Welcome to Year 6, Term 1. I hope you had a relaxing break and are now ready for a busy term ahead. As we prepare for High School this year, it is extremely important that we focus on organisation. To assist the development of your child’s independence, would you please ensure that they have a USB and their school supplied diary with them each day.

**Religious Education**
The following units will be taught:
- Saint Brigid and the Brigidine Tradition
- Lent to Easter

**English**
This term’s writing focus will be Discussion and Exposition. Spelling will continue to be taught as part of the reading and writing program. 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 a smaller instructional group. Speaking and listening skills will be taught through class discussions and presentation of research across the different KLAs. Students will also be introduced to debating and will participate in multiple debates over the term. It is expected that students use cursive handwriting in Year 6 across all KLAs.

**Mathematics**
Students will be grouped flexibly within the class based on their number knowledge and application. This term there will be a focus on mental computation strategies for addition and subtraction, further development of conceptual understanding of mathematics and general number facts. We will also be focusing on 2D space, 3D space and Time.

**Science and Technology**
This term two units will be taught – ‘Light Shows’ and Desert Survivors’ Light Shows will explore the properties and how it allows us to see. Desert Survivors explores some of the physical and behavioural adaptations of desert 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.

There will be no HSIE taught in Term 1 to allow considered planning for the new NSW History Syllabus which will be implemented in Term 2.

**Creative Arts**
“Making Music” – The students will be exploring the qualities of musical instruments and how artists use these in their artworks. Students will respond to the musical instruments through investigations in their artmaking, exploring details of their shape, size, form, texture and sound.

Music and Drama will be taught by Mrs McNally, on Tuesday.

**PDH**
This term we will explore ‘A Healthy Me. We will be covering a range of concepts on what it means to be healthy and how to stay safe in different environments.

Mr De-Villiers will facilitate specialist PE lessons on Tuesday and the students will attend Gymnastics on Thursday.
**Weekly Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>6W</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music/Drama</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>Due each Thursday and new homework will be given out each Friday</td>
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</tbody>
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**Homework**

Students will be given homework tasks on a Friday which will be due back the following Thursday unless otherwise stated. Weekly homework will consist of nightly reading, a Maths task, a grammar, vocabulary or spelling task 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 further explore and be explicitly taught how to use 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 further discuss any issues which may arise from this expectation.

**Dates for the diary**

- Wednesday 10th February – Ash Wednesday School Mass
- Friday 19th February - Swimming Carnival
- Thursday 25th – Friday 26th February – Staff Development Days
- Friday 4th March – Year 6 Cluster Mass
- Thursday 10th March - Lenten School Mass
- Friday 11th March – School Cross Country
- Wednesday 16th March – Friday 18th March – Year 6 Leadership Camp
- Friday 25th March – Good Friday
- Monday 28th March – Easter Monday
- Wednesday 6th April – Easter School Mass
- Friday 8th 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 a note outlining the reason for the absence must be presented to the teacher.

Thanking you in anticipation of your support and I look forward to getting to know each family throughout what will be a very busy, yet exciting, year.

Laura Emanuel