

TERM 1

WEEK 1: Wednesday 31st January, 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 2nd February:	Beginning of the Year Mass 10.00am St. Paul's Church
Wednesday 14th February:	Ash Wednesday Mass 10.00am St. Paul's Church
Friday 16th February:	First Assembly for 2024 – Presentation of SRC for 2024 – 2.30pm
Tuesday 20th February:	Sacrament of Reconciliation Family Night 6.30pm St. Paul's School
Thursday 22nd February:	2025 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Friday 23rd February:	School Assembly MGR – 2.30pm
Monday 26th February:	School Closure Day – No School for Students
Thursday 28th February:	2025 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Friday 1st March:	Class Prayer Service JRC, JTH & JMC – 10.00am, School Assembly MEM – 2.30pm
Monday 4th March:	2025 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Wednesday 6th March:	Sacrament of Penance 6.30pm St. Paul's Church – Year 3 Students
Friday 8th March:	School Assembly MAK – 2.30pm
Monday 11th March:	Labour Day Public Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 12th March:	2025 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Wednesday 13th March:	Preps Attend School today and all future Wednesdays
March 13th – 25th:	NAPLAN
Friday 15th March:	Class Prayer Service JLH, JEF & JKL – 10.00am, School Assembly JRC – 2.30pm
Monday 18th March:	2025 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 1.30pm
Friday 22nd March:	Class Reconciliation MGR, MET & MAM – 10.00am, School Assembly JTH – 2.30pm
Wednesday 27th March:	2025 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 1.30pm
Thursday 28th March:	Easter Assembly 12.00pm, End of Term I – 1.00pm Children can wear plain clothes
Monday 15th April:	Term II Commences at 8.40am
Wednesday 17th April:	School Photos – More information to follow

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the 2024 school year! I extend a special word of welcome to the new families to St. Paul's and hope that your association with our school community will be a long and happy one. On February 10th, we will celebrate the Lunar New Year – it is the Year of the Dragon. We wish all those who celebrate the Lunar New Year all the best for the year ahead.

Miss Georgie Damm has accepted a position at Mercy College in Coburg. We wish Georgie all the best in her new role and thank her for her contribution to St Paul's in her time here.

Every year is a very busy year – 2024 will be no different. We have school camps, plenty of excursions and whole school celebrations. In particular we have our Art Show on September 12th – more information will follow later in the year. As mentioned in the letter that went out during the holidays, there will be no school for children on Monday 26th February as staff will be further developing their knowledge of the ways children think and practicing these thinking strategies in the classroom.

In 2024 we welcome to St. Paul's School Ms Amanda Rowe, Mr Alexander Killender, Mrs Michelle Casamento (Class Teachers) and Miss Sarah Mercieca (Classroom Support). We welcome back to St Paul's from maternity leave Mrs Rhiannon Micallef, Mrs Jennifer Gualtieri, Mrs Teagan Desmond and Mrs Laura Cook. I know Amanda, Alexander, Michelle, Sarah, Jennifer, Rhiannon, Teagan and Laura will be warmly welcomed by everyone in the St. Paul's School Community. Mrs Samantha Clarke will be commencing parental leave on March 28th. She will be taking on various roles in her time at school this term.

Many thanks to the parents and teachers for making the Learning Conversations yesterday such a success. It was an ideal chance for teachers to meet parents and for an exchange of information to take place. Thank you for the way you used the online booking system to make your appointments. Thanks also to Mrs Kerry Westgarth, Mrs Trish Morris, Mrs Helen Diomides and Miss Nadia Juzva who made themselves available during the holidays to assist families with the bookings for Learning Conversations. Please remember to make an appointment to see your child's teacher at any time if you have any concerns.

All children should be wearing the St. Paul's hat during Term I. Any students not wearing the hats will be required to sit in the shade. No other hats are permitted to be worn.

I look forward to working with you all during 2024.

Yours sincerely,
Damian Casamento
PRINCIPAL

The class groupings, teachers and staff for 2024 are set out below:

Year Prep

Miss Rachael Barr (**PRB**)

Mr Matthew Kowalczyk (**PMK**)

Mrs Michelle Favero and Mrs Teagan Desmond (**PFT**)

Year 1

Miss Rebecca Calleja (**JRC**)

Miss Janelle Micallef and Mrs Michelle Casamento (**JMC**)

Mrs Teagan Hocking (**JTH**)

Year 2

Miss Linda Hosni (**JLH**)

Miss Kathy Ly (**JKL**)

Miss Emma Finnegan (**JEF**)

SPECIALISTS/SUPPORT TEACHERS

Literacy/Numeracy Support – 5-6

Teacher Release/Classroom Support

Physical Education Teacher

Library Teachers

Visual Arts Teacher

Performing Arts Teacher

Indonesian Teacher

Technology Teacher

STEM Teacher

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN

BURMESE INTERPRETER

WELLBEING SUPPORT

FIRST AID OFFICER

KOORIE EDUCATION WORKER

LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICERS

Mrs Jan Quinn

Miss Nadia Juzva

Ms Lan Nguyen

Mrs Nicole Campagna

Ms Louise Sposato

Miss Amy Bull

Mrs Dianna Grillo

Mrs Monica McIntyre

Mrs Ashlea Niemi

MAINTENANCE

CANTEEN

POSITIONS OF LEADERSHIP

Principal

Mr Damian Casamento

Deputy Principals

Ms Cathy Doran

Mrs Louise Collison

Religious Education Leader / Student Wellbeing Leader/ Child Safety Officer

Miss Lisa Peplow

Student Wellbeing Leader

Ms Rebeca Lopez (Term 2)

Numeracy Leader

Mrs Libby Morganti

Learning Diversity Leaders

Mrs Kara Brizzi

Literacy/Inquiry/Learning Leader

Mrs Louise Collison

Mrs Annamaria Schembri

Family Engagement in Learning Leader

Miss Janelle Micallef

Physical Education Leader

Mr Chris Bye

Technology Leader

Mr Joshua Turner

Arts Leaders

Ms Michele Micallef & Ms Lynette Gixti

Prep Leader

Mrs Michelle Favero

Junior Leader

Miss Janelle Micallef

Middle Leaders

Miss Ellen McKitterick and Miss Eanya Tone

Senior Leaders

Mrs Claudia Razi and Miss Claudia Capuano

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

After School Care – Camp Australia

Miss Kylie Hayes

Mrs Irije Demeri

CATHOLIC CARE COUNSELLOR

Ms Emily Dyos

MMA (Year 3/4)

Mrs Jennifer Gualtieri and Mrs Rhiannon Micallef (**MGR**)

Ms Amanda Rowe and Mrs Kylie Ponce Rios (**MAK**)

Miss Vivienne Nguyen (**MVN**)

Miss Amanda Mach (**MAM**)

Miss Ellen McKitterick (**MEM**)

Miss Eanya Tone (**MET**)

SMA (Year 5/6)

Mrs Claudia Razi and Ms Christine Surssock (**SRC**)

Ms Anna Stavropoulos (**SAS**)

Miss Claudia Capuano (**SCC**)

Miss Heidi Gebbo (**SHG**)

Miss Kayla Lacey (**SKL**)

Mr Alexander Killender (**SAK**)

Mrs Claudia Razi

Mrs Ha-Anh Nguyen

Miss Sarah Mercieca

Mr Chris Bye

Ms Michele Micallef

Mrs Amanda Gallus

Ms Lynette Gixti

Mrs Santi Sherry

Mr Joshua Turner

Mr Adam Fazekas

Ms Kerry Westgarth

Miss Diana Nguyen

Mrs Michelle Favero

Ms Samantha Clarke (Term 1)

Mrs Samantha Karipoglou

Ms Laura Cook

Ms Trish Morris

Mrs Helen Diomides

Mrs Karen Martin

Mrs Ngunsang Laithang

Ms Narelle Mullenger

Miss Nadia Juzva

Mrs Ashlea Niemi

Miss Madelyn Byrne

Mrs Blerina Cakeri

Mrs Kaylene Di Lorenzo

Mrs Sandra Krolo

Mrs Nancy Sacco

Mrs Jazmin Moscosa

Mrs Narelle Mullenger

Mrs Elizabeth Gatt

Mr Rob Kilpatrick

Mrs Marlene Haber

Mrs Jacqui Batty

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2024

The following dates are very important for **ALL** students who will be attending secondary school in 2026 – our current Year 5 students. If applications for Catholic Secondary School are not in by Friday 16th August, 2024 your child will not be enrolled in your school of choice.

16th August 2024: Applications close for 2026 Year 7 students in Catholic Secondary Colleges – our current Year 5 students

18th October 2024: Offers posted to prospective 2026 Year 7 applicants

8th November 2024: Final date for families to accept offers made by the Secondary School

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2024

The dates for the celebration of the Sacraments and the Family nights in 2024 are:

Sacrament of Penance Family Night (Year 3) Tuesday, February 20th at 6.30pm – St. Paul's School

Sacrament of Penance (Year 3) Wednesday, March 6th at 6.30pm – St. Paul's Church

Sacrament of Eucharist Family Night (Year 3) Tuesday, April 30th at 6.30pm - St. Paul's School

Sacrament of Eucharist (Year 3) Friday, May 17th at 6.30pm – St. Paul's Church

Please note that St Paul's School will not be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024.

FEES/LEVIES

Your child's levies are now due. Please pay all levies promptly. School fees are due on February 9th. Accounts will be emailed to the families tomorrow, Thursday 1st February. You can pay your school fees and levies with a credit card or by direct debit from a nominated bank account or from your Centrelink payments. If you would like this to happen, please come to the office to collect a form.

CANTEEN

The canteen will open from **tomorrow, Thursday 1st February** - the full menu will be available. CDF Pay has also opened to order lunches online. You will be able to use cash as well as CDF Pay to pay for lunch orders - see below for more information on how to use CDF Pay. Hard copies of the 2024 price list were sent home last year and the pricelist is also on the Audiri App. Volunteers are needed to assist in the canteen. We would be very grateful to have your assistance even if it can be for only a couple of hours per week. Please see Marlene or Jacqui in the canteen if you can help.

ANAPHYLAXIS

There are several children at school who suffer from allergic reactions to various forms of food, plants, bites and stings. The Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI) does not recommend the banning of particular items. This is based on the premise that for school age children, an essential step is to develop strategies for avoidance in the wider community as well as at school. All staff have undertaken anaphylactic training and will have it renewed this term. The school has a thorough policy, action plan and procedures for each child, including first aid response and medication storage, to ensure the wellbeing of all students. Please visit www.allergy.org.au for more information.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

The yard is supervised from 8.25am every morning. Parents are asked not to send their children to school before this time. Class teachers are at school but they are unable to supervise children because they will be preparing for the day's activities. Before School Care Program operates every morning. Parents who need to drop off their children early will need to use this service. Kylie Hayes and Irije Demeri are the co-ordinators of the program. They can be contacted on 0401 362 738.

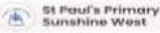
FIRST AID

We would appreciate any donations of boxes of tissues for our first aid supplies. Thank you for your continued support.



With this app we can keep you informed about events, changes to timetables, give you access to permission notes, newsletters, emergency alerts and/or report your child's absence. You need to have an email address to open an account on **Audiri** app.

For Android users and iPhone users:

- Search **Audiri** in the Google play store or in the App store, and install it on your phone, PC or tablet.
- For new users, click "**Sign up**" to create an account and follow the prompts.
- Opening this app, click on + icon, then type "**St Paul's Primary Sunshine West**" to search for our school. Once our school is found, click on the icon on the right to turn it on 
- Now that you get access to St. Paul's App, click on "**Posts**" at the bottom to view all St Paul's School publications.

To report your child's absence: Click on "**Forms**" at the bottom, then "**Absentee Form**", fill up this form and submit it.

To update your changes: Click on "**Forms**" at the bottom, then "**Change of Details**", fill up this form and then **Submit** it.

* **Note:** You can also get access to these forms by clicking on "**Resources**", then "**Forms**".



Learn a language on Saturday morning!

The Victorian School of Languages is a government school committed to the provision of language programs for students in years F to 12 who do not have access to the study of those languages in the mainstream schools in all education sectors. The school offers over fifty languages through both face-to-face teaching in centres across the state and through distance education.

The Victorian School of Languages Area West 1 is located at: **Footscray High School, Bayside P-12 College and Sunshine College** and offers the following languages: **Albanian, Arabic, Chin (Hakha), Croatian, Dutch, Hindi, Japanese, Macedonian, Spanish, Thai and Vietnamese.**

Classes are held between 9.00 am and 12.20 pm and in order to assist with course costs a small annual contribution is appreciated: \$80.00 in Years F to 10 and \$95.00 for VCE. Adults may be accepted in VCE classes only and the annual charge is \$220.00.

Online enrolments for new students in 2024 are now being accepted. For further details please visit <http://www.vsl.vic.edu.au> or contact the Area Manager on **9689 1166**.

OPERATION SCHOOLS BACK

Local Police together with members of the Highway Patrol are running an operation to mark the start of the school year. Operation Schools Back will target the safety of students arriving and departing school with the major focus being the enforcement of the 40kmph school zones. Motorists are asked to be vigilant before and after school as there will be increased pedestrian, road and pushbike traffic. Please allow an extra 5 minutes to find a safe and legal park to ensure your children's safety.

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOING PROCEDURES FOR SCHOOL PERFORMANCES, ASSEMBLIES, SPORTING AND OTHER SANCTIONED SCHOOL EVENTS

St. Paul's Primary School allows members of the school community to take photographs and videos of their children at school assemblies, class presentations, performances, sporting events etc.

In accordance with the Privacy & Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic), Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) & Education Department guidelines, members of the school community are restricted to only photograph / video their children. These images must not be published on social media or in any other form without the prior consent of parents & guardians whose children may unintentionally appear in the images.

The school does not permit any member of the school community or invited guest to take photographs / videos of the bi-annual school production.

Note: The school does not own or control any photographs or video taken by members of the school community or invited guests.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND (CSEF)

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund is 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 \$150. If you think you qualify for the CSEF, please contact the office for a form. Please complete and return the CSEF form to school, along with a copy of your Centrelink Card as soon as possible. **The CSEF program for 2024 closes on Friday, 28th June.**



CDFpay is one way for you to order your child's lunch at St Paul's – you can also pay by cash for your child's lunch order. Please log onto <https://spsunshinewest.cdfpay.org.au> to create your account if you are a new parent. Please make sure you click on the tab that says 'New Parent Account' and follow the steps.

If you have already signed up before, please remember to go into your account and edit your child's class name for 2024.

If you have any difficulty setting up an account, please contact the school office on 9363 1568 for assistance.

STARTING SCHOOL: THE EARLY WEEKS

Your child might need some support when school starts. Here are some simple things you can do to help these first few weeks go smoothly:

Try to drop off your child at school before the bell goes in the morning. Also pick your child up on time. If you're late it could make your child feel very anxious.

- If [your child is worried about being separated from you](#), look for ways to distract your child at school drop-off. For example, you could try meeting a friend at the gate or walking to school with another child and parent.
- Make after-school time a bit special, with a snack and time for you and your child to chat.
- Be patient if your child wants to blurt out every little detail about school, or clams up completely. You could try saying something like, 'Tell me one good thing about your day', rather than asking a lot of questions.
- Be flexible with snacks and meals. Your child will probably be very hungry after school. If you give your child a small, healthy snack straight after school, it'll help to keep them going until dinner.
- Don't expect too much academic progress too soon. If your child is happy and seems to be enjoying school, that's a real achievement. The rest will come later.
- Remember that it's common for children to play with many different children and also to play on their own sometimes. It takes a while before they settle into a group of friends.
- If your child doesn't seem to be settling well, or tells you about teasing or [bullying](#), speak to your child's classroom teacher.



Instrumental Music Lessons - on school campus
Places available for Term 1, 2024



Small Group & Private Lessons

- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on campus – with lessons typically during school hours
- Only \$22.00 per child per small group lesson (5 students max for 30 minutes)
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Online lessons (after hours) are also available direct to your home – contact us to find out more
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!

P: 1300 362 824 E: admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au

ST PAUL'S PARISH FEAST DAY - 2024 PROGRAM

Wednesday 31st Jan - 7pm

Vietnamese Mass, followed by supper.

Thursday 1st Feb - 7pm

Spanish Mass, followed by supper.

Friday 2nd Feb - 7pm

Maltese Mass, followed by supper.

Saturday 3rd Feb - 6pm English Mass, followed by the Family Dance.

Sunday 4th Feb - 3pm Mass with Benediction followed by the procession with the statue of St Paul.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

The St Paul's Community acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we teach, learn and pray. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait people have to Country and pay our respects to Elders, past and present as we commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

