

# Year 5 Class Newsletter

## Term 2, 2016



Dear Parents,

Welcome back for Term 2! 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 more units this term as part of our Religious Education program. The first is titled 'We are called' and is a unit on Baptism and the second is a Confirmation unit with the title 'The Spirit Frees'. The Year Five class will also be coordinating the special friends and volunteers' whole school mass in week 7.

### **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.

We will continue to use the Springboard into Comprehension program to guide our Literacy groups. We will be looking closely at the difference between fact and opinion. This term we will be focusing on the reading skills, 'cause and effect' and 'compare and contrast'.

### **Writing**

During the first five weeks we will be exploring the structure and purpose of persuasive arguments. The children will have the opportunity to write a persuasive text as part of their Geography project, arguing for or against the redevelopment of Rottnest Island into a theme park.

### **Spelling**

In class we will continue to work our way through the Sound Waves Spelling program. This program takes a phonemic approach to help students with their literacy development.

## **Mathematics**

In mathematics we will continue to conduct investigations to build and develop your child's knowledge and understanding of the content. This term we will be conducting one investigation. It is titled 'Dynamic Dominoes' and it focuses on equivalent fractions. We will also be looking at some Measurement and Geometry concepts.

## **Science**

This term we are looking at the features that allow animals to survive in their natural habitats. We will take a close look desert plants and animals and their adaptations, which help them to survive in dry conditions. Throughout this term we will be conducting experiments to help build our understanding.

## **Geography/ Technology and Enterprise**

In Geography we will be learning about the redevelopment of land. As part of this the children will investigate a 'proposal' for the redevelopment of Rottnest Island into a theme park. This project will also require them to create a model design of a theme park, using recyclable goods. Later in the term the children will study the impact of Indigenous people on the land.

## **Art (Nancy Cassian)**

"I'm not crazy. My reality is just different from yours!" (Cheshire Cat - Alice in Wonderland)

This term we escape from reality and experiment with Surrealist art techniques, as we also incorporate the themes from Alice in Wonderland.

Our first task is to design a 'Surrealist' eye - with an unreal image. This is a whole school collaboration and should be a fascinating project. We will then attempt to create a Surreal Skyline where things are not what you'd initially expect. Moving onto Alice in Wonderland, the students will choose a character to incorporate into an image of bold patterns and Wonderland symbols. Finally, after an introduction to the poem 'Jabberwocky,' the students will form a collage using pictures and words inspired by the mythical creature.



## **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 mathematics 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 3 Calendar dates.**

Mother's Day Mass- Wednesday May 3rd

NAPLAN- Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup>- Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup>

Catholic Day (No School)- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Looking forward to another great term!

David Colace

Year 5 Teacher