Extension program at St Paul’s Primary School.

St Paul’s offers an Extension Program to cater for the needs of the more talented students.

**Background:**
- Sometimes these students have become frustrated and disillusioned with their learning.
- Through participation in this program, the children are able to mix with others of similar ability and to stretch their creative thinking.
- They find self-worth in being acknowledged.

**Selection of students:**
- Teacher referral
- Checklists
- Various assessment results

**Application:**
- Once a week, children are withdrawn from their regular class for a lesson which lasts between 45 minutes and one hour.

**Format:**
- Small group work, often Maths or Language focus
- Research: Individual research projects
- Oral Language Enrichment
- Competitions: VAGT, (Victorian Association of Gifted and Talented), Maths Olympiad, Special Forever, Chess
- Special events, excursions or guest speakers
- Participation in extension programs offered after hours by local secondary schools

**More information**

**Maths Olympiad:**
- National competition
- 5 tests over 5 months
- 5 questions on each test
- Mainly for senior students

It involves:
- High level mathematical thinking
- Important mathematical concepts
- Strategies in problem solving
- Stimulation of mathematical enjoyment
- Weekly class and homework

**Special Forever**
- A Murray-Darling Basin education project
- 15,000 - 20,000 students participate every year
- Focus on the unique environments that make up the local area and the whole Murray-Darling Basin
- “Special Forever” is a widely acknowledged for its excellence in environmental education [http://www.specialforever.org.au/]