



Tuesday, 10th October, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 4 for Year 2, 2017. This term will certainly be busy as we prepare the students for special events such as Grandparent's day and our major science focus on Light and Sound.

Here is a brief overview of our Term Four Program:

For your information:

SPORTS DAYS – are changing this term to Mondays and Friday

RELIGION

The whole school theme for the year is 'We are the Light of Christ-through Christen Service'. This term we are exploring a unit entitled "Traditions of Jesus and his people". By the end of this unit, children will identify that rituals and traditions were an important part of Jesus' life and by making loving choices we become followers of Jesus.

MATHEMATICS

Maths will continue to be taught using an inquiry based approach. The Numeracy Intervention teacher will be working collaboratively with all the year two teachers to support the student's mathematical development. The students will be using concrete materials to assist with number development and measurement.

The lessons will be targeted at the student's level of development and will be designed to provide the students with the necessary skills to gain the concepts.

ENGLISH

During this term in English we will be continuing to incorporate the fundamentals of the ELI (Early Learning Initiative) model. This includes 20 minutes of individual reading, 20 minutes of individual writing, teacher reading, students sharing their ideas through their own writing and reading. Conferencing with students happens on a regular basis. We will be doing literacy based groups, which will include spelling, comprehension, grammar and drama.. Persuasive writing will be the genre that we will be focusing on for the first six weeks. This will be the basis of our modelled and shared writing. The students will learn about using emotive words to persuade the reader to take their point of view. The final four weeks of term will be a poetry unit. The students will be exposed to a variety of poets and will learn to write limericks, cinquain poems and Haikus.

INTEGRATED UNIT

The students will be completing the Light and Sound Unit this term. This unit will investigate expose the students to the following three key concepts:

The sources of light and the causes of shadows;

How we use sound to represent objects and characters in stories?

How we use design and technology to tell stories?

The students will build instruments and use their bodies and computers as they experiment with making sounds. They will work towards presenting a production of a story using puppets and sounds.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This term the students will be developing their fundamental motor skills of striking, catching and throwing through their participation in our Cricket program. The students will also be utilizing these skills in a series of fun cooperative games as part of our fitness program.

THE ARTS

The Visual Arts program will be integrated within our program and we will focus on encouraging the students' creativity and facility with a variety of media. The students will be designing and creating a variety of Shadow puppets and investigate the relationship between light and darkness.

SCIENCE

This term Science will be the basis of our Integrated unit

HABITS OF THE MIND

The *Habits of the mind* will be continuing to be a focus throughout Term Four across the whole school. *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. Reading to and with your children is an excellent way to assist your child with their 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. Testing your children on their spelling words or playing spelling games can be quick and fun.

On the school website, there are some very useful strategies for helping your child with his/her reading.

There is a very informative parent fact sheet about homework available at

http://www.det.act.gov.au/teaching_and_learning/parental-engagement/education-capital-parent-fact-sheet

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

LIBRARY, ITALIAN, MUSIC & SPORT

All of Year 2 will be involved in Music, Italian and Library on **Mondays this term.**

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/>

HEAD LICE

Could you please check your child/s hair once a week for head lice as we have had several cases in Year two last term.

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, that it can be consumed without too much fuss and is not messy
- If your child is absent from school, please send in an absent note as these are a legal requirement.
- If you would like to assist in any way in the classroom (hearing reading, wiping down desks on Fridays, sharpening pencils) please let us know as we would be very grateful and it all helps your child. We realise that this is not an option for many parents, however we appreciate greatly those who help now or may help in the future.
- 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).
- We would be grateful if you could contribute "Wet Ones", tissues, cleaning materials and wipes to help us with the everyday hygiene in the classroom.

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

Date	Event
14 th October	Catholic School's Netball Carnival
20 th October	Boorowa Touch and Netball Carnival
27 th October	P&F Family Movie Night and Evening Fair
9 th November	Remembrance Day Liturgy at 11.50 am
10 th November	Grandparents Day
8 th December	Italian Expo Day
11 th December	Meet 2018 Teacher Session & new student orientation session
15 th December	Last day of 2017 school year

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

Danielle Richardson (2 Assisi) Mon – Wed
Janice Spackman (2 Assisi) Thur – Fri

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