Dear St Paul’s Community,

BE SAFE, BE RESPONSIBLE BE RESPECTFUL

This week we started our Easter preparation with our Ash Wednesday Liturgy lead by Miss Brittney’s class. Many of our classes prepared pancakes on the Tuesday. Lent, the Catholic Season before Easter involves Almsgiving, Prayer and Fasting. The Tuesday is the last day before the fasting begins and traditionally cooking pancakes is a way of using up the rich foods of eggs, milk and sugar.

On Ash Wednesday, Catholics have a cross marked on our foreheads with the ashes from the palms used during the previous year’s Easter Celebration. There have been various uses of ashes as a symbol for being sorry and grief throughout history over many centuries.

I have been overwhelmed this week as to how many parents wish to be involved in our School Board. I have never been in a school where we have had to hold elections before. It is great to have so much parent engagement in the school. Parents and Friends are also looking for parents to get involved this year. It is a great way to support the school and meet other families.

Some things to draw to your attention:

♦ Fire Drill: Last week we had our first fire drill. With so many new students in the school at the start of the year, it is important that students know what to do in an emergency.

♦ Building Update: Work has started on our new Music Area. Temporary fencing has now been placed around the area and the workers have begun. Asbestos has been removed on the weekend when the students are not at school. We expect this work to take several weeks and hope to be using the area by Term 2.

♦ School Crossing: We ask that all families use the school crossing in the mornings and afternoons. We ask this so that student’s automatic response is to use the crossing, rather than cross at a corner. Children will also walk out onto a road without thinking, especially younger children. Drivers look at school crossings to check for children as that is where they are expecting them to cross. We do not want any unnecessary accidents.

♦ Bombing Of Darwin Ceremony:

♦ On Thursday February 19 our School Captains together with some of our Year 6 students will be attending this ceremony with Mr V. This takes place at the Cenotaph at 9:30am. Families are welcome to attend.

♦ Netball Cluster Day: Friday February 20

♦ Clean Up Australia Day February 27: All students will be taking part in this event. Each class will be designated an area of our school which they will be responsible for cleaning up.

♦ Goal Setting Interviews: March 3rd and 4th are the days for Student Goal Setting interviews. These run between 1pm to 6:00. Students and parents attend the interview together and discuss their learning goals for the year. Bookings will be made online through our booking service. See end of this Newsletter for instructions. Bookings open tomorrow 9am.
Parents and the Home Environment they create are the single most important factor in shaping their children’s achievements and prospects. Research has shown that in order to raise achievement, parents need to be both involved in schools and engaged in learning (Harris and Goodall; 2007)

Connecting Learning at Home and School Requires.
- Teachers and parents having an understanding that children 'learn everywhere' and there are important overlaps between home, school and the community
- Teachers and parents understanding the benefits that come from effective partnerships - for children’s learning and outcomes and for parents and teachers themselves
- Schools providing opportunities, sometimes in partnership with others, for parental self-growth, adult learning and development of new skills to support children's learning at home
- Families being informed about and understanding their child’s progress and feeling confident to work with teachers in the educational decision-making affecting their child
- Schools acknowledging, valuing and supporting the home learning that children bring to school


This Sunday at the children’s mass at 8.30am there will be a special blessing for the reconciliation participants. We look forward to seeing you all there.
## Term 1 Calendar, 2015

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- **Week 4, February**: 16 February - Shrove Tuesday, 17 February - Ash Wednesday Liturgy ILC 10am, 18 February - Bombing of Darwin Anniversary, 19 February - Netball Cluster Day, 20 February - 2nd Reconciliation Meeting, 21 February - AFL Cluster Day

- **Week 5, February**: 22 February - 1st Sunday Lent, 23 February - 2nd Reconciliation Meeting, 24 February - 2nd Reconciliation Meeting, 25 February - 2nd Reconciliation Meeting, 26 February - 2nd Reconciliation Meeting, 27 February - 2nd Reconciliation Meeting

- **Week 6, March**: 2 March - 2nd Sunday Lent, 3 March - 3-5.30pm Student/Parent Goal Setting Sessions, 4 March - 3-5.30pm Student/Parent Goal Setting Sessions, 5 March - 3-5.30pm Student/Parent Goal Setting Sessions

- **Week 7, March**: 6 March - 3rd Sunday Lent, 9 March - Swimming Program, 10 March - 7pm School Board Meeting, 11 March - 7pm School Board Meeting, 12 March - 7pm School Board Meeting, 13 March - Swimming Carnival

- **Week 8, March**: 14 March - 4th Sunday Lent, 17 March - St Patrick’s Day, 18 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass, 19 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass, 20 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass, 21 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass

- **Week 9, March**: 22 March - 5th Sunday Lent, 25 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass, 26 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass, 27 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass, 28 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass, 29 March - 7pm Reconciliation Mass

- **Week 10, March/April**: 30 March - Palm Sunday Liturgy ILC, 31 March - 10am Palm Sunday Liturgy ILC, 1 April - End of Term 1, 2 April - End of Term 1, 3 April - End of Term 1, 4 April - End of Term 1
Sports News

NETBALL
The Netball Cluster day is this Friday, parent helpers are welcome. Students are to be at the Marrara courts by 8.30am, the event concludes at 2pm. Students will wear their sports uniform, and bring a hat, food and water bottle. Ice cups and water are available for purchase on the day.

TENNIS NOTES
We have had a wonderful response to the Tennis Hotshots registrations. Thank you to the many families who have returned their Tennis Note. I will advise families when the shirts and racquets for Transitions are being delivered, however this may take several months.

CLUSTER DAYS
Students are allowed to participate in three Cluster Days throughout the year. Most Cluster events are for students in years 4-6. Occasionally sports will include year 3 children. Cricket has been added to the School Sport Calendar, and depending on numbers of schools involved, St Paul’s may send teams to this event also.

CLUSTER TRIAL DATES
Cluster Trials are run after Cluster Day events to allow selection of students to represent their sport at the next level – the Darwin Region. Cluster Trials can be attended by students who went to the school cluster day event, or if a school was not involved in a cluster sport students are still able to go along to trials.

The trials are run over three afternoons, from 3.30-5.00pm, at different venues, and students must attend two of the three sessions in order to be considered for selection.

Many students from St Paul’s last year went to the Darwin Region events and some then represented the Northern Territory in a particular sport. Trial information will be distributed to students and listed in the newsletter. There are costs involved depending where the sport is being played.

TERM 1 DATES
Week 4 – NETBALL – Friday 20th Feb
Week 5 – AFL – Friday 27th Feb
Week 7 – CRICKET – Friday 13th Mar
Week 9 – BASKETBALL – Friday 27th Mar

TERM 1 SPORTS CALENDAR
Wk.4 – NETBALL CLUSTER DAY
Friday 20/3/15
Netball trials: M on 23, Tue 24, Wed 25 Feb

Wk.5 – AFL CLUSTER DAY
Friday 27/2/15
AFL trials: M on 2, Tue 3, Wed 4 Mar

Wk.7 – Swimming Program (M on-Thu) CRICKET CLUSTER DAY *
Cricket trials: Mon 23, Tue 24, Wed 25 Mar

Wk.9 – BASKETBALL CLUSTER DAY
Friday 20th Mar
Basketball trials: Fri 27, Mon 30, Tue 31 Mar

*Please Note – Although the Cricket Cluster Day is being held in Week 7 of Term 1, the Cricket Trials are not until Term 3!

Sports Voucher
Sports Vouchers are available for collection from the school office. If you have not collected your voucher please call in.
Darwin Dragons Rugby Union Club

JUNIORS SIGN-ON DAY
Thursday 19 February 2015 from - 5.15pm
U7’s through to U17’s
Training Nights - Tuesdays & Thursdays
Juniors 5.15pm & Seniors 6.15pm
Rugby Park (Field 1) - 71 Abala Road
Mararra

For further information contact:-
Email: darwindragonsrugby@hotmail.com
Phone: President - Puru Westrupp on 0450 500 568

AWOF Sports Hot Shots Tennis Program

AWOF runs tennis lessons after school at AWOF in Coconut Grove (Monday-Friday) and Nightcliff Primary School (Friday and Saturday). Begins 13/2/15.
These are for children of all abilities age 3 and up.

Price: $150 for 10 lessons.
- Red Ball - Ages 3-5
- Orange Ball - Ages 5-8
- Green Ball - Ages 9-11
- Yellow Ball - Ages

NT Government Sports Vouchers Accepted!

Check out our website: www.awof.com.au
For any enquiries or to enrol, call the centre on 8985 2844.
Or email: info@awof.com.au

3/4 Family Picnic

Come along and get to know the other students and families in 3/4.

When: Friday 20th February (End of Week 4)
Where: Sunset Park, Nightcliff (Near the Jetty)
Time: 5.30pm-7.30pm
BYO:
- A picnic dinner
- Chairs or a picnic rug
- A ball or game to play,
Have you thought about Cycling?

On Friday nights at the McMillan’s Road Velodrome an awesome bike skills session takes place for athletes of all ages. Just bring your bike, helmet, covered in shoes and water bottle. The session can be done on any bike but the best for this time of year is a MTB or BMS bike. The session runs even when it’s raining, so bring spare clothes and a towel.

Time: 6-7/7.15pm  
Cost: $2 for the lighting

For more info contact Tim Ellison on 0437 602 346

Tuesday night track cycling training. Anyone interested in racing track bikes – Darwin Cycling Club is for you.

We have track bikes to borrow so you don’t have to buy one straight away. You could be the next Anna Meares or Jack Bobridge riding for Australia – you never know!

Junior Session – 5-5.45pm for junior cyclists aged 7-12 or novice juniors of all ages. It is based on developing basic bike skills and building confidence. If your child is new to this session please turn up at 4.30pm to have a bike allocated. After 4.40 trainers are busy preparing for the session.

Senior Session – 5.45-7.15pm. This session is for riders that can sit comfortably in a pace line behind the motor bike.

Please come early to get bikes out of the shed, tyres pumped up etc so the
A Message from St Paul’s Parents and Friends Committee (P & F)

A big welcome back to the new school year and a special welcome to all the new families joining the St Paul’s School community. The St Paul’s P & F organise and hold many fund-raising activities throughout the school year to assist in improving, developing and maintaining facilities and resources of St Paul’s School.

The first fund-raising event of the year is the school disco/family night. This is a great night to get to know other families and be involved in the school community. This year the disco will be held on

**Friday March 6th from 6pm to 8.30pm.**

Traditionally the students and families in year 5/6 are asked to help host the school disco by donating water and cans of soft drink. We also ask the parents to help out on the night with set-up, serving and clean-up. A roster of duties will be sent home with year 5/6 students for parents to fill in where they can help.

The Parents and Friends Committee will also hold the AGM on the night in the ILC building at 7.30pm. All parents are welcome to come along and join or register interest in helping out with an event/events. We thank you in advance for your assistance in helping to enrich the lives of our children.

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**Cyclone Season**

As we are in the cyclone season in the Top End, families are reminded of our school procedures in the event of a cyclone. School closures are announced by the Department of Education and are broadcast to the public on the local radio stations. In the event that government schools are closed, Catholic schools will also be closed. Please listen to the radio or TV for updates in relation to school closures and re-opening. We will endeavour to keep families informed via our school website but this will be dependent on the availability of power and personnel.
You are invited to the
St Paul’s Catholic Primary School and Parish
First Annual Harmony Day Dinner

March 21
After 6 P.M. Mass (Around 6:45) in the school.

Where: St Paul’s Catholic Primary School
Cnr Trower Rd and Francis St Nightcliff

RSVP: 13th March 2015
Return form or email
admin.stpauls@nt.catholic.edu.au

What to Bring:
Donation: $2 per person to cover costs
Something to share for the meal
(all food will be put on a central table for everyone to share.)
Drinks — alcohol permitted

Return Slip

I/We will be attending the Harmony Day Dinner  Name ________________

How many people? __________

I/We are bringing a main/dessert – please circle one

I can help with set up of tables at 3pm Yes/No

I am interested in providing some sort of cultural entertainment – Yes/no (dance/song/act)
Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student Goal Setting will be Tues 3rd and Wednesday 4th March. Bookings open Thursday 19th February and must be finalised before the 2nd March at 11.00am, when bookings for this event will close.

For parents that do not have internet access – parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 88651911. Interviews are strictly 15 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Go to www.schoollnterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"

1. Enter your details

2. Select the teachers you wish to see

3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly

You can return to www.schoollnterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews – until the bookings close on 2nd March 2015 at 11am.

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoollnterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 88651911