



Photo by Andy Warren

21st October 2022 Vol: 16-22

“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.”

St Paul’s School Prayer was used for the 2023 Year 7 Orientation Day and Parent Information Evening. It reminds us of our mission as a Catholic school and what our hopes and dreams are for all members of our community.

Lord, as we journey together at St Paul’s;
Help us to grow, guided by the teachings of Jesus,
the writings of St Paul and the traditions of our faith.

Create in us a generous heart, where our relationship with each other is built on peace, love, dignity and justice,
so that we may experience the words of St Paul, *“to live is Christ”*.

Help us to make St Paul’s a place of wisdom and learning;
Where all feel welcomed and safe.
Guide us in the development of our gifts and talents;
So that they can be used in the service of others.

Spirit of God present in our lives today;
Inspire us to value the small things of life and to meet the great challenges with generous courage.

St Paul ***Pray for us***

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Education NSW State Conference

Last week, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Education NSW State Conference took place in the Blue Mountains.

Cleo Doyle from Year 9 was selected to be the diocesan student representative involved with the conference. Cleo was involved in a number of workshops in the lead up to the conference and this work was presented to delegates.

Cleo was a wonderful advocate for indigenous youth, St Paul’s and the diocese. In preparation for the workshops, had the wonderful support and mentorship of Ms Stewart and Ms Blacklock. Ms Stewart and Ms Blacklock also attended the conference.



2023 Year 7 Orientation Day and Parent Meeting

Thursday Week One saw over 130 Year 6 students come to St Paul's as part of our transition program. It was wonderful to see the students come together and mix with students from other schools. Next year we will have students from over 20 different schools. There was a lot of smiling faces as the student left at the end of the day.

The student's second Orientation Day will be held on Wednesday, 7 December, 2022.

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

On Monday evening, many of the incoming Year 7 parents and carers gathered for an Information Night in the Hall. Families were provided with information which will assist their child with their transition into high school. Thanks to Mrs Shipman, Mrs Melocco and Mrs Yates who presented information on the evening.

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



Period Positivity Project

At assembly this week, we launched the Period Positivity Project. Many would be aware St Paul's has been selected to be the trial school for the supply of sanitary products in the female toilets for the diocese. This project was an initiative which was instigated by Year 12 students in Mrs Burns' Community and Family Studies class.

Female students will be asked to provide feedback at different stages throughout the trial. All girls are reminded our female staff are still available to support them if they need assistance.

Further information about the project can be found at: <https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/students/period-positivity/>.

St Paul's is appreciative of the Diocese's support of the project and of the work undertaken by the students and Mrs Burns.

Uniform Changes

As was outlined in the previous newsletter there has been some modification to the school uniform for students in Years 7 – 10. From the start of *Term 4 2022* boys in Years 7 - 10 will *no longer be required to wear long socks. The boys are now able to wear plain short white socks (not ankle socks) with both their formal and sports uniform.* The accompanying picture shows the type of socks to be worn.



Also shown below is a picture of the soft shell jacket which will be introduced in 2023 for students in Years 7 -10 to wear.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE BOORAGUL | SOFT SHELL JACKET



In conclusion, I trust all students and families had the opportunity to refresh over the holiday period and are prepared for a busy Term 4.

Mr Nicholas Wickham
Principal



Year 11 Course Awards and Student Conferences

Next week we will have the opportunity to celebrate our Year 11 students' academic achievements at the Year 11 Award Ceremony. These awards will recognise students who have achieved first in course through the Academic Excellence award, achievement in the top 10% of a course through the Scholastic Achievement award and the Diligence Award recognises students who approach their studies with a 'ready to learn' attitude and always give their best effort.

The awards ceremony will be followed by the Student Conferences. As students consider their pattern of study for the HSC year, these conversations between parents/carers, students and teachers help to create conditions which support our young people to thrive throughout this pivotal time.

Year 11 is often described as a practice run for the HSC, and in part, this is very true. The Year 11 course provides students the opportunity to develop patterns of study and revision and to establish productive learning habits which will enable them to achieve to their potential in the HSC. However, it is also important to remember that a practice run also allows students to recognise when they didn't get things quite right and to find out how to bounce back from adversity and challenges. It is our goal that each student experiences success in their learning and we know that success looks different for each student. As our Year 11 students embark on their final year of secondary schooling, they are encouraged to reflect on their successes and challenges over the past three terms and to begin to think about the short- and long-term goals which will enable them to realise their potential for the HSC and beyond.

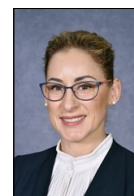
PAT Maths and PAT Reading

In the coming weeks all year 7-10 students will be completing Progressive Assessment Tests in Maths and Reading. Students do not need to prepare for the tests and are simply used as a snapshot of learning. These tests are just one data point which Leaders of Learning and teachers use to evaluate their impact on student learning throughout the year.

Planning for Learning in 2023

Throughout this term the Leaders of Learning will be facilitating faculty planning days with their teams for 2023. The planning days allow faculty teams to evaluate and reflect on teacher practice and student learning and identify areas of growth for the faculty. As a learning community, it is important to recognise that teachers are learners as well and improve practice through critical reflection. A particular focus for each faculty will be the implementation of targeted writing instruction which improves students use of vocabulary, punctuation, sentence openers and connectives. Writing is a fundamental skill which, along with reading, has a profound impact on students' ability to engage in learning and to communicate what they know and can do. Students' NAPLAN results from this year show significant growth in this area.

Mrs Amber Carter
Assistant Principal - Teaching & Learning



The U13's school rugby league team played last Friday competing in the Mark Sargent Captains Cup. The boys all played well and showed amazing courage and sportsmanship throughout the day.



Mr Joel Penny
PDHPE Faculty

The Australian National Pickleball Championships were held outdoors at the Queensland Tennis Centre in Brisbane over the last school holidays. Mrs Fox won a Gold Medal in Age Division Mixed Doubles and Silver Medal in Age Division Ladies Doubles despite the torrential rain, wind and adverse conditions. Congratulations Mrs Fox!



Kaayi... "Where's My Mob?" Storytime at the Library.

In the first week of the school holidays our College Aboriginal Dance group performed at Charlestown and Toronto Libraries, as part of some work St Paul's has been doing with the Lake Macquarie City Council. Dressing up and wearing Australian animal masks, made by the 7.5 Visual Arts class and Mrs Pateman, the students acted out and danced to the the story "Where's My Mob?". Both libraries were full with children and their families actively participating in the story. LMCC is very excited about this initiative, as we are the first school that has collaborated with them in this way.

We thank our wonderful students for gifting their time, passion and pride - Cleo, Koen, Ariya, Dakotah, Antonio, Zoe, Alyssa and Destiny. We are very grateful to Cleo for her choreography and to our Aboriginal Education Officer Astro Stewart, for initiating and managing this project.



Rotary Public Speaking Competition

On Tuesday the 18th of October Rosemary Hale presented both a prepared and impromptu speech to the Rotary club at the Toronto Royal Motor Yacht. Rosemary was successful and will be going through to the semi-finals.

Congratulations Rosemary!



Year 8 News

Year 8 had a great day in the outdoors at Rathmines Park recently, practising their Orienteering Skills, which they have been learning in PDHPE. Our winners completed the 3.2km course in about 26 minutes, whilst others took a leisurely pace. A fun day out!

Thanks to the Year 10 helpers, staff and Year 8 for their engagement with the day.



Earlier in the week we had a group of keen Year 10 students participating in the Hunter High Schools Bowls Competition at New Lambton Bowling Club. They had a great day, accompanied by Mrs Brownlee. These students were complimented for their manners, etiquette and sportsmanship.





Just a reminder enrolments for Year 7 2023 are open.

Please submit applications as soon as possible.



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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.

Also, if you have not completed 2022 School Fee Information Form, please follow the link to the Website above to download, complete and return to college office.

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 a great way to pay fees and 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

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