

# Welcome

Families of Year 4/5 White

## Parent Information Night 2017

Teacher: Mallory Taylor



### *If I Had It All Over Again*

*If I had my child to raise all over again. . . . .  
I'd build self-esteem first and the house later.  
I'd finger-paint more and point the finger less.  
I would do less correcting and more connecting.  
I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.  
I would care to know less and know to care more.  
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.  
I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.  
I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars.  
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.  
I'd see the oak tree in the acorn more often.  
I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.  
I'd mind less about love and power, and more about the  
power of love.*

*Dianne Looman*



## **RELIGION – Year 4**

**Term 1:** *What does it mean to be community?* We will be learning about what it means to be part of a community and how different texts give us differing ideas about this. As Lent begins on 1<sup>st</sup> March with Ash Wednesday, the children will follow the Lenten Program and be guided to an understanding of the special days of Holy Week and Easter.

## **RELIGION – Year 5**

In **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** this year we will lead students to foster their spirituality through morning reflection time, celebration of church seasons, prayer and meditation. Our units will focus on the teachings and actions of Jesus and working as a faith community.

## **SCIENCE – Year 4**

**Term 1:** *Life Cycles.* We will be examining and researching animal and plant lifecycles. The children will be producing an individual poster on the lifecycle of a chosen animal. Students will then 'be the expert' and present their poster to the class.

## **SCIENCE – Year 5**

Throughout the year all students will engage with the four strands of science as follows;

**Biological Science**—Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their [environment](#)

**Chemical Science**—Solids, liquids and gases have different [observable](#) properties and behave in different ways

**Earth and Space Sciences**—The Earth is part of a [system](#) of planets orbiting around a star (the sun)

**Physical Science**—Light from a source forms shadows and can be absorbed, reflected and refracted

## **HEALTH – Year 4**

**Term 1 – Values/Moral Action.** Our Health unit this term is an extension of the values covered in Religion. We discuss social values and how they help us in our friendships, family and other relationships. We also have a visit from the Life Education Van that encompasses looking after our bodies through nutrition.

## **HASS – Year 5**

In term 1 our HASS unit will focus on answering the following key inquiry questions;

**\* *What do we know about the lives of people in Australia's colonial past and how do we know?***

**\* *What was the impact of colonial settlement on the environment?***

In order to answer these two questions students will employ the use of historical skills with an explicit focus on: using historical terms, posing an investigation question to inform an historical inquiry, identifying sources and different points of view, using a range of communication forms and digital technologies.

## **GEOGRAPHY – Year 4**

**Term 1** - *How environments sustain all life across the Globe.* Our Geography unit this term examines the student's understanding of place through learning the location of major countries in South America and Africa and their types of natural vegetation and native animals. Students undertake studies of places in different locations across the globe.

## **HISTORY – Year 4**

**Term 1:** In History, traditional Aboriginal life will be our *focus*. In small groups, the students will be researching a particular aspect of the Aboriginal lifestyle and then organising this information so as to contribute to a class power point. Each group will then present its section of the power point to the class.

## **ENGLISH – Year 4 and 5**

Based on the Australian Curriculum English Programme.

- Spelling: Basic core words, extension and unit related words;
- Reading: Home reading, silent reading in class, guided reading in small groups/ individuals
- Speaking: Daily speaking and listening tasks, expressing opinions and ideas with supporting reasoning. Presentation of written work and set presentations about topics covered in Science, Religion and HASS.
- Writing: Skills are taught in context through a variety of genres;  
This term the children's main focus will be a narrative (story writing). We will also be revising the features of recounts, persuasive writing and report writing.
- Grammar: Skills are taught in context through a variety of activities in conjunction with English Stars
- Handwriting: Handwriting skills taught through regular practice.

## **MATHEMATICS – Year 4 & 5**

Each term we will cover the strands of mathematics (Number, Space, Measurement, Chance & Data and Patterns and Algebra). This will be done in a variety of ways. Students will be involved in explicit teaching, computer based programs, hands on activities and maths games. They will be challenged daily with exercises to support their number facts and multiplication skills.

## **TECHNOLOGY – Year 4 & 5**

**TECHNOLOGY** will be integrated into most areas of the curriculum and will be an important part of the English, H.A.S.S and Mathematics topics covered this term.

## **CARING MASS**

We will be joining Year 5 with undertaking the Caring Masses throughout the year.

On the third Thursday of each month, Year 5 will be involved in the Parish Caring Mass as part of our community service. The Year 5 students will get to know the older members of the parish community and provide a morning tea for the group. They will also have the opportunity to entertain the members of the parish with their talents. Each Year 5 class will have turns providing for the Caring Mass in the Church at 9.30 am.

## ***SPECIALIST LESSONS***

Library: Wednesday      PE: Wednesday

Music: Thursday      Social Skills: Thursday

Gymnastics: Year 4 - Monday      Year 5 - Tuesday

## ***HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS***

Homework is given out and due in each Tuesday. It will always comprise of:

- 15 min reading each school night which must be signed by a parent;
- an activity from the homework grid
- a Maths problem
- a comprehension activity

## ***CAMP – Year 5 (16<sup>th</sup> August – 18<sup>th</sup> August)***

The Year 5 Camp to Mapleton is a wonderful experience for all involved. This year we will be at camp from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August. Brave parents will be invited to consider joining us and they will be asked to write a brief letter or email to apply.

All applications will be considered but spaces can be limited. Please do not send in any expressions of interest at this stage. More details will follow later in the year so you will be able to make informed decisions regarding offering support.

## ***Swimming***

Year 4 are swimming each Tuesday from 9 – 10am in weeks 4-8. Year 5 swimming is still to be advised. Parent helpers will be required and much appreciated.

If you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to make a time to come and see me. Alternatively, write a letter or send an email, which will be answered within 24 hours.

## **Classroom Rules and Vision**

We have developed our rules and class vision for each of our classes based upon what we want to see, hear and feel in our school.

## BEING IN AN ALLERGY AWARE ENVIRONMENT

This year, as in all recent previous years we have a small number of children enrolled in the school who have severe allergic reactions to some foods in particular peanuts, nuts and eggs. With some of these students their reaction is so severe that their life is endangered by contact with them. **For this reason, we ask that families do not send food containing peanuts, nuts or nut-based products. Peanut paste, in particular, because it can stick to hands so easily is one product that we encourage all families not to send to school.**

Parents can help minimize the possibility of an allergic reaction by reminding your child not to share their food and to wash their hands before and after eating. Please also assist by removing all traces of food from your child's (and toddlers coming into the classroom) face, hands and clothes, if it is possible that they have eaten anything containing nuts. Please do not send any items to school for box constructions, which have contained any nut products. **We realise that this may not always be possible, but every effort you can make, will be certainly appreciated by these children, their parents and the staff at St Patrick's.**

## USE OF EMAILS

As you can appreciate, your children are our priority. Giving our students our full attention is paramount. For this reason, it is not possible for our staff to be constantly checking emails. The teaching staff have been asked to respond to emails within a 24-hour turn-around during the working week. Therefore, if it is something that needs immediate action a message through the school office is a lot more practical. Using social media to ask staff questions about school issues is also not the best option.

All teachers will communicate their work email address and will endeavour to respond to emails within 24hours from Monday to Friday.

My email address is:

[mallory.taylor@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mallory.taylor@bne.catholic.edu.au)