

Year 1 & 2 Term One News

Dear Parents,

We hope you've had a restful break and we are happy to see you back so happy and refreshed.

This year the Level 1/2 team will be:

1/2CZ – Mrs. Hollie Zachariassen and Mrs. Louisa Chalk

1/2DH – Mrs. Delphine Hesse

1/2DB – Mrs. Donna Burke

1/2BK – Miss. Rebecca Kealy

This term, our focus for the children is to unpack their own bags each morning and get themselves organised for the day. This encourages the children to be independent and responsible for organising the resources they will need for the day, as well as notices they need to hand in. Please encourage your child to practice packing and unpacking their own school bag at home and school.

In the morning students are expected to:

- Carry their own bag and hang it on a hook outside their classroom.
- Unpack their blue folder, lunch box and drink bottle.
- Change their reader and place the new book in their blue folder.

Whilst these steps seem simple, it is important for the children to do them independently to avoid any unnecessary issues throughout the day. Being independent is a learning outcome of the Victorian Curriculum! Children who receive lots of adult support with these tasks often forget where their lunch box and school bag has been placed and can become distressed.

Children will be bringing readers home from Week 3 but you might notice a change in the kind of book they are reading after we have done our testing. For the first 2 weeks we encourage students to still read each night from their library books and their bookshelves at home and record them in their diaries.

A gentle reminder that each child is required to bring 3 boxes of tissues, a packet of chux, an activity book, an art smock,

headphones, a tennis ball or small hi-bounce ball, library bag and the student's blue folder to school. These items need to be given to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible.

Diaries

The diary supplied is a wonderful learning tool for your child. It supports your child's learning when it is brought to school each day and it is useful in providing a way of communicating between home and school. Using a diary helps your child to become a more independent learner as they move through the school, they learn to manage their time effectively. This is also something we have to teach them!

Please ensure your child fills out his/her diary with their reading each day. They are required to write the title of the book they read and we ask that you sign the diary each day. **Diaries will be checked and signed by classroom teachers every Friday. If teachers observe that your child has not been reading, a note will be sent home.**

Homework

Soon all children will bring home a list of spelling words, which need to be learnt each night. This list of words is tested every fortnight on a Friday. Students will be given a variety of ways they can practice these words. We encourage children to also learn their words with the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method.

Look at the word

Say the word out loud

Cover the word

Write the word

Check to see if the word has been written correctly.

It is essential that your child not only learns to spell these words, but is able to read them and have an understanding of what the words mean. Work with your child to use them, get them to use their spelling words in sentences and stories. Talk to your child about things they notice in the words, such as simple blends or familiar spelling patterns. For example, in the word butterfly, you can find fly.

Investigations/Discovery Time

In the next few weeks we will begin Investigations/ Discovery Time in our classrooms. We are sure that all children are excited to begin learning

about their chosen topics. Ask your child what he/she might be interested in investigating in the coming weeks.

As children are ready, they move from Investigation time to Discovery time. In Discovery Time, students will create projects based on something they wish to specifically discover using the Inquiry topic for the term. Students will be following a structure of planning, researching and presenting their final product. Discovery time helps the children to learn how to do research which they will need as they move through their schooling.

Specialist Program

Below shows the specialist timetable and what days your child is required to wear their runners.

Class	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1/2DH (Mrs Hesse)	Media	PE (<u>Runners</u>) Design, Creativity & Technology (DCT)	Performing Arts
1/2CZ (Mrs Zach and Mrs Chalk)	Performing Arts	PE (<u>Runners</u>) Design, Creativity & Technology (DCT)	Media
1/2DB (Donna Burke)		Media Performing Arts	Design, Creativity & Technology (DCT) PE (<u>Runners</u>)
1/2BK (Miss Kealy)		Media Performing Arts	PE (<u>Runners</u>) Design, Creativity & Technology (DCT)

**In Term 1 for the first 5 weeks children will also need to wear their runners on a Monday as they have the Footsteps dance program.

Please note that the school dress is not part of the sports uniform and is not to be worn on PE days.

Literacy:

This term the students will be learning about simple sentences. The students will be learning how to accurately write sentences using capital letters and full stops. In addition, there will be a big focus on grammar and writing structures such as nouns, adjectives and verbs. They will also be encouraged to write about personal experiences in past tense.

Mathematics:

In 2017, maths lessons will take on a new look. Targeted counting groups will begin each lesson followed by our maths focus for the week. Students will be participating in hands on maths activities and games that will further their number knowledge.

Inquiry/Religion:

This term's Inquiry topic is all about 'Belonging'. Students will be investigating where they come from and what groups they belong to. Students will also learn the importance of treating others fairly and with respect.

Students will discuss how we are all a part of God's family and ways we can follow in Jesus' footsteps so we can be better people. Students will also explore Lent as a time of growth, change and service. They will also learn about the Last Supper and Jesus Christ's journey to the cross in Holy Week.

We look forward to sharing an exciting year of fun and learning with your children. Our email addresses are listed below and we encourage you to contact us via email if there is anything we can do to help your child's learning experience. We want to work closely with you!

Regards,

1/2 Teachers.

Mrs Hollie Zachariassen- hzachariassen@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Louisa Chalk- lchalk@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Mrs. Delphine Hesse – dhesse@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Mrs. Donna Burke – dburke@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Mrs. Rebecca Kealy – rkealy@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Term 1 Important Dates

Date	Event
<i>Monday 3rd February</i>	<i>School Closure Day</i>
Monday 6th February	Footstep program begins
Monday 20th February	Goal Setting Parent Information Night
Thursday 23rd February	Goal Setting Parent Information Night
Sunday 26th February	10:30am Welcome Mass for students and staff
Tuesday 28th February	Burning of Palms at 10.30 AM
Wednesday 1st March	Ash Wednesday Mass at 9.15AM
Wednesday 8th March	School Photos
Monday 13th March	<i>Labour Day (Public Holiday ~ School Closure)</i>
Wednesday 29th March	Stations of the Cross (Time to be confirmed)
Thursday 30th March	Stations of the Cross (Time to be confirmed)
Friday 31st March	End of Term 1