

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - Kindergarten - Term 1 2018

Every Learner, Every Day - Transforming Lives

15 February 2018

Welcome to another year of learning at Holy Spirit, St Clair, where we believe that a strong partnership between parents, students and teachers is essential to ensure the best education for your child. Below is an overview of what your child will be learning this term.

Religious Education



During Term 1 we will focus on the unit, *God Loves Me*, through which the children develop an understanding of the God-given qualities that make them unique, describe and critically reflect on how they express their feelings, recognise and appreciate that God loves them and identify how they can show their love for their family and friends.

We will also explore *Lent - from Ashes to Easter*. Children will learn that Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, recall the story of the first Palm Sunday, recognise special signs and symbols and develop a greater appreciation of Lent through participation in liturgies.

English

Across the year Early Stage 1 students will communicate informally with peers, teachers and known adults. They will learn to communicate clearly and purposefully when engaging in pair, group and class discussions, including oral sharing upon completion of various tasks. Children will become more active listeners who can follow simple instructions and ask relevant questions, as well as delivering short presentations using familiar and learned vocabulary. The playing of games, listening to and retelling stories and sharing and responding to personal experiences all contribute to oral language development.

Students will use a range of viewing and comprehension skills and strategies, including meaning, grammar/structure and letter-sound relationships, to make meaning of short, predictable texts on familiar topics. They will learn to read with fluency and accuracy. Students will respond to various written, visual and digital texts, identifying main characters and events in imaginative texts and key ideas in short informative texts. Students will make connections between what they read and their personal experiences. We have begun shared reading (including nursery rhymes) and guided reading sessions, with readers ready to be sent home with your child for further practice.



Students will be made increasingly aware of the nature, purpose and conventions of written language. They will create, recreate and retell simple texts through performance, drawing and images. Students will demonstrate awareness of the basic text structure, grammar and punctuation needed to communicate a message, applying simple editing techniques to improve the quality of their work. Students will use their knowledge of letter-sound correspondence when attempting to spell unknown words, as well as writing most lower and upper case letters appropriately. They will also explore digital technologies to construct multimodal texts. Students will learn to reflect on and assess their own and others' learning. Daily activities will focus on communication of a message through drawing and words, at the same time as correct pencil grip directionality of words, finger spacing, fluency patterns, letter formation and other fine motor skills.

Mathematics

Across the year students will ask questions, use known facts to explore problems and develop mathematical fluency. They will use everyday language, concrete materials and informal recordings to show understanding. Students will link mathematical ideas.



During Term 1 students will focus on the concepts of Whole Number and Patterns & Algebra. They will learn to count forward and backwards to 30 from a given number. They will order, read and represent numbers to at least 20. Students will also represent numbers using numerals, words and symbols. They will come to automatically recognise different dot patterns for a given number. Students will work on recognising, describing and continuing repeating patterns.

History - Personal & Family Histories

During Term 1 students will work on a unit called Personal and Family Histories. They will communicate with one another about their own heritage and the heritage of others, using objects from the past and the present. They will listen to, recall and retell stories about familiar objects and events, distinguishing between the past, present and future. They will use various forms of communication, including oral, graphic, written and digital technologies. Students will also identify similarities and differences between individuals in the past and the present.



Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

During Term 1 students will continue to develop skills in the area of respecting self and others, expressing their feelings, needs and wants in appropriate ways. They will give examples of how individuals care for each other. They will also identify how people grow and change. Students will also participate in physical activities, including rotational activities designed to develop gross motor skills, and seek help when needed.

Creative Arts

Students will be involved in Visual Arts, Dance and Drama experiences across Term 1. In Visual Arts children make simple pictures about things and experiences, experimenting with a range of media. They will begin to understand that artists create artworks and communicate their ideas about these artworks.



In Dance children will take part in dance activities, demonstrating an awareness of their own body parts, as well as demonstrating control over movement. They will also explore movement as a way of expressing ideas, feelings and moods. Students will respond to dances they view or experience. In Drama students will use their imagination for play and to dramatise situations using elements such as movement, space and objects. They will also respond to dramatic performances or experiences.



How to Help your Child at Home

Model

- a love of reading and writing
- the purpose of reading and writing (eg, to give information, to entertain or to persuade)
- how to make the "Sign of the Cross"

Practise

- correct formation of letters of the alphabet
- writing simple words - for example:
 - their own name
 - simple but common words (eg, mum, dad, I, the, and)
- colouring in (staying within the lines)
- tying their own shoelaces
- cutting with small scissors
- saying the names of the days of the week in order
- their own address, phone number and birthday
- discussion around texts (what happened, feelings, predictions, etc)
- mathematics in everyday situations - for example:
 - counting when helping set the table, etc
 - measuring when cooking, etc
- turn taking - eg, when playing games
- being independent - eg, dressing themselves, packing their lunchbox, etc



Reinforce

- healthy habits - for example:
 - blowing their own nose
 - washing their hands prior to eating / after using the bathroom

Further information will be provided relating to content across each of the learning areas at the beginning of every term. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Ms Collins and Mrs Blanch