Year 4 Curriculum Overview – Term 1, 2017

Welcome to Year 4 Term 1, 2017. We hope you had an enjoyable rest and are ready for another exciting and busy year. We are looking forward to working together with you this year and meeting you on Tuesday 7th February as we will be having a parent information evening for half an hour at 6:30pm which will be repeated at 7pm.

The following is an outline of this term’s content:

**Religious Education**
The following units will be taught:
- St Brigid and the Brigidine Tradition with Missioning Rite
- Lent to Easter
The students will be involved in daily Religious Education lessons, prayer and reflection. Throughout the term they will also attend School Masses and Liturgies.

**Mathematics**
The following topics covered this term are: Data, 2D Space, Whole Number, Addition & Subtraction, Patterns & Algebra, Length, and Area. Tables are an essential part of mathematics and children need to aim for automatic recall – *daily practise at home is essential!* There will be a focus on mental computation strategies for addition and subtraction with further development of conceptual understanding of mathematics and general number facts. 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 in the classes.

**English**
This term’s writing focus will be Procedural and Narrative texts. Spelling will be taught as an integrated part of the reading and writing program. Comprehension and critical thinking will be taught during reading lessons while exploring a range of factual and literary texts through whole class activities and as part of a literacy groups. Speaking and listening skills will be taught through class discussions and presentation of research across the different KLAs. It is expected that students are working towards using cursive handwriting which will be reinforced in homework activities.

**Science**
This term two units will be taught:
- ‘Smooth Moves’ focuses on all the different ways things move and all the forces that act upon any given object.
- ‘Plants in Action’ focuses on plants and their development, investigating the process of pollination and germination, the stages of a plant’s life cycle, and environmental conditions that plants need for growth. During both units experiments will be conducted to bring these units alive!

**PDHPE / The Leader in Me**
PE
Year 4 will participate in Sports Pro Gymnastics program on a Thursday while on Wednesday they will participate in class sport with Mr De-Villiers.
PDH
Through the unit ‘Drugs Affect Me / Keeping Safe’ students will be exploring how medication, tobacco, and alcohol can affect them and how they can keep their environment safe and healthy.

The Leader in Me
During the first week, students will be creating their own personal goals for the term and strategies to achieve them. The 7 Habits will be incorporated into PDH lessons and other KLAs were appropriate throughout the term.

Visual Arts
Visual Arts – Students will explore how to use different mediums to represent their natural environment.

Music/Drama – Year 4 will be taught by Mrs McNally on Wednesday.

Homework
Homework is given out on Thursday and returned on the following Wednesday. The homework will come with an explanation sheet each week of what tasks need to be completed. Students MUST read for a minimum of 10 minutes EVERY DAY/ NIGHT (INCLUDING THE WEEKENDS). Reading needs to be recorded and signed in the diary. Students are encouraged to read aloud at times to improve fluency and expression. Weekly homework will usually consist of nightly reading, a Maths task, handwriting, either a grammar/vocabulary/spelling task, and sometimes a research task related to a class topic. Please send a note if your child is unable to complete their homework.

General Housekeeping
- Please provide a note of absence on the day the student returns.
- Please organise all parent/teacher interviews via the office. Please do not approach the classrooms directly. Communication through the diary is the easiest way to contact your child’s classroom teacher.
- Diary should be at school EVERY DAY.
- Any books that are taken home must be returned back to school the next day whether the work is completed or not.
- Would be beneficial if your child has a USB at school (please make sure it is labelled with their name).

Weekly Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music / Drama</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Pro Gymnastics</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>Due Wednesday new homework give out Thursday</td>
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Dates for the Diary

| Thursday 9th February    | Opening School Mass |
| 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  |

We look forward to working closely with you in the education of your child.

Laura Brady    Edwina Ridley    Geoffrey-Ross Perez