, it gives you the opportunity to learn. Be thankful for the difficult times, it is during those times you grow. Be thankful for your limitations, they give you opportunities for improvement. Be thankful for new challenges, they build your strength and character. Be thankful for your mistakes, they teach you valuable lessons. Be thankful when you're tired and weary, it means you've made a difference. Be thankful when good things come, but also look for the good when they don't. The more thankful you are ready to be, the more reasons to be thankful you will see!

Blessings,
Pastor Greg

From the Principal

JUNIOR CONCERT

At the time of printing, students are performing the matinee of our 2016 Junior concert. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all classroom teachers, support staff and parents, grandparents and other volunteers. Concert simply would not happen without all of us working together with our wonderful classroom teachers to prepare our students with costumes, create props, and support our young students prepare for a performance to a large audience. I pray many of you will be able to attend to enjoy the beautiful performances from our Year 1, 2 and 3 students.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Save the date! Our community conversations will continue fortnightly on Wednesday mornings in Term 4. In addition, I have scheduled two afternoon and two evening conversation opportunities. The dates are:

- Wednesday 26 October, 6pm – 7pm
- Thursday 3 November, 2pm-3pm
- Wednesday 16 November, 2pm-3pm
- Tuesday 29 November, 6pm – 7pm

To enable valuable conversation time, all sessions will be limited to 20 people. If you'd like to attend any of these sessions, please contact Ann Belcher in the office. These dates are available to view on our website calendar at <http://www.stpaulba.sa.edu.au/news-and-events/school-calendar/>. Did you know that you can sync to our school calendar? Please email admin@stpaulba.sa.edu.au to be sent the link.

2017 INTENTIONS FOR SCHOOL

As we prepare for staffing in 2017, it is helpful for us to know if there are any students leaving St Paul. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are moving away so that we can plan accordingly. Our fee policy requires notice a term in advance if you are planning to move so please let us know this week to avoid having to pay fees for Term One.

CLASS ALLOCATIONS 2017

In Term Four, we begin to plan class lists for 2017. If you have any particular requests for class allocations for your child/ren next year, please email me at lmattner@stpaulba.sa.edu.au. Please be aware that this is a complicated process which will take into account educationally, medically or socially relevant information. Therefore, we cannot take parent or student requests simply based on personal preference for teachers. As always, we take seriously the trust you place in us as educators to make the best decisions we possibly can for all students.

From the Director of Learning

Last week I asked for some feedback regarding homework. Prior to beginning the next school year, St Paul will review its policy on homework and parent input into this discussion is imperative. Thank you to those who have sent me an email or dropped by for a chat about this topic. There is no judgment when it comes to people's opinions and there is no predetermined school stance on the issue. We are at the beginning stages of information gathering. Some comments so far include...



- I am strongly against the use of contract homework... I think we need to value what activities children are doing outside of school, whether it be unstructured play, sport trainings, music lessons or visiting grandparents.

- For our family after school is about playing with cousins, doing an extra-curricular activity, enjoying a long bed time process and getting the kids in bed on time so they have enough sleep for the next day.

- It is important for us to practice reading at home so even if homework is not required in the future, we will still do reading. For anything on top of that I will take it upon myself to see if it fits with our children, life and our family.

- At the end of the school day, all my kids want to do is either go and ride their bikes, jump on a trampoline or just wind down.

- I understand the value of homework and how it helps students become more independent and organised as they get older-but let's not forget how busy life for families after school already is. In the younger years I think reading, counting, puzzles/play etc. is more than enough.

- I like the fact that all homework is set at the beginning of the week as this enables homework to be planned around the nights when we have after school activities. I also think setting homework at the beginning of the week is beneficial for older students as it gives them practice in time management.

I'd still like to hear how you feel about the issue of homework. Please feel free to drop me an email at jfay@stpaulba.sa.edu.au.

General News

OPTIONAL DAY FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

This Friday following the concert evening 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 inform your child's teacher or the school office of your intentions on this day in order for us 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 at splash@stpaulba.sa.edu.au to book care for this day and for any vacation care requirements.

UNIFORM CHANGE FOR RECEPTION 2017

Beginning in Reception 2017, our girls' summer dresses have a new design with more colour. 2017 Reception parents will be able to preview this at their uniform fitting. If you have a 2017 Reception child who has an older sister with the current summer dress, you will still be able to make use of this style, however all 2017 Reception girls will need at least one of the new dress styles for official occasions.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Jump Rope 'Jump Off' Day – Thursday 20 October

A reminder that all students will need to wear sports uniform on Thursday 20 October (Term 4 Week 1) for our official 'Jump Off' to culminate our 2016 fundraiser for the Heart Foundation.

Please note parents that our 'Jump Off' Day is the cut-off day for fund-raising. We ask that families collecting cash payments bring in all funds raised on or before 20 October. Prizes can only be sent to us after all funds and required paperwork for our school is received by the Heart Foundation.

All fund-raising efforts are greatly appreciated.

Jump Rope Visitors

Last Thursday our St Paul students, in addition to their wonderful and various German Day experiences,



were treated to a spectacular lunch-time skipping performance.

The Woodend Primary School Jump Rope Demonstration team, comprising 38 performers, impressed us greatly with their outstanding routines, energy and team work.

Responses from students and staff alike, included:-

'Wow! Awesome!'; 'They were just great! and 'I really liked the music!'

The team practises three times each week in order to help them reach their high standards of performance.

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 councilchair@stpaulba.sa.edu.au or phone Michael Hall on 0417 969 217.

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Fair

In Week 2 next Term the Library will be hosting a Book Fair. Students and parents will have an opportunity to browse through the sorts of books normally available through Scholastic Book Club and purchase on the spot. Purchases can be made in cash, credit card and debit card. Students will be able to make a wish list during their Library time of books they may wish to purchase. The Book Fair will be open to parents before and after school to purchase. More details will follow early next term.

Reformation Art

In Week 1 next Term during our lunch time activities we will be creating an artwork to celebrate Reformation Day. Nicole Hall, the Child, Youth and Household Ministry Coordinator from St Paul Lutheran Church, will help us make an artwork which will then be displayed in the church. All students are welcome to be involved in the creation.

SRC CASUAL DAY

The Student Representative Council are holding a casual day on Friday 21 October (Term 4 Week 1). This day will support 'Loud Shirt Day' for the Cora Barclay Centre which helps children who are deaf or hearing impaired, learn to speak and reach their full potential. This is achieved through a family-centred practice and professional expertise in Auditory-Verbal Therapy (AVT). Students are encouraged to wear 'loud' or bright tops for the day together with a gold coin donation.

BEAT HOLIDAY BOREDOM

With school holidays coming up , the following article entitled 'To beat holiday boredom' appeared on the Parenting Place website recently at www.parentingplace.com . This site has many current parenting resources and articles that you might find interesting to read and gain a few tips along the way! <http://www.theparentingplace.com/blogs/jennys-corner/beat-school-holiday-boredom/>.

THE BUBBLE JORNEY SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

The Mindful Child School Holiday Workshop, 'The Bubble Journey' is a 2-hour immersive session for children aged 5 to 7 years.

The workshop is a fun, play-based experience focussing on building children's mindfulness skills.

It aims to:

- Enhance mental health and wellbeing
- Provide a toolkit to better manage stress and build resilience

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

St Paul Lutheran School
44 Audrey Avenue
Blair Athol SA 5084
Phone +61 8 8260 2655
Fax +61 8 8262 4216
admin@stpaulba.sa.edu.au
stpaulba.sa.edu.au



- Improve attention and focus
- Build emotional literacy
- Assist children to feel calm and at ease

Cost \$35.00 per child which includes:

- 2-hour session facilitated by a Psychologist and Counsellor
- Package of take-home resources

Private health rebates may apply.

Church News

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 Dr, Brooklyn Park. To book your tickets visit the Koorong website: <https://www.koorong.com/>.

PASTY BAKE UPDATE

Thank you to all who supported the Pasty Bake this year. The St Paul Lutheran Church raised \$4152.10. Praise and thanks to God.