Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you all to Year 3 2017. The children have settled in well and we are looking forward to a wonderful year together. **We are looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday, 7th February as we will be having a grade parent information evening for half an hour at 6:30pm and this will be repeated at 7pm.** A whole school address will be held at 6:00pm in the Hall.

<table>
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<th>Important Dates This Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7th February – Parent Information Night</td>
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<td>Thursday 9th February (9:15am) – School Mass</td>
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<td>Friday 24th February (Week 4) – Swimming Carnival</td>
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**Religion:**
- St Brigid and the Brigidine Tradition
- Reconciliation- living in a forgiving community
- Lent to Easter Unit

The children are involved in daily Religion lessons, prayer and reflection. Experiences include formal and informal prayers, class and school celebrations. A Class Prayer Book will be sent home during the semester and each child can contribute a prayer. It can be one that they enjoying praying or one they make up.

**English:**

**Writing:** Each term the class focuses on and develops a variety of text types. This includes quality models, teacher modelling, joint constructions and individual writing. Children learn and use the correct structure, language and grammatical features.

Text focus: Factual Description, Creative Writing, Persuasive Writing (leading into Naplan)

The children are encouraged to, and given opportunities to, write creatively.

**Spelling:** Children have an individual list related to their own particular needs, these include high frequency words, topic words and words that may be more challenging to help their vocabulary. Spelling words will be studied using a variety of activities during class groups and followed up at home. It is important that the children set aside time at home to learn their 10 words each week.

**Reading:** During literacy groups the children will be working on their comprehension skills, reading aloud with expression and fluency. This group work includes reciprocal reading techniques looking at purpose, structure, and meaning to develop critical readers. The children are asked to read aloud for a short time each night and then read alone for enjoyment.

**Handwriting:** The children have formal handwriting lessons using ‘Targeting Handwriting 3’. This year the focus is on exit flicks and later in the year with exit flicks in preparation for joined letters.

**Mathematics:** Topics for this term will include; Whole Numbers, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division, Fractions and Decimals, Position, 2D Space, Time. Open-ended tasks as well as more formal problem-solving activities will be designed to provide challenging learning experiences, catering for the different learning styles and abilities. Parents will be receiving information gathered from the recent MAI tests, from this you will be given strategies on how best to help your child further develop their number skills.

**Science & Technology:** This term we will be covering 2 units of Science - Night and Day and Feathers, Fur and Leaves.
**P.D Health:**  *Me and My Mates* – What are positive relationships and the benefits of belonging to different groups? How do I communicate, manage conflict and be a peacemaker? This unit is linked to the Holy Family Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) initiative.  
*The Leader In Me* – The children will continue to develop their understanding of the 7 Habits. This term we will develop a class mission statement and individual learning, social and personal goals.

**Creative Art: Visual**  
Drawing, painting and clay work. We will be looking at Australian Artists such as Sally Morgan.

**Specialist Classes:**  
- PE (Mr Andre De Villiers) and Music (Mrs Brigid McNally) Classes are on **Tuesdays**.  
- The children will need to wear their sports uniform on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**  
- On **Thursdays**, children will be participating in the gymnastics program run by Sports Pro.  
- Library – **Thursdays**  
  Children need to bring a library bag

**Homework**  
Homework is given out on **Friday** afternoons and needs to be handed in on the following **Thursday** so that we have an evening to mark it. The children will complete grammar, reading, and mathematics activities each week. From time to time there will also be some science and religion tasks related to our units. Children should be reading for at least 20 minutes each night. They are also encouraged to read aloud at times to improve fluency and expression. Children should be practising their 10 spelling words at least 3 nights a week. Sometimes children will have other work to complete or finish off.

**General Business**  
- All visitors to the school must register at the office before coming to the classroom.  
- Art Shirt/smock  
- Lunch orders Monday and Thursday

We look forward to a happy and productive year.

*Carmel Hogan and Julia Busseler*