Welcome to Year 1!
We look forward to a happy and successful year with your children.
The following information is a snapshot of learning across all Key Learning Areas.

Holy Family Parent Information Night will be held on Tuesday 9th February at 6:30pm.

Religion: Saint Brigid and the Brigidine Tradition
   Sharing with others as Jesus showed us
   Lent to Easter
The children continue to be involved in daily Religion lessons, prayer and reflection. Experiences this term include formal and informal prayers, class and school celebrations.

English:
   Literacy block includes rotated groups and whole class lessons, encompassing reading, writing, computer, spelling and handwriting activities.
   Writing:
   Text focus: Recount/ Description/ Observation (Science)
   This includes quality models, teacher modelling, joint constructions and finally individual writing.
   Children learn and use the correct structure and grammatical features of these three text types.
   Spelling: Children will create an individual list, brainstormed at home, chosen from the weekly sounds, which will be explicitly taught in class each week, as well as being revised daily. It is of utmost importance that the children set aside time at home to study, learn and practise their sound each week.
   Talking & Listening: Children are encouraged to participate in open discussions to improve their talking and listening skills. Daily news sessions of two minutes each, encourage both key listening skills, as well as strengthening the children’s presentation skills. (News will commence in Week 2). Please check the note sent out in Week 2 for the topics each week.
   Reading: In shared reading the children will be working from a big book each week. Much of their writing will flow from the stimulus of these books. The children are asked to read each night as part of their homework task. The children will participate in small reading groups that will include a variety of activities such as guided reading, computers,
spelling, literacy games and multiple intelligence based comprehension activities.

**Library visit:** - Thursdays

**Tips:** Please ensure your child has a library bag.

Ask your child about the books they have chosen.

Talk about them and note what they are reading.

Share their pleasure! Be aware when your child is not borrowing.

**Handwriting:** Formal handwriting lessons using, “Targeting Handwriting 1.”

The children are continuing to learn strokes, fluency and correct formation. **For continuity purposes, please ensure that your child has correct pencil grip and is forming their letters correctly at home.**

**Mathematics:**

This term the children will be exploring Whole Numbers, Addition and Subtraction, Time, Volume & Capacity and 2D Space. The children are encouraged to work with a variety of hands-on materials and talk about and record the process they used to gain their answer.

**Science & Technology:**

**Up, Down and all Around:** (Earth and Space Science). The children live in a constantly changing world and therefore they will be investigating and observing our environment. The unit provides opportunities for students to explore natural, made and managed features that undergo change. Through outdoor observations and photographic records, students will investigate the daily, weekly and seasonal changes in their local environment.

**Look, Listen:** The students will participate in a number of hands-on activities to understand concepts of sound and light.

**H.S.I.E.**

This year sees a change in the curriculum with the introduction of History and Geography. We will be covering History in Term 2 and Geography in Term 4.

**P.D Health:**

**Who am I?** This is a comprehensive unit that includes the growth and development of the children’s personal identity, facts about their body and personal hygiene, relationships, communication and decision-making. We desire that children truly value who they are and feel empowered to become the people God wishes them to be.

**Kimochis:** This Term we will be using the Kimochis program to explore emotional and social wellbeing and development of the children in Year One. There will be weekly lessons where we will look at identifying and
communicating our feelings. This will support social interactions at home and school.

**Creative Art**: Visual Arts lessons take place weekly and are often linked to work in other Key Learning Areas. Children will require a paint shirt to protect their school uniform.

**Specialist Classes:**
- The children will need to wear their sports uniform on:  
  *Tuesdays and Thursdays*
- Music/Drama : (Mrs Brigid McNally)  
  *Tuesday*

**Homework**
For homework the children will be given a spelling sound to learn and a homework sheet that will revise a variety of different Key Learning Areas. This will go home on a Monday and is to be handed in on Friday. Please encourage your child to use neat writing and presentation skills in their homework.

Home Readers will go home on a Monday and must be returned on a Friday. If your child is reading at Gold or beyond, please feel free to read chapter books alternately with the readers. It is expected that children will spend at least 10 minutes per night reading for leisure.

Children should be practising their spelling sound each night. Sometimes children will have other work to complete or finish off tasks not completed during class time.

**Maths:**
This term we are continuing work on the Counting Growth Points. The Counting homework is a whole school focus this term. As a result of our assessments each child will be given a growth point that they need to achieve. Practise on this growth point is essential to have successful learning in Year One.

A list of activities will be provided. These will be for the whole term and need to be repeated many times. Please choose 2 activities to concentrate on per week as this will consolidate your child’s learning. Your child needs to record their findings in the weekly grid provided.

Homework will begin in week 4, any further explanations will be discussed at our Parent Information Night in Week 3.

**General Business**
*Important reminder:* All parents need to sign in at the office when coming into the school.
Newletters will be distributed via email on Friday.
Absences- The law requires that a separate note/email be kept for school records. Could you please send all notes to the class teacher via your child, rather than to the office.
Regular checking of your child’s hair is a good idea!
Children need your support to develop organisational skills. Encourage them to check a ‘What do I need for today / need for tomorrow?’ list at home.

We are always available to discuss any issues involving your child.
Thanking you in anticipation for your support as we work together for your child’s development.

Lesley-Ann Bau-Gaspar, Olivia Robertson