



Year 2 Term 1 2021

St Joseph's Primary School

Respect for Self, Respect for Others, Respect for Environment

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL PRAYER

Dear God,

We thank you for our wonderful school. We are glad we belong to St Joseph's community.

We pray that we will be safe and happy at school, and that we will learn much about You, ourselves and the world.

Help us to treat each other with respect and generosity.

We hope to be like St Joseph, a person who cared for others.

Amen

Welcome to a new year of learning at St Joseph's! It has been so nice to see the children arriving with big smiles on their faces and happily greeting their new classmates and teachers. It is an exciting time for us all!

A focus for children in Year Two is to develop independence and responsibility for themselves, their possessions and their learning. We will be working with students this year to develop positive study habits and set personal goals to work towards.

Please note 2N and 2M attend Specialist Classes **Wednesday**. Students will need to wear their sports uniform on Wednesday. Library lessons for **2N** and **2M** will also be on a **Wednesday**, so library bags need to be brought on this day.

In Year Two we enjoy having Parent Helpers to share our learning with us. We will begin this towards the end of Term One and will confirm the date closer to the time. Please make sure your Working With Children Check is up to date if you would like to help in the classroom.

We look forward to working with each of your children and helping them to flourish in 2021.

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friday, 29th January - Term 1 starts
- Tuesday, 2nd February - Prep Information Night
- Friday, 5th February, 12.00pm - Welcome Mass,
- Friday, 5th February, 3.30pm onwards - Welcome BBQ

- Wednesday, 10 and Thursday, 11 February - Parent teacher information exchanges
- 15th- 25th February (Monday-Thursday) - Year 1-2 Swimming Program
- Wednesday, 17 February, 10.00am - Ash Wednesday Mass
- Friday, 19 February - School photos (**full summer school uniform to be worn**)
- Thursday, 4 and Friday, 5 March - School closure
- Monday, 8 March - Labour Day
- Friday, 19 March - School Athletics Carnival
- 29 March - 1 April - Holy Week Liturgies
- Thursday, 1 April - Harmony Day celebrations
- Thursday, 1 April, 1.00pm - Term 1 ends
- Monday, 19 April - First Day of Term 2

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This term, the students will explore the concepts of Prayer, Liturgy and Sacraments. The students will learn about personal and communal prayer forms. Together, students will learn the School Prayer, write our class prayer and personal prayers. The students will be invited to reflect on various ways in which people can have a relationship with God. Throughout the term, students will engage in daily classroom prayer and attend Mass. The students will also learn about Lent and engage with the Easter story.

NUMERACY

In Year Two there is a strong emphasis on ensuring that the foundational number skills are consolidated and automatic before moving on to increasingly complex concepts. We place great importance on these number skills and devote time within our mathematics lessons to the teaching and practise of these essential concepts. Any additional practise of these skills at home should assist students to have greater automaticity in their answers to number problems. If you would like any assistance with ways you can be supporting your child's development within number please see us.

Students will explore the following skills throughout the year:

- **Counting** - counting by 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s forwards and backwards from any number
- **Addition** - by the end of Year Two, solve 2 digit addition using mental strategies
- **Place value** - make and break numbers up to 1000 (e.g 210, 2 hundreds, 1 tens, 0 ones)
- **Subtraction** - by the end of Year Two, solve 2 digit subtraction using mental strategies
- **Multiplication** - recognise multiplication as repeated addition (e.g $2+2+2=6$ or $2 \times 3=6$)
- **Division** - recognise division as dividing numbers and collections into equal groups

This term, we will also cover the following topics:

- **Time - Calendar** (days of the week, months of the year, seasons of the year & how to read and interpret a calendar)
- **Capacity** (comparing and ordering shapes and containers according to how much they can hold)
- **2D Shape** (draw and describe a range of standard and non standard 2D shapes)
- **Transformation** (Investigate the effect of one-step slides, flips and rotations of 2D shapes, with and without digital technologies)

We encourage you to ask your child questions about their learning. We also encourage you to practise skills and engage in conversations around maths in everyday life, for example, when shopping (money), telling the time or asking about cooking (capacity and volume).

LITERACY

In Term One students will learn about the following concepts, skills and topics within each area of the Literacy curriculum.

Reading: Fiction and Non-fiction texts

Reading groups will focus on fluency, comprehension, phonological awareness, phonics and vocabulary. In Guided Reading, students will be explicitly taught key reading skills, which will be consolidated throughout the term. These skills include:

- summarising
- clarifying
- predicting
- taking notes (footprinting) about important elements of the story whilst reading,
- reading fluency,
- how to read (decode) multisyllabic words

Students will also set an individualised reading goal with their teacher to target a specific individual need.

Writing: Writing to socialise

Students will learn about the structure, author's purpose and language used when writing a variety of texts, such as recount, letters, invitations and messages. A balance of explicit instruction and independent choice will be adopted, in order to allow students to explore their creativity. Sentence-level grammar and writing conventions will remain an underlying focus, along with the children's handwriting, focusing particularly on the correct use of dotted thirds and letter formation.

Spelling

This term we will be teaching spelling through the Multisensory Structured Language (MSL) program. Students will have an explicit teaching session everyday for 30 minutes, where they are taught spelling rules, patterns and sounds. The multisensory component of the program involves the use of visual, auditory, and tactile pathways used together to enhance memory and learning of written language.

Students will also have individual irregular spelling word lists that they will be required to practise at home.

Reading at home:

Students are expected to read at home each day (20 minutes). Please record the books your child reads in their diary so we can monitor their reading at home. Your child's reading log (school diary) will be checked by the teacher once a week.

In Year Two, our goal is to foster independence in the children's reading choices, as well as continue to read levelled texts. We will be teaching the children how to choose texts that are appropriate for them, as well as how to source texts that will be of interest to them and enjoyable to read.

In the classroom, children can select books from our class library and these can either be kept in their independent reading boxes or taken home. Levelled readers will also be provided in their Reading Group tubs. Children will need to select from these tubs independently. Please be mindful that the selection is limited as we aim to move away from levelled readers in Year Two.

In addition, children visit the school library each week to borrow books. Books have also been individually allocated on Bug Club. All of the students have their Bug Club passwords glued into their diaries. We encourage all families to use Bug Club in conjunction with reading books from school.

When reading at home, the emphasis should be placed on promoting reading as an enjoyable activity and fostering a love of reading. The explicit teaching of reading skills takes place at school. When reading with your child, have discussions around the text and check their understanding. It is these discussions with you that the children find most enjoyable.

The allocated 20 minutes of daily reading can be carried out in many ways. Children can read independently, read aloud to you, or you can read to them. Suggestions include:

- Reading a chapter from a text each day to your child and predicting what may happen next.
- Reading newspaper articles and discussing its contents.
- Following a recipe as you cook with your child.
- Look up the weather for the following day and discuss weather patterns/changes or even compare the weather to different places in Australia or the world.
- If your child shows a strong interest in sports, you could follow a team's progress throughout a season and discuss the articles written about their team or follow the team's statistics.

In addition, your child may enjoy reading comic books, nonfiction texts or magazines. Providing a diverse range of texts for the children to read will assist in keeping this reading time engaging, entertaining and enjoyable.

TOPIC

This term our unit of study is titled 'Let's Build a Community'. During this unit, students will explore what a community is and how we can have a supportive and respectful learning community. Students will also explore ways in which they can keep a healthy mind, body and spirit and how they can positively interact and contribute in their learning community. The Victorian Curriculum domain that we will be covering is Health and Physical Education.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

At St. Joseph's we explicitly teach our students social and emotional skills and strategies within our SEL curriculum. The program is designed to address the Personal and Social Capability from the Victorian Curriculum, as well as the 5 SEL competencies of:

- Self-management
- Self-awareness
- Responsible decision making
- Relationship skills
- Social awareness

St Joseph's will also use the curriculum framework from the Berry Street Education Model. This curriculum is purposefully designed to support the sequential development of students' physical, psychological, social and emotional capacities. Our Term 1 domain, 'Body', focuses on 4 areas:

- De-escalation
- Present, Centred and Grounded
- Mindfulness
- Self-regulation

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

MUSIC - Erin Absalom

Music in Term 1 will focus on singing and movement. Students will be taught songs incorporating body percussion, movement and dance. Students will learn melodies by ear and from memory, as well as how to sing whilst accompanied by piano. At the end of the term students should have a catalogue of songs they know from memory and can perform them in a group context, with the relevant movements.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Louise Howell

This term, the Year Two children will be focusing on athletics activities in anticipation for our school Athletics Carnival on Friday 19th March. We will focus on activities such as sprints, hurdles, shot put and long jump.

Families are encouraged to attend and support their children at this event. Parental assistance is encouraged and appreciated. Please speak to your classroom teacher if you are able to assist in any way at the Athletics Carnival. This will be subject to Covid rules & regulations.

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding term in Physical Education.

VISUAL ART - Lidia Chris

In Term 1, Visual Art is about extending construction and collage skills based on the unit 'Let's Build a Community'.

The children will begin with constructing various pieces related to important aspects of our school community and also develop their collage skills by creating several pieces using a variety of materials. They will conclude the term with an Easter activity.

ITALIAN - Franca Butera-Crea

In Term One children in grades 1/2 will explore the theme of 'Wellbeing'.

They will learn vocabulary related to healthy food, sports/hobbies and recreational activities and write simple sentences about them.

Children will continue to work on, and build upon their knowledge of the colour, numbers and greetings.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are a special celebration in every child's life and we are happy for you to send along a small treat, e.g. cupcakes or ice creams to share in the class. Individual treats are preferred. When bringing items into school, all ingredients must be clearly labelled.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year in Year Two!

Lisa Mclean and Alice Nelligan