Welcome to Year 5, Term 1. I hope you had an enjoyable, relaxing break and are now ready for the busy term ahead. As the children enter Senior School this year, it is extremely important that they develop an independence in, and responsibility for, their own learning and their preparedness for learning. Therefore, we will be working on developing effective organisation skills this term. Students must have a pencil case and their school supplied diary with them every day.

**Religious Education**
The following units will be taught:
- Leading as a Disciple of Jesus within the Brigidine Tradition.
- Lent to Easter

**English**
This term's writing focus will be Persuasive and Narrative texts. Reading skills, including comprehension and critical thinking, will be taught by exploring a range of factual and literary texts as a whole class and as part of small instructional groups. Spelling will continue to be taught as part of the reading and writing program. Speaking and listening skills will be taught through class discussions and presentation of research across the different KLA's. It is expected that students use Foundation handwriting in Year 5 across all KLAs and practice exercises will be included in both class and homework activities.

**Mathematics**
Students will be grouped flexibly within the class based initially on their Year 4 achievements. This term there will be a focus on mental computation strategies for addition and subtraction and general number facts. We will also be working on 3D space, 2D space, time, length, perimeter and area, position and angles.

**Science and Technology**
This term 2 units will be taught – ‘Electricity’ and ‘Desert Survivors’. Electricity will explore its properties as well as transformation and transference. Desert Survivors explores some of the physical and behavioural adaptations of plants and animals to desert environments, and compares these with plants and animals from other environments. The students will further develop their skills in computer operations, concepts, word processing, graphics, research and cyber safety skills associated with internet use.

**Creative Arts**
“Faces in Art” - The students will be exploring how different artists represent faces using a variety of mediums.
Music and Drama will be taught by Mrs McNally, on Wednesday.

**PDH**
This term we will explore “I Like Me.” Students will investigate how their body works.
Mr De-Villiers will facilitate specialist PE lessons on Wednesdays and the students will attend SportsPro lessons on Thursdays. The Leader In Me habits and concepts will be explicitly taught and will be incorporated into PBL and other KLAs.
Italian
Italian culture and language will be taught on Fridays by Mrs Gugliotta.

Weekly Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music/Drama</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>Due each Tuesday and new homework will be given out each Wednesday</td>
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Homework
Students will be given homework tasks on a Wednesday which will be due back the following Tuesday unless otherwise stated. Weekly homework may consist of word study, literacy tasks, Maths tasks and often a research task related to a class topic.

Homework will be available on Google Docs and may also be recorded by the students in their diary. Parents will be required to sign their child’s diary on the night before homework is due, to endorse that all homework has been completed, including 5 nights of reading (Book title and time read must also be recorded). Please send a note in your child’s diary if he/she has not completed any part of the homework by the due date.

This year students will be exposed to and explicitly taught how to use the Google suite of programs. They will be required to complete and submit tasks online using these programs. It is therefore, expected that they will have home access to a computer, laptop, other. Please do not hesitate to discuss any issues which may arise from this expectation.

Dates for the diary
- Tuesday 7th February - Parent Information Night
- Thursday 9th February - Opening School Mass
- Wednesday 15th February - Stage 3 PDH Information Night
- Friday 24th February - Swimming Carnival
- Wednesday 1st April - Ash Wednesday Mass
- Friday 10th March - School Cross Country
- Wednesday 29th March - Lenten School Mass
- Friday 7th April - Last day of Term 1

Just a reminder that the roll is a legal document and if your child is absent for any part of the school day the school must be informed, by note, email or a phone call.

Thanking you in anticipation of your support. Should you have any concerns at any time, please contact me via the school office to arrange a suitable time to meet.

Donna Shestowsky