IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 4th March
Prep non attendance day

Monday 9th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Yesterday we celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass to mark the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent calls us to stop and reflect on our lives, to seek forgiveness and be forgiven and to prepare for the celebration of Easter.

We receive ashes on our forehead as a symbol to remind that us that sometimes we don’t make good choices and that we can follow Jesus example. Lent is a time of prayer, when we spend a little extra time in quiet contemplation to consider the needs of others and reflect on ways we can follow more closely the message of Jesus. A time of fasting, of going without something as a way of remembering Jesus’ time in the desert and it is a time of almsgiving when we consider the needs of those less fortunate than ourselves.

Our children are to be commended on the respectful and reverent way they entered the church as a sacred space and their willingness and eagerness to participate in the Mass, read prayers and sing the hymns. Thank you to Father Ray for leading this celebration and helping us to reflect on the meaning of Lent and ways we can give of ourselves this Lenten season.

Thank you to Mr Keane for his planning, preparation and organisation of the Mass.

Sunday, 22 March
10AM - 4.00PM
ST PAUL’S FETE

As part of our Lenten journey we will be raising awareness of the works of Caritas Australia. Through Project Compassion millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Project Compassion inspires so many communities to come together to raise much needed funds for the most vulnerable women, children and men in Australian and around the world. Together, we can all help to break the cycle of poverty and injustice. Our Mini Vinnies group led by Captains Francesco and Ella met today with this year’s Mini Vinnies group and will share with the school community their fundraising ideas for Project Compassion.
St Paul’s Skoolbag App
A reminder to parents to please download the skoolbag app. This is an important communication tool between the school and parents. This was demonstrated in the past few weeks when our carpark was full with church parking, we were able to alert parents to make alternate parking arrangements.

Spread Joy and Positivity
March 1st is World Compliment Day. This is a day created as a way to spread happiness and kindness. People are encouraged to use words instead of gifts as a way to praise and appreciate people. The idea is to create the “most positive day in the world.” On Sunday, as a family take a moment to tell each other how wonderful you all are. Pay other people in your life a compliment. A sincere and personal compliment costs you nothing but it means the world to the someone else. Compliments make people happier, boost their self-confidence and encourage them to keep on going no matter what.

Prep Welcome BBQ
It was good to see so many Prep parents and children sharing beginning school stories and sausages at our Prep Welcome BBQ on Tuesday evening, not even the rain dampened the enthusiasm. Children then enjoyed a movie while parents listened to the important information Miss Danielle and Mrs Cobie had to share.

Smart Lost Property
How it works

We have a new uniform supplier and they have unique tag system, which helps track lost property. We have a cupboard which has this system installed. If you have a registered tag on your child’s property we will place it in the cupboard and each morning you will receive a text message to come and collect it! You can buy extra tags for other items

- RagTagd Stickers – Perfect for lunch boxes and drink bottles – available in packs of 5 ($9.00) and 10 ($14.00)
- RagTagd Hangtags – Perfect for school bags or lunch bags – available in packs of 2 ($7.50)

See Sandra in the uniform shop Mondays 9-11am
Less than 4 weeks to go until the St. Paul’s School Fete!

The long-range weather forecast looks positive for Sunday 22nd March, so all is set for what promises to be a fun filled family day.

We are still needing:
- soft drink and water
- homemade produce – passata, jams, chutneys, pickles
- mystery bottles – wine, beer, cider, spirits

We will also be providing a water refill station for people who bring along their own water bottle.

**REMINDER** – The wrist band raffle for unlimited rides on the day of the fete will be drawn on Friday 6th March. There are seven lucky wrist bands to be won, so please return your raffle tickets, with your child’s name and year level on each ticket, to school as soon as possible.

The online roster for the Fete will be available next week. It is an easy process, however if you have any difficulties please see Donna, Joe or Christina.

Finally, if you have an outdoor umbrella and base you would be happy to lend us on the day of the Fete, we would be very grateful.

Thank you for supporting the Fete Committee!
FETE SPONSORSHIP

We gratefully acknowledge and thank the following family and school businesses who are supporting St Paul’s School Fete:

Campanella Family

F. Vitale & Sons
Plaster Products

St. Pauls Basketball Club

Rejuvenate
Laser & skin clinic

Spartan School World

Mediterranean Wholesalers Pty Ltd.

Beat Dance School
Golf for PE  @ St. Paul’s

Yesterday our students learned about Golf from PGA Pro Paul Boxall.

Everyone really enjoyed the challenge and it is quite possible that St. Paul’s has the next Jason Day or Karrie Webb in the making!

Paul will be back in Term 2 for a few more clinics at St. Pauls.

If your child is interested in learning more about golf or they would like to pursue it as a sport, go to www.mygolf.org.au to find out more.
SSV TeamVic Try-outs @ St. Pauls

This week some of our students have been trying out for a chance to participate in the School Sport Victoria (SSV) TeamVic trials.

We’ve seen some great talent and determination from everyone who had a go. I’d like to thank all of the students who put everything they had into their trial.

Unfortunately all schools are strictly limited to the number of students they permitted to send to the trials and making that decision on who to send was very difficult.

If you were successful in getting an opportunity, congratulations!
Listen carefully to the coaches at the trials and do your best. That is all that can be asked.

If you weren’t successful this year, please don’t be disappointed.
Stick to the sport that you love and keep practicing.

DISTRICT SWIMMING TRIAL SUCCESS!

Congratulations to Billy F in Year 4 and Matthew I in Year 5 who have earned a place representing St. Paul’s at the Inner North/Moreland Division Swimming Championships to be held next week.

Billy placed first in his trials in the 10 year old boys 50m Freestyle with a time of 50:37 seconds and he also placed first in the 10 year old boys 50m Butterfly with a time of 1 min 03:58 sec.

Matthew placed 2nd in his trial in the 11 year old boys 50m Breastroke with a time of 1 min 17:88 sec.

Congratulation also to all of the other students of St. Paul’s who tried out in the swimming trials this week.
Performing Arts includes the subjects of music, dance and drama. We use these concepts to explore and present understandings about our world.

A key learning disposition we are focussing on in term 1 is thinking flexibly. This is a key skill in Performing Arts and ensures that children can work in a team creatively and problem solve in a way that makes sense to everyone in the team. Thinking flexibly helps to create a win/win situation and is a skill that can be utilized in performing arts.

I can:
- find more than one answer
- stop and think
- see things from a different point of view
- try different strategies
- evaluate and adapt

From left to right:
The children are playing various rhythmic notations. In the middle photo, the children are playing a detective style game called “sleep maker” and the photo on the right is called leader. In this game, the person in the middle needs to guess who everybody else is copying.

In this photo, the children are learning about movement in unison by dancing to the Macarena.
Dear Families,

The auditions were off to a flying start over the last two weeks! Ms Emilie and I saw a gymnastics routine, songs were sung, pianos were played and a comedy routine entertained the audience.

The final chance to audition happens in the library this coming Tuesday at lunchtime (week 6).

If your child has nominated to audition for a spot in the concert at the fete, could you please ensure that they are ready to audition next week? Many children asked for additional preparation time this week which was granted, but decision will need to be finalised by the end of next week.

If any child still wishes to audition, please have them see their classroom teacher who will add their name to the audition sheet (if they have not already done so).

Please note: Next week is the last week children are able to audition for a spot at the talent show.

Again families, please note that not all children who audition will be able to perform at the fete. There are only a limited amount of spots available to fill during our assigned time slot.

I look forward to seeing more auditions next week.

Kind Regards,
Edward Faraci
Each year, St. Paul’s offers workshops for parents/grandparents interested in being Classroom Helpers, including helping with excursions, athletics days, etc. These workshops cover what it means to be a helper in the classroom, expectations and legal requirements. Workshop 2 will be held on Friday 6th March.

Please send an email to: office@spcoburg.catholic.edu.au if you are interested in attending. Please note that you cannot be a Classroom Helper if you have not completed this workshop.
The eSafety Office has released a Toolkit for Schools. This toolkit has many powerful resources which will help to keep students safer online, including information for parents.

**Cyberbullying**

**I think my child is being bullied**
Your child may not tell you if they are experiencing bullying behaviour online because of a fear it might make things worse for them or they may lose access to their devices and the internet.

**Signs to watch for:**
- being upset after using the internet or their mobile phone
- changes in personality, becoming more withdrawn,
- anxious, sad or angry
- appearing more lonely or distressed
- unexpected changes in friendship groups
- a decline in their school work
- changes in their sleep patterns
- avoidance of school or clubs
- a decline in their physical health
- becoming secretive about their online activities and mobile phone use

**What can I do?**
Talk to your child about cyberbullying before it happens. Together you can work out strategies to address any potential issues and reassure them you will be there to support them.

**If your child is experiencing cyberbullying:**
- Listen, think, stay calm — talk to them about what happened, try to remain open and non-judgemental, ask them how they feel and ensure they feel heard.
- Collect evidence — it is a good idea to collect evidence, such as screenshots, of the bullying behaviour, in case you need to report it later on.
- Block and manage contact with others — advise your child not to respond to bullying messages and help your child block or unfriend the person sending the messages.
- Report to site or service — many social media services, games, apps and websites allow you to report abusive content and request that it is removed.
- Report to eSafety — if serious cyberbullying is affecting your child and you need help to get the material removed from a social media service or other platform you can make a cyberbullying report to us.
- Get help and support — check in with your child regularly about how they are feeling. If you notice any changes that concern you, get help through a counselling or online support service.

Further tips and advice for parents/carers on cyberbullying are available on eSafety’s website.
Playgroup is on this Friday, and every Friday, from 9am until 10.30 am in the hall.
Our Playgroup is very well equipped, and we cater for a variety of age groups- babies, toddlers and preschoolers
All welcome to join!