Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term Two! We hope that you had a wonderful holiday and Easter together as a family and are ready for another wonderful term of learning. This term the Faith-Life inquiry focus is all about *community*. We will be focusing on the AusVels domain of History and in particular, the Grade Two students will be learning more about the history of Our Lady’s School and Parish.

We look forward to our second Community Classroom afternoon, where the focus will be on how playing Maths games can support your child’s learning and understanding of mathematical concepts.

Please remember that *Brain Food* needs to be small and prepared so that distractions to learning are minimal. Also, Home Reading Diaries are to be handed in daily by your child. Please do not forget to sign the diary each day after your child has written their comment.

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

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**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*’.

**Understandings:**

Each of us has a past that is made up of significant events that impact on who we are. The past and the present are connected through traditions and ritual. There are many signs and symbols that are embedded in traditions and rituals. Traditions and rituals are an integral part of a community. There is a range of sources (stories, photographs, artefacts) that we can reflect on to remember and reflect on the past.
Faith-Life Inquiry continued

Our Lady’s Parish and Primary school is a site of historical significance for many in the Sunshine community. There are many forms of historical evidence around the school which reveal much about the past. The celebration of the Eucharist in a Mass is a time for Christians to reflect on Jesus’ life and what we are called to do.

Jesus’ actions during the Last Supper demonstrate how Christians are invited to be people of service. Jesus was following ritual and tradition when He celebrated the Passover meal with his disciples.

Prayer: Glory Be to the Father

Mass and Liturgy: the Grade Two students will be responsible for organising the mass for The Feast of the Sacred Heart in June.

English

Writing
The students will continue to have opportunities to practise familiar text types, such as recounts and procedures. They will also be expected to apply the skills they have been learning in relation to grammar and punctuation and this will be addressed before publishing. We will formally introduce and teach information reports this term as History lends itself well to this type of writing.

Reading and Viewing
We will be further developing our focus on the importance of comprehension when reading/viewing. The strategies we will be focusing on specifically will be visualisation, questioning and making connections. The students will be exposed to both written and visual texts (videos, images) and given opportunities to reflect on and discuss what meaning they have taken from the texts. Your child will continue to work in a focused teacher group, where the teaching will be tailored to your child’s level and needs.

Speaking and Listening
Your child is given many opportunities to participate in discussions, express opinions and ask questions on a daily basis. This term we will be trialling a new Show and Tell format. This will be based on a given theme or question, which will lead to individual inquiry, rather than children bringing items from home. Stay tuned for more information soon!
**Mathematics**

**Statistics and Probability**

**Graphs:** generating a question of interest for independent data collection, representing data on a bar graph, and interpreting data from a given graph.

**Chance:** your child will learn to identify practical activities and every day events that involve chance. They will be introduced to the language that describes outcomes, such as ‘likely’ or ‘unlikely’ and identify some events as ‘certain’ or ‘impossible’.

**Number and Algebra**

**Addition and Subtraction:** your child will be exploring the connection between addition and subtraction. Through explicit teaching and games, your child will also practise effective and accurate strategies to add and subtract with confidence. We will incorporate some simple worded problems related to real-life to decide whether we are being asked to add or subtract.

**Multiplication and Division:** we will be exploring the relationship between division and multiplication using arrays. Your child will be encouraged to recognise and represent multiplication as repeated addition, groups and arrays. Students will be taught that division involves equal groups and sharing.

**Measurement and Geometry**

**Time:** by the end of Grade Two, your child needs to be able to read and tell analogue time to the quarter-hour, using the language of ‘past’ and ‘to’. We will be revising ‘o’clock’ and ‘half past’ as part of these lessons and incorporating aspects of digital time to help your child make connections.

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**Information and Communication Technology (I.C.T.)**

The focus for I.C.T. will be to ensure that students will have the basic skills (logging-on/off, saving/retrieving files, word processing and knowing where keys are, inserting a range of graphics necessary) to effectively and independently use the technology available to them on the iPads and PCs around the school. It will be ESSENTIAL for your child to remember their individual usernames and passwords so that they can independently and quickly access these digital tools and personal files. 2N will continue to blog on a weekly basis as a communication tool.

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**Social and Emotional Learning focus**

We will continue to revise the strategies adopted by the whole school in 2013 through our involvement in the CASEA program. Students are consistently reminded and supported in managing strong emotions and classrooms are supported with visual reminders.

Sometimes students will participate in structured Circle Time sessions where a specific Social-Emotional skill/need is being addressed.
Physical Education (P.E.) – Ms Joanne McManus

During Term 2, the children in Grade Two 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 Two 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, your child will continue to work on their bird story from Term One. We also will be studying the Dutch artist Piet Mondrian who was a Dutch painter who made an evolution from realistic to totally abstract painting. He used the primary colours (yellow, red, blue) with white shapes and black lines. The children will be creating art inspired by Mondrian’s style!

Yours sincerely,

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