



# Kindergarten Curriculum Letter

## Term 1 2022

We would like to take this opportunity to say *Welcome to Sacred Heart!*

We are very eager to start an exciting new year and extend our welcome to all our new and existing families at Sacred Heart. We have had the pleasure of meeting you all and look forward to developing a relationship with you throughout the year.

The following is an overview of what your child will be learning about in Kindy this term.

### Religion

2022 is an exciting time in Religious Education for Broken Bay as Kindergarten are immersed in a new curriculum. The Broken Bay early year's student-centered pedagogy invites each child to continue their faith journey in an experiential learning environment. The curriculum is designed to provide children with opportunities to respond to the stories of Jesus that they encounter with their hands, hearts and minds. This is achieved via presentations, free expression, and journaling in order to draw them into the mystery of God. Through these experiences children will come to know Christ and develop understandings of the significance and meanings of scripture and liturgy for their lives.

### English

Literacy is a crucial element of your child's intellectual, social and emotional development and has an essential role in all Key Learning Areas to use language effectively in a range of contexts. The English block occurs daily and comprises of the elements of Reading and Viewing, Writing and Representing and Speaking & Listening. Explicit teaching and learning take place in the areas of phonics, shared, modelled and guided reading, handwriting, spelling, modelled, guided and independent writing and speaking and listening.

#### ***Reading and Phonics***

Reading is an essential aspect of your child's education. In class we will focus on five high frequency words a week which the children will learn to recognise, read and use in their writing. Modelled reading will be demonstrated using a big book and children will complete comprehension task-based tasks relating to these books.

Kindergarten will start receiving home readers in Week 4. Daily reading is vital, so your support will be crucial in helping to assist your child in their development. Books will be returned in the Red Homework Bag and a new set will be distributed. Please ensure all readers are returned so that we can give you new books each week.

The children will receive a high frequency word book that they will need to review each night to learn their words. Children may learn the high frequency words at their own pace. Once they are confident with the list and have been tested by the teacher, they will be able to move onto the next list.

Phonics - We will introduce three sounds each week. Children will learn to identify the letters as sounds. Students will then learn to blend the sounds together to read words.

### **Writing**

In writing, we are focusing on correct letter formation, sight words and punctuation. We are also reinforcing making meaning through 'writing for a purpose'. There is a big focus on handwriting in Kindergarten. Correct pencil grip is encouraged at all times and we would ask that you follow this through at home. The text types we will focus on this term are Recounts and Descriptions. The children will be encouraged to write using the words around the room and sentence starters.

### **Spelling**

The school wide spelling program at Sacred Heart explicitly teaches five core spelling strategies. In kindergarten this term we will be focussing on using the sound strategy. The five strategies we will gradually introduce throughout the year are:



**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

### **Speaking and Listening**

Students will have the opportunity to share something for News. Every second week there will be a set topic around getting to know each other and around our unit topics. Students will also have many opportunities to share their ideas and thinking within the classroom. We will be focusing on building their confidence in speaking in front of their peers.

## Numeracy

Mathematics incorporates the processes of questioning, reflecting, reasoning and proving an answer. These are powerful tools for solving familiar and unfamiliar problems both within and beyond Mathematics.

In Mathematics this term the focus is on:

- Number - counting, ordering, one to one correspondence, patterning, addition and subtraction of numbers to 30. (and possibly beyond)
- Statistics and Probability – Data
- Measurement and Geometry - Position

We will endeavour to make mathematical experiences hands on and fun. Children will have the opportunity to participate in open-ended and meaningful tasks.

## Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

The children are required to wear their sport uniform on **Monday and Friday**. The Physical Education (PE) program is run by Mrs Catto once a week on Wednesdays and Kindergarten will also participate in another sports session run by the class teachers on Fridays.

In our Personal Development and Health (PDH) unit 'All About Me' students will identify the physical, social and emotional characteristics that make them similar and different to others. They will recognise the people around them they can trust and gain support from when required. Through exploring a range of scenarios, students will describe the strengths they can draw on and the actions they can take to remain safe in a variety of situations.

We will be learning our school Core Value of Respect:

- Respect for Self
- Respect for Others
- Respect for the Environment

The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program will teach the children the expected behaviours at school and help to build positive relationships and resilience.

## Science and Technology

Our Science and Technology unit for this term is 'Staying Alive'. Children will investigate the basic needs for the survival of animals, including humans, and how their senses help them to stay alive. Students' understanding of basic needs and their importance in our lives will be developed through hands-on activities.

## History

Our History unit for Terms 1 and 2 is called 'Personal and Family Histories'. The students will communicate stories of their own family heritage and the heritage of others. They will identify similarities and differences between families and recognise how important family events are commemorated.

## Creative Arts

Kindergarten will participate in specialised Creative Arts lessons once a week with Mrs. Pearce on Thursdays.

The focus for Visual Arts this term is using various mediums to create portraits. We will be exploring this through the forms of drawing and painting. This will be integrated across the curriculum with both art and craft experiences.

## ICLT

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

## Other Important Information

### **Library – Wednesday**

It is essential each child has a labelled library bag when borrowing library books. Please remember to pack your child's library bag and books to be returned each week so that they may re-borrow.

### **Physical Education/Sport – Wednesdays and Fridays**

Please wear sports uniform on both days.

### **Creative – Thursdays**

### Uniform

Children must wear their full summer uniform, including their hats each day. Girls must wear only green coloured ribbons in their hair, and it must be tied back. The sport uniform is only to be worn on sports days.

### Birthdays

If you would like to send in a treat to celebrate your child's birthday you have two options:

- Individual cupcakes. Please make sure they are nut free.
- Ice blocks (only on canteen days – Monday, Thursday and Friday). You can bring in your own or the canteen is happy to provide these for you if you let them know in advance.

Please ensure there is enough for every child in the class. There are 27 students in KBlue and 26 students in KGreen.

### Absences

Please ensure that you log your child's absence through the Compass App.

**Please ensure that your child arrives before 8.45am each day to minimise disruptions for the class.**

For your child's benefit please be sure that your child knows how they are getting home each afternoon. If there are any changes to home time travel – please contact the office before bell time so we can prepare your child and ensure they are at the correct place.

## Parental Support

It is essential that the teacher, parent/guardian, and child work and cooperate together if learning success is to occur for your child.

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Together  
Everyone  
Achieves  
More

As the Kindergarten teachers, we strive to promote successful learning for all students in our class. Our goals are to meet the needs of each learner, by employing a variety of teaching methods and activities. Your role as a supportive parent can be to:

- MONITOR the work your child is bringing home and participating in.
- PRAISE and ENCOURAGE your child each day, to promote their desire to be a successful learner.
- COMMUNICATE any issues or concerns with your class teacher.

Kindergarten is one of the most crucial and precious years in your child's schooling as it helps to establish the foundations for the rest of their learning journey. We are very excited to start this journey with your child, working with you to ensure that it is an amazing experience for everyone!

Thank you for your support!

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to see your class teacher.

Warm regards,

Taylor Helm and Brooke Perry

