Welcome back to Term 4! We hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable break.

**Religious Education**

We will begin this term with the unit Mission: Reaching out with Jesus. The children will be encouraged to consider practical ways to reach out to others and be part of the mission of Jesus. The second module is “Advent to Christmas”.

**Advent:**
Students will discover that during Old Testament times, the prophets reminded the chosen people of their covenant with God. The students will learn of the prophets' promise of a special person whom God would send and discover that this person is Jesus.

**Christmas:**
Students consider the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas as a celebration of the fulfilment of God's covenant promise to send a saviour. In exploring the meaning of Christmas, students identify ways in which they can be like Jesus and be witness to the fulfilment of God's promises.

**English**

**Reading:**
The children will take part in Shared Reading, Modelled Reading, Independent Reading and Guided Reading. These occur daily in the class literacy block. In Guided Reading children are grouped according to their reading level and work with the teacher to focus on specific reading and comprehension strategies. During this time other groups work independently on spelling, comprehension, punctuation, grammar and other literacy activities. Children are encouraged to be independent learners during this time.

Some of the strategies we will be focusing on this term are:
- Reading a variety of text types including: Discussion and Narratives
- Developing strategies for reading complex texts
- Developing comprehension strategies including inferential comprehension
- Predicting, Questioning Clarifying, and Summarising
- Identifying and using structure, audience and purpose
- Participating in Reader’s Theatre

**Writing:**
Grammar conventions and punctuation are taught through writing. Our text types this term are Narratives and Discussion. In class, the children will also be involved in the construction of shared
and independent texts. There will be a focus on editing and proofreading, construction of complex sentences, improving vocabulary and using technical language.

**Spelling:**
We will continue working with the Sound Waves Spelling program. This program is designed to develop reading, spelling and writing skills using a phonemic approach. Children will also use their dictionaries and word banks and are encouraged to use the different vowel and consonant blends when attempting to spell unknown words. Proof reading and editing skills are an important part of the writing process and continue to be a major focus for Year 3. Each child will receive a weekly spelling list comprised of list words (number of words negotiated by teacher & student) from the Sound Waves Spelling program. These lists target the phonemic approach focusing on the sounds of our language.

**Handwriting:**
Children have focused handwriting lessons each week. In Year 3 they are learning joined foundation handwriting. They use a handwriting book to practise the skills taught in lessons. Correct pencil grip is encouraged at all times.

**Talking and Listening:**
The children will present information on a charitable group or person. They will participate in whole class discussions and independent speaking activities. They will also be involved in oral comprehension activities and following sequences of oral directions.

**Library**
Library will be on a Tuesday for both classes with Mrs Harrison, our Teacher Librarian. Please encourage your children to borrow and return their library books each week.

**Mathematics**
The students will continue to work in levelled groups according to their learning needs. They work independently or cooperatively. Learning tasks provide for a variety of learning styles and will include the use of concrete materials, use of mental strategies and visual imaging.

The topics we will cover are: Fractions and Decimals, Multiplication and Division, Addition and Subtraction with a problem solving focus. Mass, Volume and Capacity and Position topics will also be covered. All concepts taught in class will be practiced for homework. Multiplication tables are taught and practiced throughout the whole year. Quick recall of basic number facts will also continue to be assessed weekly.

**H.S.I.E**
Our Integrated unit for this term is “How do people’s beliefs affect our lives and the lives of others?” This unit covers the questions: What do we believe? What are the similarities and differences between major world religions? How can we be sensitive and respectful of other people’s beliefs? How do people’s beliefs affect and influence what they do? We will be looking at a number of other world religions throughout this unit.

We will have an excursion to the Mary Mackillop Centre and the Hare Krishna Temple in North Sydney. Details about this excursion will follow shortly.

**Technology**
Technology will be continued to be used as a tool to support children’s learning in the classroom.
Children will be exposed to a variety of programs throughout the term.

**Personal Development/Health and Physical Education**
Both Year 3 classes have their PE lesson with Mrs Munro on a Thursday and on Wednesday with their class teacher. Children are required to wear their sports uniform on these days.

Our PDH unit for this term is “SAFE T” which covers road safety, bus safety, bike riding and skating safety.

**Respectful Relationships**
This term the children will participate in Respectful Relationship groups. They work together across the school developing skills in decision making, problem solving, assertiveness, resilience and acceptance.

**Creative Art and Practical Arts**
Music/Drama lessons will be on Thursday with Ms Rudd.

**Homework**
During term 4 students will be making a show bag based on a book they choose to read as their home reader. Students have been given tasks for the whole term and will be expected to complete a task each week to add to their show bag. Students will continue with mathematics tasks from their text book each week.

We hope this curriculum note has outlined to you our class program and expectations for Term 4. We are looking forward to a wonderful term of learning.

Thank you for your continued support this year.

Sarah Russell, Leanne Wood and Jemma Euers