Year 6 Curriculum Note
Term 1 2015

Welcome back to Term 1. We have an exciting term ahead and we look forward to teaching your child this year.

Religious Education

LEADING AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS
In this module, senior students reflect upon how they can be leaders in the way that Jesus showed us. Students will explore how Jesus modelled leadership and taught about leading through love in his parables.

LENT to EASTER
In this module students will explore the themes of Lent and Easter in a creative and integrated way with an in-depth analysis of the parable of the Prodigal Son. Students will explore Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem and its relationship with his divine mission and develop an understanding of its relationship to the liturgy of Passion Sunday. For their continuing journey into the Easter season students will focus on the great joy, intense hope and the positive impact that the news of Jesus' resurrection brings to believers of the Catholic faith. Through participation and involvement in the module as well as in whole school Lent and Easter activities and celebrations, students will gain an awareness of the stories, actions and symbols of Lent and Easter.

English

Reading and Viewing
Children are grouped and work independently or cooperatively while the teacher is instructing a focus group. 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 texts
- Vocabulary building
- Exploring a range of comprehension strategies (summarising, inferencing, synthesising)

Spelling
Children will continue to use the Sound Waves spelling program to focus on phonemic awareness (sounds in words). Children will focus on a different sound each week and how that sound relates to a number of spelling words. There is also a regular focus on spelling rules, word meanings and word origins. Individualised weekly spelling lists will be based on the weekly sound, thematic words and tricky words determined from children's own writing.

Handwriting
Children have focused handwriting lessons each week based on the scope and sequence presented in the Handwriting Conventions text. We expect a high standard of bookwork from the children at all times and cursive handwriting will be encouraged in all areas of the curriculum.
Writing and Composing
In class the children are involved in construction of shared and independent texts. There will be both class and small group focus to examine how we compose texts and how children can improve their writing. Grammar conventions and punctuation will also be taught. Text types to be covered this term are Information Report, Persuasive Writing (Discussion), Historical Recount and Poetry/Description. Proof reading and editing skills are an important part of the writing process and will be a focus throughout the year.

Mathematics
Over the whole of Term 1, Year 6 will be covering the following mathematical strands in numeracy:

- Whole number
  - Recognise the location of negative numbers in relation to zero on a number line
  - Identify and describe prime and composite numbers
  - Model and describe square and triangular numbers

- Addition and Subtraction
  - Select and apply efficient mental, written and calculator strategies to solve word problems and record the strategy used

- Length
  - Record lengths and distances using decimal notation to three decimal places
  - Convert between kilometres, metres, centimetres and millimetres
  - Solve problems involving lengths and perimeter

- 2D space
  - Identify, describe, compare and draw diagonals of two-dimensional shapes
  - Identify and name parts of circles
  - Identify, use and describe combinations of translations, reflections and rotations

- Angles
  - Identify and name angle types formed by the intersection of straight lines, including ‘angles on a straight line’, ‘angles at a point’ and ‘vertically opposite angles’
  - Use known angle results to find unknown angles in diagrams

- Position
  - Use grid-referenced maps to locate and describe positions
  - Follow a sequence of directions, including compass directions, to find a particular location on a map
  - Describe routes using landmarks and directional language

Human Society and Its Environment and Science

Antarctica - How do humans impact on an environment? (HSIE)
Living Things – Amazing Adaptations in Antarctica (Science)
We will look at the global environment of Antarctica in depth, to identify where it is situated on the globe and what this environment is like. We will investigate animals and organisms that make up the Antarctic food chain and how human habitation has created issues relating to the care of Antarctica. We will investigate global warming and observe how it is affecting this pristine and fragile environment. We will also look at past and present exploration of Antarctica.
Guest speaker, Chris Olsen from *Adventure Presentations*, will also give a presentation entitled *A Journey to Antarctica* to assist the children first hand in their learning through his experiences as an adventurer in Antarctica.

**Creative Arts (in class)**

We will be studying the artwork of Lucia DeLeiris who accompanied an expedition to Antarctica during 1998-99, sponsored by the US National Science Foundation. From her journals, drawings and paintings documenting the remarkable ecosystem we will introduce the children to the worlds above and beneath the pack ice, the ocean lying just below the ice and on the narrow strip of coastline. Creative writing, visual arts, design and make and drama tasks will be designed to link to the Multiple Intelligence model of thinking and creating relating to the Antarctic theme.

**Technology**

Computer skills are integrated across the curriculum. The children will further develop their skills in computer operations, concepts, word processing, graphics, research and cyber safety skills associated with Internet use. We have set up our Year 6 Blog, which will be a great way for students to share their learning with their families as well as provide students easy access to regularly visited websites. The blog can be accessed at [www.year6fw.blogspot.com](http://www.year6fw.blogspot.com). Students have new passwords for Study Ladder and these are noted in their homework books for use at home. We will continue to make use of this site at school as well as World Book Encyclopaedia, BBC Learning and a range of other sites to explore Literacy, Maths and other Key Learning Areas (some of which are linked on the blog). Please ensure that your child has returned their Internet Agreement note signed by a parent giving them permission to access the internet from school.

**Class Sport**

Soccer skills will be taught this term in preparation for the Soccer Gala Day which will be held at the end of the term. Class sport will be held on Tuesday for 6F and Wednesday for 6W. Mrs Wiggins will teach PE lessons on Thursday for 6W and Friday for 6F. Children should wear full sport uniform on their allocated sport days only including *white* sports shoes with *white* laces.

**Creative Arts**

Ms Rudd will conduct weekly music and drama classes with the students developing music and drama skills every Thursday for 6F and Friday for 6W.

**Library** - Children can borrow and exchange books each Tuesday for 6W and Thursday for 6F with Mrs Harrison.

**Personal Development and Health**

**Positive Relationships**

This unit assists the children to identify and deal with issues/conflict in relationships. This unit will enable students to develop resilience and strategies for dealing with others in a positive and empowering way.
Positive Behaviours for Learning

Cyber Safety is a prime area of focus as we start the year, and all children have engaged in interactive activities in the classroom discussing appropriate behaviour and information that should be revealed on the web and how to protect their privacy and safety. Our PBL lessons will cover the rule CARING FOR SELF and focus on rewarding children positively with Reasons to Smile awards and class incentives. Children will also look at modeled behaviours that assist classroom learning, playground behaviour and caring for others in our school community.

Homework

Weekly homework will consist of:

- nightly reading
- spelling practice and activities
- Maths Mentals unit
- Additional variety of writing and research tasks/assignments related to current curriculum areas.

Homework is given each Monday and is to be returned the following Friday. Please send a note in your child’s diary if he/she has not completed homework by the due date.

Things to Remember

😊 Ms Susan Rudd will be teaching on Wednesdays in 6W
😊 Sports uniform to be worn as per above days
😊 Library as per above days

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 10th February - Year 6 Incursion - Antarctica
Tuesday 10th February - 6:00pm Parent Information Sessions
Wednesday 11th February - Opening School Mass 11:30am
Wednesday 18th February - Ash Wednesday Mass 11:30am
Friday 20th February - Welcome BBQ 5:00-8:00pm
Thursday 26th February - Paul Kelly Cup - AFL Gala Day (1 team only)
Wednesday 25th February - Sacred Heart Swimming Carnival - Years 2 to 6
Monday 2nd March (Week 6) - Wellbeing Week
Wednesday 4th March - Year 6 Class Mass 9:15am
Wednesday 11th March - 6W Reconciliation 10:00am
Wednesday 18th February - 6F Reconciliation 10:00am
Tuesday 24th March - Year 6 Cluster Mass 10:30 at Forestville
Thursday 26th March - Years 5 & 6 Soccer Gala Day

We look forward to your support throughout this year.

Mr Daniel Felsman, Ms Susan Rudd and Mrs Liz Williams.