



Curriculum Note

Year 3 – Stage 2

Term 1 – 2022

Religious Education

The unit for this term is called 'Community'. In this unit children will explore what it means to be part of a community and how the Church community supports and guides us. They will engage in learning about the history of the Sacred Heart Parish and the role different people play in the Church community through ministries. We look closely at the parts of the liturgy and the different roles people play. The children will also consider what it means to be a disciple and make connections with their own lives by identifying modern disciples.

English

Reading: The children will participate in Guided Reading Groups daily during the class literacy block. Groups are levelled according to reading and comprehension ability. Students will work independently on spelling, punctuation, grammar and reading comprehension activities while the teacher is instructing a guided focus group. Students also take part in modelled, shared and independent reading daily. The main areas of focus this term are:

- Reading information reports, narratives and persuasive texts
- Practising known reading strategies
- Developing strategies for reading more complex texts
- Comprehension strategies
- Identifying audience and purpose

Writing: The focus text types that will be explicitly taught this term are persuasive texts - *expositions* and imaginative texts - *narratives*. Children will be involved in joint writing, shared writing and independent writing. They will also have opportunities to write creatively on topics of their choice. Writing lessons focus on various facets of grammar including punctuation, nouns, adjectives, speech marks and correct sentence structure.

Spelling: Students will be given opportunities to consolidate accuracy of their personal words, explore sound families and spelling rules and use words relevant to topics we are covering. They will be guided to think about patterns in our language and to further develop their skills to utilise the following five core spelling strategies.

- 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

Handwriting: Students continue to develop their handwriting using the NSW Foundation Handwriting style. In Year 3, they begin to learn joined foundation handwriting. Correct pencil grip is encouraged at all times.

Speaking and Listening: Oral language discussions are held daily and there will be opportunities for the children to communicate in front of the class through individual and group presentations. The children will also be involved in oral comprehension activities.

Library: Both Year 3 classes have their library lessons with Mrs Harrison on **Wednesdays**.

Mathematics

Throughout this term the Mathematics program will cover a range of strands. These include Data, 2D Space, Length, Addition and Subtraction, Whole Number, Multiplication and Division, Area, Volume and Capacity, Fractions and Decimals, Patterns and Algebra, Time, Chance and Mass. Students will be encouraged to manipulate materials to explore and develop mathematical concepts and they will record their investigations to communicate their Working Mathematically strategies. We use the data collected in the MAI interviews to strengthen the students' number skills and strategies. The numeracy skills taught in class will be reinforced through the completion of the weekly math tasks that will be set on Maths Online for homework beginning in Week 4.

History / Science and Technology

This term students will work to answer our big question, *'How have significant people and events shaped the identity of Australia?'* The unit explores celebrations and commemorations of significance in Australia and the world. Children will develop their thinking skills and habits to investigate how significant individuals, groups and events contribute to changes in the local community over time. The students will also develop skills of historical inquiry and communication.

In Science and Technology, students will investigate how and why natural processes and human actions change the Earth's surface over time. They will identify evidence of change through exploring rocks and fossils and investigate how erosion is caused by human activity. Students will question, plan and conduct scientific investigations into the formations of landforms and weathering. The big question students will explore is *'How do natural processes and human actions change the Earth's surface over time?'* Students will also take this opportunity to be involved in supporting the growth and development of the school vegetable garden throughout the term.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Our core value for this term is **Respect**. The rules will focus on showing respect to self, others and the environment.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Our PDH unit for this term is "We're All Different". Throughout this unit students will be called to recognise how empathy and respect promotes inclusion by exploring cultural diversity including. They will identify the influence of peers, family and their community when forming their own ideas on significant issues such as appreciating and celebrating difference.

The children will have PE lessons with Mrs Lisa Catto each week on **Wednesday** and class sport will be on **Thursday for both classes** with a focus on Cricket and Soccer. Children are required to wear their sports uniform on these days.

Creative Arts

Both classes will have Creative Arts lessons with Mrs Kim Pearce on **Friday**.

In Visual Arts, students will focus on colours and techniques in painting and drawing. Students learn about the colour wheel and how warm and cool colours create differing moods. They will experiment with the use of colour and paint to find that colours can complement each other and provide contrast through engagement with artworks by Wassily Kandinsky, Heather Galler and Piet Mondrian. Students then focus on skills of sketching. They will learn sketching techniques through videos and experimentation. They will begin by sketching simple three-dimensional objects and develop their skills through the use of colour and techniques leading to more abstract shapes and objects that are present in the environment.

Technology

Technology is integrated into all aspects of the curriculum. Throughout the day the children will have the opportunity to use the interactive whiteboard as well as laptops and iPads. We will be using various applications and software for different teaching and learning experiences. Some of the programs we will utilise as learning tools on the iPad are Book Creator, Pic Collage and Popplet. We will be using internet-based programs and Google Classroom to further develop computer skills on the laptops and iPads. The children will also learn about cyber safety.

Homework

Homework this term will consist of 15 to 20 minutes of reading each night and completing mathematical tasks set on Maths Online. There will also be a word study/spelling activity. Homework will be sent home on a Friday and brought back on a Thursday.

Dates for the Diary:

Please continue to check the newsletter and school website for updates on future events and important dates.

Kind Regards,

Chris McBryde (Mon – Wed), Zorana Osborn (Thur – Fri) and Tash Whittaker

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