

Year 4 Term 2 Newsletter

4/5 White

We have had a great start to term and students have welcomed me in true St Patrick's style. You should all be very proud of their dedication to learning. This newsletter serves to inform you of what will be covered in the different learning and extra-curricular activities throughout Term 2.

In **Mathematics**, students will further develop their understanding, fluency, problem solving skills and reasoning in the three strands 'Number and Algebra', 'Measurement and Geometry' and 'Statistics and Probability'.

In **English** this term, students will plan, draft, edit and publish a persuasive text. They will use the persuasive text structure and cohesive devices to convince children to live a healthy life.



Spelling lists are selected for your child depending on a diagnostic assessment that they completed at the start of the term which identified student strengths and areas that need to be focused on. They have conferenced with me individually and are aware of their focus areas to be worked on in class.

I am in the process of assessing students' **reading** abilities and will work collaboratively with students to support them in identifying a reading strategy goal to target a specific area of need. As I conduct guided reading sessions and continue to conference with your child regarding their reading progress their goals will change. I tell the children that their reading goal is a 'working document' that evolves as children demonstrate mastery over reading skills. Your child should always be aware of their current goal. They should be able to tell you what it is, and demonstrate how to apply the strategy while reading at home.

In **Religious Education**, the students will continue working on a range of activities from the new Religion curriculum. They will look at morality and how the ministry and mission of Jesus healed the relationships in his world. They will also look at the sights, sounds and images related to the Sacrament of Penance and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.



In **Science**, the students will be investigating materials. They will identify the materials that objects are made from and the properties of those materials. They will justify why such materials are chosen to make that object.

The Arts

Specialist Dance lessons will be conducted by DanceFever during Term 2. Students will continue to have specialist Music lessons with Mrs Kait Searles. We will also continue our Visual Arts, Media Arts and Drama Rotations.

In **HASS**, the students will be researching the ocean explorers of Australia, including Dirk Hartog, Abel Tasman and Captain Cook.



PE continues with specialist teacher Mr Joe Laffey and **Technology** will be integrated into all areas of the curriculum playing an important role in our English, History, Science, RE and Mathematics topics.

Homework will continue this term with the students choosing an activity from the grid. After conducting some parent teacher interviews so far, I have taken on board some parent wishes regarding homework. Most importantly, it is most important that your child read at home every day for at least 15-20 minutes. The benefits of this are immeasurable, including 'practise makes perfect'. The more children read the better they become at it. Additionally, it improves concentration and teaches them about the world around them. It also develops their imagination, vocabulary and language skills. We ask you to continue to encourage your child to read regularly and record their reading in their Reading Log. Additionally, I would like your child to practise times tables. As children progress in their schooling they need that speed practise with times tables. Maths problems can be quite demanding on children and often involve several operations to solve the task. Assisting them to learn their times tables by rote will allow them to make calculations more efficiently. They will also practise their spelling words weekly and gain a deeper understanding of words and sentences by putting their words into compound and complex sentences. Additional tasks will be set at student and parent requests and will relate to both student interest and what is going on in the classroom. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or requests regarding homework. I am always happy to adjust tasks according to student needs.

If you have any questions regarding your child's progress please do not hesitate to contact me via email. Alternatively, you may book an appointment with me outside of school hours, or feel free to pop into the classroom. I am usually available most mornings before school.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Rachael Greensill

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