Welcome to a brand new school year! We look forward to an exciting term with your children. The following information is a snapshot of learning across all Key Learning Areas.

RELIGION
The Modules being studied this term are:
* Brigidine unit – based on building knowledge of our school’s history integrated with the mission unit: Loving God and others like Jesus
* Lent to Easter— the focus is on prayer & what we can do to prepare ourselves for Easter during Lent, as well as, the events of Holy Week.
In addition, the children experience daily prayer, liturgies and Masses.

ENGLISH
● **Talking/Listening:** includes practising good listening skills as well as comprehending through listening.
● **Reading:** Shared Book Reading and teaching of comprehension, grammar and spelling in context; Guided Reading in small groups at instructional level. This year our main focus will be on comprehension strategies.

Independent Reading and Home Reading. ‘Readers’ will be sent home on a per needs basis. These books are usually *just below instructional level* to increase fluency and confidence in oral reading which promotes comprehension. Those students who are considered fluent readers will read library or home books. All students will be required to read each night as part of their homework. *It is very important at this age that ALL children practise reading aloud at home, no matter how well your child can read.* This ensures they pay attention to their accuracy, expression and fluency.

● **Writing:** Children’s writing will focus on recounts, descriptions and observation. Through each text type we will also focus on developing writing strategies. The children are also encouraged to proofread and edit their writing. Spelling, grammar and comprehension are included in writing lessons.
● **Computers** are used to enhance learning in many KLAs and also for publishing writing. *Children are required to bring in their own headphones.*

MATHEMATICS
In accordance with the curriculum, the following strands are studied during the course of the year.

● Working Mathematically
● Number and Algebra
● Statistics and Probability
● Measurement and Geometry

The focus this term will be Whole Number, 3D space, Chance, Length and Addition and Subtraction. Children will work on open-ended tasks at their ability levels to develop problem-solving skills. We will also use literature as a means to enhance the children’s understanding of Mathematics in everyday life.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Our science unit, ‘Watch it grow’ is based on the 5 E’s Teaching and Learning Model:
The activities will capture students’ interest and establish what they think they know about the way living things grow, change and have offspring similar to themselves. Teachers will draw out students’ questions about the life stages of living things.

THE LEADER IN ME AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION
We are working on Cooperative Learning skills using the 7 Habits and Positive Behaviours to Learning. **P.E.** is taught by Mr De Villiers on Tuesday. All children are to wear their sports uniform on Tuesday and Friday.
CREATIVE ARTS
Visual Arts is integrated with other curriculum areas. The children will use a variety of media in Art. It is essential that every child has a painting shirt that covers their uniform. Mrs McNally teaches Music and Drama on Tuesdays.

LIBRARY
Library day is Wednesdays for both classes. Please ensure your child has their library bag with them. ALL children will be enrolled in the Premier’s Reading Challenge this year. More information about this will come out in the next few weeks.

Homework
The children will complete spelling, maths and associated activities. Homework may also be linked to other curriculum areas. Please remind your children to return all homework by Friday. Reading each night is crucial, so please encourage your child to share their ‘reader’ with you and to borrow from the Library. The children have been given a reading recording sheet that needs to be completed each night. This should be kept in their red doculope at all times. The recommended time frame for homework is up to 30 minutes per day including reading.

Housekeeping
- All items should be clearly labelled
- In the event of an absence a note needs to be provided
- **All students require an art shirt and headphones!!!!!**
- The red doculope needs to be returned daily as it is also the communication folder
- The children are encouraged to bring a book of interest from home for silent reading.
- We are happy to be contacted by email through the school office or by phone but please be aware that we may not be able to reply until the following day.

Parent Information Night
Our Parent Information Night is Tuesday the 7th of February. We will start in the hall at 6.00pm followed by a meeting in the classroom at 6.30pm. We hope to see as many parents as possible attending the information night.

If you have any questions or concerns, we encourage you to make an appointment to meet with us. As you realise, mornings are very busy so we would appreciate your assistance in making an appointment for a mutually convenient time.

We look forward to catching up with you all soon.

Melissa Overton and Rosita Dalle-Nogare