

Week 3 Term 2 2023

Dear families and friends

Last Wednesday Year 6 students participated in **Indigenous activities**. The girls spent some time weaving a bracelet with contemporary Aboriginal artist Tia. Tia has a background in psychology and talked to the girls about how Aboriginal women used weaving practices every day for the purposes of spirituality, healing and sustainability. This workshop gave students the opportunity to experience first-hand a culturally responsive way of healing.



The Year 6 boys spent their time with Allan Wilson, Indigenous Education Project Officer from the Catholic Education Office and participated in Traditional Indigenous games. Allan also talked with the boys about the importance of these games in a traditional context and shared a story (yarn) or two with them as well.

All the students seemed to really enjoy the experience as is evident from a few of their comments: Here are some thoughts from the students:



- Gemma - I loved it! It was fun and easy.
- Alexis - It was cool, and you use all the different colours.
- Lilliana - It was a bit challenging but when I got the hang of it, it was easy.

I would like to thank Ms Deb Sandow, Regional Indigenous Education Liaison Officer for organising these activities and for her ongoing support of St Paul's.

This Friday St Paul's has the pleasure of welcoming **Miss Leesa Jeffcoat**, Diocesan Director of Catholic Education, for her annual visit to our school. Miss Jeffcoat will join us for Prayer Assembly before a tour of the school and some of our classes. I am very much looking forward to showing Miss Jeffcoat all the great things that are happening at St Paul's and what we are achieving together for the students.

I have noticed a worrying increase in **student absences** this term. Some could say that is because of all the public holidays, but I just want to emphasise the importance of students attending school as much as possible. Research clearly links regular school attendance with higher-achieving children. By you placing an importance on your child attending school you are ultimately giving them a better chance at succeeding in life in the long term. For more information about why high attendance of school is important please visit - [Every day counts Education QLD](#)

Have a great week and God bless,

Anthony Greene

Prayer for the Virtue of Self-Discipline: Dear God, I believe that you have given me power, and love and self-control. I want to use all of these wonderful gifts you have given me to grow into the best version of myself. I want to practice good self-discipline to become more like Jesus. I pray this in the strong name of Jesus Christ, Amen. **St Paul:** Pray for us.

APRE NEWS

Well done to Year 5C for their wonderful Prayer Assembly on the virtue of Acceptance last Friday. This week's assembly will be led by 4B on this weeks Virtue of Self-Discipline.

There is a lot going on in classes with Religious Education at St Paul's. This year all classes are working on the new Brisbane curriculum, most for the second year. Our school has two parts to its religious nature, first is the education of students about the Catholic faith and spirituality in our lives. Second is the Religious Life of the School, this is the Catholic faith in action, as a lived experience within our school and school community. It would be a great support for students if parents could discuss what is happening in Religious Education lessons with them. Dialogue and discussion are key to the Religious Education lessons at St Paul's.

This week's virtue is Self-Discipline. Saint Paul wrote: **"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us shy, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."** 2 Timothy 1:7 NIV. Self-discipline is the ability to control yourself and to make yourself work hard or behave in a particular way without needing anyone else to tell you what to do. This virtue allows you to stay focused on your goals. It enables you to stay in control of yourself and of your reaction to any situation. Like all virtues, we all have Self-Discipline, some more than others, like a muscle: the more you train it, the stronger you become.

There will be a Years 1,2&3 and a Years 4,5&6 mass this term. Please keep an eye on the newsletter next week for the dates. All are welcome to join us for these masses at St Paul's church. It is another way for our wider school community to participate in the Religious Life of the School.

It was a moving experience attending the Dawn Service with our students last week. As a lead up to the ANZAC Ceremony the Year 6 and Some Year 5 students, created postcards of gratitude to present to veterans. This was an activity initiated by the R.S.L. I have received a beautiful letter from a veteran who received one of our postcards and he was truly moved by the sentiments expressed.

The sacraments program continues, and we are asked to keep in our prayers all of those students doing Confirmation and Eucharist this year, and their families.

God Bless,

Mark Roberts
A.P.R.E.

| Important Dates | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 19 th May | Year 5 & 6 interschool sport begins |
| 4 th June | Pentecost/St Paul's Feast Day |
| 14 th June | School Photo Day |
| 15 th June | Show Holiday |
| 16 th June | St Paul's Athletics Carnival |

Throughout this term, our school will be implementing the **Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum** with students in **Prep to Year 6**. The curriculum is based on principles of best practice in child safety education and centres around three key messages: **Recognise, React and Report**. Through a series of lessons, students will learn how to recognise, react and report when they are unsafe or find themselves in situations that can have a significant detrimental effect on their physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing.

Information about the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum* can be found at www.education.qld.gov.au/child-safety-curriculum

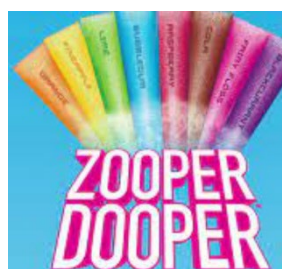


Recognise

This week we are starting to implement the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum*. The first key safety message of the curriculum is **recognise**. Recognise is about being aware of your environment.

Children, young people and adults can all learn to take notice of what is happening around them to help keep themselves safe. Everyone can use clues, such as the things we see, hear, smell or feel to help protect us from harm and keep ourselves safe. Clues can be simple things that warn us about a danger, e.g. hearing a fire alarm or seeing smoke, that prompt us to **react**. We can also use clues to prepare for potentially unsafe situations, e.g. if we are walking alone at night, then we try to use a well-lit route and avoid secluded lanes or parks.

When we **recognise** that there might be a safety problem we can take steps to move away or reduce the risk or develop strategies that can help keep us safe. For instance, if you are in a busy environment such as the Ekka or a local event where there are big crowds, you might consider what you and your child could do if you became separated. Strategies could include: going to a highly visible pre-determined meeting spot; writing your phone number on a card and placing it in your child's pocket; identifying who your child could approach if they become lost, e.g. police, staff at a booth.



Zooper Doopers will be on sale this Friday afternoon for 50c each for Yr 6 camp fundraising. They will be on sale until current stock runs out