Year 3
Parent Information Night
2015

Teachers:

3SC Sarah Skuse/Kim Cahill
3S Carmel Smith
3H Anne Hallam
Dear Jesus,

Please bless our school and all who are part of it.
Guide us this day in our work, prayer and play and help us to make our school a happy and safe place.
May we treat others with love and respect.
Show us how to live the way you call us to live, to do our best and to let our light shine.
Amen

Welcome to Year 3, 2015. We hope that you and your child will have a safe and happy time learning in our classrooms.

Classroom Rules and Visions
We have developed our rules and a Class Vision for each of our classes based upon what we want to see, hear and feel in our school.

Religion
In Year 3 children develop their understanding of God’s relationship with people as individuals and as a community. In Term One they learn how the scriptures can be used as a guide for making choices. They learn about the different images of God as expressed in the Old and New Testaments and experience God in the created world. They will learn about the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist and will have many experiences of formal and informal prayer.

English
Speaking and Listening.
Children will learn that language is used for formal and informal social interactions. 
They will plan and deliver a variety of short presentations creatively making language choices to express a range of feelings and opinions. They will listen to a variety of different opinions and justify their own.

Spelling
This year children will be introduced to SPELODROME – an online spelling program that will enable them to work both at school and home.

Reading
Good readers think about what they are reading, ask questions, search for answers and mentally picture events and objects relating to the text. Year 3 will continue to focus on these skills to build comprehension skills and be able to self-monitor and correct their reading.

Writing
Children will plan, draft and publish imaginative, factual and persuasive texts. This term we will concentrate on Recount, Exposition and Narrative texts.

NAPLAN Tests are held for Year 3 in Week 4 of Term 2. (May 12, 13, 14). More information later.
History
The focus of History in Year 3 covers how communities have changed and how significant events of the past are celebrated today e.g. Australia Day, Anzac Day. We will also explore the significance of country and place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. This term the children will explore the historical features and diversity of Australia as represented as symbols and emblems of significance. (They will learn that each Australian State and Territory has a flora, fauna and flag emblem.)

Geography
In Geography this year the children will learn that places can be similar and different by comparing and exploring Australia and our neighbouring countries. In Term One they learn about Australia’s states and territories and Australia’s major natural and built features e.g. rivers, Great Barrier Reef, Harbour Bridge. They describe the location of places and their features using simple grid references, compass points and geographical language.

Mathematics
Each term we will cover the strands of mathematics (Number, Space, Measurement, Chance & Data and Patterns and Algebra).
In Year 3, we will work hard to achieve automatic recall of addition, subtraction and multiplication facts especially – 2X, 3X, 5X and 10X Tables.
Children will experience a wide range of activities to develop mathematical skills through games, problem solving, computer tasks and hands on activities and written tasks.
- By the end of Year 3 should be confident to read, write and count numbers from 1 to 10,000.
- Tell time to the nearest minute.
- Use metric units for length, mass and capacity.
- Make models of 3D objects.
- Conduct chance experiments

Science
Throughout the year we will cover the four areas of scientific understanding; Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Earth and Space Science and Physical Science. The children develop skills in asking scientific questions, conducting experiments and communicating results. In Term One the children describe features common to living things and identify the difference between living, non-living and once living things.

The Arts
In Year 3, children have the opportunities to work across the strands of the Arts. (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts & Media) In Term 2, we will have weekly lessons from DanceFever. Drama & Visual Art activities will be used to support learning in other areas of the curriculum. In Year 3, Media involves using images, words & sounds to create texts for particular purposes with and without technology.

Home Readers
Children are expected to read for minimum of 10 minutes every night. We send home-readers home to encourage this. If you are unsure whether your child is reading at the appropriate level or are concerned with their book choice, please come and see us. Whatever they read needs to be written in their Reading Log on their homework sheet so that we may monitor it at school.
**Homework**
Homework is given to practise concepts taught at school and to give children the opportunity to show that they are responsible for their own learning and developing independence. It is designed to be able to be completed without parent assistance, and will follow a similar format each week. There are times when children may need clarification from parents. If they are having trouble please see us before Tuesday when it is due. We would appreciate if parents would sign the homework sheet in the communication section each week.
Homework will run on a weekly basis, Tuesday to Tuesday. Each week we alternate between a Homework A and Homework B book.

**Gymnastics** – Monday 3S and 3SC; Tuesday 3H
**Library** – Tuesday
**Social Skills** - Tuesday 3SC; Wednesday 3S and 3H
**Music** – Wednesday
**P.E.** – Wednesday

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 realize 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.**

**Parent Help**
There are many opportunities to assist in the classroom throughout the year. If you would like to help could you please let us know.
**Please remember though that you need to be registered at the office as a volunteer.** You can get a volunteer package from the office. Parent helpers also need to sign in and out at the classroom on the day of volunteering.

Permission notes will be sent home via email unless there is a request for a hard copy to be sent.

**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 24 hours from Monday to Friday
Our email addresses are:
Sarah Skuse – sarah.lancaster@bne.catholic.edu
Kim Cahill – kstekhoven@bne.catholic.edu.au
Carmel Smith – Carmel.A.Smith@bne.catholic.edu.au
Anne Hallam – amassingham@bne.catholic.edu.au
Looking forward to working with you in educating your child or children this year.