Better Together

Psalm 133:1 says, “How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!” Connected through faith to the one Lord Jesus Christ, Christians have so much in common. When we come together as people who are different yet committed to love and serve each other, very good things can and do happen. Here at St Paul we are seeking to live out the unity we have in Jesus as school and congregation together. The life of the school is a blessing to the St Paul congregation, and the congregation is committed to growing in blessing the school in a range of practical ways.

One outcome of that desire for unity is the employment this year of a School Ministry Worker. Louise Venning’s role is to help the school and congregation grow together as partners in care, love and service. This year the congregation will also be holding what we will call “St Paul Community Sundays”. On these Sundays there will be single 9:30am Worship Service at St Paul, specially designed with families in mind, and involving school children in a variety of ways. The first such Sunday will be 5 March. All families associated with the School are very welcome to attend.

As Pastor of the school and congregation, please also know that I am available to serve children and families of the school. If parents need a listening ear, they are very welcome to contact me (email pastorgreg@stpaul-church.org.au; phone 0423 151 367).

God has made us for community, and we are better together! May God bless you and your household throughout this school year as you share in the life of St Paul community.

Blessings, Pastor Greg

Upcoming Events

**WED 8 FEB**
- Parent Information Evening (Years 2, 3 and 6)

**TUE 14 FEB**
- School Council Meeting

**THUR 16 FEB**
- 2pm School Tour

**MON 20 FEB**
- TriSkills Gymnastics (R-2)

**MON 27 FEB**
- TriSkills Gymnastics (R-2)

**WED 1 MAR**
- Ash Wednesday

**THUR 2 MAR**
- District Swimming

**FRI 3 MAR**
- Shed Men

**MON 6 MAR**
- TriSkills Gymnastics (R-2)

**TUE 7 MAR**
- 9:30am School Tour

**WED 8 MAR**
- Parent Information Evening (Reception)

**MON 13 MAR - FRI 17 MAR**
- ALWS Awareness Week
From the Principal

WELCOME TO NEW FAMILIES AND STUDENTS

Yesterday we welcomed our Reception students to their first week of school. Our senior students have been eagerly awaiting their arrival, very much looking forward to helping them settle into school routines.

In addition to our youngest students and their families, we also welcome a number of new school families with students in other year levels. We pray that you and your child/ren find yourself feeling at home in our school community. I extend my thanks to the numerous existing parents who volunteered to be ‘friendly faces’ to our new families.

• John and Anna Andreou (Alex and Zach - Yr 1)
• Joshua and Jessica Bohmer (Amelia - Yr 1)
• Ryan and Melissa Martin (Jayden - Yr 4; Mallya - Yr 1)
• Blake O’Neil (Maggie - Yr 1)
• Delwin and Gillian Keasberry (Noah - Yr 1; Ava and Elise - Rec)
• Ike and Uju Ojimba (Chiderah - Yr 1; Chinonye - Yr 4)
• John Awad and Sara Girgis Awad (Marvy - Yr 2)
• Daniel Graham and Zoe Spencer (Nikita Graham - Yr 2)
• Kolier Shivarev and Peggy Chen (Oscar - Yr 3; Lucas - Rec)
• Chapal Nyuon (Misha Longar - Yr 3)
• Mohamed Bility and Donzo Aminata (Fatu Bility - Yr 4)
• Ruhullah and Massomah Hussaini (Milika - Yr 4)
• Fadhil Alaubodi and Ruba Kadad (Abbas Alaubodi - Yr 5)
• Shae Kretschmer (Jeyaeyah Agius - Rec)
• Chad Burfitt and Evi Purba (Hasianna Burfitt - Rec)
• Barrie and Jane Collis (Ella -Rec)
• Chi Diep and Laura Hang (Sally Diep - Rec)
• Alemishet Semere and Selamawite Gebru (Nathan Gebremedhin - Rec)
• Stuart and Karynne Johnson (Lucy - Rec)
• Bility Hadja (Fanta Kamara - Rec)
• Yat Yiu Kowk and Bei Bei Sun (Macayla Kwok - Rec)
• Tam Le and Phuong Vu (Benji Le - Rec)
• Adrian McMillan and Belinda Ting (Alston McMillan - Rec)
• Mark and Kathy Pengilly (Logan - Rec)
• Christian Salas-Garcia and Beth Jarvis (Joshua Salas-Jarvis - Rec)
• Peter Yim and Kelle Kim (Kage Yim - Rec)
• Shane Woods and Leanne Cotter (Orion Cotter - Rec)
• Anwar and Mosoma Jafari (Daniel - Rec)
• Sartaj Singh and Raminder Kaur (Areen and Armeet Kaur - Rec)
• Nicholas King and Vivian Danh (Sebastian King - Rec)
• Ring Kolang and Atong Akol (Awel Kolang - Rec)
• Davide and Deborah (Damian Latin - Rec)
• Brett and Bethanie Madigan (Evie - Rec)
• Adam and Leanne Mason (Eden - Rec)
• Christopher and Dianne Monger (Laura - Rec)
• Michael and Fiona Pappin (Paige - Rec)
• Ranjit and Sonia Shah (Eric - Rec)
• Benjamin and Melissa Talbot (Chelsea - Rec)
• Anup and Asha Thomas (Aiden - Rec)
• Denis and Zinaida Tvorogova (Maria - Rec)
• Luke and Lucy Webb (Harry - Rec)
• George and Vanessa Abdallah (Billy - Rec)
• Shekhar Biswas and Payel Karmaker (Tridib Biswas-Rec)
• Corey and Jessica Johns (Catherine - Rec)
• Andrew and Prudence Kalisch (Henry - Rec)
• Sumit and Rasika Kini (Sparsh - Rec)
• Simon and Solmaz Klunyk (Caelan - Rec)
• Shaun and Anne (Liam Kowald - Rec)
• Hai Le and Huong La (Tam Le - Rec)
• David and Taryn Mackey (Hugh - Rec)
• Urvinkumar and Hemalata Maisuria (Pearl - Rec)
• Evan and Dannyarla McNamara (Faith - Rec)
• Scott Mills and Suzanne Hart (Janee - Rec)
• Satish Kumar and Panjeta Kaur (Naitik - Rec)
• Benjamin Bradshaw and Tia Cramp (Amelia Scott - Rec)
• John and Luahn Sennis (Vanessa - Rec)
• Thi Lam (Maximas Trinh - Rec)
• Minh Vo and Hang Le (Emily Vo - Rec)
• Ian and Karly Voigt (Stella - Rec)
• Tina Nguyen (Maggie Vuong - Rec)

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS
Thank you to all parents who were able to attend the information sessions last night. Our teachers really value this chance to begin the school-home partnership each year. A reminder that sessions for Years 2, 3 and 6 are this evening at 6:30pm. Important information about Year 3 iPads will be shared in the Year 3 information session.

Leila Mattner | Principal

From the Director of Learning
Welcome back to the 2017 school year. With our Reception students starting this week we are well and truly back into the swing of things. Once again this year the staff of St Paul will be challenging themselves to deliver the best and most relevant classroom experience possible for your child. I truly believe that there is no better school for our children.

HOMEWORK IN 2017
Thank you once again to all of the parents who took time to provide feedback to the school last year on homework. As we have a number of new families in all year levels, this feedback overwhelmingly indicated that:
• Homework is an added extra to busy families and often homework time is late in the evening
• Homework is often an added rather than complementary part of the school program
• Parents are sometimes unable to help with homework and this causes angst between parents and students
• Play and family time are lost to homework
• Homework should be focussed on basic skills and quick and easy to complete.

All teachers and leaders here at St Paul have reflected on the large amount of written feedback provided by families and have committed to the following homework guidelines.
• Reception to Year 2 - The homework focus will be on students reading to parents (readers and sight words).
• Year 3 and 4 - Continuing the focus on reading but also asking students to practise and develop their knowledge of times tables.
• Year 5 and 6 - Independent reading, times tables consolidation and inquiry project management.

Many of these homework tasks are oral and can be completed at flexible times. For example, using the drive to and from school or sports training to practise times tables and using story time before bed to practise reading. At Year 5 and Year 6, the inquiry projects are completed over longer periods of time and allow students to use their time in a flexible way whilst also developing their organisation skills for high school. If you have any questions about homework, please see your child’s teacher. Open lines of communication assist in addressing homework related issues.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY
This year students will have access to three different types of robots in their subject of Digital Technology with Mr Mayer. Miss Schuster’s old Year 2 room is now the Digital Technology room and without much furniture provides a space for students to program and interact with robots. The three different types of robots cater for all levels of knowledge and skill. Our Reception to Year 2 classes will enjoy the Beebots as an introduction to coding and the Probots take these skills a little further by introducing angles and fractions. Finally the Dash and Dot robots will excite and engage older and more gifted with their very unique personalities and intricate coding mechanisms. This is an exciting development in the St Paul curriculum and provides students with an opportunity to advance their digital skills and language for the future.

Jason Fay | Director of Learning
General News

REGISTERED VOLUNTEERS
Registered Volunteers are adults within our school community who are permitted to work with students in an indirectly-supervised capacity. This includes such activities as swimming lessons, excursions, helping students in the school separate to a teacher, or coaching a sports team. An essential part of becoming a Registered Volunteer is a training course that can now be accessed online, as well as a police check and some other paperwork. For further information about becoming a registered volunteer, please speak to Ann Belcher in the office.

STUDENT DATABASE FORMS AND MEDICATION
Please be reminded that these forms should be returned as a matter of priority to ensure that we have the most up-to-date information for your child. Likewise, please ensure that any medication that your child/ren require has been brought to school for the 2017 school year.

CARE AND SAFETY OF ALL STUDENTS – FOOD AT SCHOOL
In the interest of safety and wellbeing for all children in our care we would like to remind parents/caregivers that St Paul Lutheran School is a nut free school. Our nut free policy can be found on our parent weebly.

To keep students with severe allergies safe and well at school, all members of the St Paul community must comply with this policy.

Students are asked to avoid bringing the following foods to school:
• Peanut butter (sandwiches, dips or crackers)
• Nutella (sandwiches or dips)
• Biscuits and cakes with nuts in them
• Muesli bars with nuts
• Chocolate containing nuts eg Snickers
• Dried fruit & nut mixes

Note: This does not include products that contain the warning ‘may contain traces of nuts’.

LOLLIPOPS
Lollipops often take a significant time to consume. Lollipop sticks create a potentially hazardous situation when consumed in a busy environment in the classroom and out in the school yard. Students who trip, fall or get pushed could be at risk of lodging a stick in their throat. For this reason students are to avoid bringing lollipops to school.

TUNA CANS
Students are asked not to bring cans of food to school due to injuries that have occurred on numerous occasions with small cans. Parents are asked to transfer tinned food (eg Tuna) into an alternative plastic container, prior to packing their lunch box. This will assist us to prevent unfortunate injury at recess and lunch.

WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY IN 2017!
The Library is open to students and parents Monday to Thursday mornings from 8:30am to 8:45am and after school Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15pm to 3:30pm.

The Library will be open at lunchtime on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and students can participate in organised activities such as construction and games or just relax with a book.

Wendy is looking for some parent volunteers in the library. If you have some time to spare after morning drop off, before afternoon pick up or even in the middle of the day please see her and have a chat (free coffee included!).

ENGLISH CLASSES
Would you like to improve your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills in English? Do you have trouble understanding what some Australians are saying? Don’t throw the towel in! (don’t give up!).
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

Church News

PLAYGROUP @ ST PAUL
St Paul Lutheran Church runs a playgroup for children 0-5 and their carer each Tuesday morning during term in the Church Hall. Playgroup has started up again for 2017 and we have been blessed with some new toys and equipment thanks to a grant from the Port Adelaide/Enfield Council. Please stop by after school drop off for a coffee, a chat and a play and bring a small snack for your child. Cost: $2.00 per family.

SPY
St Paul Youth for Grade 6 and above runs on the first and third Friday of the month during the school term. Time: 7pm to 9pm. Cost: $2.00

We invite all of St Paul 2017 Seniors to come along and be part of SPY. Our next gathering is: Friday 17 February – Beach Night. Girls to bring supper.

We are meeting at West Beach by the Henley Beach Sailing Club at the bottom of Burbridge Road – Please RSVP to Nicole so we can look out for you. Permission slips are available through the church, in the classroom and on the night. Bring along a towel and a torch and be prepared to get wet to the knees.

For more information contact Nicole Hall Child, Youth and Household Ministry Coordinator on 0412 686 342

EXPERIENCE LENT
Come and join us and discover through a selection of activities what Lent and Easter are all about.

• When: Sunday, 5 March.
• Time: 10:30am to 11:30am after our 9:30am St Paul Community Worship Service.
• Where: St Paul Lutheran Church Hall

Cost: Free (although a small donation to help cover the cost of craft materials would be appreciated).