



NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 4 – 8th August 2025

Principal's message



Dear St Paul's families,

At St Paul's, 'community' is everything. It is the living heart of our school, where shared faith, purpose, and support bind us together. This deep sense of belonging isn't just a nice idea; it is fundamental to who we are, echoing our Christian faith. As we move through Term 3, we are so grateful for this vibrant community, filled with glad and sincere hearts, coming together at school.

We see this beautifully reflected in the early Christian community, as described in Acts 2:42-47. They were devoted to teaching, fellowship, prayer, and caring for each other's needs, meeting with "glad and sincere hearts," united in purpose.

At St Paul's, we strive to live these Gospel values daily. Our classrooms are places where children learn collaboration and empathy, and our families partner with us, as we all 'walk together' in faith and learning.

We were delighted by the engagement of so many of our families in the recent **Toddle** information online session, which further strengthens these vital partnerships. Thank you for your partnership.

It is wonderful to acknowledge the success of our newly introduced **Spirit Points** system! We are already seeing a fantastic impact, with students actively demonstrating and being rewarded for positive behaviours linked to our 3 Bs (Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible) and Making Jesus Real (MJR) values. This system is proving to be an encouraging and effective way to celebrate and reinforce the great choices our students make every day. The students love the opportunity to place a token or two of their house colour in the house coloured cylinders!

Last week, we were also delighted to welcome **Spinifex Media** to capture compelling footage of our amazing school for marketing purposes. This video content will highlight our vibrant learning environments, showcase our engaged students in action, and feature our dedicated staff, helping us share the unique St Paul's difference with a wider audience and prospective families through various digital platforms.

Enrolments for 2026 have already opened. Please help us spread the word and contact the office if you have, or know of, a child who would like to join our school in any year level.

Principal's message

As a staff have been looking closely at our **attendance data** here at St. Paul's, and we have noticed some instances of low attendance. This observation highlights the need for us all to work together to ensure every child is present and engaged in their learning journey as much as possible. **We ask families to ensure their child is attending school unless they are sick.** We are committed to supporting all our students to achieve their best, and consistent attendance is a key factor in this.

Regular school attendance is fundamental to your child's success, not just academically, but also socially and emotionally.

- **Academic Progress:** Each school day builds upon the last. When a child misses school, they miss crucial instruction, class discussions, and hands-on learning activities. Even a single missed day can create gaps in their understanding, making it harder to grasp new concepts and keep pace with their classmates. Over time, these small gaps can accumulate, significantly impacting their foundational skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. Research consistently shows a strong link between regular attendance and higher academic achievement.
- **Social and Emotional Development:** School is a vital place for children to develop essential social skills. Daily interactions with peers and teachers help them build friendships, learn teamwork, practice communication, and develop empathy. Being present fosters a sense of belonging and connection to the school community, which is crucial for their overall well-being and confidence.
- **Building Routines and Responsibility:** Consistent attendance helps children establish important routines, punctuality, and a strong work ethic. These are invaluable life skills that will benefit them throughout their schooling and well into their future careers. It teaches them the importance of commitment and responsibility.
- **Future Opportunities:** The habits and knowledge gained through regular school attendance lay a strong foundation for future success. Students with consistent attendance are more likely to complete their education, pursue higher learning, and have broader career opportunities.
- **Legal Obligation:** It is also important to remember that consistent school attendance is a legal requirement.

As we continue our journey through Term 3, we look forward to all that we will achieve together. Thank you for being such an integral part of the St Paul's family, as we truly walk together in faith and learning.

Jo Knight

Principal

St. Paul's Catholic Primary School

Deputy Principal's message



Bullying No Way: National week of action

The theme for 2025 is 'Be bold. Be kind. Speak up.'

It takes courage to spark change.

Bullying is everyone's responsibility. It takes a community to be brave and address bullying behaviours, within and beyond the school gate.

Students can be bold, kind and take a stand to support others being bullied. While parents and teachers are there to support children and young people learn how to behave in a positive way.

In our community and in our school, we want a place where everyone can belong, a place that celebrates everyone, and where bullying is never accepted.

This Bullying No Way Week, we're asking students, schools, families and communities to be bold and say something, be kind and support someone, and be proud to take a stand against bullying.

To celebrate **No Way Week**, our school is creating a special Speech Bubble Wall with the message: "**Be bold, be kind, speak up.**"

This wall will be a place where every student can share their voice. We want to fill it with their ideas on what it means to be a good friend, how to show kindness, and why speaking up is so important. Their words will create a powerful message, reminding us all that we can make our school a safer and more welcoming place for everyone.

Our Commitment to a Bully-Free Community

In recognition of Bullying No Way Week, St. Paul's is releasing our comprehensive Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan. We are also providing a new flowchart specifically for parents, titled "Responding to Bullying at St. Paul's," to guide you through the process if you have concerns.

You'll find both of these important documents available for your review on Toddle.

Mandy Cook
Acting Deputy
Principal

Be Bold. Be Kind.
Speak Up.

BULLYING NO WAY



RESPONSE TO BULLYING AT ST PAUL'S

1

REPORT

Bullying can be reported by students or caregivers at any time to a member of staff verbally or in writing. The report will be acknowledged within 1 school day.

2

RECORD

Staff member records the incident on QR code and informs a member of the Leadership Team.

3

INVESTIGATE

A member of the Leadership Team will investigate the incident within 1-2 school days.

4

ACTION

Leadership Team discusses and implements appropriate actions, that may include restorative conversations, mediation, discipline and support.

5

COMMUNICATION

Open communication is maintained with parents/caregivers throughout the process. All communication is recorded on Toddle.

NO BULLYING



WHEN SOMEONE SAYS OR DOES SOMETHING HURTFUL
ONCE, BUT THEY DID NOT MEAN TO HURT YOU, THAT'S
RUDE

WHEN SOMEONE SAYS OR DOES SOMETHING HURTFUL ONCE,
AND THEY MEANT TO HURT YOU THAT'S
MEAN

WHEN SOMEONE SAYS OR DOES SOMETHING HURTFUL AND THEY KEEP
DOING IT- EVEN WHEN YOU TELL THEM TO STOP OR SHOW THEM THAT
YOU'RE UPSET- THAT'S
BULLYING



We will be celebrating the Feast of the Assumption of Mary with a special school Mass on Friday 15th August at 8:30am in the church. This beautiful celebration will be led by Room 9, and all families and members of our school community are warmly invited to join us.

We look forward to coming together in prayer and reflection on this important feast day.



MJR FOCUS



Growth Moments

When we look in the mirror each day to comb our hair we think we look the same. We don't notice the difference in us until we look at photos taken when we were 3-5 years old and then we notice how much we've grown. The same with subjects at school- only when we review how much we've improved in reading, maths, writing and other subjects. Since we have started, do we realise how far we have come?

'Growth Moments' are moments when you go against yourself and grow a little. Jesus Grew Up Like Us.

When Jesus was a child, the Bible says in Luke 2:52:

"Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and people."

That means He got smarter, grew taller, and became kinder and more loving to others.

Our fortnightly MJR focus is: Growth Moments.

This fortnight, we have been focusing on the value of Growth Moments. At school, we talk a lot about growing — not just getting taller, but growing in our hearts and minds too! A growth moment is when we learn something new about ourselves or others that helps us become kinder, braver, or more responsible. It might be:

- Trying something new, even when it feels scary
- Saying sorry and making things right
- Helping a friend without being asked
- Learning from a mistake and giving it another go

These moments help us become the best we can be — one small step at a time!

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SENIORS MONTH

29th
August
2025

The St Paul's Mini Vinnies Action group would like to invite all seniors to a shared morning tea in our school's library 9:30-10:30am



Companionship and Social Engagement



Building culture and Sharing Stories

In the Northern Territory, Seniors Month is celebrated throughout August each year to recognize the contributions of older people to the community. It's a time to promote healthy lifestyles, encourage participation in new activities, and foster connections within the community.



Please register your interest to attending this wonderful event by adding your name to the sheet out the front of the Church

Mini Vinnies Seniors Month Morning Tea

To celebrate Seniors Month, our Mini Vinnies group will be hosting a special Morning Tea for the seniors in our community on Friday 29th August in the school ILC. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to show appreciation and kindness to the older members of our community.

All seniors are warmly welcome. To help us cater for the event, we kindly ask families to register any attending seniors via the Operoo app. We look forward to sharing this joyful morning together!



NAIDOC WEEK

Following our special NAIDOC Week assembly, students gathered in their faith groups to continue learning about the importance of NAIDOC Week. Through engaging and hands-on activities, students explored the rich history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It was a meaningful way to deepen their understanding and show respect for the oldest continuing culture in the world.





NAPLAN Results

NAPLAN results for students in Years 3 and 5 have been sent home this week. These individual reports provide an insight into your child's progress in literacy and numeracy compared to national benchmarks.

Australian Mathematics Competition

On Tuesday August 5th, 51 students from Years 3 to 6 took part in the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC), the largest and longest running maths competition for school students in the country. The AMC challenged students with a variety of engaging and thought-provoking problems, designed to test their mathematical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Our students approached the challenge with enthusiasm, persistence, and a positive mindset. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to extend their learning and apply their skills in new and exciting ways.

Congratulations to all participants for their hard work and dedication - we are proud of your efforts!

Sally Rippin Excursion

On Friday August 1st, the Grade 1 and 2 students travelled to Essington Primary School for an author talk with Sally Rippin, one of Australia's highest-selling female authors. She has written over 100 books for children and young adults, many of them award-winning, including the Billie B Brown and Hey Jack! series. As the current Australian Children's Laureate (2024-2025), Sally is travelling around the country to chat about the ways we can share stories and support all children to read.



Curriculum

Jo Hook
Curriculum Coordinator

Interschool Basketball Gala Day

Congratulations to our amazing Year 5 and 6 students who proudly represented St Paul's at the Interschool Basketball Gala Day on Wednesday, July 30th. We were thrilled to enter two teams in the competition, and we're especially proud of our girls team, who finished 2nd in their group!

Throughout the day, players demonstrated fantastic teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship. Well done to everyone involved for their enthusiasm, effort, and the way they represented our school with pride.



2025 NAPLAN

Individual student report

Information for parents and carers



NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment undertaken by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It is the only national assessment that all Australian children undertake. Literacy and numeracy skills are the critical foundation for all learning and for the ability to participate effectively in society. NAPLAN questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum in English and Mathematics. NAPLAN tests are only one aspect of each school's assessment and reporting process. As they are held once every 2 years for each student, they cannot replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance. Your child's teacher will have the best insight into your child's educational progress. Along with other school assessment reports, NAPLAN individual student reports can be used to discuss your child's progress with their teacher.

How does NAPLAN assess students?

NAPLAN tests are delivered online to schools across Australia in March each year. Online assessment presents questions tailored to an individual student's responses, delivering more precise results and a more engaging test experience for students.

Questions in NAPLAN are based mostly on the literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills students have learnt from previous years of schooling. A few questions assess additional content from the year of testing and the following year. These questions have been designed so that they can be answered using strategies students have learnt in previous years. This ensures students of all abilities can show their capabilities.

Detailed information on the knowledge and skills being measured in NAPLAN is available at www.nap.edu.au.

Proficiency standards

Since 2023, NAPLAN results have been reported against proficiency standards that provide clear information on student achievement. The standards are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected for the student at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly on what has been taught in previous years of schooling.

The proficiency standards include 4 proficiency levels:

- **Exceeding:** The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- **Strong:** The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- **Developing:** The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
- **Needs additional support:** The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

What NAPLAN assesses has not changed. Page 4 of the individual student report provides a more detailed summary about what students know and can do within each of the proficiency levels. Further information is available at www.nap.edu.au.

How were the proficiency levels determined?

Panels of expert teachers identified the levels of proficiency against learning expectations for each assessment area and year level. Parent and carer input on student reports was also provided through focus groups and national parent organisations.

Reading the NAPLAN report

The NAPLAN report shows a proficiency scale for each assessment area (numeracy, reading, writing, spelling and grammar and punctuation) with a student's result shown as a black dot on the scale.

The report shows each child's achievement against the national average for their year (shown as a black triangle) and the range of achievement for the middle 60% of students in their year level (shown as a light shaded rectangle).

NAPLAN is a valuable tool that can give useful insights into a student's performance, but individual reports should be interpreted with care as they reflect the student's performance on the day of testing, rather than being a definitive measure of their overall learning.

What if my child's report says they took their test on paper?

While NAPLAN is an online test, there are a small number of circumstances where students may complete tests on paper. These include when:

- schools use a recognised alternative curriculum
- students require paper tests for accessibility reasons
- issues during testing require paper tests to be used as a contingency measure.

Year 3 students always complete their writing test on paper.

Can I compare my child's performance to previous NAPLAN reports?

Results from 2023 onwards cannot be directly compared with results from 2008 to 2022. This is because a new measurement scale that is more suited to the online tests was introduced with the new standards, and because the tests were moved from Term 2 to Term 1.

However, in 2025 students in Years 5, 7 and 9 were the first to complete 2 cycles of NAPLAN under the new reporting arrangement. This means that parents and carers can use the individual student reports they received in 2023 and 2025 to compare their child's proficiency levels.

A student's results compared to the national average and middle 60% of students can also be compared across 2023 and 2025.

As students move through the NAPLAN years, the skills and understanding required to achieve each proficiency level increase in difficulty. A student who achieves the same proficiency level in successive years, such as Year 3 and Year 5, may still be making progress.

How does NAPLAN help my child?

NAPLAN allows parents and carers to see how their child has performed in literacy and numeracy against national standards. Your child's achievement can be compared to the national average of all students in the same year and against the proficiency levels.

Results can help parents, carers and students to discuss individual student progress with teachers.

What impact will the results have on my child's future?

NAPLAN results provide important information about literacy and numeracy skills that your child is learning through their school curriculum. The results complement other assessments your child does at school, providing you and your child's teachers with an understanding of your child's achievements at the time of the tests. The information can be used to support your child to reach their full potential.

Some schools may ask for NAPLAN reports, in addition to school reports, as part of their admissions process. NAPLAN is not designed to be a school admission test. However, results may be useful for informing a new school of a student's learning needs.

How does NAPLAN help my child's school?

NAPLAN is the only national assessment that all Australian children undertake. It helps:

- teachers to better identify students who need greater challenges or extra support
- schools to identify strengths and areas of need in teaching programs
- schools to set goals in literacy and numeracy
- school systems to review programs and support offered to schools.

NAPLAN also provides nationally comparable data to help governments evaluate how education programs are working and whether students are meeting important literacy and numeracy standards.

Who else will see the results?

Each year, test administration authorities provide schools with results for all students who sit NAPLAN. Schools are encouraged to use the results to inform their planning for improvement across the school.

Individual student reports are confidential. No-one but your local test administration authority and staff at your child's school will see your child's report.

Average school results are publicly reported on My School at www.myschool.edu.au. The website will be updated with each year's results towards the end of the year. Your child's individual results are not available on My School.

BOOK AN *Adventure*



Children's Book Week

16–23 August
2025



ANNUAL BOOK FAIR IN ILC
ST PAUL'S BOOK WEEK PARADE
FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST 8:20 AM



NCCD

The National Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) has now been finalised for this year. This important process involves gathering evidence of the adjustments and supports in place for students with diverse learning needs. The information collected helps ensure that the right resources and supports remain available to meet the needs of our students. Adjustments may take many forms and are tailored to meet individual student needs. These can include literacy intervention, morning movement routines, access to sensory spaces such as the Engine Room and Calm Room, sensory breaks, and support from Inclusion Support Assistants (ISAs). They might also involve modified learning tasks, small group or 1:1 support, and the use of specific tools or resources.

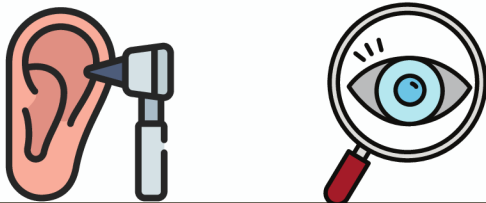
EAP Meetings

In Week 8, there will be an opportunity for families who have a child with an Educational Adjustment Plan (EAP) to come in and discuss your child's goals with the classroom teacher, Inclusion Support Coordinator and Inclusion Support Assistant. Meetings will be held on Tuesday the 2nd, Wednesday the 3rd and Thursday the 4th of September. For some families, this will be a familiar process and a continuation of previous planning and review. For others, this may be your first time attending an EAP meeting. Meetings will be scheduled for 30 minutes each. A booking link will be sent out via Operoo next week. EAP documents will be sent to you in advance to allow time for review prior to your scheduled meeting.

Vision and Hearing

Ensuring your child's vision and hearing are in top shape is essential for their overall development and success in school. As vision and hearing are the primary senses through which we learn, early detection of vision and hearing issues can prevent learning difficulties and social challenges. Regular checks can catch problems early, allowing for timely interventions that support your child's academic performance and well-being. Healthy vision and hearing are crucial for effective communication, reading, and interacting with their environment.

Please see below places you are able to get your child's vision and hearing tested:



N.T. Hearing Services (no cost)	Department of Health and Community Services	Casuarina Plaza (08) 89227110
Australian Hearing	Automated telephone hearing check available	131791
Arafura Audiology Private: (Cost involved)	Hearing AssessmentsCentral Auditory Processing Assessments	Suit 6, Level 1 Northgate Plaza 101 Mitchell St. Darwin
School Health Surveillance Team	Routine basic health screening provided for all Transition students	(08) 89227301

The Optical Superstore	44 Casuarina Dr Casuarina (08) 8945 7211
OPSM	Casuarina Square 247 Trower Road Casuarina (08)8927 9377
Colin Rubin Optometrist	21 Cavenagh Street Darwin (08) 8981 5330
OPSM	Shop 6/39, The Smith St Mall Smith St Darwin (08) 8941 1577
Eyewise Optometrists	4/20 Knuckey Street Darwin (08) 8981 0755
Laubman & Pank	6/39 The Mall Darwin (08) 8941 1577
Tropic Optics	8/159 Dick Ward Dr Nightcliff (08) 8948 1796
Specsavers	Vanderlin Drive, Shop 20 Hibiscus Shoppingtown Leanyer (08) 8927 5139

2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers

Darwin, NT



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to register



This workshop is for parents, full time carers and grandparents.



Wednesday & Thursday
13 & 14 August, 2025
9:30am - 2:30pm



Novotel Darwin Airport
2 Sir Norman Brearley Drive
MARRARA NT 0812

Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided



During the workshop you will learn about:

- The diversity of autism
- Sensory processing
- Understanding behaviour
- Working together with your child's school.

Learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

For more information or to register visit:

 <https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/PC>

 jcousins@positivepartnerships.com.au



0473 004 024

Week 3 Academic Awards



Week 3 MJR Awards





WHAT'S HAPPENING TERM 3 2025

WEEK 5 - AUGUST 11TH

Bullying No Way Week
Science Week

Friday - Questacon Science Incursion

Friday - Assumption of Mary Mass Led by Room 9

WEEK 8 - SEPTEMBER 1ST

Wednesday - AFL Gala Day, Invitation Only
Friday - Father's Day Liturgy Led by Room 4
Friday - Father's Day Stall _ Held by P&F
Friday - Transition & ½ School Retreat Day

WEEK 6 - AUGUST 18TH

Book Week Fair

Friday - Whole School Book Week Parade

WEEK 9 - SEPTEMBER 8TH

Child Protection Week

Thursday - RUOK? Day

Thursday - T-2 Excursion Territory Wildlife Park

Friday - Assembly Room 1

Friday - Year 6 Public Speaking Competition.

WEEK 7 - AUGUST 25TH

Tuesday & Wednesday - 3 Way interviews Watch Toddle for bookings

Friday - Assembly Room 8

Friday - Mini Vinnies Seniors Morning Tea see Operoo

Sunday - Children's Mass 8:30am

WEEK 10- SEPTEMBER 15TH

Friday - Grandparents Liturgy led by ELC

Friday - Footy & Fairies Day

Friday - Last Day of Term 3.

School Holidays

Monday 22nd September
to Friday 3rd October

Please note that dates and events can change

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY
23RD OCTOBER
2025



Community Notices

Quiz Night

Raising funds to help send NT students to Sydney for the International Finals of Tournament of Minds (TOM)



Tournament of Minds

An international educational program 'challenging the world' to develop creative problem solving skills

Saturday 9th August, 2025

6pm for a 7pm start

Tracy Village Social & Sports Club

Tables of 6
Entry Fee - \$15
per person

Bring along
some Gold
Coins for
added fun

Get ready for some fun games and Raffles as well

For further information or to pre-purchase tickets:

email nt-director@tom.edu.au

REGISTRATIONS OPEN 2025/26 NTFL SEASON



20% DISCOUNT FOR FAMILY
MEMBERS REGISTERING AT
THE SAME TIME



- Juniors
- Seniors
- Volunteers

SPORTS VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED

LEGATO ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE 2025

ORCHESTRAL ODYSSEYS:

~ MUSICAL JOURNEYS ~

29th September to 1st October
Academy of Arts - Charles Darwin University

For musicians aged between 10 and 18 years who play an orchestral instrument including piano and saxophone.

Registrations due 26th September • Early bird prices from 1st to 30th June.

trybooking.com/CWCVR
contact legatodarwin@gmail.com

