



Photo by Andy Warren

29th June 2023 Vol:10-23

“We are in the country of the Awabakal peoples. We respectfully acknowledge their elders, celebrating their continuing culture and the living memory of their ancestors.”

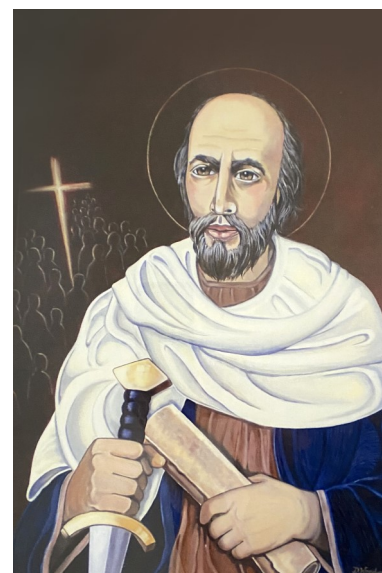
The Church celebrates St Paul's Feast Day on Thursday 29 June. As a school community will celebrate this significant day on the last day of Term 2.

Originally known as Saul, St Paul was converted (on the road to Damascus) from a persecutor of Jesus to one of his great followers, travelling around the Mediterranean Sea continuing Jesus' work, building Christian communities. The following scripture passage is taken from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 26.

In the passage, St Paul is sharing his experiences since his conversion, as well as challenging those who were non-believers of God's work.

This passage was the First Reading proclaimed at our St Paul's Feast Day on Friday.

“After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. For this reason, the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. To this day I have had help from God, and so I stand here, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would take place: that the Messiah must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the gentiles.”



While he was making this defence, Festus exclaimed, “You are out of your mind, Paul! Too much learning is driving you insane!” But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking the sober truth. Indeed, the king knows about these things, and to him I speak freely, for I am certain that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this was not done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.” Agrippa said to Paul, “Are you so quickly persuading me to become a Christian?” Paul replied, “Whether quickly or not, I pray to God that not only you but also all who are listening to me today might become such as I am—except for these chains.”

As a school community there will be several events which will occur to celebrate St Paul's Feast Day:

- Initially, the community will gather in the Hall for Mass celebrated by Fr Greg Barker and Fr Priyantha Fernando. Joining us for the celebration will be two former Principals, Mr Gerard Mowbray and Mr Tony Stevens. It was wonderful Fr Greg and Priyantha can celebrated Mass for us and St Paul's former leaders being able to join us for part of the day.
- In the middle of the day, 'St Paul's has Got Talent', will see a variety of students perform on stage.
- During the afternoon, the students will get time to spend with their friends in a range of activities.

It is fantastic the community can come together and celebrate this special day in the life of the College.

Thanks to all the staff who were involved in the organisation of the day, notably Mrs Pola-Kuras and Mr Doyle for there organisation of the Mass, Mrs Lucas for her coordination of all the activities and to the Leaders of Wellbeing and Engagement for their organisation of the stalls and activities.

Pupil Free Day

Monday 17 July, 2023 will be a Pupil Free Day. Staff will engage in professional learning related to our First Nations people. Classes will resume for students on Tuesday, 18 July, 2023.

Recently Mr Trimble recently advised me he will be retiring from fulltime teaching at the end of this term.

Prior to commencing his teaching career, Mr Trimble worked at BHP as a Metallurgist for 25 years. Upon BHP closing, Mr Trimble retrained to become a Science Teacher and has been a highly valued member of the St Paul's staff since 2001. During his time at St Paul's, he has taught predominately Science, notably Stage 6 Physics and Engineering Studies as well as Mathematics and Religious Studies. Many staff would know Mr Trimble has a passion for playing chess and he has taught many students the art of chess playing during his time at Booragul.

A further highlight of Mr Trimble's career occurred In 2022, when he was awarded a Fellowship in the Institute of Mining Minerals and Materials from London.

Whilst Mr Trimble is retiring from full time teaching, he still wishes to contribute to the profession and will be undertaking casual work in the future.

On behalf of all Mr Trimble students and colleagues, we thank him for his long contribution to the teaching profession and especially to the St Paul's community and wish him all the best for the future.

Staff Changes

At the start of Term 3 there will be some Staff changes, these include:

- Miss Sam Smith is taking leave for the remainder of 2023, and she is being replaced by Mr Matthew Nesham.
- Mrs Adriene Haynes will be reducing to work three days a week for Term 3. Mr Andrew Terry will be job sharing with Mrs Haynes for the term.

- Ms Casey Blacklock has been working at St Paul's for the past twelve months as an Aboriginal Education Worker. Ms Blacklock finished working at St Paul's at the end of last week.
- Ms Adele Doherty has been one of our Science Laboratory Assistants over the last 18 months. Ms Doherty has accepted a fulltime position in the same role at San Clemente, Mayfield.
- Mrs Janine Turton is taking leave for Term 3 from her position as Food Technology Assistant.

We wish Ms Blacklock and Ms Doherty all the best for the future and thank them for their contribution to St Paul's. Likewise, we wish Miss Smith and Mrs Turton all the best for their leave.

We welcome Mr Nesham and Mr Terry to the St Paul's community. The replacement staff for Ms Blacklock, Ms Doherty and Mrs Turton are still being finalised.

Term 2 Parent and Carer Gathering

Thanks to those parents and carers who joined the Term 2 gathering. Lizzy Watkins the Professional Officer - Family Engagement with the Catholic Schools Office joined the meeting to explain the role of Federation of Parents & Friends Association for the diocese and the important role the Federation Representatives from each school play.

As part of our discussion at the meeting, Kylie Bardetta and Shannon Kennedy volunteered to be St Paul's Federation Representatives. I am appreciative of Shannon and Kylie willingness to be involved in the Federation and to represent the parent and carer community at these diocesan discussions.

2023 and 2024 Enrolments

Last week, the offers for 2024 Year 7 were posted to families and students who applied to attend St Paul's. Included with the information were the following key dates for the incoming families and students:

- 28 July, 2023 - Families need to advise St Paul's of their Intention to accept their offer at St Paul's and pay the Enrolment Fee.
- 23 August, 2023 - Year 7 2024 Orientation Day 1 at St Paul's.
- 28 August, 2023 - Parent / Carer and students Transition Information Meeting at 6.00pm in the College Hall.
- 6 December, 2023 - Year 7 2024 Orientation Day 2 at St Paul's

St Paul's is still accepting Enrolment Applications from families wishing to be consider for a place in Year 7 2024. These families are asked to contact the Main Office for further details.

There are currently some places available in some year groups for 2023. If any current St Paul's families are aware of any families who are considering enrolling their students at the College, please ask them to contact the school to discuss possibilities.

Athletics Carnival

On Tuesday, St Paul's annual Athletics Carnival took place at Glendale. The weather was wonderful and students in attendance were willing participants in both track and field



events. Congratulations to the successful competitors on the day, those who were crowned Aged Champions and to the following students who set records on the day, Cleo Doyle, Madeline Ferry, Bella Fitzhenry, Tarsha Matthews, Grady Platt Madeline Platt, and Ireland Thomas.

Congratulations to all competitors of the Polding House who were announced as the winning house on the day.

Thanks to Mr Melville for his organisation and running of the carnival.

Year 9 Camp

Last week, Year 9 attended AGH Camps at Douglas Park for three days. The students enjoyed the opportunity to undertake a range of challenge activities. It was wonderful to witness the students enjoying each other's company in a more relaxed environment as well as having a great time undertaking the activities. Thanks



to Mr Doyle, Mrs Pola-Kuras, Mrs Evans and Mr Connell for their attendance and organisation of the camp. We also extend our appreciation to the staff who attended.

Toronto Rotary Club Public Speaking

Congratulations to Kirrily Boslem of Year 11 who last week won the Toronto Rotary Club Public Speaking Competition. Kirrily will now progress through to the next level of the competition.

We offer our congratulations to Kirrily and wish her all the best for the next phase of the competition.

St Paul's has a long tradition of being involved in the Rotary Public Speaking Competition and has had many students who have achieved to a high level in the past. The school is greatly appreciative of the support provided to our community by the local Toronto Rotary Club.



Vinnies Sleepout

On Thursday night Year 11 and 12 students volunteered to participate in the St Paul's bi-annual Vinnies Sleepout. The students gathered in the hall gaining an understanding of the challenges experienced by the homeless.

It is wonderful the students were able to support this social justice initiative as well as raise some funds to support the Vinnies School Sleepout fundraiser.

Thanks to Ms Heard for organising the event and to the other staff who assisted and stayed with the students overnight.



As we the end of Term 2 draws to a close, I take this opportunity to wish everyone an enjoyable holiday and for those travelling a safe journey and we look forward to the students returning on Tuesday 18 July, 2023.

Mr Nicholas Wickham

Principal



Reports, Grading and Assessment

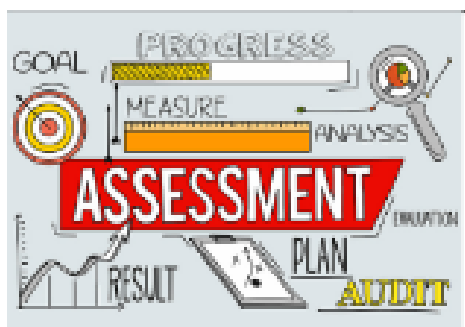
This week teachers and Leaders of Learning are finalising mid-course reports for students in Years 7-10. As these reports are prepared, it is worth reviewing what the purpose of assessment is in the learning process.

What is Assessment?

NESA defines assessment is the broad name for the collection and evaluation of evidence of a student's learning. For students in 7-10 we use a combination of formative (informal) and summative (formal, end of learning) assessment to make a judgment of student performance for the purpose of grading.

Another way to describe assessment is:

Assessment For Learning	Assessment for learning involves teachers using evidence about students' knowledge, understanding and skills to inform their teaching.
Assessment As Learning	Assessment as learning occurs when students are their own assessors. Students monitor their own learning, ask questions and use a range of strategies to decide what they know and can do, and how to use assessment information for new learning.
Assessment Of Learning	Sometimes referred to as 'summative assessment', it usually occurs at defined key points during a teaching work or at the end of a unit, term or semester



See: [NESA Assessment For, Of, As Learning](#)

In Year 11 we use summative assessment to make a determination of a student's grade, however, teachers can make an on-balanced judgment on student performance if the student has shown higher achievement through formative (informal) assessment.

For all our students, this means all learning presented to students can count toward the judgement of a student's grade. Even for Year 12 students, if a misadventure or illness has prevented a student from achieving to an expected standard, in extreme cases, classwork and formative assessment can be used to make an on-balanced judgment of the student's performance in that task.

Making a judgement on student performance

All judgements of students' performance are referenced against either the Common Grade Scale for Year 7 and 8 and Stage 5 electives (7-10 Common Grade Scale), the Course Performance Descriptors for mandatory Stage 5 courses which is available at the syllabus pages (K-10 Syllabuses) , or the Common Grade Scale for Year 11 courses (Year 11 Common Grade Scale). Students will get the grade that best matches the standard of their achievement. Teachers at St Paul's consider all evidence gathered and are not limited to a set number of students allocated to each grade within their class or cohort.

Students who have accessed provisions or adjusted tasks

The process of determining grades is collaborative between teachers and requires a wide range of evidence from student learning. If a student has been given adjustments or provisions to complete classwork and assessment, this should not limit their opportunity to achieve the full range of grades (NESA Assessment and Adjustments)

Stages and grading

Lower grades are not awarded to students in the lower year in a stage, for example, a student in Year 7 is not limited to a D or C purely because they are at the beginning of a stage. Decisions are made based on student achievement of the learning in which they have participated up to that point in time (NESA Awarding Grades).

Recording evidence

Teachers collect and record this evidence on Compass and this is in line with advice from NESA (NESA Recording Evidence). The Student Conferences are an important opportunity for students, families and teachers to discuss the evidence of student learning and to set goals for moving learning forward. Every student should have the opportunity to reflect on their learning and to have collaborative discussions with their teacher to set goals for future learning.



Reports and Student Conferences

The process of assessing student learning and reporting on grades and student approaches to learning leads us to the Student Conferences. In Week 2 Term 3, students and families will have the opportunity to engage in conversations with teachers about the learning strengths students have demonstrated and steps students can take to improve their learning. The Student Conferences will take place on Tuesday Week 2 after the Mid Course Award

Ceremonies and further details will be forwarded to families about this event. We believe it is important for students and families to have some background information about how the grades on reports are linked to learning to assist this conversation and to improve outcomes for students.

Year 12 HSC Trial Examination Timetable

The Trial Examinations will take place in Week 3 and 4 of Term 3. The most successful HSC students are able to consistently review their study notes and practice examination style questions which are submitted to teachers for feedback. Students are encouraged to continue to revise and practice as they prepare for the Trial examinations and the HSC examinations. A copy of the HSC Trial Examination timetable and Examination Rules and Procedures can be found at this link: [HSC Trial Timetable](#)

Examination Preparation Workshops

Another opportunity for students to prepare for examinations is being offered by Newcastle Libraries in partnership with Headspace Newcastle Libraries. They are hosting a workshop series to help HSC students manage exam stress and school pressures. These three workshops are free of charge and are facilitated by an expert headspace clinician. Sessions will teach students mindfulness techniques, stress-reduction and organisation strategies.

Sessions:

Monday 17 July, 4pm – 6pm

Monday 24 July, 4pm – 6pm

Monday 31 July, 4pm – 6pm

Where:

Newcastle City Library, Laman Street, Cooks Hill

Cost:

Free

Ages:

15+

Registration:

Essential. Please use the QR code on the flyer following.



Study Afternoons

All Stage 6 students are reminded that Study Afternoons are held on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Based on student feedback, there will also be provision for Study Afternoons on Monday in the Library. Study Afternoons are from 3:10pm to 4:30pm.

NAPLAN

The initial NAPLAN school results have been received and an analysis has been undertaken to identify student achievement in the new Proficiency Level Standards. Student results are reported against are 4 proficiency levels:

Exceeding: the student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.

Strong: the student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.

Developing: the student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.

Needs additional support: the student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes that are expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

Further detail on the descriptors for each test domain for Year 7 and Year 9 can be found at the following link: <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/results-and-reports/proficiency-level-descriptions>
The standard for proficiency is set at a challenging but reasonable level. If a student is in the Strong or Exceeding category, it means they have demonstrated proficiency and that their literacy or numeracy skills are where they should be at this stage of their schooling. If a student has not yet achieved proficiency, then they will either be in the Developing category or the Needs additional support category and further planning and interventions will be available to support that student in meeting the standard for their level of schooling.

Pleasingly, the analysis has shown the majority of students are achieving to a Strong or Exceeding proficiency standard. Individual student reports will be made available early next term and a more detailed analysis will be presented at the Term 3 Community Engagement Meeting.

Mrs Amber Carter
Assistant Principal - Teaching & Learning



HSC Stress Less



Newcastle
Libraries



headspace
Newcastle



Sessions Monday 17 July, 4pm – 6pm
Monday 24 July, 4pm – 6pm
Monday 31 July, 4pm – 6pm

Where Newcastle City Library,
Laman Street, Cooks Hill

Cost Free

Ages 15 and up



Bookings essential.
Please scan code
to RSVP

For more information email
library@ncc.nsw.gov.au or phone 4974 5300



NewcastleLibrariesAU

Helping students survive and thrive in their HSC. Newcastle Libraries in partnership with Headspace Newcastle are hosting a workshop series to help HSC students deal with exam stress and school pressures.

These three workshops are free of charge and are facilitated by an expert Headspace clinician. Sessions will teach students mindfulness techniques, stress-reduction and organisation strategies.



Year 9 Camp



Athletics Carnival



Sport Results

St Paul's Athletics Carnival Results

Champion House **POLDING**

House Champions – Polding (1064 points)

2nd – Chisholm (1054)

3rd – MacKillop (886)

4th – Therry (686)

Winners of the St Paul's Gift

- Boys – Kaleb Smith
- Girls – Sydnee Morton

AGE CHAMPIONS	
U12 Boy	Ghian Jayme
U12 Girl	Catherine Purlija
U13 Boy	Hunter Boyd
U13 Girl	Ashlee Copeland
U14 Boy	Joshua Fuller
U14 Girl	Bridget McEwan
U15 Boy	Benjamin Cowen
U15 Girl	Madeline Platt
U16 Boy	Harry Klepzig
U16 Girl	Ariel Lynch
17+ Boy	Kaleb Smith
17+ Girl	Holly Kehoe

NEW RECORDS				
Girls	15yrs	1500 m	Madeline Platt	05:09.73 sec
Girls	15yrs	800 m	Madeline Platt	02:33.67 sec
Girls	17+	100 m	Ireland Thomas	00:13.60 sec
Girls	17+	Long Jump	Tarsha Matthews	4.19m
Girls	17+	Shot	Tarsha Matthews	9.44m
Girls	15yrs	High Jump	Cleo Doyle	1.40m
Girls	17+	High Jump	Madeline Ferry	1.45m
Girls	13yrs	High Jump	Bella Fitzhenry	(EQUAL) 1.40m
Boys	17+	1500 m	Grady Platt	04:35.83 sec

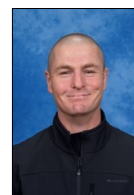
The St Paul's team to compete at the **Diocesan Athletics Carnival** on **Wednesday 16th August** will be published on Compass as soon as it is finalised. Students selected in the team who are not intending to compete are asked to notify Mr Melville.

Upcoming Sport Events

Tues 25 July	NSWCCC 18s Netball <i>Individual Selection Trial</i>	Menai
Tues 1 August	U16 Boys Rugby League Gala Day	Windale
Thurs 10 August	Netball Schools Cup	Newcastle
Wed 16 August	Diocesan Athletics Carnival	Glendale
Tues 22 August	Diocesan Basketball Gala Day	Broadmeadow
Mon 11 September	NSWCCC Athletics Championship	Sydney Olympic Park

For information on all individual and team pathway events, please go to <https://csnsw.sport/>

Mr Brad Melville
Sport Coordinator



The St Paul's Mock Trial has been in action again. They recently competed against Belmont Christian College and successfully defended a drug spiking charge. The trial was held in the middle of the busy exam period and the team had to think on their feet to get through with minimal preparation. They have won their main round trials and should progress to the elimination rounds next term. The team is to be commended for their tenacity, skill and spirit shown which has been such an enjoyable learning experience.



Mr John Gallop
HSIE Faculty



Oscars

Year 9 walked the red carpet on Monday for the Annual SPCC Oscars. The paparazzi snapped away as they made their way into the venue. Full finalist films were shown before the awards were announced. IT was a wonderful celebration of how much all of Year 9 achieved during their film unit this term. Head of the Academy, Nick Wickham, awarded the statuettes to:

- Best Actors: Lachlan Ducat and Hamish Mudford
- Best Editing: Ethan Goymer, Oliver Yell, Rylan McElhone, Luke O'Connor, Ben Cowen.
- Best Film: Jadyrn Raven, Emmi Adamson, Amelia Ross, Abbey Bacon, Gabriella Ross.
- Best Sound: Ashtyn Ferguson, Brent Roseland, Kale Bowman, Jaxan Cambridge.



Ms Kerrie-Lee Guest
Languages Faculty

Our free girls-only session is aimed at new or returning basketballers that want to learn some new skills, be active and have fun making new friends.

Come and give it a go with Basketball NSW and Newcastle Basketball

- Newcastle Basketball Stadium - Young Rd, Broadmeadow
- Thursday 13th July 2023
- 4.5yrs - 9yrs: 10 - 11am (Come & Try session)
- 8yrs - 18yrs: 11.15am - 1.00pm (Come & Play - A small skills session followed by 3x3 games [teams formed on the day])

Please use the below link to register and select your applicable program:

<https://membership.mygameday.app/regofrm.cgi?formID=98307>

The I AM A GIRL Program is supported by the NSW Government's Strategic Focus on women and girls in sport through the #HerSportHerWay program and is a part of the overall NSW Legacy Program Pillars, the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup 2022 and the Office of Sport.

To see all events: <https://www.bnsw.com.au/events/>



The poster is pink and features the following text and graphics: 'I AM A GIRL I CAN DO ANYTHING COME & TRY' in white and pink; 'GIRLS SKILLS SESSION IT'S FUN & FREE THURSDAY 13TH JULY 10-11AM: 4.5-9 YEARS NEWCASTLE BASKETBALL STADIUM' in white and blue; 'SIGN UP NOW' in a blue button; 'www.bnsw.com.au/i-am-a-girl' in white; a QR code; and logos for 'WORLD CUP AUSTRALIA 2022 LEGACY PROGRAM', 'NEWCASTLE BASKETBALL', 'NSW GOVERNMENT', and 'BASKETBALL NSW'. A photo shows two girls playing basketball on a court.



The poster features two young men wearing sunglasses and headphones, one holding a skateboard. Text includes 'GREAT MATES YOUNG MEN EMPOWERED' in large black and blue letters, and 'Free After-School Life Skills Program For Young Men Aged 12-16' in white. Logos for 'the place', 'Well Education', and 'NSW GOVERNMENT' are at the bottom.

'Great Mates'

27th July – 14th September

For further information call The Place: Charlestown on (02) 4032 5500.

For all Finance enquiries please use the following email address: finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

To calculate your Weekly, Fortnightly or Monthly payment amount, please go to our Website and use the calculator. <http://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/about-us/finance/fee-calculator/> (Please take the figure to the next five cents)

If you have not already done so, please ensure I have copies of relevant updated Health Care / Pension Cards and the Application Form.

School Fee

1. BPay *through your own home banking via the Internet*
2. Eftpos *Minimum payment \$10*
3. Cheque
4. Cash

Excursion Payments

1. Qkr

Excursions Coming Up

Please **pay for all excursions by the due date written on the excursion notes** which are sent home with your child. This date is important as excursion costing is calculated on the number of students who should be attending that particular event. Venues and buses have to be paid when the booking is first made. Your understanding of this would be very much appreciated.

Opening Hours for Payments to the Finance Office

Parents: Payments can be made at Reception between 8.30am and 2.30pm

Students: Mornings from 8.30am until tutor group bell, all of recess and all lunch times

QKR is the way to pay fees, excursions and Friday Sport



For your convenience, when paying for excursions the new Qkr! App is now live for families of our students. Qkr! By Mastercard can be downloaded for free from Apple's app store for iPhones, iPad users can download the iPhone app or from Google Play for Android phones. Simply:

Step 1 Download Qkr!

On your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

Step 3 Find our school

Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10km's of the school, or search for our school by name.

Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

For more information about QKR visit our website

www.booragul.catholic.edu.au



Mrs Betty Harris - Finance Officer

finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au



St Paul's Catholic College

Address: Primrose Street, Booragul
Postal: PO Box 194, Boolaroo NSW 2284
Telephone: 4958 6711
Email: admin@booragul.catholic.edu.au
Web Site: <http://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/>

Switch/Reception

Hours: 8.15am until 3.30pm

Finance Office

Hours: 8.30am to 2.30pm
Email: finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

Canteen

Telephone: 4946 3115

Clothing Pool

8.45 - 10.30am Thursdays



St Paul's
Catholic College
Booragul

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

17th July: Pupil Free Day

25th - 26th July: 7-11 Student Conferences

26th July: Pupil Free Day