Welcome
To
Year One
2016

Teacher: Mrs Maxine Mulholland
Educational Assistants: Miss Samantha Baggetta
Mrs Karen Gear
Welcome!

Morning Routine

The children have settled well into the Year One routine.

Thank you for assisting the children to learn the morning routine. Parents are asked to ensure the children have their homework bags with their dairies and clipboards, a water bottle and their munchies every day. These are to be brought into the classroom every morning. Please allow the children to unpack their own homework bags.

I am not available to speak to parents before school as my focus will be on the children and hearing them read. Any urgent matters may be written in your child’s diary. Diaries are checked every morning. If there are any problems I will be available after school every afternoon except Monday.

Homework

The children will be receiving reading practice for homework every night from Monday to Thursday.

As parents, you will be familiar with the reading capabilities of your child. If your child has difficulty reading any of the material sent home, the following strategy can be used.

1. The adult reads the book aloud to the child and discusses the meaning of what is read. Discuss both the pictures and the text.
2. The adult and the child read together. This improves the child’s fluency.
3. The child reads the text aloud to the adult.

It is very important to take a minimum of 5 minutes every night to discuss what the children are reading. Ask them what they are reading about and what it means. Ask them what they think and offer your own opinions. I will not be listening to children read every day, therefore, it is important that you take 10 to 15 minutes to do this every night, or morning.
A child becomes a good reader by reading. I have included other tips that will assist in helping your child achieve success in reading.

Parents are asked to write the title of the reading book in the diary each night and ensure they are signed to show that homework has been completed.

Every Friday, the children write a letter to their family in their learning journal about what they have learnt that week. Parents are asked to write a reply letter using the next page and return the journal to school on the following Monday.

Later in the year the children will be bringing home their test books on a regular basis. Parents are asked to sign the page of the test and return the book by the Friday of each week.

Classroom Rules

The children have agreed to

- listen carefully to their teachers.
- follow instructions quickly and quietly.
- use quiet voices inside the classroom.
- try their best.
- show respect for each other.

Positive Consequences

Children who follow the rules are rewarded with house tokens. At the end of each week the house tokens will be counted and points will be awarded to each of the houses.
Negative Consequences

Parents will be notified if their child continually breaks our classroom rules and the school rules.

Parent Roster

Parents are asked to assist with the Reading Roster. If you have 15 to 20 minutes to spare when you drop your child off in the morning, it would be appreciated if you could come in and hear some children read.

Healthy Lunches

Thank you for providing your children with healthy lunchboxes. Please avoid lollies and chocolate as this can be upsetting to children who have a healthy lunch. Lunch and recess can be ordered from the canteen on Tuesdays and Fridays. Lunch orders can be placed in the lunch order box located on the teacher’s table.

Children require a water bottle and a small container of chopped up fruit and/or vegetables to bring into class in the morning before school.

Absentee Notes

Please call the office before 9am if your child is absent.

A written note also needs to be provided if your child is absent from school. This is required for legal reasons. If your child is late for school, or needs to be taken to an appointment during class, they must be signed in and out, in the book provided in the main office.

Parents coming into the school for roster, or for any other reason, are also required to sign in and out, in the book provided in the main office.
**Specialist Teachers**

Sport with Mrs Langan          Thursday, 9.35am – 10.35am

The children must wear their sports uniform with their coloured house shirt on Thursday and their sports uniform with their yellow shirt on Monday.

Music with Mrs Langan          Monday, 12.00pm – 1.00pm

Art with Mrs Fuller             Wednesday, 12.00pm – 1.00pm

Book Exchange with Mrs Gallin  Thursday, 8.35am – 9.05am

Library books must be returned on or before Thursday each week. The children are to bring their book in their library bag into class before school and place it in the library box.

History with Mrs Young         Tuesday, 12.00pm – 1.00pm

**Making Jesus Real**

The ‘Making Jesus Real’ program is centred around the belief that we are the image of Jesus to all around us. Everyone who is a part of our St Joseph school community is asked to greet each other by name. We can nominate people who make Jesus real in our school community to receive our MJR award.

MJR helps us to recognise the spirit of God’s love alive in our lives through our daily relationships. MJR helps children to develop positive attitudes, behaviours and strategies that will stay with them throughout life.

**Walker Learning Pedagogy**

We have been working hard to introduce Walker Learning Pedagogy into the Junior Primary classrooms. Walker Learning is inquiry, play based learning which allows students to engage in and pursue their interests. It allows teachers to personalise the children’s learning by responding to their individual interests and needs. It involves providing stimulating learning environments that are flexible and adaptable.
Research into the Walker Learning Approach reflects higher engagement and motivation, increased oral language and writing skills, increased social and behavioural skills and attitudes.

**Important Dates for Term One**

Wednesday, 2\textsuperscript{nd} March: Pam Corker Visit  
Wednesday, 23\textsuperscript{rd} March: Good Friday Liturgy

If there are any questions concerning the programme or concerns over your child’s progress please do not hesitate to ask.

Thanking you

Maxine Mulholland
PROMPTS TO USE WITH YOUR CHILD WHEN READING

EARLY READING PROMPTS

Read it with your finger
Did you have enough words?
Did it match?
Can you find? A known or new word.
Try ______ Would it make sense?
Try ______ Would that sound right?
Where do we start reading? Where do we stop?
What is this for , , ? ! " "

PROMPTS TO SUPPORT READING STRATEGIES

Does that make sense?
Check the picture.
You said _____, does that make sense?
Try that again and think what would make sense?
Does that sound right?
You said _____, can we say it that way?
Try that again and think what would sound right?
Does that look right?
Do you know a word like that?
Do you know a word that starts with those letters?
Do you know a word that ends in those letters?
What do you know that might help you?
What could you try?

SUPPORTING A CHILD'S SELF-CORRECTING STRATEGIES

Try that again.
Where's the tricky word.
Look for something that would help you.
Check it. Run your finger under it and say it slowly.
You're nearly right. Try that again.
Something wasn't quite right.
Does it look right and sound right to you?
Were you right?
You made a mistake. Can you find it?
Put it together so it sounds like talking.
Make your voice go down at the end of a sentence.

When I Read ...

I can look at the picture.

I can think about what makes sense.

I can read the sentence again.

I can get my mouth ready for the first sound.

I can skip the word and read on.

I can look for chunks I know.

I can ask for help.
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