Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2 which is shaping up to be a very busy term. The students will be participating in the NAPLAN tests during Week 4 of the term. Below we have outlined some important information and dates for you to take note.

**Homework:**

- Reading: Children are expected to read each night (10-15 minutes minimum) and write a brief comment in their diary reflecting on what they have read. Please support your child’s home reading, by checking their comment and signing it each night. The classroom teachers will check these regularly.

- Homework Tasks: Homework will continue to be given out on Thursdays. The tasks will vary throughout the term and it is expected that these tasks will be handed in the following Tuesdays. Parents and children need to complete and sign the Comment Sheet that can be found at the front of your child’s book for each week of homework.

- The spelling program will continue in Term 2. Children are expected to learn their spelling words each week at home in preparation for testing in class.

**Excursions:**

As part of our Faith-Life Inquiry Unit, ‘Let’s Do It!’, Grades 3E and 3F will be visiting Melbourne Museum and The Shrine of Remembrance on *Friday 23rd May*.

**Dates to Remember:** Please continue to check the newsletter for important dates this Term

**Reminders:**

- Please ensure that your child comes to school with a healthy snack and lunch and a bottle of water.

- Remind your child to bring a box of tissues for the class especially as winter is approaching.

- Reconciliation:
  Parent Meeting with Fr Dr Elio Capra - Wednesday 27th August at 7pm
  Sacrament - Thursday 4th September at 7pm

**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 analysing Salvador Dali’s *Sacrament of the Last Supper* painting in terms of what they can see whilst also exploring the symbolism in the image. They will also be involved in much discussion and analysis to elicit their thoughts and questions about the image, the scripture and how it is embedded in our whole school topic of ‘Community’.

There is much that will be drawn out from this scripture and image focus that ties into our whole school topic of ‘Community’.

We would like the students to understand that Christians gather as a community to celebrate the Eucharist. We will encourage the students to reflect on how Jesus wants them to live their lives, the choices they make and the actions they do. It is important for us to reflect on how we remember Jesus and how he wants to be remembered. By the students learning about their past communities, they will have a greater understanding of themselves.

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**English**

**Speaking and Listening**
This term there will be a stronger emphasis on speaking clearly, audibly and politely. Your child will be taught the steps of giving a formal oral presentation.

**Reading and Viewing**
Our focus this term will be to continue the Reader’s Workshop, which encompasses independent reading, focused skills sessions and responding to texts in a range of ways. Skills sessions will be focused specifically towards your child’s needs. Reading skills will include comprehension, questioning, making connections, inferring, author’s purpose, speculating what characters might think or feel and using learned strategies when reading and interpreting texts.

**Writing**
Our main focus in our writing sessions will be to provide the students with the opportunity to work on becoming independent writers. We will focus on revising different text types such as recounts, letters / cards, expositions / persuasive, poetry, and procedures. An important emphasis will be on children revising their writing carefully by circling incorrect spelling, putting in appropriate punctuation and making sure their writing makes sense. Students will practise how to join letters to construct a fluent handwriting style.
Mathematics

NAPLAN preparation revisiting all strands (Weeks 1-4)

**Number and Algebra**
- Connection between addition and subtraction
- Addition facts
- Mental strategies for computation
- Place Value to 10 000
- Partitioning
- Odd and even numbers

**Measurement and Geometry**
- Tell time to the minute
- Read timetables
- Measure, order and compare objects
- Metric units of length, mass and capacity
- Models of three-dimensional objects

**Statistics and Probability**
- Interpret and compare data

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

We recognise the importance that ICT plays in your child’s learning. We have designed our curriculum so that it encompasses frequent use of ICT that will support and enhance your child’s learning. Students will continue to use iPads and laptops and use programs such as iMovie, Pages, PowerPoint and Word. Students will use the iPad cameras to capture images to support their learning and use in given tasks.

In addition to this, we are enthusiastic about the use of our class Blogs and the use of this ‘tool’ to regularly share and reflect on their learning. We encourage your child to log onto the Blog regularly outside of classroom hours as a way of recording any thoughts, learnings or comments they may have. We also see this as an opportunity for students to develop their writing and typing skills.

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**Social and Emotional Learning focus**

During Circle Time, the children will continue to participate in activities to enable them to feel special and work well with others. Through Habits of Mind, they will continue to learn about persistence and taking responsible risks.

Through role-play and co-operative games the children will continue to learn about resilience which is the ability to cope and bounce back after difficult events.

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Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Parish Primary School Values:
Compassion Courage Justice Peace Respect Service
**Physical Education (P.E.)**

During Term 2, the children in Grade Three will be focusing on enhancing their hand-eye coordination, motor and teamwork skills. 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 the kicking sports such as soccer and football. The activities will help them to kick a ball to a target and to become more accurate with their passing.

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**Art – Ms Pina McDonald**

During Term 2, the Year Three children will be involved in creating props for our whole school production which is being held in Term 4. 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.

The Year three children will also be involved in a different project which will be led by an artist in residence named Jessica Wilson. Jessica will be working on a Big West project for three weeks with the students. They will be drawing and then making constructions out of their drawings. It will be exciting and inspirational for the students to have contact with another artist!!

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Yours sincerely,

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