Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 2! It is has been great to see the children come back from their holidays settled and ready to learn!

It is shaping up to be another busy term filled with many exciting learning opportunities. Through our Faith-Life Inquiry the children will be given many opportunities to explore their family background and traditions and memories that are a part of their families. We are looking forward to sharing our stories with each other.

We are also looking forward to the many exciting events that are planned this term, the school disco, our Community Classroom afternoon and Athletics Day to name just a few. We are so lucky to have so many opportunities to participate in so many different activities.

Please remember the importance of reading each night with your child. Please ensure that you also support your child to fill in their own reading diary.

Please note the following dates for community classrooms, for all other dates please check the calendar in the weekly newsletter.

**Community Classroom afternoons for 2014**
Term 2 – Tuesday 13th May 2014
Term 3 – Tuesday 29th July 2014

**Faith-Life Inquiry**
Our whole school focus of religious scripture and the related Image for Term 2 is:

**Luke 22:19**
*Do this in memory of me*

The students will be involved in much discussion around this image to elicit the thoughts and questions that they have about it. Links will be made to the scripture, *‘Do this in memory of me’*, and the students will explore how it is embedded in our whole school topic of ‘**Community**’.

The purpose for our Faith Life Inquiry “Pass The Story on” is for the students to further develop their understanding that we are called by Jesus to gather together in many different ways as a community. We will explore the idea that our community is made up of many different cultural and religious groups and that each group comes with their own stories that signify the journeys from past to present. We will highlight the importance that these stories are told and passed down through generations.

Through exploration of some Bible stories that tell of God’s relationship with people we learn about living a Eucharistic life where our actions must match the message of Jesus. We are called to do this in memory of Him.
**English**

**Reading and Viewing**
This term we are concentrating on various strategies that the children can use to support them in monitoring their reading. Some of the strategies we have looked at have included
- identifying known parts in a tricky word
- identifying when what they have read has not sounded right
- re-reading to fix a mistake which they have realised they’ve made.

**Writing**
As a link to our Faith-Life Inquiry unit, the students will be creating a simple autobiography that tells their story. They will further explore how to use a plan to help them plan their writing before they record it. Students will also continue to develop their ability to edit their writing. This will include re-reading what they have written, identifying incorrectly spelt high frequency words and an awareness of basic punctuation; capital letters and full stops.

**Speaking and Listening**
Through participating in ‘Creative Investigations’, ‘Show and Tell’ and general classroom activities, we will be encouraging the students to focus on using whole body active listening when having conversations and discussions with other students and teachers.

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**Mathematics**

**Number and Algebra**
The children will explore how numbers can be broken up in different ways. They will investigate how to find a total by adding different numbers as well as developing the notion of what equal means.

**Measurement**
Children will explore the function and features of a clock. A focus on ‘time’ will include reading o’clock and half past times on both the analogue and digital clock faces. Students will also be provided with opportunities develop an awareness of the duration of specific events.

**Geometry**
Students will revisit two dimensional and three dimensional shapes as well as explore their characteristics. They will be provided with opportunities to group like shapes together as well as explain why specific group of shapes are similar.
Information and Communication Technology (I.C.T.)

This term we will continue to make I.C.T a part of our every day program. We use iPads, laptops and other digital technologies to enhance our learning experiences in the classroom.

The students be practising skills such as, logging on and logging off, correctly shutting down a computer. They will use Microsoft word to open a document, type, insert a picture and save their work. They will also be required to locate their work in the shared students drive.

Social and Emotional Learning focus

This term, we will continue to develop the children’s ability to get along with others as well as introduce the concept of resilience. This will be done through the ‘You Can Do It!’ Program where the children learn these skills through, ‘Ricky Resilience’ and ‘Gabby Get Along’. They will participate in activities such as role plays and group discussions in order to build these important skills.

Physical Education (P.E.) – Ms Joanne McManus

During Term Two, the children in Year One will be working on refining their fine motor skills and continuing to develop their spatial awareness. The children will be involved in Athletics Day during Week 3, so the first few weeks of term will be preparing them for this. They will be focusing on their hand-eye coordination through activities relating to the kicking sports. The two main sports will be soccer and football.
Art – Ms Pina McDonald

During Term Two, the Year One children will be involved in creating props for our whole school production which is being held in Term Four. Your child will be given tasks which will involve designing, creating, planning, solving problems, construction, following instructions and learning how to store their work safely to avoid damage.

In conjunction with this, the Year One children will be experimenting with collaging. Using recycled materials the children will create artwork representing insects and mini-beasts. Children will be discussing the importance of reusing objects that we would normally throw out! They will also be discovering and discussing the varieties of different textures they can find using these materials/objects The children will then plan, and create a textured picture of an insect or mini-beast using recycled materials. They will experiment with a variety of ways to “stick” these materials onto their background piece of board. For example, by stapling, using sticky tape, PVA glue or a glue gun.

We look forward to a very productive term of learning in all curriculum areas. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to see us briefly before or after school, or for a more lengthy discussion, see us to make an appointment. For less urgent matters, you may also contact us via email, but please allow up to one day for a response.

Yours sincerely,

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