Grade 6 Newsletter – Term 2, 2016

‘Love in action is service’

Friday 15th April, 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We trust you enjoyed the holiday break and celebrated the resurrection of Jesus at Easter. This second term being a longer term is packed with a variety of activities for the students, including the first competitive interschool sport Round Robin days. It is also an informative term with reporting and parent/teacher interviews at the end of term.

Once again please feel free to come and speak to any of us or email on the addresses below, as we journey together in the partnership of the Year Six education of your child.

Religious Education

Throughout this term we will be exploring 3 separate units.

We are currently completing our Lent to Easter: We Are Transformed unit-highlighting the wonderful event of Easter, through activities around the Easter story, eternal life and Christian hope. This culminates at the celebration of Pentecost.

The Mass: Sacrifice and Meal

In this unit students explore the Mass as sacrifice and meal. Students learn about the parts of the Mass and how these nourish and unify the Church. At the conclusion of the unit students are invited to plan and celebrate a parish daily Mass or class Mass.

Sacred Stories – Sacred People

In Sacred Stories – Sacred Peoples students learn about how the people of Israel were formed, how they related to God, and how the early Christians understood Jesus Christ. Students explore family stories, examining the values and beliefs held by their families, revealed through these stories.

Literacy
Continuing from Term One, all students will continue to participate in a variety of literature activities using appropriate texts and focusing on specific skills. We will investigate the use of evidence drawn from the text to support interpretations, look at strategies for working out the meaning of different words, and make links to prior knowledge: text to text, text to self, text to the world. In Term Two, one of the main foci in writing will be creating pieces that are planned and well edited. There will continue to be a spelling test each week, studied for homework. For public speaking the children will continue practising related skills to be able to communicate effectively and confidently.

The Year 6 students will be working with the Literacy Pro Reading Program as they were all tested last term. The children will be reading designated books on topics of interest based on their reading level they achieved in their test. Students are instructed to select books at their specific Lexile level and encouraged to read a book slightly above their level every third selection. On completing a book children will answer a questionnaire or prepare a book report demonstrating their understanding of the storyline and characters.

Mathematics

The students will begin Term Two with a unit studying fractions: simplifying, equivalence, ordering, converting and using the 4 processes for common denominators leading into uncommon denominators. Then they will participate in a mathematical investigation titled 'The Case of the Mystery Bone.' This will involve the exploration of a problem using logic and mathematics to find solutions. Then we will study mapping and location followed by 2D and 3D Shapes. Towards the end of the Term we will be looking at patterns and the building blocks of Algebra.

There continues to be a strong emphasis placed on knowing and using the multiplication tables in Year 6 throughout mathematics. Each student needs to be proficient in this area and each individual needs to ensure they are constantly practising.

Each student is required to have a fully stocked Math's Tool-kit with them for all mathematical lessons and we recommend it is a resource that travels home with them to use for homework.

Inquiry Topic

The students will be studying systems throughout the Inquiry topic this term. This will have a science focus. The systems we will be exploring include: Water, Electrical, Solar, Environmental, Digestive and Weather systems.

The students will be working collaboratively in groups to explore a scientist, create an experiment and assess the learning of what they taught the class.

Specialist classes
Japanese will be held on Wednesday Mornings for 6 Yellow, 6 Blue and 6 Green. 6 Red have their Japanese lesson Wednesday afternoons. Specialist program for all grades run in the middle session on Tuesday.

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**Uniform**

Students are wearing full winter uniform in Term Two, especially since the temperature has cooled. Sport uniform should only be worn on P.E. days and Fridays, when we have Sport. If your child is out of uniform, please ensure that a note is sent to their classroom teacher explaining the reason.

**If your child is unsure about the uniform requirements, please have them check with their teacher.

**Homework**

As per Term One, in preparation for Secondary School, learning successful study habits and developing organisational skills, it is imperative homework is completed weekly. Therefore it shall be sent home from Friday to Friday to allow students with extra-curricular activities to plan their week.

As part of the homework requirement, students need to read a minimum of 20 minutes per night. Homework will cover most areas of the curriculum with Mathematics largely including open ended questions. Book responses need to be completed at the end of the week in the homework book. Please see the Teacher with any questions.

**Inter-School Sport**

During Term Two, and throughout the year, the Year Six students shall continue to have a number of opportunities to represent the school in a variety of sports such as AFL, Soccer, Netball, Volleyball, Athletics and Cross Country. There will be a chance for every student to be involved in a team environment and gain a variety of skills that are not necessarily available during P.E. We know that the students will represent their school to the best of their abilities!

**This year the Round Robin sports days will be on Wednesday 25th May, and Tuesday, June 7th.** We will also require parental assistance during these times. Whether it is as a head coach, assistant coach or another type of team support staff, we may require a helping hand from time to time. If you have any expertise in a particular sport and are willing to lend a hand, please feel free to contact Nick Frederiksen.

**Calendar**

The calendar attached has all dates required for Term Two:
**TERM 2 CALENDAR**

**APRIL**
- **Sat. 9th**/ **Sun 10th**: Eucharist Commitment – All Masses
- **Wed. 13th** – **Fri. 15th**: Year 5 Camp
- **Wednesday 13th**: Parish Pastoral Team Meeting 7.30pm
- **Friday 15th**: Alleluia Day Liturgy 11.30am (1 Green)
- **Friday 15th**: Level Term Letters sent home
- **Sat. 16th**/ **Sun 17th**: Eucharist Commitment – All Masses
- **Wednesday 20th**: Eucharist Parent Session (1) 2pm or 7.30pm
- **Friday 22nd**: ANZAC Day Liturgy 11.30am (2 Blue)
- **Monday 25th**: ANZAC Day
- **Wednesday 27th**: Eucharist Parent Session (2) 2pm or 7.30pm
- **Wednesday 27th**: Advisory Board Meeting 7.30pm
- **Friday 29th**: Years 1 – 6 School Sports

**MAY**
- **Mon. 2nd** – **Fri. 6th**: Catholic Care Family Week
- **Monday 2nd**: Assembly / Liturgy 2.30pm (4R)
- **Wednesday 4th**: Eucharist Parent Session (3) 2pm or 7.30pm
- **Wednesday 4th**: Parents’ Association Meeting 7pm
- **Thursday 5th**: Mother’s Day Stall
- **Friday 6th**: Anointing Mass 9.15am
- **Sunday 8th**: Mother’s Day
- **Monday 9th**: Prep 2017 Information Night 7.00pm
- **Tues 10th** – **Thurs. 12th**: NAPLAN Testing
- **Wednesday 11th**: Eucharist Parent Session (4) 2pm or 7.30pm
- **Wednesday 11th**: Parish Pastoral Team Meeting 7.30pm
- **Friday 13th**: Pentecost Liturgy 11.30am (2R)
- **Saturday 14th**: Working Bee 9-12 midday
- **Sunday 15th**: Feast of the Pentecost
- **Monday 16th**: International Family Week
- **Monday 16th**: Education Week
- **Tuesday 17th**: Prep 2017 Information Night 7.00pm
- **Wednesday 18th**: Eucharist Parent Session (5) 2pm or 7.30pm
- **Mon. 18th**/ **Fri. 22nd**: Education Week
- **Sunday 22nd**: Trinity Sunday
- **Wednesday 25th**: Prep 2017 Open Day, School Tours by School Leaders 11.30am to 12.30pm
- **Wednesday 25th**: Eucharist Reflection Evening (1) 6.30pm
- **Thursday 26th**: Feast of Corpus Christi
- **Thursday 26th**: National Sorry Day
- **Sunday 29th**: First Communion Masses 2pm & 4pm
- **Monday 30th**: National Reconciliation Week
We look forward to another successful term together!

**JUNE**

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<td>Wednesday 1st</td>
<td>Eucharist Reflection Evening (2) 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 1st</td>
<td>Parents’ Association Meeting 7pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 2nd</td>
<td>Prep 2017 Open Day, School Tours by School Leaders 11.30am to 12.30pm</td>
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<td>Friday 3rd</td>
<td>Anointing Mass 9.15am</td>
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<td>Friday 3rd</td>
<td>Feast of the Sacred Heart / Poor man’s Mass 11.30am (6R)</td>
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<td>Saturday 4th</td>
<td>First Communion Masses 2pm &amp; 4pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 5th</td>
<td>World Environment Day</td>
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<td>Monday 6th</td>
<td>School Assembly 2.30pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 8th</td>
<td>Parish Pastoral Council</td>
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<td>Friday 10th</td>
<td>Professional Development Day – No school</td>
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<td>Monday 13th</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday – No school</td>
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<td>Thursday 16th</td>
<td>Prep Camp Day</td>
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<td>Friday 17th</td>
<td>School Reports sent home</td>
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<td>Friday 17th</td>
<td>Closing date for Prep 2017 Enrolments</td>
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<td>Monday 20th</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>Thursday 23rd</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>Friday 24th</td>
<td>End of Term Liturgy 11.30am (2G)</td>
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<td>Friday 26th</td>
<td>End of Term 2 – Dismissal 1.15pm</td>
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<td>Friday 26th</td>
<td>Red Nose Day</td>
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<td>Sat 25th/Sun. 26th</td>
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<td>Confirmation Commitment masses</td>
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<td>Monday 11th</td>
<td>Term 3 begins</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13th</td>
<td>Confirmation Parent Session (1) 2pm or 7.30pm</td>
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