Welcome back to Term 4!

Religious Education
Our Religion topic for this term will be Sharing with others as Jesus Showed Us and Advent to Christmas. In this module the children will explore Jesus’ caring for others and how we can be generous to the poor and people in need. The next unit for Religion in term 4 is Advent to Christmas. In this module, Advent is presented as a time of waiting and preparation. The students will examine, through scripture stories the sequence of events leading up to the birth of Jesus. In the Christmas focus, students are encouraged to appreciate Christmas as a time when their families and parish community thank God for the gift of Jesus.

Literacy
The children will be given opportunities to speak, listen, read and write every day during our two hour literacy block.

Reading
Every child will engage in an explicit teaching session with the teacher each week during guided reading sessions. Reading will also be taught through a variety of Big Books which will relate to our theme. Home readers will go home on Monday. Two to five books will be sent home and must be returned with their homework on Friday so that new books can be sent home. Library lessons will be in the library with Mrs Harrison on Tuesdays. These lessons will support the English programme. Please remind your child to place their library bag in their school bag on their allocated day.

Writing
The text types that will be explicitly taught this term are Information Report and Response. We will also continue to work with the children to develop their strategies for writing words and editing their work for publishing. Handwriting text books will continue to be completed this term as well as other formal handwriting lessons. We expect a high standard of book work from the children.

Spelling
This term we will continue with our Sound Waves program. The program acknowledges that sounds can be represented in more than one way in the written form and therefore teaches the 40+ sounds and the different letter representations of each sound. In Year 1 we are learning the song and actions to remember the sounds (phonemes) and the many ways we can represent the same sound (graphemes). This program will be supplemented by a list of personal spelling words, which will be generated from the children’s writing books and theme work.
**Speaking and Listening**
The children will be learning to present oral narratives and procedures in connection with the text types we are covering in reading and writing. We will be continuing to build upon their listening skills when working collaboratively in small groups, taking on a specific group role to complete a collaborative task. The children will also be given a ‘talk time’ topic each week in their homework and will present a short oral presentation to the class on the topic.

**Information Communication Technology**
Technology is integrated into all aspects of the curriculum. Throughout the day the children will have the opportunity to use the interactive whiteboard as well as the laptop and desktop computers. Cyber safety has been a focus for the first week of the term. You might like to visit [Hectorsworld.com](http://Hectorsworld.com) with your child and discuss keeping safe on the internet. This term we will be navigating our way around the keyboard.

In Year 1 we are lucky enough to have iPads in our classrooms. We will be using various applications and software for different teaching and learning experiences. Cyber safety will be maintained while using the iPads in accordance with our technology agreement. Some of the programs we will be exploring this term are: Book Creator, Clicker 6 and Publisher and various websites such as Studyladder, BBC and ABCsplash as learning tools.

**Numeracy**
Our Mathematics program will follow the new NSW Mathematics Syllabus. We will continue to keep mathematics experiences hands on and fun. The children will be reassessed and tasks will be focused according to the skills, knowledge, mathematical thinking and strategies used. Students will engage in various methods of problem solving using open ended questioning, and they will be required to use critical thinking skills to find answers to practical questions. The children will be using a variety of materials to explore and develop the concepts involved and they will record their investigations in their Mathematics books.

During Term 2 the children will be focusing on:

- **Fractions and Decimals:**
  - Recognise, describe and represent 1 half as 1 of two equal parts of whole objects, shapes and collections.
  - Use fractional notation of $\frac{1}{2}$.
  - Explore quarters and eighths.

- **Position:**
  - Give and follow directions to move to familiar locations and to position objects.
  - Use the terms left and right to describe position in relation to self and from perspective of a person facing the opposite direction.
  - Describe a path from one location to another.

- **Chance:**
  - Recognise the element of chance in familiar situations.
  - Describe chance in events using every day language.

- **Data:**
  - Collect data and track what has been counted.
  - Create data displays using objects and pictures (one to one correspondence) and interpret them.
  - Poses questions to gather data.
Human Society and its Environment
Our unit of work for Term 4 focuses on Celebrations.
This unit provides opportunities for students to explore the customs and practices associated with celebrations. The unit focuses on what celebrations mean to people, and the similarities and differences in the ways people celebrate. Students will research celebrations of different cultures to come to a greater understanding of the global community.

Personal Development, Health and physical Education
The children will have a P.E. lesson with Mrs. Munro once a week on a Thursday. We will have class sport on a Monday.
This Term in PDH we will complete the unit Medicines and Me. This unit looks at how we can keep ourselves safe around medicines, at home, at school and near water.

Respectful Relationships
This term we have Respectful Relationships every Monday. It is a program that focuses on developing friendships and fostering resilience. The Year 6 students run the sessions with the assistance of the teachers. The students are in groups that consist of children from all year grades to form friendships across the school.

Positive Behavior for Learning
Sacred Heart’s school rules of Care for Self, Care for others, and Care for the Environment are reinforced weekly in lessons relating to the school rules.
Our PBL lessons will cover the rule CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT and focus on rewarding children positively with Reasons to Smile awards and class incentives. Each child will be given a book to track their Reason to Smile awards. These awards will change to stickers and certificates that acknowledge individual achievements. Tying in with the school vision and mission we will be focusing on Respectful Relationships. Children will look at modeled behaviours that assist classroom learning, playground behaviours and caring for others in our school community and at home.

Creative and Practical Arts
Ms Rudd will be taking music and drama lessons this term on a Thursday.
For visual art lessons the children are required to wear a paint shirt.
We will focus on the children having more choice with materials, such as wire, plastic and recycled materials. This term we will explore the use of these materials through our unit on 'Celebrations' as well as explore tones of colour and texture when representing objects through art. We will be integrating various elements of the curriculum into our Creative Arts program in order to connect learning across the children's learning experience. Please make sure that an art shirt has been sent to school to be kept in the classroom.

Homework
Homework will be sent home on Monday and should be returned on Friday morning. Every week the children will be given a list of words to learn. Students will also be given a term list of ‘talk time’ topics. The children are to prepare a short oral presentation to be given on a set day each week. Students will know the topics in advance and will be posted on the classroom door weekly. Each week the tasks will be discussed in the class prior to going home. Please write a note or come and see us if there any problems. We expect homework to
be of the same standard as class work. It is a whole school expectation that children read each morning or night.

**Uniform**
The children have been arriving at school in the correct uniform. We do encourage the children to maintain their neat appearance throughout the day. School hats MUST be worn everyday even in overcast or wet weather.

**Birthdays**
We love sharing with the children; however we would prefer it if birthday treats were sent to school in individual portions such as cupcakes or ice blocks. This saves a lot of valuable class time. Please remember Sacred Heart’s nut free policy for those children with allergies.

**Canteen**
Children are asked to place their lunch orders in the canteen letterbox as soon as they arrive at school. This allows the canteen to be more efficient. 
**Canteen days are Monday, Thursday and Friday.**

**Overview of the week**
- **Monday** - Home work goes out/ readers go home, PE (sports uniform)
- **Tuesday** - Library
- **Thursday** - Music and PE (sports uniform)
- **Friday** - Homework due

**Dates for the Diary**
- **Year 1 Class Mass** - Wednesday 29th October: 9:15am.
- **End of Year Mass** - Wednesday 17th December: 11:30am.

We look forward to another wonderful term of learning with your child. Please don’t hesitate to speak to us, either before or after school by appointment, regarding any matter.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Fisk and Miss Tyler