Thursday 11th February

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 1 for Year 2 2016. The students have settled in well and we have begun what we know will be a productive year.

Here is a brief overview of our Term One Program:

RELIGION
The whole school theme for the year is ‘We are the Light of Christ’. Our first unit is ‘God and God’s Creation’. By the end of this unit students will know that God is present in their lives and in the lives of others. They will be able to identify ways to respond to others with love. This term we will also guide the students in preparing for the upcoming liturgical season of Lent and Easter. This year, Year 2 will join together with other grades for Community prayer. Once again it will be held on Thursday mornings at 9:00am and goes for approximately 15 minutes. The newsletter will inform you of the week each class will be leading prayer.

MATHS
The whole school approach to Mathematics is continuing with the iMaths Program Resource. It is an investigation-based numeracy program written for the Australian Curriculum. It includes teaching topics, investigations, differentiation, extension and Mathematics online. Specifically, during term One Year 2 will be covering the following concepts:
- Investigating Number: place value to one thousand and counting on number lines beyond a hundred
- Operating with number: problem solving and using the four operations
- Shapes in our environment: measurement in centimetres and metres, classifying shapes, drawing three dimensional objects and positional language
- All about us: collecting data and graphing

ENGLISH
Our literacy blocks will consist of reading, writing, spelling and grammar, speaking and listening. Students will also have guided reading sessions four times a week which will focus on developing their reading and comprehension skills. A whole school approach to spelling and word study continues with the Sound Waves text books. Throughout this year we will be exposing students to a variety of text types with a particular focus on Narratives this term.

INTEGRATED UNIT
For the first five weeks of this term students will participate in a Protective Behaviours unit. This unit will reinforce with students about being safe and identifying people they can trust. From week six onwards students will be participating in a unit all about Canberra. They will be learning about the history and geography of Canberra.
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

SPORTS DAYS – Tuesday and Thursday (please note there was a need to change sports days in order to participate in Gym Fun)

Students will continue to participate in regular fitness activities as part of our commitment to healthier bodies. One day per week will be devoted to the Gym Fun gross motor program. On the other sports day students will participate in a dance program. We will be beginning preparations for the upcoming Athletics Carnival later in the term.

THE ARTS

The Visual Arts program will be integrated within our program and we will focus on encouraging the students’ creativity and use a variety of media.

EVERYONE EVERYDAY

This year at St Anthony’s we will be implementing a program called Everyone Everyday across the whole school. It is a national award winning program that has been developed by Disability ACT’s Community Development team. Everyone Everyday is a toolkit for Inclusion. It is a comprehensive teaching resource for mainstream primary schools, and focuses on the concept of ‘inclusion’. The program aims to create a cultural shift in community attitudes towards those who are excluded for a range of reasons including disability. The underlying assumption is that we all benefit when the environments in which we work, live and play are inclusive; and that we all have a role to play in creating inclusive communities.

The Everyone Everyday program targets the Primary School setting and builds on what the school is already doing in the areas of values education and social and emotional learning. The aim of the program is to equip students with the knowledge, skills and confidence to take personal and collective action to enhance the inclusion of all people, especially children, in everyday life.

HOMEWORK

At St Anthony’s it is an expectation that all students will complete homework. Our Homework practices are outlined in detail within our Homework policy. The expectation is that students in Year 2 will complete 15-20 minutes of homework each night. A major component of this is reading. Homework will give the students an opportunity to consolidate their learning and rehearse skills already covered in the classroom. Homework will include spelling, reading and maths.


You might find this useful in helping your child with their homework.

Excursions

We plan to have an excursion later in the term to support our Canberra unit of work.

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/
LIBRARY, ITALIAN and MUSIC

All of Year 2 will be involved in Music, Italian and Library on Wednesday

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 (e.g. measles, chicken pox, swine flu).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Please refer to school newsletter or website for any changes or updates.

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>18th February</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>14th March</td>
<td>Canberra Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>24th March</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross</td>
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<td>25th March</td>
<td>Good Friday (Public Holiday)</td>
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<td>27th March</td>
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<td>1st April</td>
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We have a shared responsibility in teaching your child and we value open communication between home and school. If you have any concerns regarding your child, please contact your child’s teacher to arrange an appointment at a time that is suitable for both you and the teacher.

We look forward to working with you and your child. If you have any problems or queries, please feel free to contact us via telephone or e-mail.

Year 2 Teachers

Vanessa Phipps  Stephanie Edlinger  Jo Dignan
Year 2 Lisbon   Year 2 Padua     Year 2 Lisbon

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