

# Years 1 and 2 Term Two Newsletter 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term Two! We hope you have had an enjoyable holiday break and you are as excited as we are to start the new term!

## Just a few reminders

- Please ensure that your child continues to bring their diary each Friday.
- All level 1/2 children should have a blue folder. This folder is to be kept in your child's school bag for: Diary, Notices and Readers.
- Spelling books are due back every fortnight.

## Diaries

The children have become a lot more confident with our routines and have been using their diaries responsibly. Please ensure your child fills out his/her diary with the reading homework 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.**

## Homework

It has been great to see that some children have been bringing home their spelling list words and studying them each week night. The spelling words are still being tested every fortnight on a Friday. 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 verbally place their spelling words

into meaningful sentences and stories. Talk to your child about things they notice in the words, such as, simple blends or familiar spelling patterns.

## **Readers**

It has been great to see that the children have become a lot more confident with their readers and that they are independently changing their readers each day and recognising many more words and letter patterns. Please remember to ask your child lots of questions about the book that they are reading to make sure that they have a good understanding of what is happening inside the text.

Some examples of questions that could help with comprehension are:

- What do you think the characters are feeling?
- What would you do if that happened to you?
- Why did that character want to do that?
- Would you change the ending, beginning or middle?
- What would you change in the story to make it more interesting?

## **Investigations/Discovery Time**

The children have really enjoyed participating in Investigations and Discovery Time during Term One. It has been pleasing to see the amount of enthusiasm and willingness to try out different areas and find out new information. We are sure that all children are excited to begin learning about their chosen topics again this term.

## **What are we learning in Term 2?**

### **Literacy:**

During Term 2, our writing will focus on 'To Inform'. Students will explore ways in which we inform an audience. This can be through procedures, reports and information videos. In CAFÉ Reading, we will focus on strategies such as chunking (e.g. fan-tas-tic), reading smoothly, stretching and sliding the word and participating in an Author Study.

When speaking and listening, we will focus on expression, eyes and ears on the speaker – known as 'tracking the speaker', and asking questions for clarification or further learning.

### **Mathematics:**

This Term in Mathematics we will be focusing on counting, number patterns, place value, modelling numbers, number lines and ordering numbers. Students will participate in an oral counting session before the commencement of each Maths lesson. Counting is an essential building block of Mathematics. Counting is used by students to demonstrate knowledge of the number names and number system.

### **Religious Education/Inquiry:**

This Term our Inquiry Topic focuses on Change. Students will explore how Change affects their everyday lives. Change means to become different. Through science, students will identify the difference between reversible and irreversible change. This will enable students to learn how to write a science report and a hypothesis. They will learn that everyday materials can be mixed together to produce change and posing questions that will help with predicting an outcome. Students will know the meaning of change and will know that some changes are not irreversible.

Through Religion, students will know that people can change in both a positive and negative ways. People can come back to God. E.g. - Story of Saul. Through both the Old and New Testaments, the students will explore the many Miracle stories.

We will deepen students understanding by exploring - What are miracles? Where is it evident in the bible?

We will research Saints such as Mother Teresa and Mary MacKillop, and ask students what is evident in these people that demonstrate Jesus in their lives?

Students will come to understand that we can change what we do and understand in our faith.

Our sacraments show how we can change and make ourselves follow what Jesus asks us to do in his messages.

Through Reconciliation, we can say we are sorry for what we have done and want to change what we say and do in our own lives.

To deepen the student's understandings, we will wonder about how can we **change** what we do and think?

How can we help change our family, school, parish and the world by showing mercy to others?

Students will know there are changes in our world - environmental issues that we can research and try and make a difference in our local communities.

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Mother’s Day Stall**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Mother’s Day Cupcake Celebration**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Family Week Whole School Mass – 9am**

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Year 1/2 Blessing Evening - 6.30pm**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Queens Birthday (Public Holiday)**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Progress Interviews**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Progress Interviews (School closure)**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – End of Term 2**

Thank you!

Level 1/2 Teachers

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