



"Prima Primum" – First Things First

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15 October 2021

PRAYER

This week we are in the middle of the longest season of the Church's year, Ordinary Time. Though it doesn't have the extraordinary rituals that come with many of the other seasons of the Church, Ordinary Time has a dignity and a beauty all of its own. In this season we remember that God is present to us in the ordinariness of every day; revealed to us in the natural world, in the joys and sufferings of the people that we encounter, even in the very breath that God has put in us, bringing us to life. Even the liturgical colour of the season speaks to us of life; green is a sign of growth in our world, particularly as spring unfolds around us in the ebb and flow of gradually warmer days and milder evenings.

In the Gospel of today, Jesus reminds us that no-one is forgotten in God's sight, and that no-one is ever lost.

God of life, as we begin to emerge from the social isolation of lockdown and observe the signs of renewed growth in the world around us, we ask you to help us see you in the faces of those with whom we are reconnecting.

May our relationships with one another be restored, and may the fondness that their absence over the past few months has awoken in us, help us to be patient, kind and generous to one another on our return.

St Paul... pray for us.
Blessed Edmund Rice... pray for us.
Live Jesus in our hearts... forever.

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

We are now a little over a week away from the full return to school of all students and Teachers and as a community, and we are looking forward to the College once again being filled with sounds of life and learning. As one colleague put it

in a meeting I attended this week, she is looking forward to being able to speak with her students without having to remind someone that they are on mute.

But looking back over the past three months there are some important things that I am grateful for about the way that we have connected with one another. In every lesson that I "bombed" during Term 3 the Teachers and students showed a deep and genuine interest in one another. Lessons began by greeting each one and checking in that everyone was ok. And both students and Teachers signed off by expressing gratitude, not just for the work that was done, but for the generosity of spirit with which everyone had engaged with each lesson.

St Paul's has always been a place of learning but in our isolation we have become more and more a community of learning. It is my hope that this continues to be an enduring characteristic of who we are.

There have been many achievements over the course of Home-Based Learning this year but another of the most pleasing characteristics has been the way in which students have engaged in their learning. Next week a new round of Courage Awards will be presented, recognising the responsibility that students have taken for their learning. The number of students receiving these awards has also increased, meaning the awards are now more widespread. Across the HBL period our tally is now 32 Bronze Awards, 47 Silver Awards, 30 Gold Awards and a record 12 Platinum Awards. And with a week of HBL still to go the tally is likely to increase.

In addition to these, a number of students will also be receiving Prima Primum Awards recognising their consistently responsible approach to their learning across a range of subjects.

Finally, it is with mixed feelings that I announce that two of our colleagues will be leaving the College at the end of Term 4 to take on new career challenges. Mr Ben Walsh has accepted a position as Head of History at Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta, commencing next year. The offer to join the staff at OLMC recognises the high regard in which Ben is held in his field. On Monday morning it was announced that Ms Angela Bowland will take up the role of Leader of Wellbeing at

Marist Sisters College, Woolwich in 2022. Angela has played an important role at the College in her two years with us and her new position offers her the opportunity to develop and implement new wellbeing structures and strategies at a highly regarded school in the Sydney Archdiocese.

We are very grateful to both Ben and Angela for their service to the College and wish them well in their new roles.

God bless.

Mr Michael Reid
College Principal

COLLEGE CALENDAR 2021

For 2021 school dates please refer to the Google Calendar



Please check out the College on Social Media on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsccmanly>

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Term 4 has started, and I am grateful to see the boys back in their Zoom classes and am keen for their return to school. The energy that they provide to the grounds and classrooms has been missed, and the lack of handball games out the front is noticeable as I walk around. As we prepare for the return to face to face teaching the classrooms have been rearranged to ensure that desks are separated, there is a supply of sanitiser and wipes, all windows are able to be opened with good ventilation and all Teachers and students will be wearing masks.

We will return on Monday 25th October, Day 6 of the timetable. Please note though that the Canteen will only be open for recess, not open for lunch. The reconnection to face to face schooling is important for everyone as is the everyday structure of schooling. Through the last Term we have maintained this structure with the timetabled lessons, when we reconnect this structure will be additionally supported through wearing of uniform and abiding by the grooming policy.

Our HSC cohort is busy preparing for their Higher School Certificate examinations, with practice papers and daily subject specific seminars. Those who are in are very positive towards their examinations and grateful for the experience of sitting in The Waterford Hall to complete the practice papers. These seminars will continue for another week, practice papers will be available up until the HSC commencement on Tuesday 9th November.

Our Year 11 cohort (2022 Year 12) are moving from their preliminary year to HSC. To facilitate this move and so that all understand the requirements of the HSC there will be an

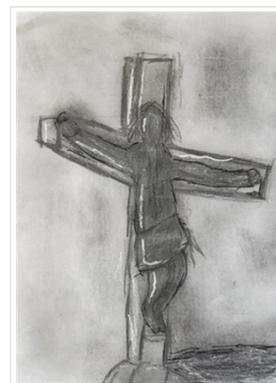
information evening on Monday 18th October via Zoom commencing at 6:30pm. Mr Chapman has sent an email with the Zoom link to all Year 11 families. If you have not received the email, please contact the College Reception or Mr Chapman for the Zoom link.

Each year the Broken Bay Diocese asks all members of its schools to complete the 'Tell Them From Me' survey. This year the survey window will be between 22nd October and 19th November, and there will be specifically designed questions to measure the impact of remote learning. This survey provides insights about effective teaching, engagement, faith formation and wellbeing and informs system wide improvements. The survey is completely anonymous, and you will be sent unique log in details closer to the survey opening to ensure this confidentiality.

Ms Karen Shawcross
Assistant Principal

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Congratulations to Liam Hillary in Year 8 on his Highly Commended prize in the Bishop's Art Prize. This is a great result.



God bless.

Mr Steven Callow
Director of Religious Education

COLLEGE COUNSELLOR

Hi! My name is Danika Mouldsdales and I am your new school Counsellor on Thursdays and Fridays.

I am really excited to be starting with you at St Paul's. I think I have the best job in the world working with awesome students. I am a Registered Psychologist and have worked for over 10 years with children and young people in schools and in private practise. Three things I am grateful for during lockdown was more free time to find dirt jumps with my kids, playing more games and runs followed by fresh morning swims at Longie.

How you can reach me?: Email me on Compass danika.mouldsdales@dbb.catholic.edu.au or ask your Leader of student Wellbeing to come and meet with me.

Where am I?: In the Cardinal's Palace sharing the office with your other College Counsellor Mrs Mary Thomas, who is at the school on the days that I am not.

I acknowledge while some students have made great progress learning from home and have benefited from the experience. Others have found it difficult with lots of negative feelings about schoolwork, friends and life in general. Please don't face these feelings alone. There are lots of supports around you and know that you can reach out and ask for help if you need to at any time. Here is a list of some support options available - Lifeline phone 13 11 14, Kids Helpline phone 1800 55 1800, Beyond Blue phone 1300 224 636 and the NSW Mental Health Line for Referral Advice phone 1800 011 511. I look forward to getting to know you and serving the St Paul's community.

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Mrs Danika Mouldsdale
College Counsellor
Thursday, Friday

CAREERS AND VET (VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING)

Please follow the link below for our College Careers Newsletter and to subscribe to our Careers email alerts and events:

<https://stpaulsmanlycareers.com/?page=calendar-of-events>

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is located at the College Reception in the Cardinal's Palace. If your son is missing any item(s) please ask him to check with the College Receptionist to determine whether it may have been handed in.

Please label your son's uniform items. Uniforms are expensive and when they have no identification, we cannot return them to the owner.

If your son has outgrown his school uniform please consider donating any item in good condition, particularly senior uniform grey shorts, trousers and blazers – this has proven to be a very helpful solution to many boys experiencing wardrobe 'malfunctions' during the course of the school day and is a great way to recycle and reduce landfill.

The College ties are always very welcome as these are often misplaced by the boys.

PARENT LIAISON GROUP

If you are interested in being more involved with St Paul's and the Parent Liaison Group, you are very welcome. If you have any feedback or questions, please feel free to email plgspcc@gmail.com

Mrs Michal Brenchley
Parent Liaison Group

CANTEEN

As well as cash, the online Flexischools ordering and payment service will be available for ordering in 2021.

To register, please follow the instructions available at the following Url,

<http://www.flexischools.com.au/>

Cut off time for lunch orders via Flexischools is 9:30am.

EFTPOS is available.

We welcome new ideas and initiatives and work hard to accommodate requests.

Special dietary requirements are available on request: gluten free, dairy free, halal, vegetarian, vegan, and nut free can be catered for.

Tania and Teresa
Yummy Bears Kiosk

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Uniforms may be purchased from Pickles at 43 Carter Street, Brookvale. Phone number 9905 2711

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you following us on social media? Important communication will continue to be emailed, posted, and placed in the Newsletter but social media is another way to keep up to date with the happenings here at St Paul's Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsccmanly>

If you have concerns about your son appearing on social media, please alert the College immediately.

BROKEN BAY NEWS

Broken Bay News publications are available via this link:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news-events/broken-bay-news/broken-bay-news-editions>

PLEASE BOOKMARK THESE LINKS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

College Website:

www.stpaulsmanly.nsw.edu.au

Enrolments email: enrolments@dbb.catholic.edu.au
Student achievements email: stpauls@dbb.catholic.edu.au