Welcome to Term Four, our final term of Kindergarten! We hope the break was enjoyable for you and your family. The following overview will inform you of what will be happening in Kindergarten this term.

**Religious Education**

Our first unit this term is *'Living in the way of Jesus.'* In this module students will develop an understanding and appreciation of Christian Mission as loving people and try to act as Jesus showed us. This unit will be followed by an *'Advent and Christmas'* unit. The focus will be on the announcement of Mary having a baby, the concept of waiting in preparation of Jesus. The students will be encouraged to relate their experiences of giving, receiving and celebrating to the celebration of God’s gift of Jesus at Christmas.

**English**

**Reading**

Guided reading - Children will continue to be grouped and work independently or with a parent helper whilst the teacher is instructing a focus group according to the group's needs. Children will also take part in modelled, shared and independent reading daily. The children will be exposed to a variety of literature both fiction and non-fiction. Some of the aspects we will be focusing on are:

- Reading information texts. Reading tables, glossaries and diagrams.
- Developing strategies for reading more complex texts.
- Comprehension strategies.

**Spelling** - Children will use word banks and class word lists this term to further develop and strengthen their spelling abilities. This will also assist them with their reading and writing. We will continue to develop our use of reading and writing sight words according to each child’s ability level.

**Handwriting** - The students are continuing to refine their foundation style and starting to use ruled lines in their books. Although the students are continually encouraged with their writing, they will have two focused handwriting lessons each week. Correct pencil grip is encouraged at all times.
Writing - This term we will be introducing Narratives and Procedures and continue to focus on Recount writing once a week. These text types will be a major focus within our Science Unit on Games and Toys. It is essential your child reads daily with you. We encourage parents to visit the local library for a wider range of reading material.

Talking and Listening - Throughout the term the students will be given opportunities to participate in a variety of talking and listening tasks. We will be working on individual, paired and whole class learning tasks focusing upon our talking and listening skills. We will commence Impromptu Speeches this term whereby the children are given a topic and only a short time to think of their response. The impromptu speech topics for each week will be outlined in the Kindy News.

Mathematics
In maths this term the focus is on:

**Fractions and Decimals:** Children will
- Recognise, describe and represent halves
- Recognise equal and unequal groups
- Recognise and describe wholes

The children will also explore measuring mass and volume and capacity.

- Kindergarten will continue to practise counting, ordering, recording, place value and one to one correspondence of numbers beyond 100, patterning, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. Money will also be introduced later in the term.

- It is essential we encourage the children to practice their basic skills in mathematics **daily** to create a strong foundation for future mathematical thinking. Thank-you for continuing to play games such as ‘friends of tens’, ‘doubles’ and ‘number busting’ with your child.

  For example: $2 + 2 = 4$ so **half of 4 must = 2**

  Let the children find the connections.....they will love it!

Science and Technology
This term the children will be involved in an inquiry learning program based around the unit Games and Toys. The children will guide the learning and determine what they want to learn about with regards to creating and designing games and toys. Activities will involve research, investigations and discovery through play and experimentation. They will find out about the scientific aspects and the mechanics behind various toys, what materials they are made from, and how the final product works. Later in the term the children will be designing their own toys and creating a game we can all play!
**Personal Development, Health and Physical Education**

The children will be participating in a variety of games and sports activities as well as gymnastics in specialised P.E lessons with Mrs Munro on Fridays and class sport on Mondays.

In PD this term our unit is **Active and Healthy**. The two focus questions are, ‘What is a balanced lifestyle?’ and ‘How can rest, relaxation, physical activity and healthy eating produce a balanced lifestyle?’ The children will learn about being healthy by eating nutritious foods and by being physically active.

**Creative Arts**

Specialised Music and Drama lessons will be continuing this term with Ms Rudd on Friday. In Visual Arts the artist study that we are doing is **Picasso**. The children will be researching the life of Picasso, his famous artworks and they will be challenged to create their own art using similar methods to Picasso.

**ICLT**

ICLT is integrated throughout the curriculum. The children will have many opportunities to use the interactive whiteboard, computers and class camera.

The use of our Interactive Whiteboard (IWB) is an integral part of the teaching and learning taking place in all classes at Sacred Heart. Although some Kindergarten children may see some of this learning as “watching a video”, other than during a wet weather lunch time, the use of the IWB will be specific to the learning intention of the unit being focused upon at that time.

Such IWB programs used daily in Kindergarten include ‘Jolly Phonics’, ‘Maths songs and interactive games’ and ‘Bible stories shown on Youtube’. As educators it is essential we cater for all types of learning styles within the classroom - visual and tactile learners greatly benefit from this valuable educational tool.

Other Important Information

Punctuality

Please ensure your child arrives at school by 8:45am sharp as we would like to commence lessons as soon as the morning assembly has been completed. The school morning assembly provides the children with a structured start to the day - whereby many whole-school news and celebrations are presented. If your child is late they also miss the introduction to the first lesson of the morning and it can be very disruptive to the rest of the class.

If your child is absent please provide a note. This forms part of our class roll and is legal documentation.

Important Dates to Remember:

Homework will be sent out on a Monday and returned on a Friday.
Home readers will continue this term. Please ensure if there are any readers “hiding” at your house from last term that they are returned as soon as possible.

Monday - Homework is sent home in GREEN BAGS
Monday - Class Sport - SPORTS UNIFORM
Wednesday - Library (please return all Library books each week).
Friday - Sport and Music/Drama - SPORTS UNIFORM
Friday - Hand in homework in GREEN BAGS

Parent Helpers

Thank you to all of the parents who have been volunteering their time to assist with reading groups. Please remember to sign in at the office and receive a visitors badge for each visit.
The time slot is Reading from 9.10am - 10.10am (Monday to Thursday). Please feel free to see us in the morning if you are able to assist on a casual basis.
Thank-you again for all of your support!

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Warm regards,

Fiona Ngamu, Brooke Perry and Alison Thornton