

# Year 4 Class Newsletter

## Term 2, 2016



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 2! The children worked hard last term and should be congratulated for their excellent effort. Your children will be busy in the following areas:

### Religious Education

Your child will be preparing for their First Holy Communion. Further information about the sacrament will be provided at our parent meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>. This will be an exciting time for your child, and I encourage you to be involved in their preparation.

By now, you should have received an email regarding the dress code for Holy Communion. Below is an exemplar showing suitable wear for Holy Communion celebrations.



### Literacy

We will continue to use the "*Springboard into Comprehension*" resource. We will cover three comprehension strategies, which are 1) facts and opinions, 2) cause and effect and 3) bias and prejudice.

In our literacy dedicated time, your child will work in small groups to complete comprehension, spelling and guided-reading activities. We will use ipads to assist teaching comprehension skills. Grammar and spelling books will be used to support your child's learning in literacy.

### **Writing**

We will investigate the genre of historical narratives and recounts.

### **Spelling**

Each week your child will focus on a different "Sound Waves" unit (11-20). Homework words for the week will be based on this sound unit. The children will be given a list of spelling words that are appropriate for their spelling age. At the end of the week there will be a spelling and dictation test.

Your child can access games and activities for each unit of work. Please go to [www.soundwaveskids.com.au](http://www.soundwaveskids.com.au)

The kids log in is: toys610



### **Speaking & Listening**

Your child will prepare a speech about an early world explorer. The speech will be purposely kept 'low key' so your child becomes comfortable speaking in front of an audience

### **Mathematics**

Your child will review all number operations and solve more complicated word problems. Your child will complete the math's investigation called "The time of my life" and "Lengthy Leaps". We will learn about measurement using different units and calculate area and perimeter of shapes. We will also review displays of data, including bar graphs and tables. I encourage your child to regularly practice their timestables at home.

### **Science**

Your child will explore the process of pollination and germination of flowers. We will look at the stages of a plants life-cycle and environmental conditions that plants need for growth.

## **History/ Society and Environment**

We will continue to explore the First Contact to Australia. Your child will learn about the journeys of explorers to Australia, stories of the First Fleet and the nature of contact between Europeans and Aboriginal people and or Torres Strait Islanders and others.

## **Health**

Your child will learn strategies to recognize and respond to unsafe situations. We will be using the resource "Holding Hands".

## **ART Mrs Nancy Cassian**

The students will be introduced to the Surrealist art movement this term and in particular the work of Salvador Dali. Our first project is a school collaboration, to design a 'surrealist eye.' We will then use a special glue technique called "Decalcomania" to create impromptu art created largely by chance - a surrealist idea. Next, we make a study of Dali's 'The Elephants,' which will inspire Daliesque animals of the students' choice. Finally, the children will create a collage, based on images from Alice in Wonderland.

## **Homework**

Please note the following remarks regarding homework:

### **1) Spelling:**

Spelling homework will be LSCWC, I encourage your child to play the online games provided to enforce the weekly sound. The students can pick list and extension words.

### **2) Reading:**

Reading books are changed each Monday and students Reading Logs are checked each Thursday. As you listen to your child read at home, please take some time to ask some inferential questions. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home and please sign their reading log each week.

### **3) Mental Maths**

Please encourage your child to circle any questions that he/she finds troublesome. It is preferable that students first try to answer independently. They can go back over the more challenging questions at a later time. Students are encouraged to ask questions

each morning about the mental maths homework. They may also see me from 8:30am if they would like to discuss a question.

#### 4) Mathematics homework

Information about this homework will be in my parent emails. Please encourage your child to keep working on the Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division sections.

**All homework is collected on Thursdays.** If students forget they can show me Friday. Students are expected to complete their homework each night and bring their homework folder to school each day. If your child is unable to complete their homework for a particular reason, please write a note in your child's diary and ask that he/she shows me in the morning.

#### Goals/ Rewards

Students will work towards reaching the 'living legend' level on our "Super Improvers Wall" (Photo below). Students will receive stars when they reach a personal best (for example achieving 1 mark higher on a weekly test, or for reaching personal goals). After they reach 5 stars students will move up a level.



We will also be use the resource called "Go Noodle" as a reward.

#### Diary

Please encourage your child to use their diary at home. Please sign your child's diary once each week. I will be checking your child's every week at school. Please feel free to use the diary if you wish to communicate a message with me.

**Year 4 Calendar dates**

11<sup>th</sup> May First Holy Communion parent meeting 7pm

25<sup>th</sup> May Reconciliation (You are welcome to attend)

26<sup>th</sup> May First Holy Communion rehearsal 2-4pm

29<sup>th</sup> May First Holy Communion 10:00am

**Year 4 Excursions**

2<sup>nd</sup> June Fremantle Museum

I am working with your child to help him/her achieve their learning and personal goals. I'm sure it will be a rewarding and enjoyable term.

Kind regards,

Sarah Helmerhorst