

## TERM 2

## WEEK 1: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

Dear Families,

Welcome back to what will be a very different term – something that I have never encountered in my thirty-five years of education. These are very challenging times, but by supporting each other, we will get through to the other side. I believe that we will be more grateful for the smallest things – things that we may have gone without for so long.

I hope you all had a great Easter – again it would have been very different. No family gatherings, no picnics in parks, so very different. I was moved during the Easter Sunday Mass that was televised on television. The parents and sibling of four children who were killed by a drunk driver on February 1<sup>st</sup> this year were involved in this Mass. Mrs Leila Abdallah read one of the readings and Mrs Bridget Sakr and her son Michael assisted in the offertory procession. Mrs Abdallah lost 3 children in the accident and Mrs Sakr lost a daughter. Their strength at such a time of grief was an example of how we need to live our lives. They also spoke of how they have forgiven the driver who killed their children. I ask you to pray for the Abdallah and Sakr Families and keep them in your prayers.

We also remember the thousands of people that have died throughout the world due to COVID-19. Across the world there have been more than 1.9 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 and more than 119,000 deaths. We continue to pray for the families of those who have died and for those who are recovering from this virus.

I would like to thank you all for supporting us as we transition to online learning. We ask you to remember that you are not teaching the children. Your role is to supervise your children as they complete the activities that have been planned by the teachers. I appreciate that so many of you were very positive when you were contacted yesterday about how you were feeling about moving to online learning. These are very challenging times for all of us – but together we can do the best for your children.

I can confirm that the following events have been cancelled or postponed:

- School photos (new date August 26<sup>th</sup> – more information to follow).
- Mother's Day Breakfast (May 5<sup>th</sup>) and the Mother's Day Stall (May 7<sup>th</sup>).
- Multicultural Day including the Special Lunch (May 8<sup>th</sup>).
- NAPLAN (May 12<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>).
- Sacrament of Eucharist Family Night (May 12<sup>th</sup>)
- Sacrament of Eucharist (Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>)
- MMA Camp (June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Once we have permission to have Masses, we will organise a new date for the Sacrament of Eucharist, as well as the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We also hope to be able to reschedule the MMA Camp, although this may not be possible. At this stage we hope to have the production in Term IV – at this stage we will need to push it back a few weeks. I will endeavor to keep you informed of these events as we find out more information.

I know your child's teacher will be in regular contact with you. However, if you have any questions, please email them and they will endeavor to get back to you as soon as possible. I would like to thank Ms Cathy Doran and the Leadership Team for all they did in the last week of term when the announcement was made that the term would finish early and teachers were to prepare for online learning. Thanks also to the teachers, office staff and all the Learning Support officers for the way they supported the Leadership Team. This was another great example of all staff working together for the benefit of the St Paul's School Community.

I pray that our God will be with all of you throughout these trying times.

All the best for the rest of the week.

Yours sincerely,

Damian Casamento  
Principal

## **ENHANCING CATHOLIC SCHOOL IDENTITY SURVEY – SURVEYS CLOSES THIS FRIDAY 17/4**

Thank you to those families who have completed the 'Enhancing Catholic School Identity Survey'. The closing date for completion of the survey has been extended to this Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April. **Once you have completed the survey, present a copy of your *Certificate of Completion*, including your name and contact number to the school office, or alternatively email a copy to [lpeplow@spsunshinewest.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lpeplow@spsunshinewest.catholic.edu.au) to go into the draw for a \$100 Coles Myer voucher.**

## **ONLINE HOME LEARNING**

### **Home Learning on our Website**

Thank you for all your support with the online learning that has started happening from today. On our school website we have updated learning tasks for each level and specialist classes. To access the school's page you can simply google 'St Paul's Sunshine West' or type in the URL <http://www.spsunshinewest.catholic.edu.au/>. From there you will need to click on 'Student Intranet'. Then in the tab on the top right you can click on 'Home Learning' to access the learning tasks.

### **SeeSaw Student**

If you have the **SeeSaw class** app, the students can log in with their unique code that was sent out via an email by Mrs Louise Collison. If you don't have the app, you can access the class by going to <https://web.seesaw.me/> on the internet (e.g. using Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, Firefox) and clicking on 'Log In', click on 'I am a Student' and then enter your code that was sent to you via email (remember the spaces in the correct places!).

### **EASTER RAFFLE**

Thank you to those families who made donations to our Easter Raffle and to those who bought tickets. We will be drawing the raffle next Monday and will advise you of the winners in next week's newsletter.

### **PREP ENROLMENTS - 2021**

Enrolments for Prep 2021 are now open. I encourage any parents/carers who have not enrolled their child for Prep in 2021 to do so. You can download an enrolment form from our website. All information sessions have been cancelled – we are still accepting enrolments. Please scan and email your child's enrolment form to Mrs Leanne Andrew at [landrew@spsunshinewest.catholic.edu.au](mailto:landrew@spsunshinewest.catholic.edu.au). We will be interviewing families later this year.

### **CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND**

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund is the new Government Funding to assist families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities. Centrelink health care card holders and Pensioner Concession card holders may be eligible for a payment of \$125. If you feel you may qualify for this payment please complete the CSEF Application Form and return it to the Office together with a **copy of your Centrelink Card**.

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2020**

The following dates are very important for **ALL** students who will be attending secondary school in 2022 – our current Year 5 students. If applications for Catholic Secondary School are not in by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2020 your child will not be enrolled in your school of choice.

**21<sup>st</sup> August 2020:** Applications close for 2022 Year 7 students in Catholic Secondary Colleges – our current Year 5 Students

**15<sup>th</sup> October 2020:** Offers posted to prospective 2022 Year 7 applicants

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2020:** Final date for families to accept by offers made by the Secondary School



With this app we can keep you informed about events, changes to timetables, give you access to permission notes, newsletters and emergency alerts. You need to have an email address to open an account on Skoolbag app.

### **For Android users and iPhone users:**

- Search **Skoolbag** in the Google play store or in the App store, and install it on your phone, PC or tablet.
- Opening this app, click on ***Add our school*** "ST. PAUL'S SUNSHINE WEST" and you're ready to go!

- To setup alerts: Click on "***Groups***", then "***Add/Remove Groups***" choose your categories.
- To update your changes: Click on "***eForms***", then "***Change of Details***" and fill up the form.
- To report your child's absence: Click on "***eForms***", then "***Absentee Form***" and fill up the form.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOS – NEW DATE – WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

I wish to remind our families that we have postponed our school photos until later in the year. The new date is Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August. More information will follow next term.