



Curriculum Newsletter

Year 4

Term 1, 2019

The New School Year Has Begun!

Yay!

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The new school year has well and truly begun and the students are settling well into their classes and daily routines.

We warmly welcome the Year 4 team back, Mr Warren Kay (4 Yellow), Mrs Melissa Handley (4 Red), Mrs Bernadette Williams (4 Blue), and Mr David Trimble (4 Green) to form a very experienced teaching team.



We also welcome the new families who have joined our Guardian Angels' School community.

Our school theme for this year is ***Aim High and Fly*** and this will be apparent in many school and class activities throughout the year.

Thank you for your cooperation which has enabled our smooth start to the term. The students are ready to focus on their learning and challenges for the year ahead.

Religious Education

This term our Religious Education unit is titled *Ancient Voices*. In this unit we will study the structure of the Bible, discuss ways we can 'hear' God's voice through the Scriptures and consider God, The Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Students will learn a variety of biblical skills to assist them in beginning to explore and interpret Scripture and understand the Bible as a 'library of books' containing a variety of text types.

The Church seasons of Lent and Easter will also be a special focus at the end of this term.



Mathematics

This year, the students will be engaging in learning activities centred on Number and Algebra, Statistics and Probability and Measurement and Geometry from the Australian Curriculum. All three strands of Mathematics will be covered during every term to varying degrees.

Highlights this term include, students revising, consolidating and extending their understanding of: numbers to at least 99 999; addition and subtraction involving larger numbers; multiplication facts to 10x; problem solving across a variety of contexts; fractions and analogue and digital time.

Students will work in groups, pairs and individually within Maths sessions to enable each type of learner to achieve to their very best.

Your support is appreciated in assisting the students to revise number facts on a regular basis, particularly times tables for homework.



English

The Year 4 English curriculum sees students participating in a variety of literacy activities and exploring a range of spoken, visual and written texts throughout the year.

Reading and viewing activities this term, will enable students to develop their literal and, most importantly, inferential comprehension skills as they learn to respond to different types of text, not only within the context of English, but across all subject areas.

As well, targeted lessons will focus on punctuation and grammar, including parts of speech and how these elements work together to improve imaginative or fictional writing. Students will create their own written narrative later in the term.

We ask for your support in encouraging students to read at home as much and as often as possible, so as to improve their fluency, vocabulary and comprehension skills.



Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

HASS includes the areas of History, Geography and Civics and Citizenship.

During Term 1, students will investigate the rich cultural history of Australia's Indigenous peoples and what life was like before the arrival of Europeans. They will consider how Indigenous Australians employed practices to ensure our Earth's sustainability as they lived in harmony with the land.

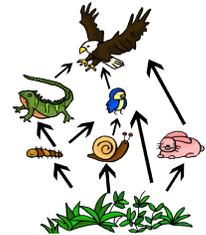
Students will also explore aspects of personal and national identity as they learn that the groups they belong to shape their thoughts, ideas and feelings.



Our incursion from Ngutana-Lui staff is a highlight in Term 1. Students and teachers will experience the living traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Science

In Science, students will develop a sense of wonder and appreciation of living things as they investigate life cycles of plants and animals. Most importantly, students will discover how changes in and to the environment, including those caused by humans, impact the life cycles of living things in both positive and negative ways. Further study on habitats will lead them to discover how living things depend on each other and the environment to survive.



Technology

Aspects of Technology will be integrated across the curriculum this term, as students have the opportunity to use both laptops and I-pads. Students will be taught about the appropriate use of digital devices and will begin to utilise them for purposes of research, word processing, presenting and consolidating basic skills (eg, times tables).



Specialist Classes

Drama: Welcome to another exciting year of Drama! This term year 4 will be introduced to the core Elements of Drama, these are the building blocks upon which all Drama is created. Focusing on the elements of role and relationships, students will explore how to use their bodies, voice and facial expression to create character.

There will be an overarching focus on teaching and fostering the skills of collaboration, trust, self-expression, and respect, which are essential to learning in the drama room.

Music: 'Let's Celebrate and Remember' is a study of music used for celebrations and commemorations from a range of cultures, including for special occasions from around the world. Students develop their aural skills by exploring, imitating and recognising the elements of music used in the songs of these styles. In Year Four, students begin their development of ukulele skills.

PE: In Term 1 students take part in fitness-based lessons with a focus on distance running. Students develop a basic

understanding of concepts such as pacing, running rhythm and how the body changes during exercise. Pupils take part in an Athletics unit of work in which they learn the techniques used to perform in running, throwing and jumping disciplines. Throughout this unit, pupils gain knowledge of the rules in these athletic events.

Important Dates

As usual, there are important dates to keep in mind. Apart from the list below, keep an eye on the school newsletter for other significant dates as they arise.

Monday 11 th February	Parent Information Night- 6:00pm-6:25pm- Shed 6:30pm-7:10pm- Classroom 7:15pm- 8:00pm- Classroom presentation repeated
Tuesday 12 th February	Year 4 - Ngutana-Lui Incursion
Tuesday 12 th February	Parents and Friends Meeting - 7pm
Thursday 14 th February	Whole School Mass - 2pm
Friday 15 th February	Leadership Assembly - 9am
Friday 15 th February	School Banking resumes
Friday 15 th February	Welcome BBQ - 5:30- 7:30pm (MC Shed)
Friday 1 st March	School Cross Country
Friday 8 th March	Catholic Swim Carnival
Tuesday 26 th March	Catholic Cross Country
2 nd -5 th April	PCYC Bike Education Excursion
<u>Other:</u>	
> Guardian Angels' Running Club - Fridays at 7:30am (Grades 3-6)	
> Skipping Club - Thursdays at 8am	
> Sports Aerobics - Wednesdays at 7:30am	

Japanese: This year our Year 4's will be the first cohort to engage in Japanese LOTE lessons! The students are very excited at the prospect of learning Japanese and we have started marking the role with the response 'Konichiwa'!

Guardian Angels is very excited to be incorporating Japanese into Year 4 learning from this year. Our focus this term is classroom routine and objects. Students will interact with their teacher and peers in regular classroom routines and structured interactions. By the end of Term 1 students will be able to understand and respond to instructions related to classroom organisation and activities. Hiragana

will also be introduced and students will gain confidence in reading the phonetic script. A variety of games, songs, craft and other hands-on experiences will be incorporated throughout the term to deepen our appreciation of language, culture and customs.

We look forward to a great term,

The Year 4 Teachers

Warren Kay
Dave Trimble

Bernadette Williams
Melissa Handley