

TERM 1

WEEK 1: Thursday 30th January, 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 7 th February:	Beginning of the Year Mass 10.00am St. Paul's Church
Thursday 13 th February:	Sacrament of Reconciliation Family Night - 6.30pm St. Paul's School
Friday 14 th February:	First Assembly for 2025 – Presentation of SRC for 2025 – 2.30pm
Wednesday 19 th February:	School Closure Day – No School for Students
Thursday 20 th February:	2026 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Friday 21 st February:	School Assembly MGR – 2.30pm
Wednesday 26 th February:	2026 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Wednesday 26 th February:	Sacrament of Penance 6.30pm St. Paul's Church – Year 3 Students
Friday 28 th February:	Class Prayer Service JRB, JEF & JSM – 10.00am, School Assembly SAS – 2.30pm
Tuesday 4 th March:	2026 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Wednesday 5 th March:	Ash Wednesday Mass 10.00am St. Paul's Church
Friday 7 th March:	No Assembly
Monday 10 th March:	Labour Day Public Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 11 th March:	2026 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 9.15am
Wednesday 12 th March:	Preps Attend School today and all future Wednesdays
March 12 th – 24 th :	NAPLAN
Friday 14 th March:	Class Prayer Service JTH, JCL & JKL – 10.00am, School Assembly JSM – 2.30pm
Monday 17 th March:	2026 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 1.30pm
Friday 21 st March:	No Assembly
Monday 24 th March:	2026 Prep Information Session – St. Paul's School, 1.30pm
Thursday 27 th March:	Sacrament of Eucharist Family Night - 6.30pm St. Paul's School – Year 3 Students
Friday 28 th March:	Class Reconciliation MEM, MLD & MAM – 10.00am, School Assembly JEF – 2.30pm
Friday 4 th April:	Easter Assembly 12.00pm, End of Term I – 1.00pm Children can wear plain clothes
Tuesday 22 nd April:	Term II Commences at 8.40am
Wednesday 23 rd April:	School Photos – More information to follow

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the 2025 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. Yesterday we celebrated the Lunar New Year – it is the Year of the Snake. We wish all those who celebrate the Lunar New Year all the best for the year ahead.

Every year is a very busy year – 2025 will be no different. We have school camps, plenty of excursions and whole school celebrations. In particular we have our School Production 'Shrek Jr' at the end of term 3. The dates of the production are September 16th, 17th and 18th. As mentioned in the letter that went out during the holidays, there will be no school for children on Wednesday 19th February as staff will be participating in professional learning on Literacy.

In 2025 we welcome to St. Paul's from maternity leave Mrs Nicole Azarnikow. I know Nicole will be warmly welcomed by everyone in the St. Paul's School Community.

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 Diana Nguyen 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 2025.

Yours sincerely,
Damian Casamento
PRINCIPAL

The class groupings, teachers and staff for 2025 are set out below:

Year Prep

Mrs Michelle Favero and Mrs Nicole Azarnikow (**PMF**)

Mr Matthew Kowalczyk (**PMK**)

Miss Eanya Tone (**PET**)

JMA

Year 1

Mrs Teagan Hocking (**JTH**)

Miss Kathy Ly (**JKL**)

Mrs Michelle Casamento and Mr Luke Nulty (**JCL**)

Year 2

Miss Emma Finnegan (**JEF**)

Miss Rachael Barr (**JRB**)

Miss Sarah Mercieca (**JSM**)

MMA

Year 3

Miss Ellen McKitterick (**MEM**)

Mrs Linda Della-Vedova and Miss Lisa Peplow (**MLD**)

Miss Amanda Mach (**MAM**)

Year 4

Ms Amanda Rowe (**MAR**)

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

Miss Vivienne Nguyen (**MVN**)

SMA

Year 5

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

Mr Alexander Killender (**SAK**)

Miss Kayla Lacey (**SKL**)

Year 6

Ms Claudia Capuano and Mrs Stephanie Garcia (**SCC**)

Ms Anna Stavropoulos (**SAS**)

Miss Heidi Gebbo (**SHG**)

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

Mrs Claudia Razi

Ms Claudia Capuano

Mrs Ha-Anh Nguyen, Mrs Stephanie Garcia, Mr Luke Nulty

Mrs Nicole Azarnikow, Mrs Kylie Ponce Rios

Mr Chris Bye

Mrs Samantha Karipoglou

Ms Michele Micallef, Ms Laura Cook, Mrs Kylie Ponce Rio

Mrs Amanda Gallus

Ms Lynette Grixti

Mrs Santi Sherry

Mr Joshua Turner

Mr Adam Fazekas

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Ms Kerry Westgarth

Ms Trish Morris

Miss Diana Nguyen

Mrs Helen Diomides

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN

VIETNAMESE INTERPRETERS

BURMESE INTERPRETER

WELLBEING SUPPORT

SCHOOL NURSE

KOORIE EDUCATION WORKER

Mrs Karen Martin

Miss Diana Nguyen

Ms Lan Nguyen

Mrs Ngunsang Laithang

Ms Narelle Mullenger

Mrs Lea Noad

Mrs Ashlea Niemi

LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICERS

Mrs Jan Quinn (Terms 3 and 4) Miss Nadia Juzva

Mrs Nancy Sacco Mr Vaughn Steward

Ms Louise Sposato Ms Blerina Cakeri

Mrs Monica McIntyre Mrs Dianna Grillo

Mrs Elizabeth Gatt Mrs Nicole Campagna

Mrs Jazmin Moscosa

Mr Daniel Collison

Mrs Kaylene Di Lorenzo

Ms Lan Nguyen

Mrs Ngunsang Laithang

Mrs Narelle Mullenger

Mrs Sandra Krolo

Mrs Ashlea Niemi

MAINTENANCE

Mr Rob Kilpatrick

CANTEEN

Mrs Marlene Haber

Mrs Jacqui Batty

POSITIONS OF LEADERSHIP

Principal Mr Damian Casamento

Religious Education Leader/Child Safety Officer

Student Wellbeing/Mental Health in Wellbeing Leader

Numeracy Leader

Learning Diversity Leaders Mrs Kara Brizzi

Mrs Annamaria Schembri

Physical Education Leader Mr Chris Bye

Arts Leaders

Prep Leader

Junior Leaders

Middle Leader

Senior Leaders

Deputy Principals

Ms Cathy Doran

Mrs Louise Collison

Miss Lisa Peplow

Ms Rebeca Lopez

Mrs Libby Morganti

Literacy/Inquiry/Learning Leader

Mrs Louise Collison

Family Engagement in Learning Leader

Mrs Annamaria Schembri

Technology Leader

Mr Joshua Turner

Ms Michele Micallef & Ms Lynette Grixti

Mrs Michelle Favero

Mrs Teagan Hocking & Miss Kathy Ly

Miss Ellen McKitterick

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

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2025

The following dates are very important for **ALL** students who will be attending secondary school in 2027 – our current Year 5 students. If applications for Catholic Secondary School are not in by Friday 15th August, 2025 your child will not be enrolled in your school of choice.

15th August 2025: Applications close for 2027 Year 7 students in Catholic Secondary Colleges – our current Year 5 Students

17th October 2025: Offers posted to prospective 2027 Year 7 applicants

7th November 2025: Final date for families to accept offers made by the Secondary School

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2025

The dates for the celebration of the Sacraments and the Family nights in 2025 are:

Sacrament of Penance Family Night (Year 3)

Thursday, February 13th at 6.30pm – St. Paul's School

Sacrament of Penance (Year 3)

Wednesday, February 26th at 6.30pm – St. Paul's Church

Sacrament of Eucharist Family Night (Year 3)

Thursday, March 27th at 6.30pm - St. Paul's School

Sacrament of Eucharist (Year 3)

Friday, May 2nd at 6.30pm – St. Paul's Church

Sacrament of Confirmation Family Night (Year 5 and 6)

Thursday, May 8th at 6.30pm - St. Paul's School

Sacrament of Confirmation (Year 5 and 6)

Thursday, May 22nd at 6.30pm – St. Paul's Church

FEES/LEVIES

Your child's levies are now due. Please pay all levies promptly. School fees are due on February 7th. Account statements were already emailed to you on Tuesday, 28th January 2025. 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 opened today - the full menu is 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 2025 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**".

New CDFpay App Available to Download



Please make sure you download the new CDFpay App from Apple or Google Store or visit its website at

<https://user.cdfpay.flexischools.com.au/register>

and complete the account registration to be able to start ordering lunches online for your child(ren).

If you have any questions, please call the CDFpay powered by Flexischools Parent Support Line on 1300 361 769 or complete the online Contact Form

(<https://flexischools.zendesk.com/hc/en-au/requests/new>) and Flexischool will get back to you directly.

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.

SWIMMING SPORT

If you have a child who is a member of a swimming squad you may wish to nominate them for the Maribyrnong Division Swimming Sports on Tuesday March 11th at Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Centre, 563a Pascoe Vale Rd, Pascoe Vale. Your child is able to nominate for two individual events. You will need to be able to transport your child to and from the event. Please see Mr Chris for more information.

SPORTS NEWS

The School Sport Victoria (SSV) Team Vic representative program provides a development platform for Victoria's emerging student athletes to participate in the annual School Sport Australia (SSA) Championships.

SSV coordinates the selection process for Team Vic teams in partnership with relevant state sporting organisations in the following sports:

- Australian Football 12 Years and Under Boys
- Basketball 12 Years and Under Girls
- Basketball 12 Years and Under Boys
- Cricket 12 Years and Under Boys
- Football (Soccer) 12 Years and Under Boys
- Netball 12 Years and Under Girls

Students and families must consult with Mr Casamento, Mr Chris and Miss Samantha to ensure they have the skill level to trial and represent their school at a national championship level. Registration for a Division trial incurs a NON-REFUNDABLE \$35 fee.

Details of all procedures and other available sports can be found at the following link <https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/team-vic>

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. **It is important that you submit this CSEF form to be assessed for the school bonus of \$400 per child at Catholic schools. Therefore, please submit the CSEF form ASAP.**

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.

ST PAUL'S PARISH FEAST DAY - 2025 PROGRAM

Monday 10th Feb - 7pm Italian Mass, followed by supper.

Tuesday 11th Feb - 7pm Vietnamese Mass, followed by supper.

Wednesday 12th Feb - 7pm Maltese Mass, followed by supper

Thursday 13th Feb - 7pm Spanish Mass, followed by supper

Friday 14th Feb - 7pm Philippine Mass, followed by supper.

Saturday 15th Feb - 6pm English Vigil Mass, followed by the Family Dance.

Sunday 16th 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.

