

St John's Parish

Primary School



February 12, 2018 No. 3

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S FEBRUARY

13	Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday: Pancake Breakfast, 8.00am Burning of the Palms, 9.15am Parent/Teacher/Student "Getting to Know You" Discussions
14	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Mass, 10.00am Parent/Teacher/Student "Getting to Know You" Discussions
19	Monday	Assembly 5/6TJ
20	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm

Click here to access St John's [Parish Newsletter](#)

After months and months of planning and persistence, Catholic Education Melbourne have formally advised us that we have been successful for a capital project valued at 2.3 million to improve the schools external grounds. This is such exciting news for our school community and our plans for the future. The preliminary landscape and architectural masterplan is up in the front office for you all to see. I will be establishing a working party to lead this process with me & will continue to keep all in the community informed as we plan & implement each stage.



We Did It!



SECOND HAND UNIFORM

Open first Tuesday of each month
8.30 -9.00am Multi Purpose Room

CO-ORDINATOR

Kathleen Spicer

LUNCH ORDERS

Every Tuesday Lunchtime
To order register online:
www.flexischools.com.au

CAMP AUSTRALIA

Before & After School Care 1300 105 343

CO-ORDINATOR

Cherry Manapol

HOURS: 7.00 -8.30 am
3.20 -6.15 pm

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Friday, 8.30am -4.00pm

PARISH CONTACTS:

PH: 9873 1341

PARISH PRIEST

Father Dispin John

PARISH SECRETARIES

Mrs. Elisa Kelesidis
Mrs. Martine Giles

PASTORAL ASSOCIATES

Mrs. Maree O'Keefe

490 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham VIC 3132

Phone: 03 9874 1575 Fax: 03 9873 2099

Email: principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au Web: www.sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

Child Safety – Volunteers

During this term we will be ensuring our processes and procedures for volunteers, visitors and contractors are fully active in our school community.

Visitors, volunteers and contractors are an important part of St John's Mitcham. These people increase our students' experience of the cultural and social features of the community, ensure parents/guardians partner in their children's development and creates strong partnerships with community services, schools, businesses and the wider community. St John's School also recognises the importance of the safety of every child at our school and this policy outlines procedures and practises in alignment with the Ministerial order 870 and guidelines from Catholic Education Melbourne.

Volunteers include all parents and parishioners engaged in school life.

Visitors and Contractors to schools may include, but are not limited to:

- prospective parents and employees
- those who are addressing a learning or developmental need, such as:
 - Specialists incl. OT and psychologists
 - parent and community volunteers
 - invited speakers
 - sessional instructors
 - representatives of community, business and service groups
 - local members of the State and Commonwealth Parliaments
- those who are conducting business such as:
 - Instrumental lessons
 - uniform suppliers
 - booksellers
 - official school photographers
 - commercial salespeople
- trades people
- children's services agents
- Personnel from Catholic Education Melbourne

Parents are encouraged to take a volunteer pack, which will be available at the Parent Teacher Meetings this week. The prescribed process is quite complex. Only parents who are new to our school this year will be asked to provide three referees. Current members of staff will act as referee's for families who commenced prior to this year. If you have any questions about the Child Safety process please speak to Jacqui or Monica.

Parent-Teacher- Student Meetings this Week

We look forward to seeing you all over the next couple of nights as you have the opportunity to share with your child's teacher everything you want them to know to ensure a successful year. Just a reminder that the online booking site for interviews closes tomorrow at 9:30am. Details on how to book interviews are included in today's newsletter.

Education Board Meeting

The St Johns Mitcham board will meet for the first time this year next week – Tuesday 20 February at 7pm. At this meeting, we will revisit our marketing strategy and future building project. We will also explore our behavior management processes and procedures as well as begin discussions on the school review process (which takes place every 4 years) looking at the NSIT – National School Improvement Tool.

The purpose of the board is to:

- a. act as an advisory body to the parish priest and principal, on matters concerning education in the parish
- b. act as a forum for discussion on matters concerning education in the parish primary school
- c. provide a link between the parish priest, principal, teachers and parishioners in relation to the provision of Catholic education in the parish community
- d. promote community development by fostering a strong interrelationship between parish and the parish primary school, Catholic secondary colleges and pre-schools.

We meet 6 times a year. There are currently eight parents and three staff who make up the board. We are always looking for new members so if you are interested please email Andrew Puls (Chairperson) frandypuls@bigpond.com or myself principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au . Thanks to those parents who have already expressed interest in joining the board this year.

Introducing Our 2018 School Captains

Sophie

I am one of the school captains for 2018. I'm eleven years old, turning twelve in May. I'm a dancer and a net-ball player, for both a representative team and a club team. During my time as school captain, I would like to make sure that I am a good role model for the younger students and create a safe environment for the new preps and other students. I would also like to make sure other students in 5/6 see me still as a friend and can come to me for help. I am very thankful for this role and I am looking forward to a great year.

Luke

I am one of the school captains for 2018 and I'm in 5/6KR. After school, I like playing sports. Some of the sports that I like to play include cricket and AFL for Mitcham at Walker Park. One of my goals as school captain is to ensure the school is always safe and happy. I would also like to see an environment where learning is fun. I am looking forward to leading and representing our school.

Abbey

I am in 5/6 KR and I am so lucky that I have been elected for the role of Vice Captain. Outside of school, I do gymnastics and I love it. I also do roller-skating and I love roller-skating with my friends. I will make the school better by looking around the school for things that can be improved like fixing the basketball rings and fixing the tennis course. Then after I can't think of any more things to help make the school better I will ask the students. I will make sure I do what I said I would.

Hamish

I am one of the school captains for 2018. I am a supportive person and who tries their very hardest to help and care for others. I love all sports and play basketball for Bulleen boomers, footy for Mitcham tigers and Athletics for Doncaster. By the end of the year I will hope to succeed at being a better leader and being more confident at public speaking. I am looking forward to going to high school.

Student Mobile Phones

An important reminder as per our parent handbook that all students mobile phones are to be given in at the office at the beginning of the day and collected at the end of the day. Thanks for your support with this.

Term 1 - Year level Newsletters

Make yourself a cuppa as you read all that is happening in our learning spaces this term.

Have a great week

Jacqui Marshall
Principal



Above: Founders: Frances and Peter Wallace with the School Captains Luke & Sophie.



Left: Some of St John's past students: Sophie, Talia, Annabelle, Charlotte and Searena

Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Show compassion towards others*

Yesterday was a wonderful celebration and so good to see so many students and families present. We celebrated the beginning of the school year and the founding members of our parish who worked so hard to establish our community. We gave thanks to God and asked that we will go into the future with faith, love and commitment: building on the firm foundations set for us.

Our school captains, Sophie and Luke interviewed Frances and Peter Wallace last Friday morning and below is what they shared with us about them.

Peter and Frances Wallace - Founder's Day Mass

Luke; Sophie

On the 2nd of February, we interviewed Frances and Peter Wallace. They've been a part of our parish for little over 40 years and have played a big part in making our parish the way it is today. Peter first came to our church before he was a part of the parish, but he wasn't a catholic yet. The masses were in Latin but it was evident at that point that there was going to be change.

Peter and Francis met in their second year of university and have lived and prayed with each other ever since. They remember that the first church service that they went to together was in the St John's church. Back then the church was an Old Army hut that the church took ownership of just after WW2.

Peter and Frances had four children who were associated with our school. Peter and Frances always helped out during the fete. Frances was very helpful in the cake stall as it was very big a long time ago, and Peter grew and still grows herbs and plants for the fete today.

20 years ago, Fr Peter Hansen was concerned about people who were affected by drugs. Fr Peter was concerned about the effects of drugs and was asked to set up a centre for anyone who was affected by drugs. Peter had an idea to set up a prayer service every Saturday for those people. To this day, Peter and Frances are still doing that prayer service every single Saturday morning at St John's church which is an amazing achievement.

Over the years Peter and Frances have also had a very active role in the RCIA program supporting adults who want to become Catholics.

Peter and Francis, we'd like to thank you for all your contributions to our parish over many years.

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Parents and family members are always welcome to attend parish/school masses on feast days and special celebrations. Mass will be celebrated at 10am in St John's Church this Wednesday. Please come and join us.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a time during which we are invited to reflect on our lives and prepare for Easter and the coming of the risen Jesus into our world. Traditionally, there are three ways we can participate in this season of preparation and conversion: through prayer, fasting and giving alms. Today we are encouraged to have a change of heart during the Lenten season by trying to do something extra for others.

Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, Project Compassion brings thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. The theme of this years appeal is "For a Just Future." We will be supporting Project Compassion this year and will be holding various fundraising events throughout Lent. Our first event will be held tomorrow, with the Social Justice Team selling pancakes before school. Our major fundraising event will be a Walkathon on 26th March as a part of Harmony Day.

Important Dates to Remember:

February	13	Tuesday	Burning of the Palms Ceremony, 9.15am
	14	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Mass, 10.00am
	22	Thursday	Helen Carboon, Prep Evening, "Children and God things", 5.00 or 7.00pm
	25	Sunday	Parish Family Mass, 9.45am



Instrumental Lessons 2018

Student Name:

Class:

Parent Name:

Mobile:

I am interested in learning (circle appropriate):

Guitar (bass, acoustic, electric), Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone
Saxophone, Keyboard, Drums or having singing lessons.

Private lesson or small group lesson? (circle appropriate)

Instrumental Program Feedback:

RECONCILIATION AND EUCHARIST ENROLMENT FOR 2018

If you believe your child is ready to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist in 2018 then please call the Parish office on the number below to make a time to meet me and to collect an enrolment form - Remember this needs to be done before February 16th as enrolments close and forms are due back then.

If you have any concerns or questions please don't hesitate to call or email me on 9873 1341 or Ma-ree.OKeefe@cam.org.au

Instrumental Music Lessons

ROCKiSKOOL is now accepting new enrolments for instrumental music lessons at school.

Tuition is available for Singing, Piano, Ukulele, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Tin Whistle, Recorder, Flute, Clarinet, Clarineo, Saxophone, Trumpet and Trombone.

Lessons are in small groups or for serious Musicians, solo lessons are available as well.

For more information on the program and to enroll, please visit our website at www.rockiskool.com. Or call Anthony Merchant on 0425 738 420.



Don't forget to collect your Coles Sports for Schools vouchers when you shop at Coles

For every \$10 spent at Coles, shoppers will receive a voucher. These vouchers can then be brought to school and placed in the Sports for Schools box in the office area. The total number of vouchers will be tallied and the school will then purchase sport equipment to our achieved value. This has been extremely successful in past years and we hope it will be again this year.
Happy shopping!

MARATHON CLUB

A reminder that Marathon Club will be starting back up again this week for all year 3-6 students that are interested in joining the fun.



We will be meeting, weather permitting, in the school foyer at 7:45 am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings before heading off for a walk or run.

When returning to school students who have participated will be provided with breakfast before the start of the school day.

The cost is \$5 per student, per term.

Please wear appropriate footwear and check the St John's School App each morning for cancellations. Parents are welcome to come along too!

We look forward to seeing everyone this week and to

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

If you would like to order any books from the recent Scholastic Bookclub brochure please do so by Friday 16 February. No late orders can be processed. All rewards points earned from the sale of the orders go towards buying classroom resources for each year level at school.

Any queries can be directed to Jo Novak on 0402 816 685



Italian Phrase of the Week

Week 3: In piedi!
(een pee-ay-dee)
Stand up!



Mitcham Thunder offers
BASKETBALL FOR EVERYONE

- * FREE Beginners program for kids aged 4-10
- * Junior games for U8s to U23 on Saturdays or after school on weeknights in three different competitions.
- * Open Age basketball for anyone aged 15 or over.

mitchamthunder.com

mitchamthunder

MITCHAM THUNDER

Ask about our FREE Beginners Program for kids aged 4 - 10 each Saturday



rhsports.com.au

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

RH Sport are now supplying St John's School Uniform.

https://www.rhsports.com.au/shop/product/clothing/school_wear/st_john's_mitcham_ps

Kathleen Spicer will continue to manage the sale of second hand uniform and will open on the first Tuesday of each month in the Multi-purpose room.

BIRTHDAYS

This week Sienna La and Will Cittarelli will be celebrating their birthday.

We hope you all have a "Happy Day!"



SHROVE TUESDAY

On Tuesday 13 February the Social Justice Team will be making pancakes to raise money for Caritas Australia for international aid.

The pancakes will be cooked and sold in the passive play area from 8.00am. They will be served on plates with your choice of banana, strawberries or maple syrup. Thank you for your support -Social Justice Team.

Plain pancakes: .50c
Pancake with topping: \$1.00





Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student "Getting to Know You" Discussion will be held between 3.50 and 7.30pm on Tuesday 13 February and 3.50 and 6.00pm on Wednesday 14 February, 2018.

You can book interviews at times that suit ***YOUR FAMILY BEST***.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.
(Bookings open on Tuesday 6 February at 9.30am)

BOOKINGS CLOSE on Tuesday 13 February at 9.30am

School event code

pan8a **Go**

Go to

www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter **THIS** school event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click ***finish***, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.
You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

BOOKINGS OPEN ON Tuesday 6 February at 9.30am

For parents that don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones please see Jenny at the office or phone the school on 9874 1575.

Interviews are strictly 10mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9874 1575.

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school's name and suburb.

Learning & Teaching

Growth mindsets

This year our word for 2018 is **BELIEVE**. At St. John's we will be looking at ways to ensure all our students believe in themselves and their abilities. This word relates closely to having a growth mindset and as a school we encourage all students to possess this.

A growth mindset is a concept that was developed by Carol Dweck, a Professor of Psychology at Stanford University. It is the belief that a person's abilities and intelligence can be developed through practice, hard work, dedication, persistence and motivation.



Students who have a growth mindset are more likely to:

- * **Learn from their mistakes**
- * **Be motivated to succeed**
- * **Have a go at challenging tasks**
- * **Take risks**
- * **Seek feedback**
- * **Put more effort into their work**

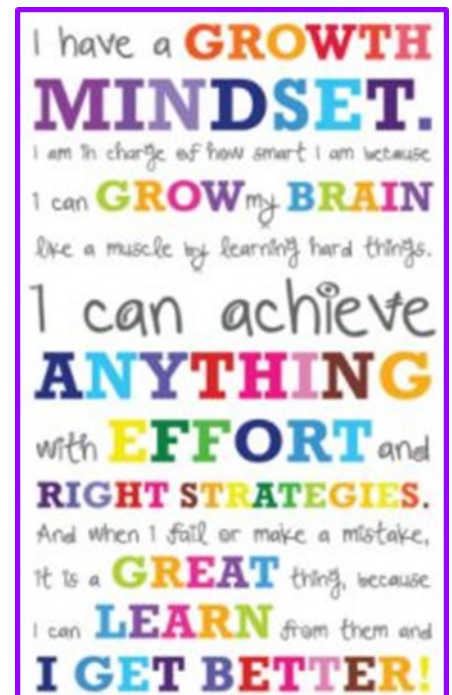
A fixed mindset is the belief that talent and intelligence alone will lead to success. People with this mindset believe that talent and intelligence cannot be developed or improved upon.

Students who have a fixed mindset are more likely to:

- * **Fear failure**
- * **Give up on tasks easily**
- * **Ignore feedback**
- * **Avoid challenges**

According to Carol Dweck, there are a number of tips for encouraging a growth mindset in children:

1. *Help your child understand that their brain works like a muscle,* and it can only grow through hard work, determination and lots of practice.
2. *Praise the process.* It's the effort, hard work and practice that allows children to achieve their true potential.
3. *Embrace mistakes.* Students learn the most when they make a mistake. Let them know that mistakes are a big part of the learning process. There is nothing like working through a difficult task and persisting and solving it!



Praise the effort over the results. Focus more on the process of what your child had to do rather than the result.

We look forward to sharing more information about growth mindsets this year.

Bianca Martino

(Learning & Teaching Leader)

and

Rebecca Fry

ST JOHN'S TWILIGHT SCHOOL SPORTS 2018

The St. John's Twilight Sports athletics carnival will be held, weather permitting, on Monday 5 March from 4:45 to 7:00 pm at the Bill Sewart Athletics Track in Burwood East (behind Nunawading Basketball stadium). We encourage all families to come along to support and cheer for the students.

Students will have the chance to prepare and train for the event during sport and PE lessons prior to our Twilight Sports night. Relay and event practice, lead by the Year 6 Sports Captains, will be held on the grass area during the first half of lunchtime on the following days; each house will have two lunchtime practice sessions before our Twilight Sports day. One in week 4 and another in week 5.

Dillon (blue) – Monday 19th & Monday 26th Feb
Lyons (green) – Tuesday 20th & Tuesday 27th Feb
Durkin (red) – Thursday 22nd Feb & Thursday 1st March
Coghlan (gold) – Friday 23rd Feb & Friday 2nd March

Students are encouraged to wear their sports uniform and their house coloured T- shirt on their practice days. A separate notice regarding the Twilight Sports Day will be sent home this week.

Thank you -Tom Jackson



St. John's will be hosting a ThinkUKnow presentation on the 28th February at 6pm and all parents, carers and teachers are encouraged to attend.

ThinkUKnow Australia is a cyber safety education program that educates parents, carers and teachers of how people are using technology, the challenges they may face online, and how to help them overcome these in a safe and ethical way.

ThinkUKnow Australia is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Microsoft Australia, Datacom and the Commonwealth Bank. The program is delivered in collaboration with policing partners New South Wales Police Force, Northern Territory Police, Queensland Police, South Australia Police, Tasmania Police, Western Australia Police, as well as Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

The presentation will be delivered by a local law enforcement member and an industry volunteer. The presentation covers issues relating to children and young people's privacy and security online, their relationships with other users and their online reputation. It provides insight into the devices young people are using, as well as the popular websites, apps and social networking sites they're accessing.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about young people and the online environment, and how you can help them to be safe and responsible users of technology.

For more information, you can visit www.thinkuknow.org.au

Please let me know if you have any questions about this session.

Kind regards, - Bianca Martino (eLearning Leader).



Reunion

1968, 1978, 1988, 1998, 2008

SUNDAY 18.03.18 12 - 3PM	ALL WELCOME INCLUDING STAFF WHO TAUGHT DURING THESE YEARS RSVP ILLUMINARE@AQUINAS.VIC.EDU.AU	 AQUINAS COLLEGE 46 GREAT RYRIE ST RINGWOOD IN THE O'DRISCOLL ROOM
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SUNDAY 18TH MARCH 2018
12-3PM | 46 Great Ryrie Street
Ringwood VIC 3134 | 03 9259 3000
aquinas.vic.edu.au
AQUINAS COLLEGE
CRICOS No. 00127G



February 2018

Welcome to Prep!



A warm welcome to our new families and congratulations to all our preps on their first few full days at school. In our short time together we have already learnt lots of new things and become more comfortable with our new learning environment. I hope you and your child are looking forward to an exciting year ahead! I would also like to welcome Kim Wilson-Hartick (Learning Support Officer) who will be assisting us in the classroom on a regular basis.

Food:

Fruit Break (Brain Food) is eaten at approx. 10am each day during class time. This may be fruit or vegetables cut into small pieces. Please also bring a drink bottle to school every day. We have eating time for lunch just before 11am and eating time for recess just before 2pm.

Please be aware that some children in our class have nut allergies and cannot come into contact with these foods. Thank you for your understanding with this.



Some Reminders:

- Please label **everything!** Hats, drink bottles, containers, shoes, jumpers, book bags etc.
- Blue book bags: for notices, library books and readers. Please check daily and return to school each day. If you do not have one they can be purchased from Jenny in the office.
- Children must wear hats outside in terms 1 and 4. Children without a hat will need to play undercover in the passive play area.
- Preps will have Physical Education/Sport on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please wear sports uniform.



Communication:

Communication is vital between home and school and an important way to develop our partnership. As mentioned above, the book bags are used for notices. The weekly school newsletter should keep you informed of all upcoming events and reminders are also sent out on the school app. I am available most afternoons after school and can always be contacted via email. Please don't hesitate to ask questions or clarify anything you may be unsure of.

ncurtis@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

Bucket Filling at St John's:

Last week the preps learnt that everyone has an invisible bucket. When you say and do nice things your bucket fills up, but when you are mean or you feel sad your bucket is empty. This concept of 'filling a bucket' runs through the whole school and encourages positive behaviour. Below is a photo of our class bucket that we will try to fill each day. You might like to speak with your child further about this and encourage them to also be a bucket filler at home. This is a song we have watched to help us understand 'bucket filling'.

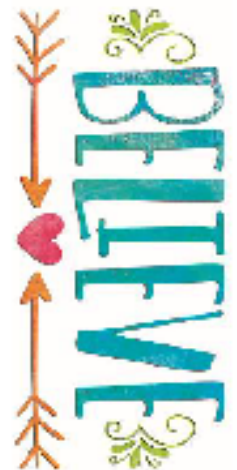
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WaddbaEQINE>



Our theme this year throughout the whole school is 'Believe'. We will discuss what we believe we can achieve and explore how we are going to make these things possible. We will be talking lots about this concept throughout the year and I invite you to talk with your child about how to make these goals a reality.

Some important dates for Prep parents:

- Prep Family Night "Children and God" on Thursday 22nd at 5pm or 7pm
- Prep Family Welcome dinner on Tuesday 27th at 6pm. Dinner will be provided.
- I look forward to sharing more information with you about prep life, routines and curriculum at the Prep Information Evening on Wednesday 14th March at 6pm.



Naomi Curtis Prep Teacher

1/2 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to 2018! We are so excited for a fantastic year of learning in 1/2! We have familiarised ourselves with the learning spaces, made some new friends and are settling well into new routines. This year all students will have the opportunity to work in their learning space as well as in mixed groups. We welcome Monica to our learning area this year. She will be in 1/2 BM on Thursdays.



This year our big word is BELIEVE. We have spent time exploring this word and made connections with having a growth mindset. Having a growth mindset means:

- Believing in yourself
- Trying your best
- Never giving up
- Learning from our mistakes

We know when we do have a growth mindset we will be successful in our learning!

Classroom support

Starting from next week we will begin Reading Groups. Outside the learning spaces, we will have a timetable up for you to sign if you wish to help support us in our literacy sessions. We would love to see lots of parents helping, however it is a requirement that you complete the "Parent Helpers Course", have a current Working With Children Check, complete the Child Safe Volunteers application process and sign a code of conduct. Further details regarding the Parent Helpers program will be in an upcoming newsletter.

Can we please ask that your children start bringing their art smocks to school. On Friday students will participate in a rotation where they will have STEM (Science Technology, Engineering Mathematics) with Monica, Digital Technologies with Bianca and Visual Arts with a new teacher named Mrs Melinda Wharton. Physical Education will be with Mr Jackson on Tuesday and on Thursdays Monica will be taking the students for outdoor sport to play a variety of games. Please wear sports uniform on both of these days.

Home Learning

- Reading Eggs - We recommend 15 minutes at least three times a week. This includes assigned Reading Eggs activities which may be a combination of comprehension and spelling tasks.
- Mathletics - We recommend Mathletics practice at home at least two times a week to help consolidate maths learning in the classroom. Tasks will be assigned on weeks where new topics have been introduced.
- Daily reading and recording in reading records.

Literacy

In Reading groups, students will engage in a range of different literacy activities including: guided and shared reading focus groups, handwriting practice, spelling activities and comprehension activities. Through these activities students will engage in a wide range of different reading strategies such as chunking, predicting, sequencing and questioning.

In writing we will have a focus on the 6+1 Traits of writing, learning how to make our writing more interesting to the reader through our ideas, sentence fluency, word choice, conventions, organisation, voice and presentation.

Religious Education and Inquiry

Our RE and Inquiry focus this year will be on the word: "contribute" - how do we contribute to our world? In inquiry we will be exploring family. This will include investigating our family trees, interviewing family members and gaining a greater awareness that every family is unique and contributes in their own way. In RE, we will extend on how we are all part of God's family. We will be having a particular focus on Mary as the mother of Jesus and explore stories from the Bible where Mary has demonstrated contribution in Jesus' life.

In the Lenten season and lead up to Easter, we will also be exploring the following:

- Lent is a time for change when people grow to become more like Jesus.
- During Lent and Holy Week symbols are used.
- During Lent and Holy Week Jesus' journey to the cross is remembered.

Social and Emotional Learning

In Social and Emotional Learning students will be exploring emotions in themselves and others, how these emotions may look in different people and how to bounce back from difficult situations. Students will develop an awareness of their personal strengths and how they can help them in their everyday life. They will explore ways of making and keeping friends and how these skills are needed in the playground and classroom. Circle Time will be held regularly and there will be opportunities where the students can express themselves verbally through discussions, role plays and games.



Mathematics

This term we will be exploring four core topics: Counting and Place Value, Pattern, Length & Area and 2D Shape. Through tuning in activities and small and whole class focus teaching groups the students will explore many key concepts in these topics.

In Counting and Place Value, students will understand:

- Numbers can be broken up in many ways eg. 154 is the same as 15 tens and 4 ones or 14 tens and 14 ones.
- Our number system is based on grouping quantities in tens.
- Numbers can be linked with symbols and visual representations.
- The place of a digit determines its value.

In Pattern, students will understand:

- Patterns are an arrangement of elements eg. numbers, letters, shapes, objects and colours
- There are two types of patterns
 - Repeated patterns- have a core element that repeats without change.
 - Growing patterns- have elements that increase or decrease in a consistent manner.

In Length & Area, students will understand:

- The larger the unit, the smaller the measure
- Objects can be measured using formal and informal units

In 2D Shape, students will understand:

- Shapes have characteristics and are named because of their properties
 - Properties of two-dimensional shapes include the number of sides, corners and faces, as well as the length of sides.



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3/4 Term 1 Newsletter

Welcome to Year 3/4 2018. Our whole school overarching word is "Believe". We look forward to watching your children grow and develop a growth mindset to instill a sense of believing in themselves. Ange Crowe will be replacing Kellie Cumming (mathematics release) on Wednesdays. In Term One, our inquiry unit will be focusing on Contribute- (How we contribute to our world, how can I make our world a better place?) We will be examining this through the Humanities (Civics and Citizenship) and Religious Education (Making Choices/Reconciliation) curriculum. Student learning will occur in a combination of class groups, small groups and ability groupings depending on the task. This semester we will run our specialist program on a Tuesday and Wednesdays. Library will be on Tuesday for KC and Wednesday for RF. Students will require to wear their sports uniform on Tuesday's and Friday's.

If you have any problems or concerns please contact your teacher either in person or via email.



Religious Education

In RE, we will have a focus on the Catholic Social Teaching - Stewardship. The big questions we will be focusing on is: *How do I show respect for creation? This will link closely with our unit of Contribute. Students will be reflecting on the sacredness of creation and what we can do protect our environment. Students will then go on to explore how God is revealed in the activity of the Holy Spirit-creation, church and the human experience.*

LENT

In this unit students explore the seasons of Lent and Easter as a journey of Christian hope. The students will learn about the symbols, colours, texts and events of Easter and what they mean. Throughout the Lenten journey students are supported to take on acts of service and hope. Students will examine the events of Holy Week and Easter. This unit will support our exploration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation that some students will partake in throughout Term 1.

Contribute - Humanities: Civics & Citizenship

Students have contributed to the development and support of Year 3/4 classroom agreements and whole school rules. We have closely examined the Three R's (respect self, others and property) to form a cohesive learning environment. The students will explore the differences between rules and laws, why we have them, what role they serve in our community. Students will examine how people participate in their local community and beyond as active citizens. They will explore factors that shape a person's identity and sense of belonging within these communities.

3/4 Term I Newsletter

BELIEVE

Literacy

In Term 1 Writing, we will be looking closely at the 6+1 traits both individually and as a collective. These traits are part of an instructional and assessment model that focuses on the key elements and attributes that define a quality piece of writing. These are:

- Ideas—the main message
- Organization—the internal structure of the piece
- Voice—the personal tone and flavor of the author's message
- Word Choice—the vocabulary a writer chooses to convey meaning
- Sentence Fluency—the rhythm and flow of the language
- Conventions—the mechanical correctness
- Presentation—how the writing actually looks on the page



Students will use these writing traits to support their planning, drafting and publishing of a narrative piece.

In reading groups, students will engage in a range of comprehension, spelling and handwriting activities. We will be further utilising Reading Eggspress through weekly comprehension tasks individually set for students to complete during reading rotations. We will also be having additional focus groups on inferencing, looking at what it means “to read between the lines” and gain an understanding of a text which goes beyond the literal meaning.

Mathematics

Through independent, small and large group activities students will explore the following concepts;

Place Value

Recognising, modelling and ordering numbers to at least 10,000. Understanding that the position of the digit determines the value of the number. Understanding that place value is a base ten system based on the operation of multiplication and division by 10's. Understanding that numbers can be written in numeric, words and expanded notation.

Length and Perimeter

Estimate, order, compare and measure lengths using scaled instruments. Convert between units of millimetres, centimetres and metres. Calculate the perimeter of regular and irregular two dimensional shapes.

Data

Investigate and interpret data by posing a question, collecting information, representing the information in a graph and or table and analysing the results.

Addition and Subtraction

Develop increasingly efficient mental strategies for addition and subtraction facts for single digit numbers including friends of ten, doubling and near doubling. Demonstrate the connection between addition and subtraction. Solve problems using efficient written strategies such as the use of number lines, breaking numbers into parts and compensation. Use estimation and rounding as a way of checking if you are close to the exact answer.

Home Learning

-We encourage daily reading at home. This should include both independent reading and reading aloud.

Furthermore, discussions about the characters and storyline can help students make connections and develop deeper understandings of what they are reading. Students should keep a record of what book they are reading and a signature from an adult in their diaries.

-Fortnightly Home Learning sheet.

-Ongoing mathematics tasks will be set for students to complete at home. These tasks will relate to what has been covered in class and assist students in consolidating what they have learnt.

-Reading Eggspress practice at home will assist students develop their literacy skills. The program provides a library of books, lessons and English skills practice.

Year 5/6 Newsletter - Term One



Welcome back to the 2018 school year. It has been a terrific start so far with students settling into the classroom routines, getting to know their peers and teachers.

Tom Jackson and Kristina Reid are our 5/6 classroom teachers this year with Monica O'Shannassy teaching in 5/6TJ on a Tuesday when Mr Jackson is teaching PE to the other year levels. Kristina is joining us this year from Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School. We are very excited and lucky to have her at St John's and want to again welcome her to our learning area and school community. We consider ourselves to be the senior teaching team supported by Melinda Kerwin as the Learning Support Officer for the learning area.

Our first term unit of learning will have a Civics and Citizenship focus. Students will be exploring the levels of government in Australia and the systems of voting that lead to elected members of parliament being chosen. We are exploring the ways people contribute to their local and global communities.



Students will also be learning about prayer and the liturgical season of Lent, which commences on 14th February and Holy Week which takes place during the last week of this term.

Please note in your calendars:

Twilight Sports 5th March

Year Six Camp Tuesday 13th - Friday 16th March

Confirmation Saturday 12th May

Year Five Camp Monday 21 May - Wednesday 23 May

Other school dates will be in the St John's School Calendar and regularly in the school newsletter.

English

This term, the senior students will look to develop their reading comprehension, speaking and listening and writing skills through our weekly literacy rotations, goal setting and various other activities.

Our literacy rotations will be guided by our recent comprehension assessment and students will be exposed to a variety of texts types, word study activities (vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar), and online activities (BTN study and Reading Eggs) as part of this learning. In teacher focus groups students will discuss ideas and share their opinions relating to various topics and texts as we look to grow in specific comprehension needs for each students learning.

Dojos / SEL

This year we will be using ClassDojo as a whole school approach to positive behavior and expectations. ClassDojo is an online resource which is designed to help students by celebrating positive interactions, our school dispositions and values. We will be linking our ClassDojo rewards to the four sports houses this year and announcing the winning teams at assembly throughout the term. As part of our SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) program we will be exploring the five St John's dispositions (persistence, bravery, curiosity, resilience and independence) in detail this term to establish how we will improve in these areas throughout the year.

Maths

The following curriculum will be taught this term:

Whole numbers: Place Value

2D Shapes

Measurement: Length and perimeter

Fractions

Probability

Number patterns and equations



Home Learning

Home learning will once again be given to students in the 5/6 area on a fortnightly basis beginning in week 4 of this term. Students will be required to complete all compulsory activities and 4 choice activities continuing the same structure they are familiar with. We see home learning as a terrific opportunity for students to develop and improve in their organisation and time management skills and greatly appreciate parents and family support with this.

Timetable

Specialist classes of Performing Arts and Italian will be on Wednesdays in 2018.

Students will need to wear sports uniform on Thursday and Friday for PE and Sport lessons.

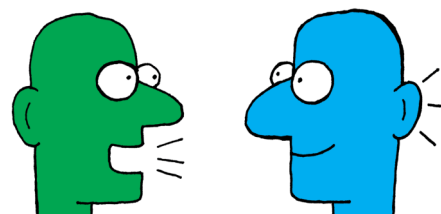
This year Penelope will also be teaching our 5/6 students Visual Arts on Tuesday (5/6 TJ) and Wednesday (5/6 KR) afternoons.

Learning Conferences

We will be conducting regular 5-10 minute Learning Conferences with each student this year. The purpose of these conferences is to check in with students, discuss progress, learning goals and provide feedback on learning. Students will identify what has worked well (WWW) and an area for improvement -even better if (EBI) on general school progress, attitude and behaviour.

Communication

Effective communication between family and school is an important factor in a student's' learning. Please make contact with us if you have any questions, comments or concerns. Below are our email addresses:



tjackson@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

moshannassy@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

kreid@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

Each student has received a diary for the year which is to be used for two purposes:

1. To develop organisational skills
2. As a communication tool.

Please view your child's diary weekly as they are recording their nightly reading and sign it please before it will be checked on a Friday at school.

Many thanks,

Tom Jackson, Kristina Reid and Monica O'Shannassy

St John's Term 1, 2018 Calendar

February

5	Monday	Assembly 3/4RF 8:50am Preps Full Days – Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri (No school on Wednesdays during Feb')
11	Sunday	Founder's Day/ Opening of School Year Mass 11:15am
12	Monday	School Photos
13	Tuesday	Burning of Palms Ceremony 9:15am Parent/Teacher/Student "Getting to Know You" Discussions 3:50 – 7:30pm
14	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Mass 10:00am Parent/Teacher/Student "Getting to Know You" Discussions 3:50 – 6:00pm
19	Monday	Assembly 5/6TJ
20	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting 7:00pm
21	Wednesday	Parents' Association Meeting 7:00pm
22	Thursday	Prep Family Night with Helen Carboon, "Children and God Things" 5:00 or 7:00pm.
25	Sunday	Parish Family Mass 9:45am
27	Tuesday	Prep Welcome Dinner 6:00pm
28	Wednesday	Cyber Safety Parent Night 6:00pm

March

1	Thursday	Open Morning 9:00 – 10:00am
2	Friday	Working Bee 5:00 – 6:30pm
3	Saturday	Year Six Masses and Confirmation Enrolment Rite 6:00pm
4	Sunday	Year Six Masses and Confirmation Enrolment Rite 9:45am
5	Monday	Assembly 1/2EB 8:50am Preps Full Week (Students attend every day including Wednesday) Twilight Sports 4:45pm
7	Wednesday	Open Morning 9:00 – 10:00am
8	Thursday	First Eucharist Parent Information Night 7:30pm
12	Monday	Labour Day Public Holiday – No School
13	Tuesday	Lake Nillahcootie Camp, Year 6 leave for 3 nights
14	Wednesday	Prep 2018 Parent Information Meeting 6:00pm Parents' Association Meeting 7:00pm
15	Thursday	First Reconciliation Celebration 7:30pm
16	Friday	Lake Nillahcootie Camp, Year 6 return
17	Saturday	First Eucharist Commitment Ceremony and Mass Book Presentation 6:00pm
18	Sunday	First Eucharist Commitment Ceremony and Mass Book Presentation 9:45am
19	Monday	Assembly Performing Arts
20	Tuesday	Open Morning 9:00 - 10:00am Parish Lenten Penitential Celebration 7:30pm
22	Thursday	First Reconciliation Celebration 7:30pm
25	Sunday	Palm Sunday and Parish Family Mass 9:45am
26	Monday	Harmony Day
29	Thursday	Holy Thursday Term One Ends 3.20pm
30	Friday	Good Friday

April

1	Sunday	Easter Sunday
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