



**ST PAUL
LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

Living and Learning Together in Christ

inspire

VOL 20, ISSUE 01 | 31 JANUARY 2018

Upcoming Events

TERM 1, WEEK 1

WED 31 - MON 5 FEBRUARY

- Reception School Visits

FRI 2 FEBRUARY

- Shed Men

WEEK 2

TUE 6 FEBRUARY

- Reception Students First Day
- Parent Information Evening, Years 1, 4 & 5

WED 7 FEBRUARY

- School Worship 9:00am
- Parent Information Evening, Years 2, 3 & 6

WEEK 3

TUE 13 FEBRUARY

- Shrove Tuesday

WED 14 FEBRUARY

- School Worship 9:00am

WEEK 4

WED 21 FEBRUARY

- School Worship 9:00am
- School Tour 6:00pm

THU 22 FEBRUARY

- School Tour 9:15am

2018 Jitters

In our staff room on Tuesday morning, experienced teachers were discussing the sleepless night that they have each time the school year is beginning. There is so much that teachers worry about: am I completely ready for the first day? Will I be able to engage my students and help them to be the learners they need to be? Will I be able to help the new child to develop social connections?

The beginning of the school year can be a bit nerve-wracking. Children are nervous about friends in their class, parents are worried about whether their child will have the right teacher.

I had a sleepless night worrying about the new families, students and staff. Will we welcome them properly? Have we planned enough support to help them find their way around? Will I remember everybody when I welcome them in Chapel on the first day? Ultimately, we are all human, and will worry about something.

In reality, the first day of school yesterday was a lovely day, with students developing new friendships, with parents forgiving me for the provision of lowly instant coffee before Chapel, and with a great feeling of collegiality amongst our incredible staff team.

In the Bible, Matthew asks this question: *Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? (Matthew 6:27)*. My prayer for this year is that, as we take on other challenges through the year, we can remember God is always walking beside us. He knows that we will worry anyway, but always wants us to know that he cares.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

Leila Mattner
Principal



From the Principal

WELCOME

Blessings to all students, families and staff members as you begin the 2018 school year at St Paul. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all teaching and non-teaching staff at St Paul who have worked so hard through the summer to prepare for the year to come. As the year begins, please do not hesitate to ask your classroom teachers or our administration staff about anything – big or small. We're here to help!

STUDENT WELLBEING, PLAY AND THE SCHOOL DAY

Through 2017, teachers at St Paul discussed the length of our recess and lunch breaks, exploring the positives of regular breaks, free play times, and allowing time for students to eat. Many of you will be aware that conversations about recess and lunch times have been appearing regularly in social media for many years. The Finnish model of a 15-minute break every 45 minutes is commonly referred to. Through our wellbeing research, we know that the benefits of a break from focused time is important. This year, St Paul students will have a recess break of 30 minutes and a lunch break of 45 minutes. The aim in providing a longer recess time is to give time for students to eat a snack, as well as to get some active play time.

In 2018, the school day will be structured as follows:

8:30am	Children Enter Rooms
8:45am	Lessons Commence
10:30am	Recess
11:00am	Lessons Re-Commence
1:00pm	Lunch
1:10pm	Playtime Commences
1:45pm	Lessons Re-Commence
3:15pm	Dismissal

Other Positive Education strategies for student wellbeing will continue to be used in classrooms throughout 2018, such as:

- Mindfulness;

- Exercise and stretching;
- Gratitude;
- Acts of kindness; and
- Regular opportunities to develop vocabulary around emotions.

For more information about student wellbeing and Positive Education, a great place to visit is the SAHMRI Wellbeing and Resilience Centre website: <https://www.wellbeingandresilience.com/education> Your child's classroom teacher will also be happy to speak to you about strategies used in the classroom.

SPLASH: VACATION CARE

A large number of students and families made use of the Vacation Care service before and after Christmas, and what a varied and well-planned service it was! Thank you to all families who supported our vacation care days and thank you to Rebecca Heinjus and her SPLASH staff team for their great work in caring for students.

Leila Mattner | Principal

From the Deputy Principal

Welcome to St Paul for the 2018 school year! Teachers have been extremely busy planning for a new year of quality learning. Our learning spaces continue to evolve into student-centred environments that allow for deep, highly relevant learning.

CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

One of the professional development opportunities that teachers engaged with last week was around the development of a love of reading in students. Teachers responded incredibly positively to many of the strategies that were shared. One of the key points of the day was the difference between 'silent reading' and 'independent reading'. The collection of books which is available in the classroom is a key factor in fostering this. Although the work of Ms. McLeod in the library will continue to be central to the reading program of the school, we would like to increase in class resources.

If you have any old books that you would like to donate to your child's class, please speak to your child's teacher.



You may also have books that are suitable for different year levels (pass these on to your child's teacher anyway to be delivered). Books that are appropriate and in good condition will be gratefully accepted!

INSTRUMENT MUSIC LESSONS

Some information regarding instrumental music lessons will go home with students this week. If you would like to enrol, please pop into the office for an enrolment form.

Mrs Emma Christian has taught violin to students at St Paul in the past but unfortunately she will be unavailable to teach violin for at least the first part of 2018. We are currently speaking to some potential teachers to continue this program. If you are interested in your child taking up the violin, please indicate this on the enrolment form.

Jason Fay | Deputy Principal

General News

CHAPEL

Chapel services are held every Wednesday morning in the church. Families are warmly invited to attend, with tea and coffee available in the hall from 8:45am.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

Please remember our upcoming Parent Information sessions. Our teachers really value this chance to begin the school-home partnership each year. Your child's classroom teacher will confirm the location of these sessions. If in doubt, please make your way to the child's classroom and you will be redirected if needed. Entry to the school buildings will be via the front office. Due to the nature and purpose of these evenings, children should not be in attendance please.

Tuesday February 6

- Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5. Session at 6:30pm.

Wednesday February 7

- Years 2, 3 and 6. Session at 6:30pm.

Thursday March 8

- Reception. Session at 6:30pm.

SCHOOL CALENDAR INFORMATION

The school calendar will be the 'go to' for all the happenings at St Paul Lutheran School. You can find this on the school website under the "News & Events" tab.

SPORTS PRACTICE CANCELLATION POLICIES

The following conditions and responsibilities apply to after-school team sport practices at St Paul Lutheran:

- Hot Weather Policy – Practice sessions will be cancelled if the advertised maximum temperature on morning (up to 8:00am) radio/television/internet media is 33°C or above.
- Wet Weather Policy – Practice sessions will be cancelled if it is raining at school at 2.30pm on the day of practice.

Parents/caregivers who are unsure whether or not an afternoon practice session has been cancelled due to inclement weather are advised to telephone the school office after 2.30pm.

SHED MEN

All Dad's are invited to Shed Men, a casual gathering of St Paul Dads and Male care givers at a different blokes house on the first friday of the month. As this is the first gathering for 2018, we are holding it at the school (Thanks Terry for opening the shed for us). Even though Reception classes don't start till next week, all the Dad's that are new to the school are more than welcome to attend.

Shed Men - Friday 2 February from 6.30pm:
Terry's Shed @ the School
44 Audrey Ave, Blair Athol
BYO Meat, drinks and maybe a chair.

Keep an eye out this week for a flyer coming home with your children with information about Shed Men and coming events. If you would like more information on Shed Men or would like to even host a Shed Men Friday in your Shed, please contact:

Leon Semmens
lsemmens@aapt.net.au

0432 575 126. See you on Friday!

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



Church News

FROM OUR SCHOOL MINISTRY WORKER

Welcome to a brand new school year on behalf of the St Paul Congregation. We also extend a special welcome to all of our new St Paul families. As a church staff, we are Pastor Greg Priebbenow, Nicole Hall (Child, Youth and Household Ministry Worker), Naomi Burls (Office Administrative Manager) and myself. My name is Louise Venning and I am the School Ministry Worker at St Paul. My role includes helping to build and nurture the relationship between our congregation and school community, and to contribute to the general life of the school. I hope to meet you in and around the school very soon.

SHROVE TUESDAY

Tuesday 13 February is Shrove Tuesday. This refers to the last day before Ash Wednesday and is the last day before the period of Easter known as Lent. Traditionally Shrove Tuesday was a day for gluttonous celebrations to use up luxurious foods that many people would go without during the Christian season of Lent.

Australians celebrate Shrove Tuesday as Pancake Day. So on this day our congregation will be serving pancakes to students and staff to enjoy on behalf of the St Paul Church Community. More details are to follow very soon about this special day, including a pancake order form coming home for your child/children. For more information contact Louise Venning, St Paul School Ministry Worker, LVenning@stpaulba.sa.edu.au / mobile 0416 008 129

PLAYGROUP @ST PAUL

Playgroup @St Paul starts on Tuesday 6 February from 9:00am-10:30am in the Church Hall. Children 0-5 years and their parent or carer are invited to join us for a time of play, craft, stories and singing. Our theme for Term 1 is Seasons and Celebrations and our Week 1 focus is the new year. Come along and join the fun – Cost is \$2.00 per family – bring a small snack for your child at snack time.

SPY NEWS

St Paul Youth for children in Years 6-8 runs on the first and third Friday of the month during School terms. Our first night back for Term 1 is Friday the 16 of February. Theme is Icebreakers and Water night. Please bring along a super soaker or spray gun. Time 7:00pm-9:00pm Cost is \$2.00 Supper provided.