



Photo by Andy Warren

3rd March 2023 Vol:3-23

“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 following prayer is taken from the 2023 Project Compassion Parish Booklet.

God of all generations,
We thank you for those who have gone before us,
especially those who have cared for your earth and
who inspire us to help respect your creation
and contribute to its healing.

We thank you for those with whom we share our lives today,
especially those who work for justice and peace.
May we welcome the opportunity that Lent brings
to walk more closely with you,
especially through fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

We thank you for the challenge of the future.
May the cross of Jesus remind us that only love finds the way forward.
As we work with big hearts, may we join with Mary in her hope
that from now on all generations will experience
the great things you will do through us.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

St Paul

Pray for us

St Paul's Open Afternoon and Information Evening

Toward the end of the term, two important events are scheduled as we begin planning for 2024.

The first event is our **Open Afternoon on Wednesday, 22 March, 2023 commencing at 4pm**. Students will lead tours of the school for interested families in all year groups. Families will be able to register their details and commence the tour at the College Hall.

The second event is **St Paul's Information Evening on Monday 3 April, 2023 commencing at 6pm** in the College Hall. Information about St Paul's will be presented, and students will provide insights into the life of a St Paul's student. Registration details will be published on Facebook and the College's website in the coming days.

Enrolment Vacancies

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

Pupil Free Day

Monday 24 April, 2023 will be a Pupil Free Day. Staff will engage in Teaching and Learning Professional Learning activities on this day. Classes will resume for students on Wednesday, 26 April, 2023.

Term 1 Parent and Carer Gathering

Last year, two Parent and Carer Gatherings were held online. The feedback from both of these gatherings was that the school would schedule these meetings once each term. ***The first meeting for 2023 will be held on Tuesday 14 March, 2023 commencing at 6.00pm.*** Parents and Carers are asked to register at the link below (some people indicated they would prefer to attend the meeting in person, if this is the case then I ask that those people indicate this option via the link below).

The Agenda for the Meeting will be:

Feedback on St Paul's Personal Technology Device Implementation.
St Paul's Open Day and Information Evening Information.
2022 HSC Report.
St Paul's 2023 School Improvement Plan details.
General Business.

Link to register for the Parent and Carer Gathering:

<https://forms.office.com/r/UBDXxwqWZz>

Diocesan Project Compassion Launch and St Paul's Shrove Tuesday Activities

On Tuesday Week 5, Tara Cowan, Jessica Robinson and Charlotte Parsons represented the College at the Diocesan launch of Project Compassion. Caritas Australia oversees Project Compassion and they have been committed to tackling poverty and inequality in Australia over the past 50 years. The Catholic community comes together to support the work of Caritas during the season of Lent each year



At recess on Shrove Tuesday the Year 9 Business, Law and Order class sold pancakes to raise money for Project Compassion. The activity was part of the Year 9 student's study which focused on making consumer and financial decisions. The pancakes were cooked by the Year 10 Food Technology students. Thanks to the students for their efforts and to Ms Hennessy, Mrs Grant and Mrs Anderson for their support of the students.



Opening School Mass

On Friday, 24 February, 2023 the College community gathered to celebrate the start of the 2023 school year with our Opening College Mass. Fr Greg Barker celebrated the mass and he was assisted by Fr Priyantha Fernando. At the conclusion of Mass students who were selected as SRC Representatives were awarded their badges. It was wonderful to be able to gather as a school community for this celebration as in recent years this has not been the case. We offer our thanks to Fr Greg and Fr Priyantha for their support of St Paul's and to Mrs Pola-Kuras and Mr Doyle for their organisation.



Year 7 Camp

Year 7 students have spent the past three days at AGH Camps site in south-western suburbs of Sydney. The students were enjoying the opportunity to undertake a range of challenge activities. It was pleasing to see the students mixing with each other and encouraging their peers during the activities. Thanks to Mr Doyle, Mrs Pola-Kuras, Mrs Pryor and Mrs Thompson for their attendance and organisation of the camp. We also extend our appreciation to the staff who attended.



Real Women Event

Members of the Boolaroo, Warners Bay and Booragul Parish Real Women group have arranged an event for Monday 27 March, 2023 commencing at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall at Warners Bay. The guest speaker on the evening will be Toby Kable. Toby is the founder of All Ability Sports Coaching. Further information can be found, on the flyer included with the Newsletter.

Mr Nicholas Wickham
Principal



GOAL SETTING

Goal setting is a skill that serves us well in many aspects of everyday life and is fundamental to achieving long-term success. It is difficult to get to a desired destination if you do not clearly define the ultimate destination and how you will get there. At St Paul's we encourage the development of the skill of setting long and short-term goals to assist students to focus and create a set of achievements they can aim for. Through goal setting, we learn to focus our time and resources more efficiently. From an educational perspective, academic goals improve student performance by ensuring students remain accountable for their own decisions, habits, and successes.

Towards the end of this term, students will be asked to reflect on their learning through a self-reflection which forms part of the **interim report published to parents/carers in week 9 this term**. The **Student Conferences which follow in Week 10**, provide students an opportunity to dialogue with their teachers and parents/carers to set goals for the coming term and year.



We would all be familiar with the SMART goal acronym. SMART describes goals which should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely. An effective way to phrase a goal is: **By ... (timely), I will (action) so that (relevance and outcome).**

As teachers, we also set professional goals to ensure our teaching practices are providing students with rich and meaningful learning experiences. Much of the work teachers

and Leaders of Learning have undertaken during the start of the year is to analyse our HSC data, along with other data such as internal assessment and Tell Them From Me survey data, to create school, faculty and then professional goals. It has been wonderful to hear from teachers as they have shared their goals over the past weeks. Importantly, at the heart of all these conversations, has been the students and teachers' pursuit in creating conditions in their classrooms each day so our students can reach their potential.

Goal setting also has a significant link to wellbeing and develop positive self-belief and confidence.

Information about goal setting and strategies for goal setting can be found at the following link: <https://positivepsychology.com/goal-setting-students-kids>

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Each year students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in tests for writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. From 2023, **NAPLAN is moving to Term 1 and will take place from Wednesday 15 March to Monday 27 March 2023**. The reason for this change is so that results can be returned to schools earlier in the year which will support teachers to understand the learning needs of their students and plan accordingly. A schedule will be emailed to students and parents/carers in week 7.

Students in Year 7 and Year 9 will also take part in two familiarisation activities in week 7. The purpose of these activities is to allow students to practise using the online platform.

These activities are not assessed and responses are not recorded. Students will be informed of the timing of the familiarisation activities early next week. It is expected that students have ear buds/headphones (not Bluetooth) and their charged device each day.

This year the reporting of NAPLAN has changed. New proficiency standards with 4 levels of achievement for each year level will replace the previous 10-band structure that covered all 4 levels tested and the old national minimum standard set in 2008 when tests were on paper. The new proficiency standards include a baseline benchmark to identify students who are likely to need additional support. Further detail on this change can be found at the following link: <https://www.acara.edu.au/docs/default-source/media-releases/naplan-proficiency-standards-media-release-2023-02-10.pdf>

We acknowledge that NAPLAN is not a measure of what a student is capable of. It does not measure characteristics and capabilities such as creativity and engagement in learning – we know that our students are far more capable than a narrow measure of literacy and numeracy. What NAPLAN does provide us with, however, is an indication of how our students are tracking and provides direction and opportunity for adjustment as we work to ensure students have the basic skills to access the curriculum. NAPLAN can not be used as a single source of data and is always used with other data points to develop a more complete picture of the quality of education at the College. If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN please contact me at amber.carter@mn.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Amber Carter
Assistant Principal - Teaching & Learning



Year 12 Retreat

A few more photos from the Year 12 Retreat!



Mrs Blair Brownlee
Leader of Wellbeing & Engagement—Year 12



Recently Ms Burt and the Year 12 Drama students, joined with Mrs Cathy O'Gorman and her Year 12 students from St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead, in an excursion to Sydney. They were able to perform, play, learn, experiment and discover more about the craft of theatre, all areas that will assist them in their Year 12 Drama journey. Our time in Sydney was spent in undertaking a playbuilding workshop at the Seymour Centre, viewing OnStage performances (the best of the 2022 HSC), engaging in a Monologue Writing workshop at Belvoir Theatre, touring the Sydney Theatre Company, watching archival screenings of two plays and discovering the Walsh Bay Arts precinct. They were able to ask questions, make new friends and step out of their comfort zone which will help to prepare them for their exams and life after school.



Kasey Crebert needs your help!!!

"I need your help.

This March, I'm challenging myself to swim to save lives. I aim to swim a total of 20km during the month.

Did you know that suicide is the leading cause of death for young people in Australia? That means that each year, more young Aussies die by suicide than in car accidents or from cancer.

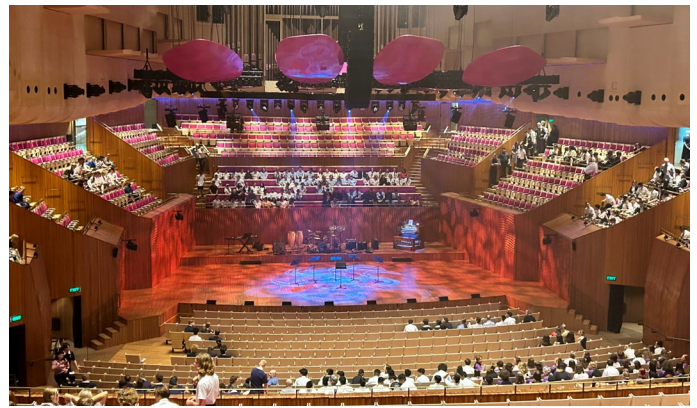
Today, I'm asking for your help to save lives. Will you please sponsor me? By doing so, you'll be helping ReachOut achieve its mission of ensuring that all young people in Australia have the support they need to be happy and well."

Simply click here to make a donation through my page: <https://www.lapsforlife.com.au/fundraisers/kaseycrebert>

CAPA News

Yr11/Yr12 Music excursion to Encore 2022

Students were taken to see Encore 2022 at the Sydney Opera House recently. Encore is a showcase of Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension students across the whole state who were successfully chosen to display one piece or composition from being nominated for their HSC performances. It was a glorious day; a first time visit to the opera house for some.



Parents in the Classroom

Recently we welcomed families of Year 7 students into the classroom for the first couple of lessons of the day. Students were excited to share this time with their families. After a couple of interactive and exciting lessons the morning was rounded off with morning tea for the families.



**Mrs Cayte Pryor & Mrs Deborah Thompson
Leaders of Wellbeing and Engagement - Year 7**



Year 7 Camp



Sports Results

NSW All Schools Triathlon

Last week Grady and Madeline Platt represented St Paul's at the **NSW All Schools Individual Triathlon Event** at Penrith, competing against the best triathletes from Independent, Catholic and State schools.

In the Intermediate age group Madeline placed 1st.

In the Senior age group Grady placed 5th.

Congratulations to Madeline and Grady!



Upcoming Sport Events

Thurs 2 March	Dio Touch Individual Selection Trial	Maitland Park
Tues 7 March	Dio Swimming	The Forum, Callaghan (University of Newcastle)
gTues 14 March	NSWCCC Golf	Waratah Golf Club, Argenton
Wed 22 March	Dio Senior Boys & Girls Soccer Knock-out	Speers Point
Tues 28 March	Dio U15 Netball Individual Selection Trial	San Clemente High School Mayfield
Wed 29 March	Dio Rugby League (Students selected from the Dio trial)	South West Rocks
Fri 31 March	NSWCCC Swimming (Students qualifying from the Dio carnival)	Sydney Olympic Park
Mon 3 – Tues 4 April	NSWCCC Touch (Students selected from the Dio trial)	Wagga Wagga
Wed 5 April	U14 Boys Rugby League Gala Day	Aberglasslyn
Tues 11 – Fri 14 April	NSW All Schools Sailing	Belmont
Wed 26 April	Dio Open Boys & Girls Soccer Individual Selection Trial	Speers Point

Upcoming Closing Dates for Sport Nominations

- 14th March – Dio U15 Netball
- 31st March – Dio Open Boys & Girls Soccer
- 7th April – NSW All Schools Sailing



Australian Government

HARMONY WEEK



[Translating and Interpreting Service \(TIS National\)](#)

Harmony Week is a time to celebrate Australian multiculturalism, and the successful integration of migrants into our community. The message of Harmony Week is **everyone belongs**. It is about **inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values**.

St Paul's Catholic College will be celebrating **Harmony Week** on **Tuesday 21st March**. We will celebrate in the following ways:

- 1. Students and staff will wear orange (out of uniform) to represent Harmony Week** (Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. Australians can choose to wear something orange during Harmony Week to show their support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia).
- 2. Students and staff bringing in a cold coin donation to raise money for Caritas.**
- 3. Students from 7-12 participating in a drumbeats Rhythm of the World workshop** (High School version) in their allocated time slot in the hall.

Mrs Catherine Maloney
Learning Support Faculty



HARMONY WEEK
EVERYONE BELONGS • HARMONY.GOV.AU



Is your child in year 7 or year 10?



Provide your consent for routine school vaccinations online.

At the beginning of the school year, your child's school will share the link to complete the online consent form.

Benefits of providing online consent:

- easily update your child's details
- get SMS notifications when vaccinations are given
- faster upload of vaccination records to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

To provide online consent, you will need:

- the link provided by the school
- your Service NSW log-in details
- medicare details for you and your child

Scan the QR code to give your consent now.



For more information on vaccination visit:
health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination

FRIDAY NIGHT BOWLS 2023



For KIDS / Learn to Bowl ... Learn to Play

INVITATION to BOWLS 2023

Two age divisions- age turning during calendar year

Boys and Girls 10, 11 & 12yrs
and
Boys and Girls 13, 14, 15 & 16yrs

PARENT(s) ... No huge registration fees !!!

All equipment supplied.

TRAINING - all Free

Participating Bowling Clubs

Players will be supported by Club members all with 'Working With Children' accreditation.

COST - \$10.00 per player / per year (pay at 'home' club)

Getting Started:

New Bowlers contact your local CLUB or program coordinator: 0403 194 683

Register ONLY at Newcastle

www.letsplaybowls.com

'Friday Night Bowls For Kids

use "ENTER HERE" icon

GREAT PRIZES

2 x Competitions

Season 1

February - March

Starts 3rd - Feb 2023

Training - February

Game nights - March

Season 2

October - November

Starts 8th - Oct 2023

Training - October

Game nights - November

FRIDAY - GAME NIGHT

5:30pm - 7:00pm

Home and Away

Register only at: www.letsplaybowls.com

Let's Play Bowls

Contact Program Coordinator: Warren Boyd m 0403 194 683
e: letsplaybowls@gmail.com www.letsplaybowls.com

www.letsplaybowls.com



SONG COMPETITION

ASPIRE 2023 PIRATES, POWER AND ADVENTURE.

The Song Competition will be broken into 3 categories- Primary School (K-6), Year 7, 8 and 9, and Year 10, 11 and 12. Using the story for the production, the themes below will be the song writing focus for these allocated year groups.

PRIMARY SCHOOL (K-6): PIRATE LIFE

A day in the life of a pirate tells the story of a famous pirate
What kind of things do pirates get up to?

YEARS 7, 8 AND 9: OPPRESSION

Oppression is when there is injustice and discrimination, usually against a specific group of people. It is the malicious use of power where people are prevented from having the same opportunities, freedom, and benefits as others are treated unfairly.

Song themes may include:
Injustice, Discrimination, Unfair use of power

YEARS 10, 11 AND 12: ADVENTURE

An adventure is an exciting experience that is bold, remarkable, and sometimes risky.

Your song may be about:

A narrative of an adventure story
Exploration, travel and adventure
Themes of excitement, hope, courage, or risk

FRIDAY 31 MARCH 2023

ASPIRE Song Competition Closing Date

MONDAY 3 APRIL

ASPIRE Song Competition Shortlisting

TUESDAY 2 MAY

Group 1: Song Competition Workshop Day

WEDNESDAY 3 MAY

Group 2: Song Competition Workshop Day

THURSDAY 4 MAY

Group 3: Song Competition Workshop Day

EVENING: THURSDAY 11 MAY

ASPIRE Song Competition Showcase

HOW TO ENTER

1. Video or record yourself singing or playing your song.
File formats: MP3, MP4 or MOV
2. A copy of your lyrics File format: Word document (NOT PDF or a photo)
3. If you can, include the chords or notation.
This is not compulsory.
4. Your song must be no longer than 3 minutes 30 seconds.
5. You will be able to upload via the Aspire website from Week 10, Term 4 2022.

Shortlisted finalists will have the opportunity to workshop their song with professional musicians and ASPIRE Musical Director Jessica Lopez. The winner for each category will be decided at a live concert with a guest panel to judge the songs. There will be 3 winners, one for each category (Primary K-6, Years 7-9, and Years 10-12). Prizes are a \$300 Musos Corner voucher and the opportunity to have your song professionally recorded at Tommirock Studios.

For more details go to aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au

Cafe Night

Real Women'

Placing Value on Womanhood

Date : Monday, 27 March 2023

Time : 7.30pm – 9.15pm
Tea or Coffee served from 7.00pm

Place : St Mary's Catholic Church Hall
Bayview Street, Warners Bay

Guest Speaker: Toby Kable. Toby is the founder of All Ability Sports Coaching. Toby is a Primary School teacher specialising in special needs education. Toby is a wonderful husband to Jasmine and father of 2 young toddlers. The drive of his work is positive connection. Toby is also a musician and has released 3 CDs.

Cost: Donation of \$15 per person –

*Specific diet requirements will be met as far as possible. Please advise when purchasing tickets.

Bookings will open at St Mary's Hall, Warners Bay on Saturday 4 March 2023 10am to 12pm.

Bookings may also be made by phone if you are unable to be at hall.

Phone: Sue - 0417 091 255 or Marie – 0429 191 245.

Catholic Parish of Boolaroo/Warners Bay

REAL women

valued

challenged

loved

placing value on womanhood

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The Australian Esports League is hosting the Newcastle Esports Cup 2023 this 11-12th March at Central Leagues Club Charlestown.

The event will feature video game tournaments open to all ages and skill levels with popular games Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, Rocket League and Mario Kart 8 running over Saturday. Plus for Sunday we will have a High School tournament for students to meet like-minded youth in the region, showcase their talent and participate in competition for the title of the Newcastle Esports champion of 2023.

The AEL will also be hosting free play gaming area with a variety of multiplayer games for families and friends to enjoy!

For any parents and teachers wishing to learn more about the world of esports with their students, the AEL will be hosting a High School focused workshop on the Sunday morning at 10:00am covering off key topics such as careers in esports and gaming, player welfare and benefits, and more!

Students are continuing to seek opportunities to participate in esports and the AEL is building a national program to enable participation in High School esports.

“We are proud to be working with Central Leagues Club to bring a great esports event for local gamers to the region. We hope to see gamers drawn to Newcastle to join in the competition and to showcase their talent.”, says Darren Kwan, CEO of Australian Esports League, “the AEL is focused on building community and we welcome this opportunity to expand esports in the greater Newcastle region.”

Esports is the sport of playing video games. It features players competing across the world from amateur to professional skill levels where participating athletes are earning millions of dollars in salaries and global fame. Esports athletes are said to experience the same feats of physical and mental aptitude as athletes in traditional sports.

Like with any sporting activity esports promotes cognitive growth and social benefits in players.

Studies show that students who participate in esports may have increased confidence, empathy, peer acceptance and leadership skills. Additionally, students may benefit from improved cognitive, communication skills, team work, strategic thinking, problem solving, reading comprehension and the development of digital skills.

We welcome students of all skill levels to come along and represent their school! With the weekend offering a great opportunity for students to share their passion for video games and a weekend of gaming fun with their parents.

Further details can be found at: <https://www.ael.org.au/newcastle>



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 Erica Gale—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

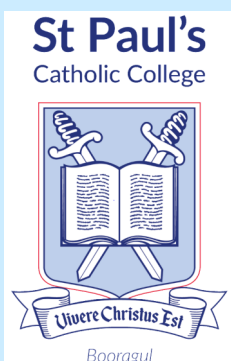
Hours: 8.15am until 3.30pm

Finance Office

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

Canteen

Telephone: 4946 3115



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Open Afternoon: Wednesday, 22 March, commencing at 4pm

St Paul's Information Evening: Monday 3 April, commencing at 6pm

Pupil Free Day: Monday 24 April, 2023