Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 1, 2016. The students have settled in well and we have begun what we know will be a productive year. This year’s emphasis will be based around the integration of ICT throughout the curriculum. Our units this term are as follows:

**RELIGION**

The whole school theme for the year is ‘We are the Light of Christ’. Our first unit is ‘God and God’s Creation’. This unit investigates the images of God that are revealed to us through scripture and how the Bible is God’s Holy Word. Our final assessment task will challenge the students to exhibit their own images of God in the form of a class gallery.

**MATHS**

The whole school approach to Mathematics is continuing with the use of 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 we will be focusing on:

- Investigating the conditions required for a number to be odd or even and identify odd and even numbers
- Recognising, modelling, representing and ordering numbers to at least ten thousand
- Applying place value to partition, rearrange and regroup numbers to assist with calculations and solving problems
- Developing increasingly efficient mental strategies for computation

**ENGLISH**

Our literacy blocks will consist of reading, writing, spelling and grammar, speaking and listening. Students will be given opportunities to develop their reading strategies and writing skills across a variety of different text forms. A whole school approach to spelling and word study continues with the Sound Waves text books. Our writing focus will explore both Narrative and Persuasive texts.

**SCIENCE**

The Science unit this term is titled ‘Spinning in Space’. It focuses on the Earth’s orbit around the sun, its effect on night and day and its influence upon human life around the world. Students will perform a variety of scientific experiments that look at the Earth’s movements.

**HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**SPORTS DAYS – Monday and Friday**

Students will continue to participate in regular fitness activities as part of our commitment to healthier bodies. During Physical Education lessons, students will learn the correct skills and techniques for a variety of Athletic disciplines in preparation for the upcoming Athletics Carnival. Our units will focus upon cyber safety, safe and unsafe situations and how to live a healthy life.

**THE ARTS**

The Visual Art unit is ‘Portraiture’. The students will learn to create self-portraits using a variety of mediums and study influential artists such as Picasso and Andy Warhol.

In Drama and Dance, students will participate in a selection of games that will develop their skills in improvisation. They will have to think, react and respond quickly in a variety of given scenarios. Students will become more confident experimenting with their own creativity and stepping outside their comfort zone.
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
In Year 3 homework will give the students an opportunity to consolidate their learning and rehearse skills already covered in the classroom. Homework in Term 1 will be based on a matrix format which will include a number of compulsory and non-compulsory tasks. These will be given out each fortnight.

In addition to the matrix, there will be spelling activities to complete and nightly reading.

LIBRARY, ITALIAN, MUSIC
All of Year 3 will be involved in Music, Italian and Library on TUESDAY.

WWVP PERMISSIONS AND CLASSROOM HELPERS
We warmly welcome any parents or carers who are interested in helping out in the classroom. Please contact your child’s teacher if you are interested. It is a requirement of the ACT Government that all persons 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.
• Please provide your child with a packet of wet wipes and a box of tissues which be used to supply the classroom for the rest of the year.
• 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 who 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).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Please refer to school newsletter or website for any changes or updates. Please refer to the school calendar for other important dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18th February</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<td>25th March</td>
<td>Good Friday (Public Holiday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th March</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th March</td>
<td>Easter Monday (Public Holiday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st April</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>7th April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day prayer celebration (led by Year 3)</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.

Your sincerely,

Year 3 Teachers

Tea Vujica
Year 3 Padua

Orla Rutledge & Bernadette Wilson
Year 3 Assisi

Jon Liddle
Year 3 Lisbon