

# Year 5 Class Newsletter

## Term 1, 2016



Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year! We had a busy, but fun time learning last term and we look forward to more of the same this semester. Here are some of the things we will be covering:

### **Religious Education**

Your child will be covering two units this term as part of our Religious Education program. The first is titled 'The Church Community' and is a unit on Church and the second is a Lent/Easter unit with the title 'Choosing to do good'. We will also have a class mass in Week 5.

### **Literacy**

As part of our Literacy block, we will complete Literacy group activities four days a week. These activities include guided reading, comprehension skills, creative writing tasks and activities on the iPads.

This term we will be using the Springboard into Comprehension program to guide our Literacy groups. We will be looking closely at the difference between fact and opinion.

### **Writing**

During Term One we will be looking at the purpose and structure of narratives and persuasive arguments. The children will be writing an argument as part of Geography.

### **Spelling**

The children will continue to receive spelling homework each week with a new sound focus. During class they will be required to find the meanings of their spelling list words and write their words into interesting sentences.

## **Mathematics**

In mathematics we will be conducting investigations to build and develop your child's knowledge and understanding of the content. This term we will be conducting one investigation called 'Race around Australia' and will require the children to answer the question, 'Is it possible to fly around Australia and back to your starting point in less than 24 hours?'

Each week we will also focus on a new skill to help solve mental math's problems. The children will practice this skill for homework each night.

## **Science**

This term we are looking at the properties of solids, liquids and gases. The children will conduct experiments to investigate how heat impacts on each state of matter.

## **Geography/ Society and Environment**

In Geography we will be investigating the positive and negative impact of bushfires and floods in Australia. In the second half of the term we will be looking at the countries and traditions of Europe and North America.

## **Health**

Your child will be looking at the importance of fire safety. The children will design a safety package to be used in the event of an emergency.



## **Homework**

Homework is given out on a Monday and due on Thursday morning. The students will receive a homework grid each week, which explains their homework tasks. These include set tasks:

- Spelling: the children complete Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check and a segmenting activity.
- Reading- 20 minutes of Silent Reading each night.
- Mathematics- the children complete a column in their *Mental Maths* book. There will also be set tasks on *mathletics* online.

The children are also required to record any house chores and physical activities completed throughout the week, along with the occasional Religion, Science or History activity.

## **Diary**

Please encourage your child to use their diary at home. Please sign your child's diary once per week. I will be checking your child's diary once per week at school. Please feel free to use the diary as a means to communicate with me.

## **Term 1 Calendar dates.**

2<sup>nd</sup> March- Year 5 class mass

7<sup>th</sup> March- Labour Day

25<sup>th</sup> March- Good Friday

28<sup>th</sup> March- Easter Monday

29<sup>th</sup> March- Easter Tuesday

Looking forward to another great term!

David Colace

Year 5 Teacher