



Prep  
Term Two 2019  
St Joseph's Primary School  
Respect for Self, Respect for Others, Respect for Environment

## ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL PRAYER

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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 BACK

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Welcome back to another busy and exciting term in Prep at St Joseph's!

Term 1 was jam packed with excitement and activity; the Prep children showed just how independent and responsible they are in the way they settled in so smoothly to the routines and structures of school life.

This term will be another busy term and we are looking forward to delving more deeply into our Literacy activities and further developing our reading and writing skills. In the Numeracy hour, we will be building our sense of number and mathematical concepts. We will be exploring how we can live like Jesus in Religious Education.

**Teacher supervision begins each morning at 8:30am** and the first school bell rings at 8:50am. When the bell rings, students are expected to have already completed their morning jobs (depositing their drink bottles, brain food and, if necessary, their library books, inside the classroom). The morning routine is essential for establishing a calm and focused learning space.

If your child arrives after 8.50am, please send them into the classroom as quickly and quietly as possible, to ensure a smooth and quiet start to the day for all students.

**As we draw closer to winter please be mindful of signs of illness.** If your child is showing signs of being unwell, please keep them at home until they are well. This way, we can ensure the bugs do not spread to the other members of the school community. Please contact the office to report all absences.

**Parent Helpers:** We have had an overwhelming amount of parents putting their hands up to support in the classroom which is fantastic. Please remember to provide a copy of your Working With Children Check to Kerry or Moira in the office.

**Uniform:** The students have until Week 3 to transition into their full winter uniform. Uniforms can be purchased from Nicholls Furnishings, 159 Martin Street, Brighton.

We welcome your continued involvement and feedback.

Kind regards,  
Alannah Cauchi and Plaxy Nardella  
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## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

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- Tuesday, 23 April - Term 2 starts
- Wednesday, 24 April, 9.00am - Holy Week Liturgy, The Resurrection, presented by Years 3 and 4
- Thursday, 25 April - ANZAC Day
- Friday, 26 April, 9.00am - ANZAC Day Assembly
- Friday, 4 May - Mothers Day Stall
- Saturday, 4 May, 9.00am - Working Bee
- Friday, 10 May, 7.45am - Mothers Day Breakfast & Morning Activities
- Sunday, 12 May - Mother's Day
- Wednesday, 22 May - National Simultaneous Storytime
- Friday, 24 May - Dads' and Kids' Footy Night
- Monday, 27 May - National Reconciliation Day
- Friday, 31 May- Prep C Assembly
- Saturday, 1 June, 7.00pm - P&F Art Auction
- Friday, 7 June - School closure
- Monday, 10 June - Queen's Birthday public holiday
- Friday, 14 June- Prep Excursion to Ripponlea House
- Friday, 21 June- Prep N Assembly
- Friday, 28 June - End of term Mass, 12.00pm; Term 2 ends, 1.00pm

# Curriculum

## LITERACY

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This term we will continue to expose the students to a variety of text types and structures in the Reading and Writing blocks. We will consider the purpose of writing and how an author conveys meaning in a text. We will write to retell, focusing on the structures of text type. The students will focus on correct letter formation and will be encouraged to include punctuation in their writing.

In our Reading rotations the children will be consolidating their learning of letter names and associated single letter sounds. They will learn about sequencing events, story structures and irregular words, all of which create the foundation for future learning. Students will be exposed to comprehension skills and a range of explicit reading strategies and skills. They will continue to build their oral language skills and vocabulary.

### Irregular Words

This term we will continue to work on the irregular words at school as well as home. **Each fortnight**, the classroom teacher will 'check' that students have learnt to **READ ALL** the words before giving them the next set of words. If your child has learnt their words before the check in it is an excellent opportunity to practice writing them. Our goal is to ensure the children have consolidated this learning before rushing them forward to something new.

### Take Home Reading books & Sound Packs

This term the children will be bringing home a selection of five books a week. These books are to be read throughout the week and **recorded in the students reading journals**. Books are selected by the children and provide an opportunity to practise learnt skills. Please continue to practice the Sound Pack **each** night as this will allow students to consolidate letter sound relationships. Teachers check the reading journals once a week to monitor home reading progress. If you have any questions about this please chat to the classroom teacher.

## MATHEMATICS

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We are going to have an exciting term with our mathematics. The big focus will be on **number**. This will involve counting, reading, writing, making numbers and also addition. Counting is an extremely important aspect of early number and students will be involved in activities that develop their skills in counting forwards and backwards, counting items in a collection and combining two small collections.

Through a range of hands-on teaching and learning experiences, children will also be exploring the following concepts:

- Time: Students will be able to connect days of the week to familiar events and actions. For example students will be able to connect their weekly routines with specific days of the week.
- Location: Students will learn about position and movement through activities that explore how to give and follow simple directions, such as guiding a friend around an obstacle path, whilst also developing the language used in location, transformation and direction such as 'near', 'next to', 'forwards' and 'towards'.

- Data: Students will learn many different ways to collect information through yes/no questions. Students will learn how to pose questions about themselves and familiar objects and events, for example 'Do you have any pets?'
- 2D and 3D shape: Students will be learn to sort, describe and name familiar two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects in the environment - specifically squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, spheres and cubes.
- Money: Students will learn how to represent simple, everyday financial situations involving money, for example using toy money to pay for goods in play situations.

### **How you can help at home**

Please encourage your child to discuss their mathematical learning. We also encourage you to continue to enhance their learning at home through:

- Repetitive counting
- Board and card games
- Everyday experiences: cooking, measuring, counting etc



### **TOPIC**

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In our History unit, students will be exploring Community Histories. This includes inquiring into the history of a significant building or site in the local community and what it reveals about the past. The students will begin this unit by investigating the history of their house before exploring the history of St Joseph's school, over the past ten years. In conjunction with this, the students will be explicitly taught historical concepts and skills including chronology and continuity and change.

The students learning in this unit will culminate with a visit to the Ripponlea Estate where they will access the past through exploring the stories, artefacts, furnishings, fashion and images.

The excursion will provide an insight into the people who lived in the home at different points of the houses' history and give the students an opportunity to experience what life was like living then.

### **RELIGION**

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Throughout the year the school organises a number of Parish masses that all students attend. You are most welcome to share these wonderful celebrations with us. Please check the school newsletter for mass dates.

In class, the students will begin to explore the way Jesus lived and how we can live the way Jesus taught us to. Students will be exposed to scripture stories that focus on forgiveness and love, including our Greatest Commandment. Students will reflect on the strengths of Jesus and how we can respond to the call of discipleship in our day to day lives.

## **SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)**

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Term 1 saw the successful introduction of the Berry Street Education Model (BSEM) Curriculum. Students learned about concepts such as self-regulation, de-escalation, mindfulness, and what it means to be present, centred and grounded.

Such self-management skills provide a sound foundation for the Term 2 domain of 'Stamina'. Therefore, the Term 2 SEL unit will explore concepts such as:

- Growth mindset - growth versus fixed mindset, mindset awareness
- Emotional intelligence - identifying emotions, savouring
- Resilience - defining resilience, helpful and unhelpful thinking
- Stamina - skills for independent learning

## **SPECIALIST PROGRAMS**

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Specialist programs will continue to run on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday Mornings. **Sport uniform is to be worn on Thursday.**

**Library will continue to take place on Thursdays.** The students are able to borrow two books, one of those will stay in their personal reading box located in the classroom. Please be aware lost and damaged books will incur a small fee.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Louise Howell**

This term the Prep children will be focusing on fundamental motor skills.

We will be exploring skills such as kicking, dribbling, throwing and catching.

They will also have a strong focus on fair play and good sportsmanship, as well as spatial awareness during games.

### **VISUAL ARTS - Lidia Chris**

During Term 2, the children are going to create several thread and textile pieces including a special Mother's Day card. They are also going to develop their art skills through the use of different tools and materials constructing various items based on the Inquiry Unit; Learning from Our Past.

### **MUSIC - Angie Casabene**

The focus for Music this term will be on performance and singing skills. Children will be refining their voices to sing together the songs which tell the story of Madagascar the Musical. Lessons will also incorporate opportunities to enhance music skills of beat, rhythm, styles, dance and form.

### **ITALIAN - Franca Butera-Crea**

During Term 2 children in prep will focus on the theme 'Learning from Our Past History'. They will learn about Italy's geography and about Rome, it's capital city. Students will look at present day Rome and explore its ancient past. They will continue to learn the number up to 15 as well as learn about the family member names; la madre, il padre, la sorella, il fratello.