



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 5 Term 1 2017!

Our initial focus for this term is student leadership and relationships. Throughout the year, students will be exposed to the issues that leadership entails in formal and informal positions. From this they should come to a realisation of the greater responsibility that they have as part of being in Year 5. We look forward to seeing our students embrace this concept.

Teaching and Learning

Religion

In Religion this term students will learn about "Reconciling God". It encourages students to form a deeper relationship with God and explore their personal spirituality. This unit also has a strong connection to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Specifically, students will study the way Indigenous people care for the land and their environment.

Literacy

In writing, our activities will be focusing upon writing narratives and the correct use of punctuation and grammar. These styles will be assessed during NAPLAN testing, so we encourage you to take every opportunity to read examples with your child.

Our spelling program involves a combination of words from the Australian Curriculum guidelines, words selected from students' writing and also a variety of spelling activities tailored to students' specific needs. Activities to assist their spelling and vocabulary development occur at school, and we expect students to consolidate these activities with practice of their individual list at home, as part of their homework.

Reading activities will be based upon strategies from the First Steps curriculum resource. Students will be participating in whole class, modelled reading, guided reading and independent reading activities. This will effectively compliment the Literacy program.

Mathematics

Our year in Mathematics begins with a focus on a range of mathematics concepts including: place value; multiplication and division; shape; length, perimeter and area; and data. Maths lessons will involve group and individual activities as we focus upon addressing the specific needs of your child. Concepts covered over the year will include: Number, Measurement, Geometry, Space, Probability and Data.

Integrated Unit

This year at St Anthony's we will be using a program called MAPPEN across the whole school. It is an online curriculum and professional learning program for Australian schools. It provides 32 expertly crafted integrated units and covers many global themes. This term we will be focusing on the overall theme of Identity and within that, our personal ethics and emotions. It teaches children to track their emotions, consider ethical dilemmas and experience new things that can assist with better understanding themselves.

Science

Our first Science unit is Light Shows where students will investigate the properties of light based on the Primary Connections unit.

PDHPE

The focus for this term is 'Cooperative Games'. The students will be developing the skills associated with cooperative team sports which will involve such skill sets as kicking, running, catching and team building. Students will also participate in regular fitness sessions throughout the week.

The Arts

Visual Arts will be focussing on famous world artists and their styles, techniques and inspirations.

Fruit Break

Please remember to pack your children a small fruit snack each day. Please cut up all fruit into manageable bite size pieces. Healthy ideas might be grapes, blueberries, carrot sticks, dried fruit, etc...

Behaviour

We will continue to maintain high behavioural expectations for each student throughout the year, both in the classroom and in the playground. Your child has a clear understanding of these expectations and of the consequences and privileges that are part of being a Year 5 leader.

As leaders of the school Year 5 are expected to lead the school in the following ways:

- Correct uniform at all times; this includes the appropriate wearing of jewellery (only plain studs or sleepers, chain with a cross worn under their uniform) socks that cover the ankles (NO ANKLE SOCKS permitted), school hair ties (In school colours only) and the tidy presentation of their uniform. Nail polish is not part of the school uniform.
- Developing respectful relationships with all members of the community at all times.
- Setting a positive example for the younger students.

Homework

Homework is set for every child and is aimed at finding a balance between schoolwork and extra-curricular activities, while building important time management skills.

Every Year 5 students should be reading for at least 15 minutes every day outside of school. We will be using Google Classroom as a platform for delivering homework. Our homework this year will comprise of a range of activities, varied across the year. Sometimes it may be a practice task, other times it may be project work, and Inquiry investigation of Flipped learning tasks. Homework will not necessarily take the traditional formation of Monday-Thursday.

Library, Italian, Music & Sport

All of Year 5 will be involved in Music, Italian and Library throughout the week. The days are:

Music – **5A (TUESDAY) 5P and 5L (WEDNESDAY)**

Library – **WEDNESDAY**

Italian - **FRIDAY**

Year 5 Sport days are:

MONDAY and

5A (WEDNESDAY); 5P (THURSDAY); 5L (FRIDAY) due to rotations

WWVP Permissions

It is a requirement of the ACT Government that all person working (or volunteering) with vulnerable people in schools and similar organisations have approval to do so. All teachers, support staff and parent volunteers working with children, (who are considered vulnerable people under section 28 of the Human Rights Act 2004), are required to apply for a working with vulnerable people (WWVP) card. Parents who do not have this approval and identification will not be permitted to work, even voluntarily within the school. WWVP permissions do expire. If you already hold a WWVP card, please check the expiry date and have it renewed. For new applications and further information please visit <https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/>

General Information

- Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform and that all items are clearly labeled. Shoulder length hair must be tied back for health reasons.
- Please ensure your child has suitable fresh fruit to eat during fruit break and is not messy.
- Please provide your child with a box of tissues.
- If your child is absent from school, please send in an absent note as these are a legal requirement.
- If your child is unable to participate in sport or fitness please send in a note.
- Please ensure all food in your child's lunchbox is nut free as we currently have children in our year level and school that are anaphylactic.
- Catholic Education Office policy states that parents must contact the school immediately if their child contracts an infectious disease (eg. measles, chicken pox, swine flu).

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Prompt and open communication between home and school is a vital component of the partnership that exists between parents and teachers. It is important that you speak to your child's teacher if you have any concerns. If you wish to discuss any matters regarding your child please contact us via email, phone or note.

The Year 5 Team 2017

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If possible we would appreciate the donation of a box of tissues and a packet of disinfectant wipes to help keep our classrooms clean and tidy.

We look forward to sharing the year with you and your children.

Regards,

Year 5 Teachers