Welcome to Year 3! We hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable break. We are really looking forward to a wonderful year of learning.

**Religious Education**
Our first topic this semester will be Prayer. In this unit the students will focus on prayer as a means of developing a meaningful relationship with God. Students will examine both formal and informal prayer, learning about what prayer means in the lives of individuals and the Catholic Church community.
Also this term we will be studying the module: Lent to Easter: preparing for and stepping through the most significant time in Jesus’ life.

**English**
**Reading:**
The children will participate in Guided Reading groups daily during the class literacy block. Groups are levelled according to reading and comprehension ability. Other groups work independently on spelling, punctuation, grammar and reading comprehension activities, while the teacher is instructing the focus group. Children are encouraged to be independent learners during this time. Children also take part in modelled, shared and independent reading daily. Some of the aspects we will be looking closely at this term are:

- Reading a variety of text types, in particular this term, Information Reports, Narratives and Expositions
- Practising known reading strategies
- Developing strategies for reading more complex texts
- Comprehension Strategies
- Summarising
- Note taking
- Identifying audience and purpose

**Spelling**
We will continue to use the Sound Waves Spelling Program. Proof reading and editing skills are an important part of the writing process and are a major focus for Year 3. We will be focusing on a variety of spelling rules and some of the children’s personal words will be generated from the rules that are being taught.

**Handwriting**
Children have a focused handwriting lesson each week. In Year 3 they begin to learn joined foundation handwriting. The children will use the Foundation Handwriting text to practise the correct skills. Correct pencil grip is encouraged at all times. Children who do not have a correct pencil grip are encouraged to use a moulded pencil grip for all of their writing.

**Speaking and Listening:**
The children will be involved in oral storytelling, group presentations of research and independent speaking activities. They will also be involved in oral comprehension activities and following sequences of oral directions.

**Library**
Both Year 3 classes have their library lessons with Mrs Harrison on Tuesdays.
Mathematics
This term in Mathematics the topics we will cover are: Whole Number, Patterns and Algebra and Addition and Subtraction. The other strands being covered are: Length, Area, Time, 2D and 3D shapes. Multiplication tables are taught and practised throughout the whole year. Children will be expected to recite and practise these for homework continually, to improve speed and accuracy of mental calculation.

Science
Our Science unit for this term is “Mini Beasts”. The students investigate observable features, change and growth of living things. They research the stages in the life cycle of a mini beast. If the children would like to bring any mini beasts in to class could they please be in a sealed plastic container and be of the non-poisonous variety!

Human Society and the Environment
Our HSIE unit this term is “Local Government”. The students will learn about the roles and responsibilities of local government in providing services and protecting the environment of the local area.

Personal Development/Health and Physical Education
Both Year 3 classes have their PE lessons with Mrs Wiggins. Both classes have their lesson on Thursdays. The extra Sport lesson with their class teachers will be on Wednesdays. Children are required to wear their sports uniform on these days.

Our PDH unit for this term is Positive Relationships which includes 'Understanding Bullying' and ‘Co-operation Crusade’ which covers positive relationships, bullying, conflict, the need for rules and peer influences.

PBL
In our PBL lessons the children have been learning about cyber safety. Below are 2 websites that you may want to look at with your children regarding cyber safety at home. It is very important that the children are aware of this at school and at home. The other rules are constantly being revised as a whole school focus.


Creative Art and Practical Arts
Music/ Drama lessons will be with Ms Rudd. Both classes will have their lesson on Thursdays. Visual Art lessons will be in class with the class teacher. Could you please make sure your child has a paint shirt as they will be required to wear them in most art lessons. The unit for this term will focus on creating mini beasts through drawing, painting and design.

Technology
The children will be using the Internet to research Mini Beasts for their Information Report. They will also be learning how to make a Venn diagram on the computer and will be printing it out to show the likes/differences of Mini Beasts. The children will also continue to use Word for their publishing of writing and other learning tasks. Computer skills are integrated across the curriculum.

Homework
Homework this term will consist of reading 15 to 20 minutes each night, spelling words and two or three pages of their Maths Plus Text Book. On occasions topic research may be included.
This term we will be giving homework on a Monday and it will need to be returned on Friday morning. The Mathematics textbook is taken home for homework but please make sure it is returned each Friday.

**For your information:**

The dates for Naplan are: Term 2 Week 4

*Tuesday 12th May, Wednesday 13\(^{th}\) May and Thursday 14\(^{th}\) May.*

We hope this curriculum note has outlined our class program and expectations for Term One. It should be a wonderful term of learning! Please don't hesitate to make an appointment with us, either before or after school, if you would like to see us regarding any matter.

Kind Regards

Sarah Russell and Jessica Carroll