



ST PAULUS NEWSFLASH

13 Feb.
2026



The Lenten Season begins next week, with Ash Wednesday on 18 February. During the season of Lent, we are asked to do 3 things (the 3 pillars of Lent); to pray, fast and give. Throughout Lent, these pillars will be explained to the children.

It will be emphasised that praying allows us to spend time with God, fasting includes giving up something that we like so that they are not distracted from being with God and lastly, giving (almsgiving) enables us to help those in need, to be more like God.

Wednesday, 18 February, is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting, where ashes are applied on the head to symbolise the dust from which God made us. The ashes are made from the palm branches from the previous the year's Palm Sunday Mass. As the priest applies to ashes he will speak the words, "Repent and believe the Gospel".

Although Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation, it is traditionally one of the most heavily attended non-Sunday masses of the liturgical year as it sets the tone for the next 40 days of Easter.

Ashes will be distributed at 08:00, on 18 February to Grade 1 – 7. We will also include all the children in Pre-School who are Catholic so that they too can receive Ashes. Parents are also more than welcome to join us for Mass.

RECYCLING RESULTS

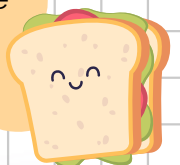
Congratulations to our weekly winners:

Foundation Phase:	1V
Intersen Phase:	4O
Winning House:	Paulus



TUCK SHOP DURING LENT

As Ash Wednesday, and Fridays during Lent, are days of fasting, the Tuck Shop will not be selling any food (sandwiches, pies, pizzas, etc) which contain meat on these days. Delicious food items will still be available on these days, just without the meat!



SCHOOL POLICIES

Attached to this Newsflash is *Administering Medication Protocols and Procedures*. We ask that you take the time to familiarise yourself with this policy. A reminder that all our policies are available at [St Paulus Policies](#).



A FEW REMINDERS



- 1 The Grade 7s will be visiting Wollies on Thursday, 19 February. If 'little paws' is a cause close to your heart, we ask you to please donate some cat/dog food by Thursday.
- 2 The Interhouse Gala has been moved to 14 March. Details will follow soon.
- 3 Midterm Break is coming up – School will close at 16:00 on 19 February and re-open on 24 February.
- 4 Please send back your PTA Raffle Book (more are also available for your child to sell 😊). Amazing prizes are up for grabs!

TRAFFIC CONGESTION



Many of our parents are experiencing unnecessary traffic congestion and 'frustration' when entering Boekenhout Str from the Watermeyer direction.

This congestion is created when motorists bypass the traffic by using the slip road designated for the entrance into the SANRAL building, and then cutting into the line of other motorists waiting to turn into Boekenhout.

Although this problem is not caused by vehicles headed to STP only, unfortunately many in our community are using this slip road. I ask that all STP Parents and Staff adhere to the traffic rules to ensure that traffic flows safely and at the correct speed to alleviate unnecessary congestion.



RECYCLING WOES

We are experiencing some issues in finding a company to collect and recycle TetraPaks.

Please may we ask that you do not send these to school for the next few weeks until such time that we are able to solve this issue! We will keep you updated.



CONGRATULATIONS



Daniella da Silva Grade 3F completed the MidMar on the 8 of February. She finished the 1.6km swim and was one of the youngest swimmers (8 years old) to compete. What an amazing achievement, Daniella! We are proud of you.

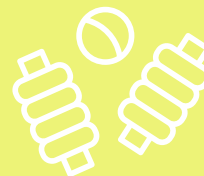


“LENT COMES PROVIDENTIALLY TO REAWAKEN US, TO SHAKE US FROM OUR LETHARGY” - POPE FRANCIS



The Final Whistle

Results 2 - 6 February



Cricket:

U13A vs Prestige lost by 80 runs
U12A vs Glenstantia won by 107 runs
U11A & U10A vs Waterkloof won by 8 wickets
U11B vs WHPS won by 15 runs
U10B vs WHPS lost by 6 wickets
U9B vs WHPS won by 7 wickets

Tennis:

Tennis U11A Boys vs Menlopark won 29/14
Tennis Open Boys vs DSP won 47/8
Tennis Open Girls vs Woodhill lost 35/21

Swimming:

Swimming Gala at Pretoria Oos – Friendly



Fixtures 16 - 20 February 2026:

Monday, 16 February:

Tennis U11 Girls BYE
Tennis U11A Boys vs Lynnwood at STP
Tennis U11B Boys vs Stephanus Roos at Sinoville Tennis Club.
Tennis Open Boys vs Woodhill at Woodhill College
Tennis Open Girls vs Tygervally College at STP
Cricket UgA vs Cornwall at STP

Tuesday, 17 February:

Cricket U13A vs Hatfield Christian School at STP
Cricket U12A vs CBC at CBC
Cricket U13B vs Woodhill at STP

Wednesday, 18 February:

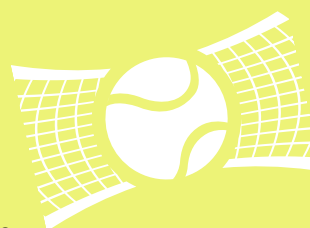
Cricket U11A vs Jacaranda at STP
Cricket U11B vs Loreto Queenswood at Loreto Queenswood
Cricket U10A vs Jacaranda at STP

Thursday, 19 February:

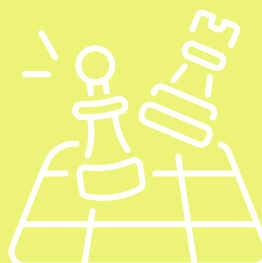
Cricket UgB vs Jacaranda at STP
Chess vs Copperleaf / Rietondale at Copperleaf

Friday, 20 February:

Swimming Gala at Woodhill College



Sport often exposes children to adversities of differing kinds. This is a good thing; it helps build a resilient character and understanding that serves them well as they find their place in community later in life.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION/DISCLAIMER:



Buses will depart St Paulus at **13:45** to various venues. We are scheduled to be back at school at 17:30. If for any reason there is a delay, or we are to return early, a message will be sent out to the relevant parties. Thank you for your understanding and patience.