YEAR 1/2 PARENT TEACHER INFORMATION

WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2015

AGENDA

OPENING PRAYER:

1. Introductions
2. Classroom Philosophy
3. Classroom Management
4. Homework Policy
5. Important Days
6. Program for Term One
7. Specialist teachers
8. Parent Involvement
9. Assemblies
10. Hats
11. Swimming
12. Contact details and medical updates
13. Test Book
14. Housekeeping
15. MAJEC
16. Communication

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year, we gather once again as your community of believers. We thank you for the energy and spirit that you renewed in us through the summer months. We thank you for the time to enjoy our family and friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives. Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that, with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue to grow in our faith. Help us to fulfill Your hope for us with honest intentions and works of faith. Let us be gentle with ourselves and bring laughter, joy and love to others.

We ask this in your name. Amen

INTRODUCTION

CLASSROOM PHILOSOPHY

Our aim in the Year One/Two classroom is to provide a safe, stimulating and challenging environment where the children can achieve successful learning experiences to enhance their learning. We aim to achieve this by:

- Encouraging them to take risks.
- Provide learning experiences that take into account their interests, talents, weaknesses and natural curiosity.
• Encouraging children to become independent workers and participate confidently and positively in the classroom.
• Provide an integrated programme based on themes that enable the children to develop sound literary and numeracy skills.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT
Golden Time – 30 minutes free play every Friday afternoon reward for good behaviour. Children can lose Golden Time for inappropriate behaviour according to the Behaviour Management Plan below. If their name appears on the board they automatically lose 5 minutes of Golden Time. This is redeemable for good behaviour on following days.

Classroom Behavioural Management Plan

Rights

Everyone has the right to:

✓ Learn to the best of their ability
✓ Feel safe at school
✓ Be treated with dignity and respect

Responsibilities

✓ To listen and follow instructions
✓ To respect others and their property
✓ To be polite
✓ To help others belong
✓ To share
✓ To do their best
✓ To look after others
✓ To ask for help
✓ To look after their property
✓ To work problems out fairly

Rules

✓ Do as you are asked
✓ Walk inside
✓ Listen when someone else is speaking
✓ Work quickly and quietly
✓ Be nice to others
✓ Keep the room clean and tidy

Positive consequences to reward appropriate behaviour
• Praise
• Class recognition
• Concrete rewards, e.g. stickers, stamps etc.
• Group points and Friday prize box
• Golden Time

**Negative consequences for inappropriate behaviour**
• 1<sup>st</sup> time – verbal warning
• 2<sup>nd</sup> time – visual warning card
• 3<sup>rd</sup> time – name on board
• Continued disruptive behaviour – send to Administration

**HOMEWORK**
Homework helps to maintain communication between school and home regarding the child’s development (both academically and socially). Homework set by the class teacher will act as a positive supplement to the school learning process. It will not be used as an opportunity to teach new learning experiences but rather concentrate on reinforcing basic skills and concepts covered in class.

**Year One**
Written homework should not exceed twenty minutes at this level. Your child will have spelling, reading and on occasion a writing or maths worksheet for homework. All homework will be in the homework folder. I will send a note home outlining the homework process and how I will operate it when we start formal homework towards the middle of this term. Initially homework will be 10-15 minutes of oral reading and reading of sight and word box words. This will commence once all children have been assessed so I can allocate suitable reading material.

**Year Two**
• Spelling, Reading and Mental Maths - Monday to Thursday.
• May include ‘finishing off’ work and Maths activity, Times Tables.
• Twenty-five minutes – **stop after half an hour**.
• **Communication Book** - **To be checked and signed each night once Homework is completed.**
• Can also be a means of communication to me.

**IMPORTANT DAYS**
Sport – Tuesday, Wednesday
Library - Tuesday
Indonesian - Monday

**PROGRAMME FOR TERM ONE**

**THEME** - **UNDER THE SEA**

**RELIGION** –
• Opening School Mass 5 February 9.30am
• Community Mass 15 February – 5.30pm
• Ash Wednesday Liturgy 18 February10am
• St Joseph’s Day Mass – 19 March 9.30am

• **UNITS OF WORK**
  - Jesus Forgives – Penance
  - Just Like Jesus - Lent/Easter
• Letters to parents outlining units
**MATHS – Oxford Big Ideas (Australian Curriculum) – activity based approach**

**YEAR ONE:** I will be taking an activity-based approach to Mathematics. The children will have many experiences to use concrete materials and play maths games that will build their mathematical skills and abilities. The topics the children will be covering this term include:

**Number and Algebra- Place Value**

**Unit 1 Place Value**
- Place Value (2-digit numbers)
- Sequencing numbers
- Reading and writing numbers
- Using numbers

**Unit 4 Money**
- Recognising Australian coins
- Ordering Australian coins

**MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY- Using units of measurement**
- Length and height

**YEAR TWO: Number and place value**
- Place Value (to 3-digit numbers)
- Addition and subtraction (mental strategies)
- Addition and subtraction (written strategies)

**Statistics and Probability: Data and chance**
- Chance

**Measurement and Geometry: Using units of measurement**
- Length and area
- Capacity and volume

**ENGLISH:**

**Reading -**
- Home reading Monday to Thursday – children choose one book themselves from the boxes in the classroom in the morning before school.
- Guided reading – reading common texts in ability or mixed ability groups for fluency, expression and comprehension
- Shared reading – big books – varied activities including sequencing, comprehension, story maps, cloze activities etc.

**Spelling** – Oxford Everyday Spelling –Both Year groups will follow the same units.
- Twelve words weekly –Look, Cover, Write, Check. Monday to Thursday.
  *Test on Fridays - to be signed by parents.*

**Writing**
- Daily writing – emphasis on punctuation (full stops and capital letters) and editing (checking for spelling errors and missing words).
- Term 1 genres – Recount and Retell Writing
- Oral Language – Emphasis is on correct social language, interaction and games involving listening and turn taking. News – one turn per week.

Handwriting
- Emphasis on posture, correct formation, presentation and pencil hold – some children need a pencil grip.

HUMANITIES
TERM 1 & 2 - GEOGRAPHY
Year One: The Local Environment.
The Year Ones will go into Mrs Clarke’s room for Geography.

Year Two: the location of the major geographical divisions of the world in relation to Australia (ACHGK009).
The Year Two classes will work together.

SCIENCE - Chemical Sciences ‘All Mixed Up’
Everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of ways (ACSSU018)
The Year Ones will go into Mrs Clarke’s room for Geography.
The Year Two classes will work together

ART – The children will have many opportunities to generate art works in class. Their art works will communicate ideas and will use the skills, techniques and processes appropriate to their class level. The children will respond to and reflect on works of art by other artists and will understand the role of the arts in society.
Please, make sure you have sent in an art shirt.

TECHNOLOGY –
- Technical Process
- Systems
- Use of computer lab and class iPads
- Use of Year school homepage - Encyclopaedia Britannica, Dance Mat Typing etc.

COMPUTERS:
- Computers are used to support literacy and numeracy programmes. We have 5 iPads for our class, and these too will be used to support Numeracy and Literacy programmes.
- The children will also learn many computer skills such as, turning on/off the computer monitor, mouse skills, printing, using passwords to access programs, etc.

SPECIALIST TEACHERS
Physical Education & Health – Teacher – Mrs Higgs – Tuesday and Wednesday
Physical Education: Cricket and Athletics
Health: Health awareness and Personal Identity
- Wellness
- Self esteem
- Strengths/weaknesses
- Resilience

- Sport Uniform to be worn both days
- Swimming Lessons – Term 4 - TBA

**Indonesian** - Teacher – Mr David Selvam  Monday

**Library** - Teacher – Mr Murray Brennan - Tuesday
   Literacy session – Wednesday

**PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Parents are encouraged to become involved in the school in the following ways:

- Attending assemblies, Liturgies, school Masses and P&F Meetings
- Volunteering for Canteen roster
- Helping in the Library
- Helping in the classroom
- Helping with excursions

**PARENT HELPERS:**

- Parent helpers are most welcome. Help in the classroom is always appreciated and it is an excellent insight for parents to see how our classroom works

It is vital, however, that parent helpers respect the privacy of all children and their families and discussions regarding children’s progress, ability or behavior in class is not acceptable.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION CARD**

To be signed off by Staff Members & returned to the Office by the end of Term 3

**ASSEMBLIES:**

- The year one/two children will organise two assemblies this year, Term 2 and term 4. Your help may be required with costumes.

- Merit awards are presented at Friday assemblies. I will give you as much notice as possible if your child is receiving a merit award. You are welcome and encouraged to attend assemblies in support of your child receiving a merit award.

**HATS:**

The school has a 'no hat, no play' rule. Children without a hat are moved to a restricted shaded area. Please ensure your child’s name is clearly labeled on all your child’s clothing. The classroom and the undercover area have sun-cream available for the children.

**SWIMMING LESSONS:** Dates and times to be advised.
CONTACT DETAILS AND MEDICAL INFORMATION:
In Week 1, your child brought home an orange form, which contained important personal information about your child. The purpose of this form is to ensure the school has accurate, updated information about your child. Should any of your personal details, or information which the school and classroom teacher should be aware of, such as any known medical conditions change, it is imperative that you advise the school as soon as possible to ensure such information is updated on your child’s file.

TEST BOOK
Common assessments across the years will take place at designated times throughout the year. These tests will be sent home in a Test Book for parents to view, comment on and sign before returning to the school. The first viewing of the Test Book will be when it is sent home in Week 7.

HOUSEKEEPING
- Parent-Teacher Interview – Term 3 and as requested.
- Absentees -Written note required for all absences. (Email will suffice)
- Books - Please cover your child’s books with clear contact or plastic.
- Punctuality - School begins at 8.45. Children need to be here at least 5 minutes earlier to prepare for the day. There is no supervision at school before 8.30.
- Medication –If your child needs medication of any kind at school you must fill in the ‘Administration of Medication’ form. If you are coming to school to administer medication you must sign in and out at the office.
- Labelling - Please ensure that all items are labelled including school bag, lunch box and water bottle.
- Newsletter - Newsletter is accessed on the school website and emailed if the school has your email address on record.
- Visitors – Parents wishing to take their child out of the school for any reason during school hours are asked to sign at the office before going to the classroom and give the teacher the card that is given to you.
- Uniform – Please refer to the Parent Handbook
- Lunch – please try for healthy food during school hours.

MAJEC
- Will begin on Thursday, 19 Feb
- Students to complete 10 school activities and 10 home activities for each of the four terms.
- MAJEC for lower primary will be concluded at the end of the year.
- Parents and teachers to sign off the books at the end of each term
- Students are to reflect each week on what activities they have completed in service and write / draw into their journals.

COMMUNICATION
- Communication Book– sent home every night, signed and returned to school every morning. Parents are free to communicate with me by writing a note in the book. I will also do the same.

You can reach me via email using – draper.vickey@cathednet.wa.edu.au
Please leave your email address on the form provided.

Many thanks for your support. We are sure to have an enjoyable and rewarding year together.

Vickey Draper
Year 1/2 Teacher