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# *Curriculum Newsletter Year 1*

## *Term 2 2017*

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2 and we hope that you enjoyed a wonderful Easter break. We look forward to another productive and enjoyable term. Below you will find a general outline of the information that will be covered in various curriculum areas and some important dates of events happening during the term.

### **Religious Education**

This term students will learn about how Jesus participated in the life of the Jewish community by exploring aspects of Jewish daily life at the time of Jesus. They will listen to the texts 'The Passover' and 'Lost in the Temple' from the New Testament in the Bible and explore what these texts reveal about the life and times of Jesus. Students will also learn about - what, why, when, where and how Catholics pray and how Catholics honour Jesus' mother, Mary, through prayer. The students will learn Christian meditative prayer practices and the 'Hail Mary', a traditional prayer honouring Mary, Jesus' mother. Students will also continue to practise reciting 'Grace', a prayer before meals and the 'Guardian Angels' school prayer and other informal prayers e.g. morning prayer circle, afternoon prayer, prayers of thanks and prayers of petition (asking prayers). The Virtues Project also continues and classes will attend Mass during the term.

### **English**

Students will explore different purposes of texts and understand how characters in texts are developed and give reasons for personal preferences. They will listen to, read and view texts to entertain and then write a description of their own imaginary character. During the term students will continue to refine their skills and understanding when writing by using their visual memory to accurately spell simple common words and apply capital letters and full stops. They will develop an understanding about simple sentences and words that represent nouns, verbs and adjectives.

Last term, an individual sight word program began and students will continue to work through lists words at their own pace, receiving subsequent lists as needed. Please keep revising previous sight word lists at home. Thank you for your wonderful support in this area and thanks to those parents who have volunteered to assist with class reading programs.

Students will be developing their handwriting skills by understanding the positioning of letters within the red and blue lines and improving their pencil grip. Students will also continue to participate in a range of opportunities for the development of listening and speaking skills, both formal and informal, such as 'Show and Share'.

## **Mathematics**

This term some of the areas of study will include the consolidation of numbers to fifty along with exploring numbers to one hundred; skip counting in twos, fives and tens; revision of addition and subtraction concepts; exploring money; exploring ordinal numbers; investigating growing patterns; measurement in the form of length, mass and volume; values of Australian coins; position, direction and chance and data by interpreting graphs.

Students will also be focussing on solving addition and subtraction problems and applying mental strategies to complete examples. Extra counting practise and problem solving activities are great to try at home to help give your child increase their confidence and accuracy when working with these algorithms. Mental strategies include: counting on (starting at the biggest number and counting forward. e.g.  $2 + 8$ ; Start at 8 and count on 2); Rainbow facts (numbers that add together to equal 10 e.g.  $9 + 1$ ,  $6 + 4$ ) and doubles to 20 (e.g.  $4 + 4$ ,  $5 + 5$ ,  $6 + 6$ ).

## **Science - "Eye on the Sky"**

Year 1 students will explore the observable changes that occur in the sky. They will record short and longer term patterns of events that occur on Earth and in the sky, such as the appearance of the moon and stars at night and the appearance of clouds, sun and shadows in the day. They will write a short comparison and contrast of the sky at day or night. During the term the students will record observations of the night sky over 3 sessions as a homework task.

## **HASS – Humanities and Social Science/Geography**

The key inquiry focus is learning about the natural and constructed features within our local Wynnum area, in particular the wading pool, board walk and jetty and, how these structures have changed over time. A focus will also be on describing and comparing the weather and seasonal weather patterns used by Aboriginal people.

## **Specialist Areas**

Year One students continue their development of music literacy with the focus on learning to read, perform and hear rhythms, ta and titi. Students continue to develop their singing voice and further their making music skills by learning to play notated rhythm and notes. During Term 2, Year One will continue to focus on locomotor activities - running/jumping etc., as we begin to practice games and running for their T3 sports day. Sports day activities enable students to improve both physically and socially through the application of rules, playing fairly and playing as a member of a team over individual performance. These activities also encompass the skills of throwing/catching/bouncing, balance and coordination. This term in Drama, Year One students will be exploring movement and mime. They will experiment with the different ways in which their bodies can move and how it can be used as a tool for communicating. They will have opportunities to learn about creative and expressive movement and the more formalised skills of mime.

## **Homework**

This term the learning of sight words and reading will continue. Please remember to sign and date your books. As the children are becoming more confident with their reading progress please remember to ask your child some simple questions about their texts to further enhance their comprehension skills. If your child is now at the stage of having finished their Sight Word lists, we would encourage you to challenge your children to learn the spelling of these words.

**Date Claimers**

May 1 – Labour Day public holiday

May 4 - 11 – Mother's Day Stall GA 1.40 -2.40pm

May 9 – 1 Red attending school Mass at 1:45pm

May 15 - 16 – School Photos

May 18 – Year One Fire Education Visit

May 30 – Whole school Mass in Shed at 1:45pm

June 13 – 1 Green and 1 Yellow attending school Mass at 1:45pm

June 23 - Last day of Term 2

Thank you for your continued help and support and we are looking forward to seeing you throughout the term. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or questions.

Kind regards,

Danielle Carroll

Kerryn Kay

Clare Thorburn

Chantelle Rankin

Cathy Mujdrica