

"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."

Sunday 1 September, was Father's Day, and we offer our gratitude for all fathers and for father figures in our life. We offer the following prayer for all fathers,

Loving Father, we ask you to Bless all Fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength, wisdom, patience and tenderness.

Support Fathers in the work they do, protecting those who look to them for guidance.

We remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, cousins, teachers, and stepfathers.

We offer these intercessions through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

St Paul Pray for Us



National Child Protection Week

National Child Protection Week invites all Australians to play their part to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. National Child Protection Week will take place from 1 to 7 September. The theme for 2024 is 'every conversation matters'. By speaking regularly with children about their personal safety and how they can protect themselves, as well as "tuning in" to their worries, children are more likely to trust adults and feel comfortable to talk with adults when something big is going on.

St Paul's will be participating in the diocesan Decorate your Space initiative. Miss Hawkins, Ms Stewart and Miss Robertson are assisting the students with the display.

2025 Year 7 Orientation Day and Parent / Carer Meeting

On Wednesday we welcomed our 2025 Year 7 students to St Paul's for their first Orientation Day. There were students from over 20 different schools in attendance and it was wonderful to see them engaging in the planned activities throughout the day. The focus of the first Orientation Day was on becoming familiar with the layout of the school, meeting new friends and teachers.

The student's second Orientation Day will be held on Wednesday, 4 December 2024.

Thanks to Miss Walker for her coordination of the day and to the other teachers who assisted with running of the different activities.

On Monday 2 September 2024 there will be an Information Evening in the College Hall commencing at 6.00pm for all our incoming 2025 Year 7 parents and carers. Families will be provided with information which will assist their child with their transition into high school.

The school appreciates the support of the families as we continue the preparing for our incoming Year 7 students for next year.







College Uniform Survey

At the Term 2 Parent and Carer Engagement Meeting (PCEM) changes to the College Uniform for all year groups was discussed. The recommendation from this PCEM was for broader feedback to be gathered from additional parents and carers.

The basis for the initial discussion was the junior and senior uniforms have seen little change over the years. There are some elements of the current junior uniform which are the same since the College commenced in 1984. Likewise, the senior uniform is relatively unchanged since Years 11 and 12 commenced in the mid 2000's. In recent years, some students have indicated the uniform is uncomfortable and not practical.

If there was to be a change to the College uniform is would be a gradual change and would take a number of years for the new uniform to be fully implemented. To enable the conversation to continue at the Term 3 PCEM later this term you are invited to provide feedback by the survey which can be accessed via

https://forms.office.com/r/DYyGYTbBhp

The survey will close at 9am on Thursday 5 September, 2024.

If the feedback from the survey and the discussion at the Term 3 PCEM determines a change to the 7 -12 College Uniform is to be undertaken, a Uniform Sub-Committee will be established. There will be around 6 members of the sub-committee, and it will include parents and careers and staff members. It is anticipated the Uniform Sub-Committee would meet monthly after school. Students will have input into the development of the new uniform through the Student Representative Council. In addition, there will be updates provided through the College Newsletter and at the PCEM held each term.

Parent and Carer Engagement Meeting

The Term 3 Parent and Carer Engagement Meeting will be held online on Tuesday **10 September 2024 commencing at 6.00pm.** Parents and Carers are asked to register at the link below.

The Agenda for the Meeting will be:

- Feeback and discussion on the College Uniform Survey
- Overview of and Feedback on Ministry, Wellbeing and Learning at St Paul's.
- Parents and Friends Federation Report including feedback on the new FACE (Family and Community Engagement) model. The FACE model is being phased in to replace the P&F and PEG models.
- General Business.

Link to register for the Parent and Carer Engagement Meeting: https://forms.office.com/r/yvpPH3PvPP

On the Tuesday morning prior to the gathering a Zoom link will be forwarded to those parents and carers who have indicated that they will be join the meeting online.

Year 12

Trials

Thanks to the students for their efforts and attendance throughout the trial exam period. Thanks also to the parents and carers for their ongoing support of their children.

The trial exams provide the students with an indication of their progress as they continue to prepare for the HSC exams. The feedback the students will receive from their teachers will allow students to understand the concepts and skills which they have a good understanding of as well as the areas which they need to focus on over the coming weeks.

Key Dates for Year 12

In Week 5 a letter was sent to all parents and carers outlining detailed information related to Graduation Ceremonies in the coming weeks for Year 12. A summary of these dates:

•	Monday Tuesday Wednesday	23 September, 202424 September, 202425 September, 2024	Year 12 Charity Day Graduation Mass at 6pm in the College Hall Graduation Awards Ceremony and Farewell from 9.30am
•	Tuesday	15 October, 2024	HSC Begins
•	Friday	15 November, 2024	Graduation Ball from 6.00pm

On Tuesday 20 August, 2024 Mrs Burns presented to the students information related to life after Year 12 and once the HSC concludes. The information presented focused on:

- Pathways at the conclusion of the HSC Examinations:
- o University outlining the process involved in applying, accepting offers and also what to do if students were considering deferring for a year.
- o TAFE the factors to consider when looking at TAFE as a post school pathway
- o Employment the essential requirements of resume writing and the process for registering with employment agencies, such as Seek.
- o General details to be mindful of if students are considering a Gap year in 2025.

Parents and Carers can contact Mrs Burns if they would like additional information.

Some relevant links for HSC students and families:

2024 HSC Exam Timetable.

https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/noindex/2024-05/2024%20HSC%20Written%20Exam%20 Timetable.pdf

• 2024 HSC Rules and Procedures. Students have been provided with a copy of this resource.

https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/wcm/connect/7f63462b-d33f-4c63-9e1e-c971fab0d 36b/2024-rules-and-procedures-guide.pdf?MOD=AJPERES

• 2024 Sydney Morning Herald Study Guide. The guide provides insights from past HSC students as well as specific course advice.

https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/hsc-study-guide-2024-20240709-p5js85.html

Diocesan Athletics Carnival

On 21 August, 2024 students who qualified at our Athletics Carnival represented the College at the Diocesan Carnival. The following students were successful on the day and move on to represent the Diocese at the NSW CCC carnival later in the year:

- Ashlee Copeland
- Jessica Godinet
- Lukas Hall
- Ajay Jenkinson
- Madeline Maxwell
- Briget McEwan
- Grady Platt
- Joshua Saopa

Congratulations to all students who represented the College at the carnival and thanks to the teachers who accompanied the students on the day.

Anit-Bullying Week – Do it For Dolly Day

As part of Anti-Bullying Week in August, the College community came together and focused on the Do It For Dolly charity.

Students and staff dressed in blue for the day and were able to take part in a number of fundraising initiatives to support the charity. Thanks to the Year 11 students for leading the activities and to Mr Morgan and Mr Yates for assisting the students.







Science Week and Book Week

In Week 4 the College acknowledged Science Week and this week Book Week.

A focus on the different areas of the curriculum allows to schools to further highlight the important role all aspects of learning play in our lives and in our world. If students don't engage with their passions and interests as well as with the essential skills of literacy and numeracy the impact to our environments will be felt for generations to come. At a recent dinner the Professor Alex Zelinsky, Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University clearly made this point when he outlined how the number of STEM graduates from the university is not meeting the demands required by the associated industries.















Assistant Principal - Teaching & Learning

I am very aware of the pressures many Year 12 students are feeling when approaching the final stages of HSC study. Many are now completing and handing in Major Works for a variety of subjects, others are preparing for the Performance and Oral components of their HSC courses, and both Year 11 and 12 students are now realising the need to devote more time to study. We teachers see this build-up of angst on a yearly basis, however, students may see it as a relatively new experience.

With this in mind, I hope the following extracts from an article by Michele Sims (Charles Sturt University) will be of use to both parents and students when recognising and managing stress.

So, how do we overcome this phenomenon called stress?

The first and most important step is to be AWARE that you are experiencing a stressful period with study pressures. Do not ignore your situation. Remind yourself that these years are only a small portion of your life .. there is so much of life ahead. Employ techniques that will help you more smoothly get through this short period of stress.

Here are some suggestions:

- Accept yourself for who you are your STRENGTHS and WEAKNESSES, successes and failures. RESPECT
 yourself. Don't dwell on past mistakes they are gone. LIVE NOW.
- Set *REALISTIC GOALS* don't try to be the best all the time. Give yourself REWARDS when you achieve those goals. Continue to give yourself *ENCOURAGEMENT*.
 - Take TIME OUT to be alone with your thoughts and do the things you really enjoy; eg playing sport, singing, dancing, playing the guitar, listening to CDs. Give yourself an *ALLOCATED* time for these activities each week and stick to the schedule (but don't spend too much time on these activities at the expense of your commitments).
- When faced with a dilemma, do what you think is MORALLY RIGHT, that will make you happy.
- Take *PRIDE* in what you achieve. Don't listen to that self doubt talk in your head (or what other people might say).
- Make a TIMETABLE of things to do: school, homework, study, watching TV, meals, sport/leisure, house hold responsibilities.
- Identify *PRIORITIES*:
 - i) what is important and must be done now,
 - ii) what is important but can wait until tomorrow,
 - iii) what is unimportant but you cannot avoid doing now,
 - iv) what is unimportant and can wait until much later.
- MAKE A LIST of things to do today and tick them off as you do them.

• Learn to *RELAX*, perhaps practise relaxation exercises on a regular basis.

The Olympic athletes, who have and still are presently providing us with so many wonderful memories, will all testify to the need to prepare. Hopefully the suggestions listed above will assist in the adequate preparation for the exciting but exacting academic weeks ahead.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK- HSC

Imagine that you are the 'best' player on a team. You are the best runner, swimmer, winger, biology student, goal shooter, golfer, dancer, cricketer, singer, sales assistant, store manager, teacher, carpenter, brick layer. 'Biology student'! – What does that have to do with 'Teamwork'?

The HSC result in most courses depends on YOUR performance in the examination and the TEAM's performance The final result in all courses with an HSC exam is calculated by averaging two scores; the mark that you achieve sitting the HSC Examination and the moderated Assessment Mark.

It is in the moderation of assessment marks where the teamwork is important. The school assessment mark is determined from the tasks you undertake in courses at school. This mark is submitted by the school as the culmination of each of your weighted in-school assessments.

Some schools may set and mark assessments harder than others which means that their students assessment marks could be lower than those of students from some other schools. This mark is compared to the HSC examination marks achieved by our school in relation to other schools.

Because the final HSC mark is an average of the two scores, to make accurate comparisons between schools, the assessment marks from various schools is moderated (adjusted) to accurately reflect the performance of students from each school relative to those in other schools.

After moderating the Assessment Marks for each course in each school:

- The top moderated school assessment mark is equal to the top HSC exam mark achieved by a student at the school, and
- The spread and average of the school assessment marks is made similar to the spread and average of the marks achieved in the HSC examination. The moderation of school assessment marks is determined by a team performance and the very best overall results come from the effort of everyone in the team.

If each player gives their best effort in training, in serious preparation, regular practice and dedicated performance on game-day the individual could claim a 'personal best' and the team achieve impressive results.

So why does the focus change from doing your individual best in Assessment Tasks to taking a collaborative learning approach with your fellow students by forming small study groups and sharing resources such as study notes and access to previous exam papers.

With Assessment Moderation now taking effect, working together as a team will increase the overall performance standard of the entire cohort in the HSC exam and will result in your fellow St Paul's students acquiring a greater sum of HSC exam marks.

If the sum of HSC exam marks for a course by your cohort is greater than the sum of Assessment Marks submitted to NESA, them your Assessment Mark is likely to be adjusted higher as there is a greater distribution of Assessment Marks available towards each individual student.

WE now move from individual achievement to taking a teamwork approach and every student can benefit in the process.

RELEASE OF HSC RESULTS – TIME TO UPDATE STUDENT DETAILS

HSC results will be sent to students via email and text message. Students will also be able to access their results at the same time via Students Online. It is important NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) has accurate student contact details.

Students should log into Students Online and check that their email addresses and mobile phone numbers are correct. If a school email address is recorded, they need to change it to a personal one, as students will have left school and no longer have this email address when results are released.

Year 11 End of Course Examinations

Last week Year 11 students were given a hard copy of their exam timetable and it was also emailed to students and sent via Compass.

The study skill sessions being run on a Friday afternoon in the weeks preceding the exam block are providing valuable advice to students and valuable resources that can assist students with their study preparation. Students must assemble at least fifteen minutes before the start of each exam in the library. Students are only expected to be at school when they have scheduled exams during the exam period. If a student would like to study in the library when they don't have a scheduled exam they are to sign in at reception. **The exam block runs from Monday September 9 to Thursday September 19.**

Book Week

Special mention must go to Ms Guest on the tremendous amount of work she put into a week of celebrations for Book Week with the aim of raising awareness for the importance of literacy. Throughout the week activities included: Guessing Competitions, Care Group versus Care Group trivia, a short fiction competition and recording of staff discussing novels and reading ,all designed to engage and encourage students to recognise the importance and value of literacy. The absolute highlight would have to have been the parade that was nothing short of spectacular!



Emma Tierney Assistant Principal - Teaching & Learning

Book Week

Book Week 2024 - What a week!

We began preparing for Book Week with all students invited to enter the 50 word story competition. Then the celebration of reading and all things literacy kicked off on Monday with staff recommending must read books. Tuesday students were asked to guess how many sweet treats were in the jar to win a jar full of sweet reading treats. Wednesday was the hotly contested CARE group trivia challenge. This resulted in a four way tie, with 8.6 winning the tie breaker and a class pizza party.

Thursday was the big one. The dress up day. So many students put so much effort into their costumes and really got into the community aspects of the day. The staff took it to a whole new level. What an amazing, supportive (competitive?) staff we have.

50 Word story winners:

7/8 Ruby Sherwood9/10 Faiz Agboola11/12 Haley FreemanStaff Nicole Burns

Sweet Reading Treats

Amy Thorburn

Costumes

- 7 Goran Stojanovski
- 8 Jai Christopherson, Braethan Rook, Zac Mould
- 9 Mia Dawes, Madeline Maxwell
- 10 Joshua Lerch
- Emily O'Grady, Sophie Fuller, Cameron Merrigan, Haley Freeman, Pyper McAllister, Sienna McKibben, Addison-Leigh Parkinson, Imogen O'Reilly, Cleo Doyle, Jamie Pockran, Orlando Maratos, Luca Swan, Ashley Dennis, Ben McGregor
- 12 Savannah Tupper, Krystal Lienau, Ella Korsman
- Staff Adrienne Haynes

Thanks for getting involved and don't forget to get lost in a good book this week.

























Sports News

Term 3 has been a busy one with lots of sporting events and success.

Cross Country – CCC and All Schools

Congratulations to Madeline Platt and Grady Platt who successfully competed in the NSW All Schools Cross Country Championships.

Madeline placed 16th and Grady placed 11th. This was a huge achievement for both students.





Athletics – Diocesan and CCC

We had 58 students represent our school at the Diocesan Athletics carnival last Wednesday. A range of field and track events were well represented in most age categories. A very contrasting day to our school athletics carnival with the sun shining and lots of keen participants.

Congratulations to Grady Platt, Ajay Jenkinson, Lukas Hall, Joshua Saopa, Jessica Godinet, Ashlee Copeland, Madeleine Maxwell and Bridget McEwan who will represent our Diocese at the NSWCCC Athletics carnival in Sydney on the 16th September. Good luck to all these students.



A very special mention to Lukas Hall of year 8 who was named Age Champion at the Diocesan Carnival for his efforts and points scored over the day. Well done Lukas!

CCC Netball

Last Wednesday, 4 teams represented St Paul's at the CCC Netball Championships in Penrith. All teams performed really well on the day and there were some impressive wins for the junior girls and senior girls teams. The girls showed amazing team spirit and sportsmanship every game.

This year was the first year, Boys were able to be represented. We had an Opens Boys team compete, and they outshone their competitors and remained undefeated throughout the day – walking away with a gold medal. What a way to finish Year 12!

Congratulations to all teams for their efforts. It is always a huge day and I want to publicly thank the teachers who were up early to travel to Penrith and coach the teams throughout the day – Mrs Parsons, Miss McIntosh and Miss Corbett.







Diocesan Basketball

Last week, our 7/8 and 9/10 boys team participated in the Maitland Newcastle Gala Day at Broadmeadow basketball stadium. The junior boys played with courage but didn't make the finals. The 9/10 team were unfortunately knocked out in the semi finals, where St Pius were just too strong. Strength, team work and endurance was evident throughout the day and we were up against some tough opponents. Special thanks to Mr Morgan and Ms Paterson for their coaching and managing expertise.

Next Thursday, our 7/8 girls and 9/10 girls will compete in their Gala day.







Sport for Term 4

Most students have all selected their sports for next term. There are still some vacancies in rock climbing, trampolining, ten pin bowling and tennis. If you are wanting to join one of these sports, please come and see me at school. Payments for these sports will open next week on the parent Compass app under the events section.

Attendance at school sport

This is also a reminder, that attending school sport on Friday afternoons is mandatory. There are many students regularly signing out of school after period 3 and parents calling the office to sign their child out. This poses an issue for our office staff who are always inundated with phone calls. Please support the school and your child by allowing them to engage in our sport program weekly and only signing out if it is absolutely necessary. There are many opportunities and options for them to select a sport or activity that they would enjoy.



From the Office

Please notify the main office by email of any changes to personal or medical details.

Email: admin@booragul.catholic.edu.au

Clothing Pool

Located at the hall end of the Student HUB

Open: 8.30am-9.30am Thursdays

For all uniform/clothing pool needs outside of these hours please contact the main office.



From the Finance Office

2024 School Fee Information

School fees comprise of Resource, Tuition, Diocesan Family School Building Levy (DFSBL), Camps/Retreats and Electives and are the responsibility of parents/carers of students enrolled at the school.

Tuition Fees Year 7-10 \$2033, Year 11-12 \$3089

The Diocesan Tuition Fee is set each year by the Diocese.

Family discount on full rate diocesan tuition fees is available to parents who have more than one child attending a Catholic School in this Diocese.

- 1 child family 0% full rate
- 2 child family 15% each child
- 3 child family 25% each child
- 4 + child family 50% each child

Concessions on Tuition fees are also given to account holders of a current Health Care/Pension card. Please provide a copy of original card to finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

Diocesan Family & School Building Levy (DFSBL) \$1638

The DFSBL is charged to the oldest child for each family. The levy is pooled to contribute towards past, present and future costs for building projects across all existing schools, and for the development of new Catholic schools within the Diocese.

Resource Fees Year 7-10 \$860, Year 11-12 \$810

The resource costs are set by each individual school. Fees are used to pay school resources, educational activities, student textbooks, various low cost excursions/incursions, photocopying, computer technology and amenities.

Elective Fees Year 9-12

Students who choose to undertake specific subjects, will be required to pay additional charges per year to cover specific expenses associated with the individual subject.

Retreats/ Camps

The Year 7 & 9 Camp and 10 & 12 Retreat are compulsory, and it is expected that all students attend as per conditions of enrolment in a Catholic school. Costings are calculated based on all students attending, venues and buses have to be paid when booking is first made. Your understanding of this would be very much appreciated.

Friday Sport Payment & Consent

For your convenience, you can now consent and pay for your child's Friday sport through Compass each Term. The account holder (name on your statement) is the only one who can access Compass to make these payments, if you would like joint access to Compass so both parents can make payments please complete and return the attached joint access form.

https://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/media/5915/compass-joint-access.pdf

Support

The Catholic Schools Office declares that genuine inability to meet tuition and other fees does not exclude access to a school within the system by a child of a family genuinely committed to Catholic faith and practice.

For families experiencing financial hardship or wishing to discuss other payment arrangements please contact the College Principal or Finance Office to make an appointment. These discussions and arrangements regarding fees are strictly confidential.

The collection of all school fees is to ensure the best possible learning environment for your child.

Account Statements

All fees are billed yearly in February, and it is recommended a regular weekly, fortnightly or monthly instalment is made from February to November to ensure your account is fully paid by 30 November, 2024. Our preferred method of payment is via Bpay (BPay detail are on your monthly statement) however fees may also be paid via EFT, Credit card, cheque and Centrepay. If you require assistance with calculating your weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment amount, please email finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

2024 School fee account can be viewed at any time through Compass and updated statement are emailed at the beginning of each month. Families who have a nil balance will not receive a statement.

Finance Contact Details: Erica Gale

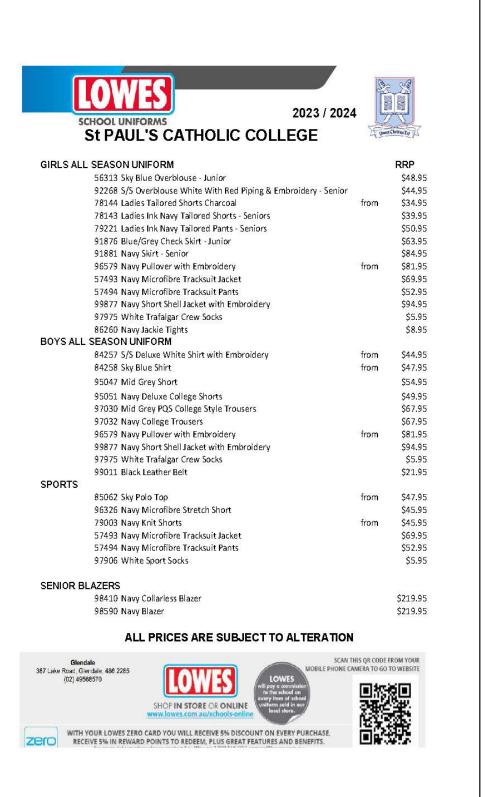
finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

Telephone: 4958 6711



College Uniform

Please see below the updated Uniform pricing from LOWES Glendale as well as the link to the website:



https://www.owes.com.au/schools-online/st-paul-s-catholic-college-booragul

Contact Us



St Paul's Catholic College

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Telephone: 4958 6711

Email: admin@booragul.catholic.edu.au

Web Site: http://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/

Switch/Reception

Hours: 8.30am until 3.30pm

Finance Office

Hours: 8.30am to 2.30pm

Email: finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

Canteen

Telephone: 4946 3115

Clothing Pool: Please see the main office for uniform needs.



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Year 7 2025 Orientation Day 2: Wed 4 Dec

Parent & Carer Engagement Meeting (Zoom): Tues 10 Sept at 6pm

Year 12 Charity Day: Mon 23 Sept

Graduation Mass: Tue 24 Sept at 6pm

Graduation Awards Ceremony & Farewell: Wed 25 Sept at 9.30am

HSC begins: Tues 15 Oct

Graduation Ball: Fri 15 Nov