

## **TERM 4: WEEK 11: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2025**

**SCHOOL WILL FINISH FOR 2025 TOMORROW, TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 1.00PM  
CHILDREN CAN WEAR PLAIN CLOTHES. THERE WILL BE A SHORT ASSEMBLY  
AT 12.50PM IN THE YARD.**

***ONLINE BOOKINGS FOR LEARNING CONVERSATIONS ARE NOW OPEN –  
SEE INFORMATION IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND SENT OUT PREVIOUSLY***

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I write this final newsletter for the 2025 school year, I can't believe how quickly the year has passed. It has been a very exciting year for all in the school community. The year began with us welcoming approximately 70 new students to St. Paul's. So much has happened this year. The Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation, Masses, 'Shrek Jnr', camps, excursions, incursions, fundraising events – there always seemed to be something happening

I would like to thank Father Rene, Father Joseph and Father Rowan for their support of St. Paul's during 2025. We thank them for continuing to visit our school, celebrating Mass with us and praying with the children.

I would like to thank the teachers for their dedication and professionalism this year. As always, they gave 100% throughout the year to ensure your children had the best opportunities to become 'the best that they can be'. I hope they enjoy their well-earned break. Special thanks to Cathy Doran and Louise Collison – as Deputy Principals, they have been a great support to me, as have all in the Leadership Team - Lisa Peplow, Rebeca Gernon, Kara Brizzi and Libby Morganti. I would also like to thank the administrative staff who ensure that the school runs smoothly and efficiently and the learning support officers who support your children in so many ways.

I would like to thank the parents, families and friends who do so much to support the school. I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by the School Advisory Council and all those who have worked in the canteen.

Finally, the people we are all here for, the children. The children at St. Paul's are friendly, welcoming and care for each other. We often receive feedback about how polite and well behaved the children are when they are out of the school on various activities. They have represented St. Paul's very well in so many ways this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Year Six students who are graduating this year. I wish them every success in the future. I would like to farewell all the families who are leaving St. Paul's and thank them for the contribution they have made to our school.

Mrs Jan Quinn has been on long service leave this year – she has made the decision to retire after 21 years at St Paul's – I thank her for her wonderful contribution to St Paul's in this time. I would also like to say 'thank you' and farewell to Miss Heidi Gebbo and Mr Alex Killender who will be leaving St Paul's at the end of the year. We also thank Ms Emily Dyos for all her work at St Paul's over the past 3 years. Emily is our school psychologist – she is leaving to work in a private practice. We wish Jan, Heidi, Alex and Emily all the best for the future.

As you are aware, Miss Melissa Dvorscak and her partner Michael are expecting their first child in January, and Mrs Nicole Azarnikow and her husband Andrew are expecting their third child in March next year. Melissa and Nicole will commence Maternity Leave next year. We wish them both all the best for the remainder of their pregnancy. Mrs Samantha Clarke will be commencing leave without pay next year – we look forward to welcoming her back to St Paul's in 2027.

I hope that over the next week as you prepare for Christmas, that you can take time to remember the most important thing about Christmas – Jesus was born. As we prepare for this special celebration, we hope all families will have a happy Christmas and a relaxing holiday break. We look forward to seeing you in 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Damian Casamento  
Principal

## **WEEK 4 OF ADVENT**

This Sunday we light the fourth Advent Candle - the third purple candle, which is the candle of Love.

This week we focus on Mary's open heart as she prepares to receive the gift of Emmanuel ~ God-with-us. We light the fourth candle as a sign of our faith in God's redeeming love. God's promised Messiah is coming. He brings good news for the poor and oppressed. He will bind up broken hearts. He will proclaim release to those who are held captive.

Please pray the following Advent prayer with your family:

*Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love - shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless us in our prayer. Help us to hear and do your word. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord. Amen*

## **DATES TO REMEMBER - 2026**

<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	Bookings for Learning Conversations close at 4pm
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	Learning Conversations 8.45am – 6.30pm (No school for students)
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	School Resumes Years 1 – 6 at 8.40am Preps Begin at 9.00am - conclude at 12.45pm. Before and After School Care will commence. Canteen opens for lunch orders.
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	Preps Begin at 9.00am - conclude at 12.45pm
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February:</b>	Preps begin at 8.40am – conclude at 3.00pm from now on – no school on Wednesdays until March 11 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February:</b>	Beginning of the Year Mass 10.00am St. Paul's Church (Please note that most school Masses will be commencing at 10.00am in 2026.)

## **SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2026**

The dates for the celebration of the Sacraments and the Family nights in 2026 are:

<b>Sacrament of Penance Family Night (Year 3)</b>	Tuesday, February 10 <sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm – St. Paul's School
<b>Sacrament of Penance (Year 3)</b>	Tuesday, February 24 <sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm – St. Paul's Church
<b>Sacrament of Eucharist Family Night (Year 3)</b>	Tuesday, April 28 <sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm - St. Paul's School
<b>Sacrament of Eucharist (Year 3)</b>	Friday, May 15 <sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm – St. Paul's Church

Please note that St Paul's School will not be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2026.

## **URGENT NOTICE – SCHOOL FEES FOR 2025 – URGENT NOTICE**

It is most important that outstanding school fees for 2025 are paid by 12.30pm **tomorrow**, Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December.

## **IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026**

The following dates are very important for **ALL** students who will be attending secondary school in 2028 – our current Year 4 students. If applications for Catholic Secondary School are not in by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2026 your child will not be enrolled in your school of choice.

**14<sup>th</sup> August 2026:** Applications close for 2028 Year 7 students in Catholic Secondary Colleges – our current Year 4 Students

**16<sup>th</sup> October 2026:** Offers posted to prospective 2028 Year 7 applicants

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2026:** Final date for families to accept offers made by the Secondary School

## **ADVENT LITURGIES**

Thanks to our Preps, JMA, MMA and SMA students for presenting reflections on the 4 weeks of Advent recently. The assemblies gave us an opportunity to think about the real message of Christmas.

## **YEAR 6 GRATUATION CEREMONY – COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

Thank you to Ms Lisa Peplow, Ms Claudia Capuano, Mrs Stephanie Garcia, Miss Heidi Gebbo and Ms Anna Stavropoulos for organising such a beautiful Graduation Mass last Tuesday. Thanks to all the families for their attendance and participating reverently in the celebration. Thanks also to all the staff for their attendance at the Mass and supporting our 2025 Graduates.

## **MIDDLE AND SENIOR CHOIR – THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!**

Thanks to our Middle and Senior Choir who represent St. Paul's so well and give up so much of their own time. They worked very hard during all the rehearsals and sang so beautifully at the school Masses and also at the Graduation Mass last week. Thanks to the parents/carers who have supported your child/ren to be in the choir.

Many thanks to Ms Michele Micallef and Ms Lynette Grixti for leading the choir. We are all very proud of the choir. Thanks to all of them for another great year - very well done!

## **PREP – 4 SWIMMING**

Thanks to Mr. Chris for his organisation of the swimming program and to all the Year Prep - Four teachers, the Leadership Team and the support staff, for their assistance with the swimming program. Thanks also to the family and friends who have assisted at the swimming pool. It was wonderful to see so many families and friends at the pool.

## LEARNING CONVERSATIONS (Parent Teacher Interviews)

Learning Conversations will be held on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 from 8.45am – 6.30pm – they will run for 15 minutes each. There will be no school for children on this day. A reminder note was sent home last Monday to show you how to go online and book your time. You can book your school interviews for the times that suit your family as bookings have opened. Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow the instructions. Simply enter the code **dveyh** and press "Go". Please ring the Office on 9363 1568 if you need help with online bookings. Thank you to the over 200 families who have already booked a time.

You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 at 4.00pm. You will be allocated a time after this date if you have not chosen a time.

All children from Years 1 – 6 will attend school on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 at 8.40am. Preps will also commence at 9.00am on January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The Preps will finish at 12.45pm on these days. From Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February they will commence full time and will start school at 8.40am and conclude at 3.00pm. However, there will be **no school for Prep students on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Please note that Before and After School Care will commence on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 and the canteen will open on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January.** CDFpay will be open from January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to order lunches online.

## 2026 STUDENT LEADERS

At today's End of Year Mass the Student Leaders for 2026 were announced.

Congratulations to the following students who will hold Leadership positions in 2026.

### SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Olivia Vu (SED)

Theodore Ha (SED)

### SCHOOL VICE CAPTAINS

Emma Vella (SED)

Alessandro Turchi (SED)

### BRIGIDINE HOUSE CAPTAINS

Yianna Apostilikas (SCK)

Justin Magro (SCK)

### MARIST HOUSE CAPTAINS

Sophie Charalambous (SED)

Raphael Montes (SCK)

### HARVESTER HOUSE CAPTAINS

Kiera Nguyen (SCK)

Gert Blanco (SRH)

### MARIN BALLUK HOUSE CAPTAINS

Kayla Tran (SCK)

Michael Tyner(SCK)



### SCHOOL'S APP "AUDIRI"

Please make sure you have the Audiri App installed into your phone. This app can be found via the Apple App Store or Google Play. Our school uses this app to regularly update the families with all important information and notices and the families can also communicate with the school during the holidays.



*Wishing you all  
a very happy, safe  
and holy festive  
season.*

*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.*

