



2019 Year 3 & 4 Term Two Newsletter

Welcome to a new, busy term. We hope you and your child/ren are rejuvenated for the hectic term ahead and had a lovely, reflective Easter remembering the sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation.

We have a full 10 week term jammed packed with many celebrations, new discoveries and learning, as well as, NAPLAN for our Year 3s and Cross Arts preparations. The term will fly before our eyes.

Here is a snapshot of what your child will be learning this term and some tips on how you can help.

Literacy

With each term comes loads of learning. We continue our intensive CAFE reading approach where the students have been working diligently to develop their reading stamina and focus. Please help them by having an array of books ready to read at school and at home by visiting the Nook before or after school Monday to Thursday, where Mrs Martin is more than willing to help with suggested texts and borrow books out for you. Each class is scheduled to visit the Nook fortnightly and we invite the students to borrow from the green library boxes before school.

During our CAFE reading teaching time we will be working on the following strategies: Inner voice, making connections to self, world and text, creating visualisations from the text and inferring what the author might be saying indirectly.

Ways you can help develop these strategies are to ask the following questions during or at the end of a home reading session:

1. When you were reading the story, what were you thinking about?
2. What struck you in the story and made you stop and reflect what might happen next?
3. Did the character in the book do something that reminded you of something you have done before? For example, the character may have gone fishing just as your child did on holidays.
4. Does the character/s remind you about another book you have read before?
5. Does the storyline remind you of something that is happening in the world now or in the past?
6. Can you draw me a picture of the image you visualised in your mind of what the character/s looks like and/or the setting?
7. Did you read between the lines to find a hidden meaning that the author has shared?
8. What did you think the author meant by ... ?

In our Writing block we will continue to cover all the important elements of spelling, grammar, handwriting and punctuation. Our writing timeline is 'Writing to Persuade' (Exposition), followed by 'Writing to Inform' (Information/Explanation) which will tie in nicely with our Inquiry unit on Forces and will be a great evaluation of all they have learnt about forces.



Lastly, we will be extending your child's creative story writing through 'Writing to Entertain' where they will need to select a targeted audience, be it young children, teens or even adults. We will be looking for detailed plot development, dialogue between characters, paragraphs that follow the genre process with a complication (problem) and more than one solution, one that doesn't work before the final resolution (final solution).

Numeracy

The great learning will continue in Maths with a huge range of Number and Measurement units to be covered. These include: number patterns, subtraction, money, 3D objects, perimeter, area, angles and time.

Each fortnight when homework is set via Mathletics you will notice that we will be setting these units to bring the learning from school home and should be familiar to your child.

To make their learning in Maths real and practical for your child here are some suggestions to help make connections:

1. Play games incorporating number: "Can you guess my magic number that has a 7 in the thousands, 5 in the tens, and every digit is an odd number?" Then have your child ask you to think of their magic number and see who can guess it in least number of guesses.
2. Ask your child about the jump strategy and split strategy in subtraction and ask them to teach you. If your child can successfully teach you, then they have mastered the skill.
3. Play board games that involve money. A great one is Monopoly.
4. Start learning the times tables. There are great table songs on Rainforest Maths in Mathletics and Youtube to help.
5. Have your child help you purchase a few items from the shops and calculate how much it will cost and how much change you will receive in... dollars.
6. Create a shopping list from junk mail catalogues and have them budget a meal for \$10 for a dinner for 4.
7. Step out the length of a room in the house to approximate the length in metres, multiply the length and width to calculate the area.

Inquiry/Religion

This term we will be focused on Physical Science, in particular "forces". The students will learn that whenever an object is moved or lifted, we can say that a force has been exerted (applied) to make it happen. In other terms, we can define a force as a **push**, a **pull** or a **twist** that acts to move an object. It can make an object go faster (accelerate), to slow down an object, to make a moving object change direction or to keep it at rest. Forces can also be used to change the shape of an object. For example, stepping on an aluminium can changes the shape of that object.

We will also be incorporating forces in our faith with the following statement:

"FORCES CAN CHANGE THE WAY WE MOVE FORWARD WITH OUR FAITH AND LIFE"

This term is a very exciting one for many of our Year 3 students as they will be welcomed to the Lord's table by celebrating their First Eucharist. Please look at the special dates in this newsletter and keep our students in your prayers and perhaps join in some of the celebrations.



Also, clear your diaries so you can join your child/ren in our Family Week Mass on Friday the 17th of May. Our students always love when their parents come to celebrate with them.

Homework

During Parent Meetings early in Term 1, the majority of families agreed and signed our homework agreement. A great number of students are fulfilling their commitments to complete homework and having their diaries signed weekly. Unfortunately, the teachers are spending a good deal of time contacting families where a child has only partially completed homework or made no attempt. If homework is an issue at home please contact us and let us know how we can assist. Below I have created a link to our school homework policy so you can revisit the expectations with your child.

Homework Policy

Remember you can keep up to date with how your child is performing in Mathletics by visiting the parental portal and follow the prompts to receive a weekly report.

<http://west.core.mathletics.com/ParentCentreService-R164/ParentRegistration.aspx>

NAPLAN

On Tuesday 14th of May through till Thursday 16th of May, year 3 students will be partaking in the national English and Mathematics standardised testing (NAPLAN). We can not stress enough how important it is to **not put any pressure** on your children about the test or on the testing days. We will be working towards ensuring that your child will be adequately prepared for the days but it is important to remember that the results from these tests will only represent a snapshot of your child's ability and does not give their whole academic story. If you have any questions or concerns regarding NAPLAN, please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Finally, we love to hear from you if you have any questions or concerns about your child. We understand that not all parents can come to see us so below is a list of our email addresses to contact us.

We thank you for your continued support.

Year 3 & 4 Teachers.

Mrs Diosi - mdiosi@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Miss Batt - gbatt@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Melenhorst - rmelenhorst@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Claxton - cclaxton@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

Mr Andrew - dandrew@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au



Special Dates

Date/Time	Event	Venue
APRIL		
Tuesday 23rd	Term 2 begins	
Thursday 25th	ANZAC Day	
Monday 29th	Melbourne Football players visit the school and conduct clinics	Oval
MAY		
Friday 3rd	School Photos	
Wednesday 8th	Mother's Day Stall	Nook
Friday 10th	Mother's Day Celebration 2:45pm	classroom
Tuesday 14th	NAPLAN begins	Classroom
Tuesday 14th	First Eucharist Information Night 7pm	Church
Friday 17th	Family Week Mass	Church
Sunday 19th	Eucharist commitment Mass 10.30am	Church
Friday 31st	Feast of the Visitation - Whole School Mass 9:15	Church
JUNE		
Monday 10th	Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday	
Wednesday 12th	Year 3 /4 Community Mass 9:15	Church
Friday 14th	Eucharist Activity Day	In the PAC with Nazareth students
Thursday 20th	Reports go home	
Tuesday 25th	Progress Interviews 3:30-8:00pm	Classroom
Thursday 27th	Progress Interviews 3:30-6:00pm	Classroom
Friday 28th	Feast of Sacred Heart Mass Last Day of Term	Church
JULY		
Wednesday 17 th	Term Three commences	