Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 3 of our school year. We hope you had an enjoyable and restful break with family and friends after the 11 week term. This term St Simon’s hosts the annual Whole School Curriculum Night in the final week of term. This year the Curriculum night will focus on Literacy through Religion.

This term to support last term’s unit on Sustainability the whole school is encouraged to participate in ‘NUDE FOOD THURSDAY’. Every Thursday, the school is asking students to bring NO wrappers to school to support our local environment and reduce rubbish.

This term the school will continue to engage in the ‘Buddy Reading’ program. This started in Term 2 and gives the Grade 4s an opportunity to support their Grade 2 buddy with reading by listening to them read, reading to them, with them and discussing the text. We would also like to encourage families to spend time reading with their child. Being read to, reading with a more skilled reader and having regular independent reading time, greatly improves your child’s reading skills. There can also be great benefit to comprehension and spelling skills. It is important that your child reads regularly with you at home. Reading material could include home readers, re-reading favourite stories, newspapers, magazines, eBooks and information on the internet. Set a time each day for reading, that is free of interruptions. Talk to your child about what you read, helping them to make sense of the text. Most importantly, enjoy the special time that you spend reading together.

RELIGION
The units to be covered in Term 3 are:

 Confirmation – In this unit, students will explore the Holy Spirit in action in their families, parish and wider community. This unit will explore Jesus as the model of love and service and invite students to reflect upon the fruits of the Holy Spirit. The unit will lead into the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation to support the Grade 6s in their journey.

 Stories from the Past (Parables) – In this unit, students will explore the Bible’s referencing system according to book, chapter and verse. The students will read different parables from the bible and explore Jesus’ teachings throughout. The focus will be on the parables, the use of images, characters, setting and the historical context to make meaning.

LITERACY
Reading

• Distinguishing between fact or opinion
• Compare and contrast
• Identify character point of view
• Analyse characters
• Discuss author’s point of view

Reminder: All students have a RAZKids password to access and use e-books for reading and comprehension online at home.
Writing
- Holiday Recount
- Information Reports
- Newspaper Reports
- Poetry
- Fables/Parables
- Prefixes –dis, -pro, -anti
- Suffixes –ly, -ment, -ness

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
- Demonstrate active listening strategies (e.g. asking focused questions, responding to cues, making visual contact)

Spelling Focus – Using SMART Spelling Program (Say, Meaning, Analyse, Remember, Teach)
The SMART spelling program is a sequence of graded week-by-week spelling lists that aim to teach students sounds and syllables.
- ure as in measure
- v as in voice
- y as in yawn/ly as in onion
- or as in doctor
- ui as in fruit/ew as in screw
- ci as in special
- r/lw common errors
- n/n/kn common errors

MATHEMATICS
In Mathematics, the concepts to be covered include:

Completion of Multiplication and Division
- Recognising and using multiplication and division as inverse operations
- Solving word problems by using number sentences involving multiplication or division
- Learn and applying multiplication facts to solve problems

Operations using Money
- Solve simple purchasing problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Calculate change and round to the nearest five cents

Fractions and Decimals
- Locate familiar fractions on a number line
- Recognise common equivalent fractions
- Make connections between fractions and decimal notations up to two decimal places
- Count by quarters, halves and thirds, including with mixed numbers

Time
- Revise using analogue and digital clocks to tell time to the nearest minute
- Use am and pm notation
- Solve problems involving time duration
- Convert between units of time

Throughout the term, number facts and mental computation skills will be practised alongside the above concepts.
Reminder: All students have a Mathletics password to access mathematical learning content and online tasks at home.

**INQUIRY – Stories from the Past (Australian History)**
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.

**ICT (Information and Communications Technology)**
- Saving and retrieving documents from the server
- Making modifications to work to correcting the spelling of frequently used words and fixing simple formatting errors
- Organising documents into labelled folders on the server
- Using ICT tools to capture and save images
- Using simple editing functions to manipulate images

**SPECIALISTS**
Tuesday
Japanese – 4 Blue, 4 Green, 4 Red
Library – 4 Blue
PE – 4 Red
Music – 4 Green

Wednesday
Library – 4 Green
PE – 4 Blue
Music – 4 Red

Thursday
Library – 4 Red
PE – 4 Green
Music – 4 Blue

Please note: In Term 3, all Grade 4s do not have specialist Art lessons and the lesson will be taken by the Grade 4 teachers.

**HOMEWORK**
Homework will be given out on a weekly basis. This term Homework will be handed out on Monday or Tuesday and returned the following week. Teachers request that parents sign the completed homework. Students are expected to read every night and keep a record of this in their diary, which must be brought to school each day.

**ABSENCE NOTES**
In accordance with legal requirements, three options are available for notification of your child’s absence from school.
- Written note
- E-mail the classroom teacher
  - ddonald@ssrowville.catholic.edu.au
  - sallied@ssrowville.catholic.edu.au
  - ncorey@ssrowville.catholic.edu.au
- School Smart phone App use of the absence form
TERM DATES 2016
Term 3 – Monday 11th July – Friday 16th September
Term 4 – Monday 3rd October – Tuesday 20th December (Students dismissed on Friday 16th December)

Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher if you have queries/concerns about any matter.

Yours sincerely,

Diane Donald  Sallie Dunstan  Nathan Carey
Grade 4 Teachers
