



ST PAUL'S

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
GRACEMERE

Week 7 Term 1 2023

Dear families and friends

It was wonderful to see such a great turnout for the **school disco and welcome BBQ** on Friday night. The children were certainly having a lot of fun which seemed to be expressed with lots of squealing and I hope you all got a chance to catch up with friends and maybe meet some new acquaintances. Thank you to Mr Roberts and the staff who helped supervise and the P&F and volunteers who organised the food and refreshments.

Next Wednesday is the **P&F Annual General Meeting** at 3.30pm in the Library. I would encourage you to come along and discover the committee's goals for 2023 which involves some more social events and relevant parent education sessions.

I am currently attending the Rockhampton Diocese Catholic Education **Annual Principal's Conference** which is focusing on 'compliance and professional practices'. This may not sound like the most interesting of topics, but as we heard yesterday, it is about raising an awareness and understanding of the accountability we have within our school communities. Ultimately, with the extensive support of the Catholic Education office, we want to provide a safe learning environment for our students, staff and families and to do that effectively we must understand the risks involved and how to best mitigate them with effective management tools.

In my absence, I must thank **Mr Roberts** and **Mrs Anderson** for taking on extra responsibilities and the staff for supporting them in these duties. I am always appreciative of the team approach St Paul's staff take to create a safe and engaging learning environment for the students.

This Sunday you are all invited to attend our first **school led Parish Mass** for the year and stay for some morning tea afterwards. Mr Roberts has organised a choir to sing at the celebration and I hope many families can join us at 8am this Sunday.

Just a reminder that it is important to **be patient at pick time** for the safety of all our children. Concerning is the practice of parents encouraging their children to cross the front car park unaccompanied while cars are moving through it and backing out. It is hard enough for an adult to navigate this, let alone a small child.

Have a great week and God bless,

Anthony Greene

P & F AGM Meeting

March 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

3.30 pm in the Library

The Virtue of Patience: Holy Father, I am requesting you to grant me more tenderness, patience, and wisdom to handle a difficult situation. My heart is full of love and kindness, but it seems it's not enough. Please guide me to stay close to you and stay true to myself while solving Life's puzzles. Amen. St Paul: Pray for us

APRE News

Thank you Year 3B for your Prayer assembly last Friday on the theme of Faith. It was informative and beautifully presented. Well done. This week Year 2G are sharing with us the significance of the stories Jesus told to teach people the importance of being forgiving, compassionate, welcoming, and inclusive toward everyone. All are welcome under the Big shed this Friday at 8.30am.

This Sunday, 12th of March, St Paul's will lead the 8am Parish Mass at St Paul's Church. It would be great to see you and your family there to share in this great community event. Next Friday we have our first class masses for the year at 2pm on Friday 17th of March at St Paul's church. This mass will be for Years 4,5 and 6. Again, all in our St Paul's community are invited to share in this mass.

Next Friday, 17th of March we will celebrate St Patrick's Day at St Paul's. Students may come in their best green outfits or plain dress for a GOLD coin donation to Caritas.

A number of our students will soon be going through their preparation for the Sacraments of Communion and Eucharist. We pray for these students and their families and wish them the best on this important journey in their faith lives. If you have not applied to join in the Sacrament program this year but are still keen, please refer below.

2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Information nights will be held:

Tuesday, 07 March at 5:30pm
(St Joseph's Catholic School, Wandal)

Thursday, 16 March at 5:30pm
(Holy Family Church)

Children do not have to come but one parent/carer **must** attend **one** evening as this is an important part of the program.

For further information, please contact:
Anthony Greene anthony_greene@rok.catholic.edu.au
or Beryl Mills berylmills18@gmail.com

No enrolments will be accepted after 19 March.

The virtue of the week is Patience: After Paul was converted on the road to Damascus, he moved from being a disbeliever to become a believer in Jesus. God called Paul to preach, especially to the gentiles, non-Jews. But Paul was rejected by the early Christian church who viewed him with great suspicion, they didn't believe he had been truly converted. Here is where patience began to work, as it took about 10 years for Paul to be fully accepted. How many times Paul must have asked the Lord to allow him to get started? What is known is that Paul continued to minister in the local

churches and kept busy with what God had given him. If Paul was going to be obedient to God, he just had to wait, to be tested and tried, so that he would be prepared to do what the Lord wanted of him.

Patience is often referred to as one of the most important virtues. Ralph Marston once said: *"The keys to patience are acceptance and faith. Accept things as they are and look realistically at the world around you. Have faith in yourself and in the direction you have chosen."*

God Bless,
Mark Roberts
A.P.R.E.

Important Dates	
12th Mar	St Paul's led Parish Mass
15th Mar	Naplan testing begins
15th Mar	P & F AGM Meeting
17th Mar	Years 4,5&6 Mass 2pm Friday
24th Mar	Years 1,2&3 Mass 2pm Friday
22nd Mar	Prep Vison Screening
22nd/23rd Mar	Parent Teacher interviews
31st March	Cross Country
31st March	Easter Raffle drawn

EASTER RAFFLE

It's time again for our annual **Chocolate Easter Raffle!** Each family is asked to donate Easter eggs for the raffle. Please leave the donations at the office in the air conditioning. All proceeds go to Caritas Australia to support their Project Compassion Appeal. *Information on tickets to follow in coming weeks.*



APPLICATIONS FOR
YEAR 7 2024

CLOSE WED 29 MARCH 2023

TO APPLY PLEASE VISIT TCRC.COM.AU

OSHC News

There are still places available for St Paul's before and after school care on most days. Just a reminder that the morning service runs from 6.30am to 8.30am. If you have to leave for work early, please utilise this service rather than sending your children to school unsupervised before 8am.