

Welcome

Families of Year 4B and 4G

Parent Information Night 2017

Teachers: Anne Hallam and Michelle Bailey



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

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 1st 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.

SCIENCE

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.

HEALTH

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.

GEOGRAPHY

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

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

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: The children will present their group powerpoint on an aspect of traditional Aboriginal life.
Presentation of lifecycles poster to the class.
- 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 and report writing.
- Grammar: Student textbook.
- Handwriting: Handwriting skills taught.

MATHEMATICS

- *Number & Place Value* – multiplication facts to 10 and related division facts, odd and even numbers, ordering numbers to tens of thousands, equivalent fractions, halves, quarters and thirds.
- *Measurement and Geometry* – am and pm time, area of regular and irregular shapes, symmetry, compare size of angles
- *Statistics & Probability* – describes the chance of events occurring, displays data in graphs (bar, picture, column)

SPECIALIST LESSONS

Library: 4G – Wednesday 4B – Wednesday

Music: 4G – Thursday 4B – Wednesday

PE: 4G – Thursday 4B – Thursday

Social Skills: 4G- Wednesday 4B – Thursday

Gymnastics: 4G- Monday 4B - Monday

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;
- 10 spelling words practised 5 times each;
- Maths Mental unit;
- Tables

Swimming

This year we are swimming each Tuesday from 9 – 10am in weeks 4-8.
Parent helpers will be required and much appreciated.

If you ever have any concerns please don't hesitate to make a time to come and see us. 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 A NUT-FREE 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 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.**

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.

Our email addresses are:

amassingham@bne.catholic.edu.au

mabailey@bne.catholic.edu.au

To My Child's Teacher

When I found out that my child would be in your class this year, I "checked you out" with parents of your previous students. I wanted to know if you were a "good teacher", if you were fair, if you were fun to be with in class, if you challenged the students but not so as to frustrate them.

Then I began to wonder if you had checked out my child with his previous teachers. Was he a "good student", was he fair, was he fun to have in class, was he a challenge, yet not a frustration? I guess the best thing to do is to let my child and you develop your own kind of working, sharing relationship. You are not perfect, nor is my child.

I realize that the ultimate responsibility of raising this child is mine, but I wonder if you will share this responsibility with me. You are a major factor in stimulating my child's desire to learn and encouraging him to develop his intellectual capabilities to their fullest.

I also realize that my child has a responsibility to you, to me, and to himself to make the most of the opportunities and challenges this school year will present.

My child is very special to me. And because you are my child's teacher – you are very special too.

