



St Joseph's School

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9th February, 2018

Dear parents, families and students in Year 4

Welcome to Year 4! I am so excited for the year ahead and the incredible opportunities for learning and growth.

Here are some important things to know about Year 4, Term 1. At the Parent Information Night in Week 3, Thursday 15th of February, I will discuss the information below in much more depth, allowing for questions and further explanation.

Important Dates:

Week 3: Thursday (15/2)	Parent Information Evening
Week 3: Friday (16/2)	Year 4 Attending Mass
Week 4: Monday (19/2)	Pupil Free Day
Week 4: Thursday (22/2)	Sacramental Enrolment Meeting 6pm
Week 4: Friday (23/2)	Year 4 Assembly (News)
Week 6: Monday (5/3)	Labour Day Holiday
Week 6 and 7:	Swimming Lessons
Week 7: Friday (16/3)	St Pat's Day Mass
Week 8: Monday (19/3)	Pupil Free Day
Week 9: Monday (26/3)	Reconciliation Year 4
Week 9: Thursday (29/3)	Easter Mass
Week 9: Friday (30/3)	Good Friday
Week 10: Monday (2/4)	Easter Monday
Week 10: Tuesday (3/4)	Easter Tuesday
Week 10: Friday (6/4)	School Faction Carnival
Week 11: Monday (9/4)	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Week 11: Friday (13/4)	ANZAC Day Liturgy, run by Year 4

Specialist Subjects:

Science:	Mrs Jan Young, alternate Mondays or Thursdays
Library:	Mrs Jan Young, Tuesday
The Arts:	Mrs Nila Poasa, Tuesday
Digital Technology:	Mrs Vicki Hodgson, Wednesday
Physical Education:	Miss Amy Rimmer, Wednesday

Students will be required to wear their gold sports shirts on Tuesdays and their faction shirts on Wednesday.

Homework:

Students will receive homework on Monday afternoons, with the expectation that it is completed throughout the week and returned the following Monday. Our Year 4 homework consists of three components; reading, spelling and basic number facts. There is a new school wide homework policy that has been implemented with an incentive for those who complete their homework on a regular basis. Students must complete their homework activities and have their diary signed to ensure they get a tick for completing their homework. Twice a term, students who have completed all homework will be rewarded with a certificate at morning briefing and an icy pole at lunch time. The class with the biggest percentage of students who earned certificates will also win a class reward.

Parent / Teacher Communication

Should you have any queries or concerns and require to meet with myself, appointments can be made before school and after school on Tuesday – Friday afternoons.

Curriculum Focuses:

Religion

In Religion, we will have two units of work for Term 1, one focusing on Lent and Easter. Our first unit of work for Religion is called Creator of Life. This unit focuses on the wonderful gift of human life and how this gift enables us to learn more about God as the Lord of Life. It addresses the need to show respect for life and teaches us how Jesus helps us to live in ways that help us become close friends with God. It is an introduction for our second unit, which specifically teaches us about Lent and the meaning behind such an important and crucial celebration within the liturgical calendar.

Numeracy

There will be a large focus on basic number facts which will be supported through our daily Mental Maths and homework tasks. Our first topic in Maths has been chance, this will continue into data before we begin to look at number and place value.

Literacy

In Literacy, we will be looking at procedural texts before moving into narrative texts. These will be supported by our reading, spelling and comprehension sessions. I will also be placing a big emphasis on handwriting as students are working towards obtaining their pen licences.

Health

In Health, we will be focusing on social and emotional wellbeing. Within this, we will be addressing the topic of bullying, resilience and growth mindsets.

HASS (Geography)

The HASS topic for Term 1 is Geography. Students will begin by looking at various types of environments before learning about the connection to land between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The students will be completing an individual inquiry task towards the end of the unit which will see them use a number of skills to produce a fantastic and informative piece of work.

T&E: Technology and Enterprise (Genius Hour)

In T&E, students will be taking part in Genius Hour. Genius hour is a movement that allows students to explore their own passions and encourages creativity in the classroom. It provides students a choice in what they learn during a set time of schooling. Students are challenged to explore an idea or topic that is of great interest to them. They will spend several weeks researching the topic before they start creating a product that will be shared with class, school and families.

Visual Arts

To compliment our HASS focus of Geography, we will be researching artworks from different cultures and times, using various materials, techniques and processes to create our own pieces of work.

If you have any questions that have not been answered at the Parent Information Night on Thursday in Week 3, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have enjoyed meeting each of you before and after school and am so incredibly privileged and excited to have your children with me for Year 4.

Kind regards

Bethaney Tucker

Year 4 Teacher

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