

YEAR 4 2026

PARENT HANDBOOK



***EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO
SURVIVE THE YEAR AHEAD***

Kindness and Respect: Every day, Every way

MEET THE TEAM

4 **Red** - Mrs Maree Morris (Room F11)
m.morris@stpauls.qld.edu.au



4 **Green** - Mr Colin McIntosh (Room F12)
c.mcintosh@stpauls.qld.edu.au



Teacher Aide - Mrs Sarah Arendt



SPECIALIST LESSONS

Our students receive specialist tuition in Japanese, Music, Health and Physical Education, Art, Design and Technology and Library. The specialist teachers are listed below:

Japanese

Mr Charles Mackenzie- Smith
c.mackenzie-smith@stpauls.qld.edu.au

Music

Mrs Victoria Keomahavong
v.keomahavong@stpauls.qld.edu.au

HPE

Mr Shem James (4R)
s.james@stpauls.qld.edu.au
Mr Nick Anderson (4G)
n.anderson@stpauls.qld.edu.au

Art

Ms. L Plasto
l.plasto@stpauls.qld.edu.au

Design Technology

Mr Wayne Van Wijk (4G)
w.vanwijk@stpauls.qld.edu.au
Mrs MiriamSlow(4R)
m.slow@stpauls.qld.edu.au

Library

Mrs Janelle Hamling
j.hamling@stpauls.qld.edu.au



SCHOOL HOURS

- Doors open at 8.30am and class starts at 8.35am. The first period of the day starts at 8:35am - with the first bell going at 8.30am. We need students to be at school on time to start the day
- Morning tea is 10.45 - 11.05 am.
- Lunch is 12.50pm – 1.30pm.
- School finishes at 3.10pm. Children will be dismissed from the classroom. Year 4-6 students walk out to the end of the second drive through pick up zone. The carpark is a shared space. There are 2-minute waiting zones only - please do not park and wait, keep circling until your student arrives.
- All Playgrounds are out of bounds before and after school.
- There is no teacher on duty before 8.00am. Duties areas from 8.10am are only for the areas immediately outside the classroom.
- If students arrive to school before 8:00am, they are required to sit outside the Junior School Reception until 8:00am when supervision commences.
- The JSL is opened from 8:00 to 8:25 and 3:10 to 3:30pm.

ALLERGIES

- There are children in Year 4 with food allergies and anaphylactic reactions. Please be mindful of this when preparing food and snacks for birthday celebrations throughout the year. Your class teacher can advise of any particular allergies relevant to your class group if required. If your child has allergies, please ensure your class teacher is aware.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

TERM 1

English:

Students will -

- Plan, write and edit a retell of a known simple text
- Develop skills in reading for comprehension
- Practice making inferences and drawing conclusions
- Learn how to write simple and compound sentences
- Build proficiency in paragraph writing

Maths:

Students will -

- Understand number concepts, including place value to 5 digits
- Compare and order numbers, explain and use the properties of odd and even numbers
- Learn algorithms for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (including by 1 and 2 digits),
- Build mental arithmetic skills, working towards the goal of automatic recall (within a 2-second delay) of multiplication and division number facts

Science:

Students will -

- Explore Biological Sciences - Decomposers, Consumers and Producers
- Explain the roles and interactions of consumers, producers and decomposers within a habitat and how food chains represent feeding relationships

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS):

Students will -

- Investigating the reasons for establishing the different types of colonies eg. penal colony, free settlers
- The economic, political and social causes for the establishment of British colonies in Australia after 1800
- Impact of the colonies on the lives of First Nation Australians and the natural environment.

Digital Technology:

Students will -

- Learn about cyber safety, including how to keep safe online and practice safe web behaviour
- Peripheral devices and their use

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

TERM 2

English:

Students will -

- Plan, create and edit a persuasive text to express their point of view on a chosen topic
- Read for accuracy
- Make connections to what they are reading
- Write simple, compound and complex sentences
- Explore PEEL Paragraphs

Maths:

Students will -

- Understand Number concepts – including place value to 5 digits
- Algorithms – addition, subtraction, multiplication (including by 2 digits), division
- Mental arithmetic – working towards the goal of automatic recall (2 second delay max) of multiplication and division number facts
- Measurement – perimeter, area and area of standard shapes
- Rounding and estimation

Science:

Students will -

- Explore Earth and Space Sciences – Water Cycle
- Identify sources of water and describe key processes in the water cycle, including movement of water through the sky, landscape and ocean; precipitation, evaporation and condensation
- How we use water in our everyday life

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS):

Students will -

- Investigate reasons for colonisation of Australia
- Consider perspectives and attitudes of those on board the ships
- Express their own point of view

Digital Technology:

Students will -

- Learn about cyber safety, including how to keep safe online and practice safe web behaviour
- Peripheral devices and their use

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

TERM 3

English:

Students will -

- Plan, draft and publish a biography about a significant Australian
- Learn how to take relevant notes from information sources
- Read for fluency and stamina
- Draw conclusions
- Write compound and complex sentences
- Write in PEEL paragraphs

Maths:

Students will -

- Explore Number concepts – including place value to 5 digits
- Algorithms – addition, subtraction, multiplication (including by 2 digits), division
- Mental arithmetic – working towards the goal of automatic recall (2 second delay max) of multiplication and division number facts
- Graphs - picture, column
- Equivalent fractions
- Angles
- Tessellation
- Predicting possible outcomes
- Inverse operations

Science:

Students will -

- Explore Physical Science – Egg Drop
- Identify how forces can be exerted by one object on another and investigate the effect of frictional, gravitational and magnetic forces on the motion of objects

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS):

Students will -

- Explore the affects of the colonisation of Australia and the implacts on the First Nation's people
- Research and inquire about a famous explorer and their journey to Australia
- Construct a biography on selected explorer

Digital Technology:

Students will -

- Investigate algorithms to create a User Story using repetition loops and branching options to support users to learn an Indigenous groups' language

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

TERM 4

English:

Students will -

- Plan, draft and publish a narrative using a picture prompt
- Reading for vocabulary building
- Writing compound and complex sentences
- PEEL paragraphs
- Enhancing vocabulary choices

Maths:

Students will -

- Algorithms – addition, subtraction, multiplication, division
- Mental arithmetic – working towards the goal of automatic recall (2 second delay max) of multiplication and division number facts
- Fractions, including mixed and improper
- Measurement - millimetres, centimetres, metres - conversion
- Quadrilaterals and 2D shapes
- Converting units of time, time (am and pm)
- Reading and interpreting timetables
- Time to the nearest minute
- Place value to the 2 decimal points

Science:

Students will -

- Explore Chemical and Physical Sciences - Egg drop
- Identify how forces can be exerted by one object on another and investigate the effect of frictional, gravitational and magnetic forces on the motion of objects
- Examine the properties of natural and made materials including, fibres, metals, glass and plastics and consider how these properties influence their use

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS):

Students will -

- Explore the affects of the colonisation of Australia and the impacts on the First Nation's people
- Research and inquire about a famous explorer and their journey to Australia
- Construct a biography on selected explorer

Digital Technology:

Students will -

- Investigate algorithms to create a User Story using repetition loops and branching options to support users to learn an Indigenous groups' language

PARENT AND STAFF COMMUNICATION

- Feedback between staff and families is very important. We all lead such busy lives, and it is sometimes difficult to catch up. The most efficient way to communicate with your classroom teacher is via email (email address found on the front of this booklet) or message in your child's diary.

TO AID COMMUNICATION:

- **Please book appointments for before or after school.**
- **Please keep in mind that we have our staff briefing every Monday morning and our Junior School staff meeting every Wednesday morning before school.**
- **Emails may not be seen after 5pm each night.**
- **If you need to get an urgent message to your child, it is best for it to be communicated through Junior School Reception as emails may not be read by the class teacher during the day.**
- **Please note there is a 48 hour turnaround policy for email communication .**



FORMAL REPORTS AND INTERVIEWS

- Parent-teacher interviews will be held in Term Two and Term Three. They are scheduled through Parent Lounge.
- If at any stage throughout the year you wish to discuss your child's academic or social/emotional development, please feel free to make an appointment directly or through Junior Reception (ph. 3261 1388) for a time that suits both of us before or after school. Email is the best mode of contact **juniorschooladministration@stpauls.qld.edu.au**
- Written report cards are available at the end of Term 2 and 4.

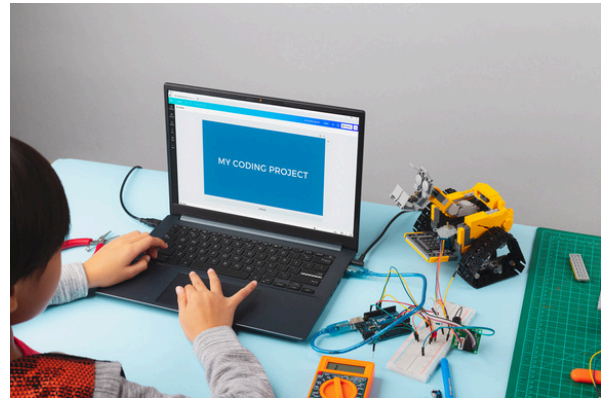
INDEPENDENCE AND HOMEWORK

- All of the children are given a school diary. Please encourage the children to read their diary. Their homework will consist mostly of English and Maths tasks. These are fairly similar from week to week to encourage independence. Homework sheets will be given out each Monday and will be due the following Monday.
- At times, researching for other subjects such as HASS and Science may be required.
- In Year Four we encourage students to become more independent. We ask that you support this by encouraging students to do things themselves (and sometimes this means that there may be a consequence if they forget). Try not to build a habit of “rescuing” them if they have forgotten something. . . you do not need to drive all the way home to get it. . . they will survive!
- In an ideal world, homework needs to be driven by the students. Please encourage them to manage their time to ensure that this is completed by Monday morning. They may need some guidance and motivation. . . but it is important for them to learn life- skills early.
- If you are experiencing any problems with the homework or have any questions please feel free to work with your class teacher to resolve this. Students are also encouraged to read at least 10 mins per night and record in their reading log with a parent signature.
- If your child is unsure about a particular aspect or task in their homework, please encourage them to seek assistance from the teacher before the homework is due.
- Literacy Pro is another useful, optional homework tool. This program is used to determine your child’s Lexile level. Literacy Pro tests are held at the beginning and end of each term with results sent home to parents.

LAPTOPS

This year, each student in Year 4 has been allocated a laptop to assist in their research and learning. These are brand new devices and students have been instructed in how to care for them. Each student will be given their own special username and password. As a class, we will discuss the rules and safety of using the internet. Laptops are to remain at school at all times. This year's model comes with a built in stylus. Parents must be aware that the laptop must be returned at the end of the year in good condition, with the stylus still attached. Any missing stylus will incur a parent fee of \$80 to replace it.

Emailing is to be used as a classroom-based tool. Please do not email your child or ask them to email you. Children can not email other students unless they have specific permission from the class teachers.



MOBILE PHONES

If your child needs to bring a mobile phone to school for safety reasons, it is important that the phone is handed to the class teacher at the commencement of the day. This also includes smart watches. Each classroom has a phone storage box for students to place devices in during the day. Students can collect their phone or watch at 3:10pm.



PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- The expectation for Year 4-6 is that students participate in 3 extra-curricular activities throughout the year.
- Students are given timetables for their instrumental lessons by Music Tutors at the beginning of the term. Please provide these timetables to the teachers when they become available.
- Please encourage your child to make the teacher aware at the beginning of the day if they have a music lesson by writing it on the board under the 'Music Lessons' heading.
- While every effort is made to ensure that Music Tutors are aware of School events and can reschedule lessons accordingly, they are not able to be aware of everything that is happening in every classroom on any given day. Therefore, the onus is on the parents and students to be organised and let Music Tutors know of any potential clashes, e.g., excursion, carnivals etc.
- It is the responsibility of your child to catch up on any work missed because they were attending extra-curricular events during school time.
- Please note that if your child does not have a rotating private music lesson, they will miss the same lesson each week. this results in large chunks of content being missed and makes it very difficult for the child to keep up to date.

SPORT



Term 1 - Swimming Carnival

Term 2 - Cross Country

Term 3 - Athletics/Traditional Games

Term 4 - Ball Games

CAMP

Year 4 Camp will be in Term 3. It will be a one night stay at Luther Heights, Coolum Beach. Activities may include raft building, team building activities and low ropes. More information will be given at the start of Term 3. It is expected that all children will attend this camp.

UNIFORM

At St Paul's we take pride in the way we wear our uniform. We believe it shows the pride we have in our school. Details are found in the front of the students' diaries. However, please note these points:

- Girls are only permitted to wear plain metal studs or sleeper earrings.
- Hair ribbons must be worn in the school colours.
- Nail polish is not permitted.
- Boys are required to wear a tie in Term 2 and 3, as well as on formal occasions. Students will be advised when ties are required during Term 1 and 4.
- The red sports cap should only be worn with the sports uniform. The sports uniform is the HPE shirt, green HPE shorts, St Paul's socks and sports shoes.
- The house shirt is worn on house occasions or when advised by the class teacher.
- Please name all your child's items that are brought to school, particularly sporting items that are used during PE lessons and extra-curricular activities, including bags.
- Try to make bags identifiable from a distance so they are not confused with someone else's.
- School shoes are black leather shoes and should be polished regularly.
- Students are required to change INTO their HPE uniform in the break prior to the lesson, and back to their formal uniform at the following break time. Students are not to go home in their HPE uniform unless they are attending a training session straight after school.
- If students are allowed to wear their HPE uniform for the entire day, parents will be advised via Seesaw in advance.
- Please ensure all students have their green wide-brimmed school hat every day, sports caps are only permitted for carnival days
- We are a Sun Safe School - NO HAT NO PLAY - students will be directed to a covered courtyard
- Hats are to be worn to and from school
- Shoes must be worn at all times while at school
- Please ensure all students apply sunscreen before school and bring a full water bottle each day

TUCKSHOP

Students cannot visit the tuckshop or Sippers at morning tea or lunch. Any food they require must be ordered prior to the beginning of the school day, through the tuckshop ordering system (Flexi Schools). Orders must be placed by 8.45am each day.

If there is a lunch emergency, please contact Rosemary Van Stan at Junior School reception so that she can put you through to the tuckshop to order lunch.



ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

It is important to clarify the meaning of the grades and standards reflected in the grades students will receive. We know that many of you may be familiar with traditional grading scales where a "C" grade indicates an average level of achievement.

However, in today's education landscape, a "C" grade indicates that a student is meeting the expected standard for their year level. It does not mean that the student is average or below average.

We want to emphasize that our goal is to ensure that every student is meeting or exceeding the year level standard, and we work hard to provide support and encouragement to all students in their academic journey. We encourage you to discuss the report with your child, celebrate their successes, and identify areas where they can continue to grow and develop. Each term a moderation of assessment process takes place across the year level.



OUR LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM YRS 3-6



Mrs Amanda Barratt



Mrs Lisa Parker

Mrs Barratt and Mrs Parker will work alongside Year 3 to 6 teachers to provide:


- inclusive and responsive support through:
- small group Mathematics and Literacy instruction,
- targeted intervention, and
- regular check in opportunities.

We support the teachers to:






- reduce barriers to learning,
- reinforce classroom learning,
- respond to individual student needs, and
- ensure all students feel supported, confident, and able to engage meaningfully with their learning.

CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

At St Paul's School



WE ARE...

 <p>DILIGENT</p> <p>We stay focused, work hard, and complete tasks with care and effort.</p>	 <p>RESPECTFUL</p> <p>We treat ourselves, others, and our environment with kindness and consideration.</p>	 <p>INCLUSIVE</p> <p>We welcome everyone, celebrate differences, and make sure no one is left out.</p>	 <p>VALIANT</p> <p>We show courage, bounce back from setbacks, and try even when it's tough.</p>	 <p>ENGAGED</p> <p>We are curious, involved, and give our best in every learning opportunity.</p>
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SPS CLASSROOMS

When we all follow these expectations, our classroom is a place where everyone feels welcome, valued, and excited to learn.

1

Arrive to class on time

2

Line up outside the classroom and wait for the Teacher

3

Remove hats and enter class quietly when invited

4

Get ready to learn by taking out the required learning materials

5

Use laptops only when directed by the Teacher

6

Show respect for peers, staff, and the classroom environment

7

Engage fully in all learning activities and complete assigned work

8

Follow Teacher instructions when packing up at the end of the lesson, leaving the classroom tidy

9

Exit the classroom only after the bell and with the Teacher's permission