



ST PAUL'S

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
GRACEMERE

WHOLE SCHOOL PRIORITIES

• Deepen Mathematical Thinking • Purposeful Reading Instruction • Learning Conversations

Week 3 Term 1 2023

Dear families and friends,

This Friday the whole school will gather to acknowledge and bless the Year 6 classes as they begin their **student leadership** for 2023. Mr Mike Kelso will join us for this special occasion and all families are welcome to attend. There will be morning tea provided after the assembly and I hope many of you stay and enjoy.

Last week the Prep and Year 1 held parent information sessions to explain the classroom routines and expectations. I had the opportunity to briefly speak to the families about the importance of **parent engagement** and how research over the past 40 years proves that effective parental engagement can have a profound impact on their child's success at school. Some of these impacts include:

- ✓ *Children are more likely to enjoy learning and be motivated to do well*
- ✓ *Children are more likely to have better relationships, improved behaviour and greater confidence*
- ✓ *Children can have better school attendance*
- ✓ *Children can do better at school and more likely to graduate and progress to high education*

Simple ways that you can engage in their schooling include:

- ✓ *Read with them regularly*
- ✓ *Be positive about school and their potential to learn*
- ✓ *Ask questions about what they are learning and discuss*
- ✓ *Tell them about new things you are learning*
- ✓ *Volunteer at the school (classroom, tuckshop, at social events)*

If you are interested in finding out more about how you can help your child learn and succeed visit <https://www.parentengagementcspa.edu.au/> which is an excellent source of information put together by Catholic School Parents Queensland.

Just a reminder that **St Paul's Outside School Care (OSHC)** service will open next Monday 13th February. By now families that had expressed interest in the service will receive emails to finalise enrolments through Xplor and how to ensure your mygov details for concessions are ready to go. **If you would like more information about St Paul's OSHC service please contact the office or complete the waiting list form by clicking on the link below:**

<https://prodadmin.myxplor.com/enrollment/index/ZXBVZ1RWcURuR1VpTzJjcmtkakZtdz09>

Have a great week & God bless,

Anthony Greene

The Virtue of Mindfulness: Merciful God, we ask that you help us to see the beauty of your creation. To speak and act with humility. To treat others with respect, and to love you with all of our heart. Father, you are our guide and teacher. Help us to walk in the footsteps of your son, Jesus - The best example of who we are called to be. Let your light shine through us as we walk in our journey of life. St Paul: Pray for us.

Principal Mr Anthony Greene
APC Mrs Nicole Anderson
APRE Mr Mark Roberts

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APRE News

Thank you to Year 6B for your wonderful Prayer Assembly last Friday on the Eucharist. This Friday is a special Leadership Assembly to acknowledge this year's school leaders and present them with their leadership badges. Year 5H will lead the assembly. All in our community are welcome to join us this Friday morning at 8.35am in The Big Shed to share in this celebration.

We have introduced some **mindfulness activities** to prepare students for prayer and learning. In the morning Year 2 to 6 take time out to be still, calm, and open themselves to the presence of God in their lives. As God says in Psalm 46:10, **"Be still and know the I AM."** After each lunch break the mindfulness activity is not for prayer but designed to help students to leave lunchtime and all its excitement and problems behind and become ready to learn. We will be using many different activities over this term and hopefully students will find one that will work for them.

If you are keen to have your child complete their **Sacramental Journey**, please look to the information in this newsletter for all relevant information.

This week's Virtue is Respect: To respect everyone, Christians are called to be conscious that God has created all people in His image, regardless of whether they believe in Christ. We should show everyone proper respect and honour because an individual person is of more value than all the wealth in the world. This idea is captured in the New Testament by Jesus in what we call, 'The Golden Rule,' **"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."** Matthew 7:12.

Next Monday the 13th is the national anniversary of **National Apology Day**. On this day Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, along with all Australians, remember Prime Minister Kevin Rudd speaking to the whole Nation and apologising to the Stolen Generations. This took place in 2008, making this the 15th Anniversary. A key moment in the Reconciliation of this Nation. When we recognise and understand the significant days which acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, we develop a true perspective of the current issues facing Indigenous peoples living today, which is an important part of the Reconciliation process.

This Sunday is the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and all are invited to mass each week at 8am in St Paul's Church.

God Bless,

Mark Roberts
A.P.R.E.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2023

All families of the Catholic Worshipping Communities of Rockhampton wishing for their child to participate in the 2023 Sacramental Program are now invited to complete the online form using link below. Baptised children turning **9 years (or older)** in 2023 are invited to take part. <https://forms.gle/TpnuewYwdZX3UkZ97> If you have a younger child or one not yet baptised but would like them to be considered, please contact the Parish office 49282800 to discuss and to make an appointment with the priest.

Important Dates	
10 th Feb	Leadership Assembly
13 th Feb	St Paul's OSHC service opens
17 th Feb	Pupil Free Day
22 nd Feb	Ash Wednesday
24 th Feb	School Fees due
15 th Mar	Naplan testing begins
22 nd & 23 rd Mar	Parent Teacher interviews

Rocky District Sport		
Event	Date & Time	Nominations Due
Touch Football 10-12 Boys & Girls Rockhampton Touch Fields	Wednesday 1 March 2023 4pm – 5.45pm Shortlist: Friday 3 March 2023 4pm- 5.45pm	Monday 27 February 2023
Rugby League 10,11 & 12 Boys	Muster: Sunday 5 March 2023 9am - 12pm Shortlisted students: Sunday 12 March 2023 9am -12pm	Thursday 2 March 2023



Each week tuckshop orders need to be placed through QuickCliq, www.quickcliq.com.au by 12pm Thursday. This allows for correct ordering of food and less wastage. There is still the opportunity to volunteer and I would encourage you to click on the link below to help out. - [Tuckshop Volunteer form](#)



Year 6 students are fundraising for 2023 camp by selling **Zooper Doopers** on **Friday** afternoons in Term 1, from 3pm near the big shed. Zooper Doopers are **50 cents** each - **cash only, coins preferred**. Please respect the school grounds and place rubbish in the bin.