Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term Two, what an exciting term it will be! Coming up on June 2nd is the Year Five camp to Sovereign Hill. This camp is designed to broaden the children’s understandings of our Faith-Life Inquiry on History and Community.

Your child will take part in the NAPLAN assessment tasks in Week Four. This is only a part of the whole assessment for the year. It is important that the children approach this assessment with a positive attitude, but remember that it is just another school task.

Both Room C and D will be leading prayer and Mass celebrations during the term; Room C, the Mother’s Day Prayer service on Friday the 9th May, and Room D the Mass for the Feast Day of Eugene De Mazenod on Wednesday the 21st May.

Both classes will continue to work on the school garden project. We hope to cook some of the vegetables that we planted in Term One.

You will soon receive an invitation to our Community Classroom afternoon which is coming up on Tuesday, 13th May. This afternoon will have a Mathematics focus. For future planning, the date for the Term 3 Community Classroom afternoon is Tuesday 29th July 2014.

Both classes have made a great start to our classroom blogs, please feel free to continue your support of your child’s work in this area by contributing on line:

Grade 5D blog  
http://learningwithmrwickham.global2.vic.edu.au/

Grade 5C blog  
http://learningleague.global2.vic.edu.au/
**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’.

Each individual and group has their own story to tell that can be recalled via memories, photographs, books, songs, film and artefacts. Special rituals allow us to make sense of particular stories in our history and how they shape our lives today. The Gold rush and the Eureka Stockade incident are significant events in Australian History. People who came to Australia brought their faith traditions and practices that have contributed to a rich and diverse faith filled community. In the Catholic Church we have practices and rituals, such as the Eucharist where we gather as a community to celebrate and emulate the life of Jesus.

**English**

In **Reading and Viewing** we will continue to develop the deepening of the children’s responses and thinking about texts that they read and view. The children will continue to develop important reading skills such as making inferences, summarizing and locating detail and key words in factual and non-factual texts.

In **Writing** the children will develop their skills in planning, drafting and editing narratives, expositions and reports. The children will continue to write short responses that express their opinions and understandings of a variety of topics through the classroom blog.

The children will be using ICT tools to continue to develop their oral language skills. Being able to clearly express and record their thoughts for others to view. The children will continue to develop oral language and listening skills through the use of specific activities in class, for example Circle Time, small group discussions and teacher lead activities.
**Mathematics**

During Term Two the children will work on recognising and describing common two and three dimensional shapes and objects, becoming familiar with the attributes such as lines of symmetry and construction nets of each shape.

Time will be spent exploring strategies for problem solving through looking at word problems. This will also help to develop skills in the four processes.

Through the Faith- Life Inquiry unit the children will engage in location and mapping skills using a variety of different charts and maps.

We will further extend the children’s understanding of fractions through hands on activities that will involve ordering, comparing, adding and subtracting common fractions such as halves, thirds and quarters. This will extend to conducting chance experiments using fraction outcomes.

**Social and Emotional Learning focus**

We will continue to introduce activities and structures that should help to develop the children’s confidence and resilience. We will be using activities from the program Bounce Back which consists of a developmental and structured series of activities. The work the children have started in the school garden will continue as this also helps the children to work in cooperative groups making and listening to others suggestions.

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

The students will continue to use I.C.T tools in the classroom to enhance their learning opportunities. They will continue to develop skills in using the classroom blog at home. This enables students to interact on line to discuss topics or to clarify any concerns that they may have. They will also use the computers and iPads in the classroom whenever a need arises for them to search or question a particular concept. This includes the skill of saving their data in a specific file in order to retrieve it when necessary. Students will have opportunities to create iMovies and iBooks through the use of the iPad. These apps not only develop technological skills, but should also help to develop their English skills.
Art – Ms Pina McDonald

During Term Two, the Year Five 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.

The Year Five students will be involved with planning and creating “projections” which will be used for background effects for our production. These will be created using colour mixing techniques and computer animated imagery. A lot of experimenting and discovery will be happening here!

Yours sincerely,

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