



Curriculum Note and Class News Year 1 – Stage 1

Welcome to Term 1 2020.
We are looking forward to the year ahead.

Religious Education

Our Religious Education unit for this term is: 'Prayer'

The students will learn to understand and practice a variety of ways to pray in their lives.

They will learn to:

- pray spontaneously
- formulate simple oral and written prayers
- follow directions for a liturgical celebration
- participate fully, actively and consciously at their age level

The students will also explore the themes of Lent and Easter in a creative and integrated way. Through participation and involvement 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.

Masses

Class Mass: Wednesday 4th March 9.30am

English

The children will be given opportunities to speak, listen, read, view, spell and write every day during our two hour English 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 and modelled reading texts.

Home readers will go home on Mondays (weekly) and need to be returned on Friday so new readers can be allocated.

Library lessons will be in the Library with Mrs Harrison. These lessons will support the English programme. Please remind your child to place their library bag in their school bag every **Tuesday**.

Writing

The text types that will be explicitly taught this term are **Informative** texts - *Recount* and *Explanation* and **Imaginative** texts - *Description*. Handwriting text books will be completed this year as well as other formal handwriting lessons. We expect a high standard of book work from the children. This means that we also expect to see this in their Homework books, writing in lead pencil and taking care with their presentation of homework tasks.

Spelling

The whole school spelling program at Sacred Heart explicitly teaches the five core spelling strategies in Reading, Writing and Spelling. We want the children to think about patterns in our language as well as gain an awareness of spelling strategies available to use.

Such as:



Sound – focusing on sound



Visual – focusing on how words look



Meaning – thinking about word meaning



Connecting – making connections with other words



Checking – using live, print or electronic resources

One of the teaching strategies used to enhance phonemic awareness is the Soundwaves Spelling 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 reinforce the sounds (phonemes) and the many ways we can represent the same sound (graphemes).

Speaking and Listening

Throughout the term the students will be given opportunities to participate in a variety of talking and listening activities. As recounts will be a text type focus this term the children will practise reading and sharing their work out loud in small groups and to the class. We will also be incorporating developing listening skills around the areas of following directions and instructions.

Handwriting

There will be a focused handwriting lesson each week where the focus will be on correct pencil grip and formation of letters using the NSW Foundation Handwriting script. The children have a specific Handwriting textbook. We ask that children work towards a high standard of bookwork presentation.

Information Communication Technology

Technology is integrated into all aspects of the curriculum. Throughout the day the children will have the opportunity to use laptops and iPads. Cyber safety is focused on throughout Year 1. We will be using various applications and software for different teaching and learning experiences. Some of the programs we will be exploring this term are: Book Creator, Publisher, various websites such as Study-ladder, Spelling City as learning tools.

Mathematics

Our Mathematics program will follow the Mathematics Syllabus. We will keep mathematical experiences hands on, engaging and challenging for all individual children's needs. The children have been assessed and tasks will be focused according to their point of need. 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 1 the children will be focusing on:

Whole Number - MA1-4NA

- Count forwards and backwards by ones from a two-digit number
- Partition two-digit numbers using place value
- Read, write and order two-digit numbers
- Read and use ordinal names to at least 'thirty-first'
- Recognise, describe and order Australian coins according to their value

Addition and Subtraction: MA1-5NA

- Model addition and subtraction using concrete materials
- Recognise and recall combinations of numbers that add to numbers up to 20
- Model and apply the commutative property for addition
- Record number sentences using drawings, words, numerals and the symbols +, – and =
- Use and record a range of mental strategies for addition and subtraction of one- and two-digit numbers
- Use the equals sign to record equivalent number sentences

Time: MA1-13MG

- Describes, compares and orders duration of events and reads hour and half hour time on clocks.
- Name and order months and seasons
- Use a calendar to identify the date and determine the number of days in each month

History

Our unit of work for Term 1 is called, "**Past and present family life**".

This unit provides a study of family history. Students will explore, recognise and appreciate the history of their families by examining remains of the past and considering why they should be preserved.

Science and Technology

Our unit of work for Term 1 is called, "**Schoolyard Safari**".

The students will explore how living things change as they grow.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

The children will have a Physical Education lesson with Mrs Munro once a week on a **Thursday**. We will have class sport on a **Wednesday**.

In Personal Development and Health our unit of work for Term 1 is called “**My Family, my culture**”. The students will identify relationships they have with significant individuals and groups of people and why they are important. They will recognise the influence their family and culture have on their development and how it may be different from others. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture will be explored including kinship, storytelling and bush tucker.

Positive Behavior for Learning (P.B.L.)

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 P.B.L. lessons will cover the rule of **Respect** and focus on rewarding children positively with *Reasons to Smile* stickers and class incentives. Each child will continue to track their Reason to Smile stickers in their P.B.L. scrapbooks. Golden certificates will also be presented to acknowledge individual achievements.

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. This term we will focus on a variety of forms including drawing, painting, collage and print making. These forms will be explored through a unit called, “**Still Life**”. In this unit, the children investigate the unique qualities and details of a vase of flowers as a still life arrangement. We will also be looking at and appreciating artworks by Vincent Van Gogh and Margaret Preston.

Homework

This term we will be giving homework on a Monday and it will need to be returned on Friday morning. Homework will include Maths, daily reading, a spelling list, and sometimes an extra activity from another Key Learning Area. Could you please check and sign your child’s homework before it is returned. If children are not able to complete their homework please write a note on their homework sheet. This assists us greatly as we then know that you are aware that the homework hasn’t been completed.

Students will use Maths-online as part of their homework. Maths-online is a targeted, rewarding and captivating online learning resource, which is aligned to specific curriculum standards. Each child has been given a user name and password. Tasks will be assigned in alignment with topics being taught in the classroom and will be differentiated according to ability levels.

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. This saves a lot of valuable class time. Please remember Sacred Heart’s nut free policy for those children with allergies.

Fruit Break

It is helpful if the children bring their fruit break to school in a separate container. The students bring our fruit break and drink bottle onto our desks when we come into class in the morning.

Canteen

Canteen days are Monday, Thursday and Friday.

We look forward to working in partnership with you in the education of your child.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Russell, Janelle Pitcher and Kath Fogwell