Dear Parents,
Welcome to the start of a new school year. We hope you had an enjoyable and restful break with family and friends. The children have settled into their new classes and are catching up with their friends and beginning to make new ones. This year the teachers in the Grade 4 level are; Mr Nathan Carey, Miss Natalie Di Carlo, Miss Taylor Phelan and Mr Andrew Miller. We wish Taylor an enjoyable and successful first year of teaching at St. Simon’s.

During Term 1 and Term 4 the NO HAT, NO PLAY policy is in place for Sun Smart protection. Only school hats are to be worn and any child without a hat will need to sit in the shaded area outside Building D (opposite the hall) for the duration of playtimes.

**RELIGION**

**The units to be covered in Term 1 are:**

**Reconciliation** – In this unit, students explore the qualities and responsibilities of friendship. They reflect on the sacrament of Penance and connect healing and reconciliation to their experiences of friendship.

**Lent/Holy Week** – In this unit, students will develop an understanding of how Christians grow closer to God through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Students will be given the opportunity to discover ways to use their gifts and talents to serve others during Lent as a preparation for Easter. The students will be guided through the events of Holy Week to remember and celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and come to recognise Easter as the most important event in the Church year.

Event: Monday, March 6th - 4 Red’s Liturgy for World Day of Prayer
LITERACY

Reading
• Making predictions about a text using plot and setting
• Sequencing
• Summarising
• Retelling and discussing own interpretation of the read texts
• Attending to punctuation when reading to add expression and develop fluency
• Oral reading
• Comprehension strategies

Writing
• Develop knowledge of writing strategies of planning, composing, revising, editing and publishing
• Recount
• Information Reports
• Narratives
• Revise common punctuation and their use i.e. full stops and commas

Speaking and Listening
• Make presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions, varying language according to context
• Listen for key points in discussions
• Answer simple questions about familiar topics or recent events
• Retell ideas that they have heard from books or seen in plays or presentations
• Demonstrate active listening strategies (e.g. asking focused questions, responding to cues, making visual contact)

Spelling
• Using SMART Spelling Program (Say, Meaning, Analyse, Remember, Teach)
• Developing different spelling rules and generalisations (e.g. ‘i’ before ‘e’)
• Investigating letter/sound combinations (e.g. eigh or ey) and word families (e.g. ight as in knight, bright)

MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics, the concepts to be covered include:

Data
• Identify questions to investigate using categories
• Plan and trial methods of data collection and recording
• Use a variety of methods of data presentation

Place Value
• Count and order numbers to and from tens of thousands
• Use place value language such as 11 tens and 3 ones to calculate numbers.
• Partition numbers and recognise that numbers can be ‘broken up’ in many ways, e.g. 154 = 15 tens and 4 ones or 14 tens and 14 ones.

Addition
• Use addition facts to develop efficient mental strategies for computation
• Use equivalent number sentences involving addition to find unknown quantities

Throughout the term, number facts and mental computation skills will be practised alongside the above concepts.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES:**

**Getting to Know Each Other/ How can we work as a classroom community?**
This unit will focus on the concept of teams, choices and building a strong positive classroom community. In this unit, students will revise the school rules, establish a common understanding of the classroom expectations and investigate what it takes to work in a positive team. Students will explore positive and negative choices and discuss the consequences. They will learn about and share their individual strengths, positive coping strategies when upset and ways to solve problems.

**Australia**
In this unit, the students will learn about why the great journeys of exploration occurred and research different navigators. Students will sequence historical people, create timelines and identify different points of view from stories of the First Fleet. The students will learn about the nature of the contact between the Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander peoples with early explorers and settlers.

**Specialist Classes are held on Tuesdays**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>8:45-9:25</th>
<th>9:25-10:05</th>
<th>10:05-10:45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Blue</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>P.E</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Green</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>P.E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Red</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Yellow</td>
<td>P.E</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Library:** Students are allowed to borrow 3 books from the Library and we would encourage students to leave a chapter book at school for independent reading during the week.

**Japanese classes are on Thursday.**

**UNIFORM**
The students are to wear their Sports Uniform on their PE day. At all other times, it is expected that the full summer 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. Silver/gold studs or small sleepers are permitted to be worn. Students with long hair must have it tied back. The appropriate colours for hair ties or headbands are yellow, brown, black or white.

**HOMEWORK**
Homework will be given out on a weekly basis and it will begin in Week 2. Teachers request that parents sign the completed homework. Homework will take the form of revision of work done in the classroom. It may also include some Number Facts work, Spelling and Religion/Integrated Studies. Students are expected to read every
night and keep a record of this in their diary, which must be brought to school each day.

*Homework will be given out on a Tuesday and due Monday the following week.*

**MEDICATION/ALLERGIES**
If your child has an allergy or is in need of medication (even if only temporary) it is important that you advise your child’s teacher in writing and inform administration. A form, obtained from the office, needs to be completed before any medication can be administered. Please note that no form of pain killers can be given at school. Children with asthma are required to have an Asthma Plan in the office and are able to have labelled puffers stored in the sick bay in the office. If you feel your child is unwell, please refrain from sending them to school, as the risk of spreading infection is extremely high in the school and classroom environment. Any cases of headlice should be reported to the office and treated immediately. There are several students in the school that have a severe nut allergy and suffer from severe reactions even when exposed to nuts on their skin. To make our classrooms and school safe places for all students, we ask that students refrain from bringing nuts and nut related products such as Peanut Butter and Nutella sandwiches to school. We really appreciate your support in this matter.

**ABSENCE NOTES**
In accordance with legal requirements, three options are available for notification of your child’s absence from school.

- Written note
- E-mail to the classroom teacher
- School Smart phone App use of the absence form.

We look forward to working with you this year!

Best Wishes,

The Year 4 Team.

**Year 4 Team:**

Mr Nathan Carey  
ncarey@ssrowville.catholic.edu.au

Miss Natalie Di Carlo  
ndicarlo@ssrowville.catholic.edu.au

Miss Taylor Phelan  
tphelan@ssrowville.catholic.edu.au

Mr Andrew Miller  
andrewm@ssrowville.catholic.edu.au