Grade 3 Newsletter – Term 1 2016

‘Love in Action is Service’

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope that you all had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas break. The students have settled in well with their new grades and teachers, as have the teachers.

Our school theme for the year is: ‘Love in Action is Service’

RE/INQUIRY
The first Religious Education unit will be linked to our Inquiry. This will encompass children exploring change and choice in their lives. They will learn about the freedom to choose and examine the belief that freedom of choice also involves being responsible for the consequences of their choices. Students will read Gospel stories about Jesus and biographies on Saints and significant figures within the Catholic Church, to investigate how they brought about change.

As part of setting up cooperative classrooms, students will be involved in discussions and activities that pertain to the school rules and consequences, acceptable use of online resources and ICT equipment. Students will attend an incursion related to building positive relationships.

*Please see the attached forms for further clarification and return the required sections signed and dated to your classroom teacher at your earliest convenience.

RE
Lent and Easter - A Journey of Hope
In this unit, the children explore the seasons of Lent and Easter. They will learn about the symbols, colours, texts and events of these seasons and what they mean. They examine the events of Holy Week and Easter.

LITERACY
Reading
Reading a range of texts to interpret the main idea, to make inferences and use a range of strategies to locate, select and record key information.

As part of the Reading Program students are expected to borrow books from the library and read regularly. Take home books are also available for students.
Writing
Revise writing strategies of planning, composing, editing and publishing. They will develop skills in the use of a dictionary and thesaurus. Grade 3 will be focusing on Narrative Writing and Persuasive Writing in preparation for NAPLAN in Term 2.

Speaking and Listening
Children will develop skills for speaking in front of the class and to be attentive listeners to others.

MATHS
Statistics and Probability
Students will have the opportunity to explore the language of chance through participating in fair and bias games and discuss the outcomes of these games. Students will collect data on questions that they generate and collate this information using graphing software.

Number and Place Value
Students will utilise hands on activities and add and subtract numbers to develop effective mental computation strategies and a deeper understanding of our number system.

SPECIALISTS:
This year all children will have five specialists’ subjects—Art, Music, PE, Japanese and Library. Japanese will run for the complete year, while the other four subjects will be on a rotational basis throughout the year, with the children attending three of these four specialists’ subjects each term. The classroom teacher will be responsible for taking the children for the subject they do not attend with the specialist.

Grade 3 will have specialists’ subjects on Wednesdays after recess and Japanese on Tuesday mornings.

UNIFORM:
The children are to wear their Sports Uniform on their PE day. At all other times, it is expected that the full school uniform is worn. In regards to accessories, only a small Religious cross/medal may be worn around the neck. Watches are permitted, but no other bracelets. Children with long hair must have it tied back. The appropriate colours for hair ties etc are yellow, brown, black or white. Silver/gold studs or small sleepers are permitted to be worn. A school sun hat must be worn for Sport and playtimes in Terms 1 and 4.

HOMEWORK:
Students will receive homework on a weekly or fortnightly basis and this will be tailored to reflect what is being taught in the class. Homework may also include some Number Facts work, Spelling, RE and 10-15 minutes of reading at least 5 times per week. All homework is discussed prior to being sent home and students are encouraged to approach their teacher well before the due date if they have any concerns.

Homework should be signed by a parent when completed and in most cases it is an independent task.
CLASSROOM HELP:
If you can provide assistance in your child’s classroom, please contact the teacher directly.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher if you have queries/concerns about any matter. We look forward to working closely with you this year, as partners in the education of your child.

Yours sincerely,

Lauren Wallis (3 Red)  Pat Healy (3 Blue)  Amanda Smith (3 Green)  Shane Wilson (3 Yellow)