

# **CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - Year 4 - 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**

This term we will learn about *Talking and Listening to God*. Students will identify values that inspire how they communicate with others, retell Bible stories that show the importance of prayer, appreciate prayers and prayer traditions, write their own prayers and reflect on the experience of contemplative prayer.

Students will also undertake learning about Lent (*Practices and Promises*). They will identify and give examples of three forms of Lenten penance, research examples of Old Testament covenants, commandments (including the Ten Commandments) and laws and describe and explain the importance of the covenant relationship between God and the people of Israel. Students will propose ways in which their relationship with God and others can be renewed through the undertaking of Lenten promises.



In addition to this, students will make connections between people starting a new life in a new community and the Exodus story (*Passover - Exodus*). They will describe how Jewish people today remember God's saving action in their celebration of the Passover meal. They will explain the meaning of the sharing of bread and wine and identify how they can contribute to the Church's mission of hospitality and service to immigrants and refugees.

During our unit, *Easter Season - New Life*, students will identify experiences where they experienced 'death' in the form of sadness, hurt, anger, frustration and 'new life' in the form of acceptance, reconciliation with others, peace and inspiration. They will read, analyse and compare different accounts of the Resurrection to study how the disciples and followers of Jesus experienced new life through their belief in the risen Jesus. Students will also identify some key symbols, actions and prayers of the Mass.

### **English**

Across Stage 2 students will communicate expressively and clearly about a range of topics for various purposes and audiences. They will listen to gather general ideas and key points and explore a range of roles when interacting in pairs and groups, attending to different viewpoints and responding appropriately across all Key Learning Areas.

Students will independently read, view and respond to both familiar and challenging texts. They will identify literal information and make inferences, asking questions when clarification is needed. Students will integrate a range of strategies to help interpret, analyse and evaluate texts, as well as beginning to evaluate points of view. They will participate in

modelled, shared, guided (including reciprocal teaching and reader's circle) and independent reading activities.

Students will create well-structured imaginative, informative and persuasive texts by planning, drafting, proofreading and editing their writing in order to enhance effectiveness. Their writing will include simple and complex sentences (based on purpose), appropriate paragraphing, punctuation and grammatical features that support meaning. Students will spell familiar and unfamiliar words using knowledge of letter-sound correspondence, regular and irregular spelling patterns, spelling rules and a range of other strategies. They will demonstrate increasing fluency when writing, applying NSW Foundation Style as appropriate, as well as developing digital skills. Students will become better able and more independent in setting and reflecting on their own goals.

## **Mathematics**

Students will use appropriate terminology to describe mathematical ideas. They will select and use appropriate written or mental strategies, including technology, to solve problems. Students will check the accuracy of statements and explain reasoning used.

This term students will focus on the concepts of Whole Number, Addition & Subtraction and 2D Space. They will apply place value to order, read and represent numbers of up to five digits, use mental and written strategies for adding and subtracting numbers of up to five digits and manipulate, identify and sketch 2D objects, describing their features.

## **Science - Plants in Action**

Students will learn to show interest and enthusiasm towards science and technology, responding to their curiosity, questions and perceived needs and wants. They will engage responsibly with issues that are relevant to their lives. Students will question, predict, investigate, collect and record data when producing solutions to identified needs and want.

This term students will explore features of living things. They will describe that living things have cycles, can be distinguished from non-living things and grouped together on the basis of observable features. They will describe how science knowledge helps us understand the effect of our actions on the environment, with particular reference to the survival of living things.

## **History - First Contacts**

In History this semester we will focus on *First Contacts*. Students will apply skills of historical inquiry and communication as they describe people, events and actions related to world exploration and its effects, including British colonisation of Australia. They will analyse what life was like for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples before the arrival of Europeans.



## **Personal Development, Health & Physical Education**

Students will use various ways of communicating with and within groups, demonstrating respect for the right of others to hold different values and attitudes to their own. They will work cooperatively and collaboratively, making decisions as an individual and as a group member and describing how relationships with a range of people enhance wellbeing.

Students will discuss the relationship between regular physical activity and health. They will use equipment in a variety of games and modified sports.

## **Creative Arts**

During Visual Arts students will make artworks that represent the qualities of objects and experiences, as well as acknowledging that artists make artworks for different purposes and that various interpretations are possible. Students will appreciate the use of particular techniques.

In Music students will sing, play and move to a range of music, demonstrating a basic knowledge of musical concepts. They will improvise musical phrases, organise sounds and explain reasons for their choices, as well as using commonly understood symbols to represent their work.

## **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 convince/persuade)

### **Practise**

- asking questions and giving answers
- writing letters and notes
- their own address, phone number and birthday
- discussion around texts (what happened, feelings, predictions, etc)
- mathematics in everyday situations - for example:
  - counting by twos, fives and tens
  - measuring when cooking, etc
- turn taking - eg, when playing games
- organising themselves (eg, packing their own bag for school)



### **Reinforce**

- healthy habits
- concern for others
- management of self
- appropriate communication skills

*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.*

**Mr Mackey & Miss Gomez**