



Curriculum Information for Term 2 2024 for Year 1

Dear Parents,

As we begin Term 2, your children will continue to learn and grow in Year 1. This term we are lucky enough to be joined by Natalie Gaul as she completes her university placement. Below is a brief overview of the learning that will be done in each of the Key Learning Areas. You may wish to use this information to spark conversations with your child regarding what they are learning in school.

In **Religious Education**, we will continue to explore the life of Jesus and key moments from the Mass. The teacher uses physical equipment to demonstrate the learning which the children then have access to during their free expression time. They may also choose to use a range of other equipment to explore the concepts on a deeper level or express their understanding. These lessons take place in the Breakout room between Kindergarten and Year 1.

The children will continue to develop effective communication skills in **English**. The children will read and explore a range of texts from decodable texts to rich texts with a range of contexts and purposes. Decodable texts are designed to help children learn to read focussing on individual phonemes (sounds) and graphemes (the various letters that form each sound). We do deep investigations into high quality texts to learn about all aspects of the English language and how it all comes together to communicate meaning. This term, Year 1 will be starting a new phonics program named 'Let's Decode.' This is a research-based approach to give children the skills to decode unknown words through a variety of routines and meaningful repetition.

The aim of **Maths** is to build confident and creative learners who can effectively use a range of efficient strategies to solve a variety of problems. The students use equipment and written strategies and are given regular opportunities to practise and solidify mathematical skills. Students are given opportunities to work independently and collaboratively to develop their own strategies and to learn from others.

This term we will be doing a **Science and Technology** unit titled 'Materials Fit for Use.' In this unit, students will be investigating how everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of way and how the different properties of materials enable them to be used for particular purposes. The children will have opportunities to experiment with how different materials can be combined, including by mixing, for a particular purpose.

Our **History** unit from Term 1 will continue this term. It is titled 'The Past in the Present.' This topic provides a study of present and past family life within the context of the students' own world. Students learn about similarities and differences in family life by comparing the present with the past. They begin to explore the links, and the changes that occur, over time and are introduced to the use of historical sources.

In **Creative Arts** children will have an opportunity to experiment with a range of visual media including watercolour paint, oil pastel, pencils etc. Some artworks will tie in with the texts we are reading in English, Science & History topics and special events throughout the Term. Art is a time for personal expression, so whilst skills will be taught to the children, they will always have the opportunity to personalise their artworks to represent their unique selves.

Our Term 2 PDHPE unit is titled 'Asking for Help'. In this unit students will identify and describe the feelings and warning signs that indicate they are in need of help in a range of situations. They will recall and practise the help-seeking strategies they can employ when required through role-play. In addition to this unit, the children will be completing the URStrong, Friendology program where they will learn how to build and maintain healthy friendships.

Mrs Tiffany Smith

tiffany.britton1@dbb.catholic.edu.au