



Curriculum Note and Class News

Year 4 - Stage 2 Term 2 2020

Dear Parents,

Term Two has begun with Home Based Learning whereby our learning continued however in a very different format. We congratulate our students and their families on the supportive way they have faced these challenging times, ensuring our community is safe and healthy. Our teachers look forward to the gradual return of their students throughout the term ahead. The following overview will help inform you of what is happening in Year 4 this term.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Students will be learning about Pentecost in a unit called: *The Holy Spirit gives us courage.*

This unit explores the courage needed to bear witness to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is the Holy Spirit, alive and active in our lives, who gives us the courage to follow Jesus. The unit focuses on exploring examples of people (apostles, saints and heroes) who demonstrate courage in their lives. They model for us the courage to live as witnesses who speak the truth.

ENGLISH

Reading and Comprehension

Whilst students are participating in their Home Learning Program (HBL) reading and comprehension skills will be developed in various ways:

- Reading for pleasure
- Using online Reading Programs such as Read Theory and Study Ladder.
- Students will also develop their reading and comprehension skills by reading or listening to digital presentations and videos related to other curriculum areas such as History, Science, Religious Education and Personal Development.
- Reading Groups will resume when school is being attended by all students.

Spelling:

During HBL students are required to continue to choose their personalised spelling list of 10 words from their Reading, Writing, History, Science, Maths or Religious Education. We are encouraging students to select words that are relevant to their learning that will extend their vocabulary.

When school resumes we will continue to demonstrate engaging ways to explicitly teach five core spelling strategies. We want children to think about patterns in our language as well as gain an awareness of what strategies they use.



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

Proof reading and editing skills are an important part of the writing process and are a focus for Stage 2.

Handwriting:

The children are continuing to consolidate the correct formation of joined letters in NSW Foundation Style handwriting. Focused handwriting lessons will continue each week this term. Correct posture and pencil grip are always encouraged. We expect a high standard of bookwork from the children.

Writing:

During HBL students will continue to be involved in various writing activities. We are encouraging students to use correct spelling, grammar and punctuation in all home learning tasks.

When school resumes Grammar conventions and punctuation are taught through writing. In class the children are also involved in construction of shared and independent texts. We will work with small groups of students in order to refine specific aspects of writing, specifically writing in paragraphs. Texts to be covered this term are historical recounts and explanations.

MATHEMATICS:

Children will continue to integrate skills learnt in Mathematics to solve problems and consider tasks from a mathematical viewpoint. Areas of focus for this term are:

Multiplication and Division:

Part 2 -

- Recall and use multiplication facts up to 10 x 10 automatically
- Relate multiplication facts to their inverse division facts
- Determine multiples and factors of whole numbers
- Use the equals sign to record equivalent number relationships involving multiplication
- Use and record a range of mental and informal written strategies for multiplication and division of 2 digit numbers by 1 digit operator
- Use mental strategies and informal recording methods for division with remainders

Patterns and Algebra:

Part 2 –

- Find missing numbers in number sentences involving addition or subtraction on one or both sides of the equal sign
- Investigate and use the properties of odd and even numbers
- Recognize, continue and describe number patterns resulting from performing multiplication
- Find missing numbers in number sentences involving one operator of multiplication or division

2D space:

Part 2 –

- Combine common shapes to form other shapes and record the arrangement
- Split common shapes into other shapes and record the result
- Use transformations to create and describe symmetrical designs
- Create and record tessellating designs

3D space:

Part 2 -

- Represent 3D objects in drawings showing depth
- Sketch 3D objects from different views
- Interpret and make drawings of objects on isometric grid paper

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Our Science and Technology focus for term 2 will be “**Forces and Magnets**”.

Students identify forces that act at a distance and those that act in direct contact, and investigate how different-sized forces affect the movement of objects.

Students develop an understanding how we use all types of forces including friction, gravity, pushes and pulls when we perform everyday activities such as exercising, riding bikes and driving cars.

Students will investigate the forces involved in throwing, dropping, bouncing, and rolling, and how they affect an object. They will investigate the properties of magnets, and the materials that are attracted to magnets.

HISTORY

Our History focus, “**First Contacts**” will continue on from Term 1.

Students will be guided through investigations as well as choosing specific areas of interest for them to research and present their findings to the rest of the class. Student investigations will be based around the following questions:

- Why did Europeans settle in Australia?
- What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?

We will also be using a variety of thinking strategies as we work through this unit.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT/HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The focus question for PDH in term 2 is “**Why is it important to participate in physical activity?**”. Students will develop an understanding of the physical and social benefits of regular participation in physical activity. They will analyse their own levels of participation and suggest ways they can overcome any potential barriers to their opportunities, at home, school and in their local community.

The key inquiry questions for PDH include:

- How does physical activity develop my growth as a person?
- How can I be safe, healthy and active in different environments?
- How can I be a cooperative group member?

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL)

Our PBL lessons will cover the Core Value of **COMPASSION** and focus on rewarding children positively with class incentives.

Children will look at modelled behaviours that assist classroom learning, playground behaviours and caring for others in our school community and at home.

VISUAL ARTS

The students will be drawing, painting and sketching different subject matter that relate to the term's Science, HSIE, and Religion Key Learning Areas.

HOMEWORK

When school resumes homework will be given to the children weekly. It is given on a Friday and is to be returned on the Thursday of the following week. Homework will include nightly reading, maths and spelling activities.

Home reading can be from books of the students' own choice and pages read should be noted nightly in their homework book. Other learning experiences may include research, physical education activities and social skills.

Throughout the year there will be a focus on mastering times tables (1-12) as this is expected by the end of Year 4. Parents are asked to check that the homework is complete and sign the sheet.

REMINDERS

Library is held on *Tuesday for 4 Blue and 4 Green.*

Class Sport is held on Tuesday (both classes).

Sport with Mrs Munro is on *Thursday for 4 Blue and Friday for 4 Green.*

Creative Arts (Music/Drama) with Ms Rudd is held on *Thursday for 4 Green and Friday for 4 Blue.*

Children are to wear sports uniform on sports days - Tuesday and Thursday (4B) / Friday (4G).

We are looking forward to the return of all students to Sacred Heart.

Tim Huskins and Chris McBryde