

# Year 5 Curriculum Information for Term 1, 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! This year marks the start of a very special journey for your maturing young children as they begin their leadership roles as St Lucy's buddies and Stage 3 students at St. Joseph's.

## Curriculum

In NSW, all schools are mandated to teach subjects according to the NSW Education and Standards Authority (NESA) learning areas (subjects). There are six learning areas and each of these areas is weighted differently according to time spent on that particular subject. In Primary school, English is allocated the most time, followed by Mathematics. In English, all skills are taught daily around texts and writing genres. In other subjects there is often a title to a unit of work to be covered for several weeks or the whole term. As a Catholic school we also teach Religious Education (RE), following the curriculum of the Broken Bay Diocese.

## Learning Areas

**Religious Education** – This term, in our unit *Called to Live Like Jesus*, students will deepen their understanding of sacramentality and the seven sacraments of the Church. The students will also explore the traditions, beliefs, Scripture and events celebrated by the Catholic community throughout the Liturgical Year and especially during the time of Lent to Holy Week and Easter to Pentecost.

**English** – Our text this term is *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo. The content in English is structured and sequenced to highlight the connections across oral language & communication, vocabulary, reading fluency, reading comprehension, creating written texts, spelling, handwriting and digital transcription and understanding and responding to literature. The syllabus and units of work are underpinned by the latest international research.

**Mathematics** – Our Maths syllabus recognises the critical importance of developing an increasingly sophisticated understanding of mathematical concepts, and fluency with mathematical processes, to help students interpret and solve problems. Through the study of mathematics, students develop essential concepts and skills and apply them to deepen their understanding of the world. Students will continue to work mathematically through choice of strategy, explaining, reasoning and persisting in all mathematical strands.

**Science and Technology:** The unit, *Animal Survival*, focuses on how particular structural features and behaviours of living things enable their survival in specific habitats. Students will analyse the advantages and disadvantages of particular adaptations. They will also investigate First Nations Australians' knowledge of the structural features of certain species.

**Human Society and its Environment (Geography)** The unit is titled *A Diverse and Connected World*. Students will explore countries of the Asia region, and the connections Australia has with other countries across the world. Students will learn about the diversity of the world's people, including the indigenous peoples of other countries whilst exploring and reflecting upon similarities, differences and the importance of intercultural understanding.

**Creative Arts** – During Visual Arts, students make artworks representing both real and imagined situations exploring a range of techniques and media. They discuss qualities of artworks such as subject matter and technique, recognising that artists create artworks for different audiences. Music is taught weekly by Mr Warby.

**PDHPE** - This term Year 5 students will participate in a unit called *Friendology 101* which is a series of lessons designed to shine the light on wellbeing through the lens of friendship skills. The sessions are made up of reflection questions, scenarios, explicit friendship skills instruction, and opportunities to apply the friendship strategy to their real-life experiences. This will be taught on a Wednesday by Mrs Kathryn McCamey.

Each week, students will need to be prepared for the following routine activities:

**Tuesday** – Library, Class sport (this term, Basketball Clinics)

**Friday** - PE with Mrs Frost, Music with Mr Warby

### **Home Learning**

Current research on Home Learning is that it can be beneficial for students in Stage 3 to establish simple Home Learning routines to help build positive study habits ahead of secondary school. It is also helpful for students to revise what they are learning in class to facilitate the transfer of skills and content to their long-term memory. In Year 5, students will receive Home Learning on a Monday and it is returned the following Monday. This will be provided, but it is optional.

### **Uniform**

Our students in Year 5 are expected to set a high standard for wearing their uniform, including their school hat. It is vital for our senior students to continue to model this high standard. This includes wearing sports uniform only on those designated days (Tuesdays & Fridays) - thank you in anticipation of your support.

### **High School Enrolments**

Your enrolment at St Joseph's means you have a guaranteed placement at Mater Maria or St Paul's, should you wish to apply for it. However, in order to secure your child a place, you need to apply by the deadline.

If you wish to apply to either high school, please ensure your application is finalised before the cut-off date.

### **Communication**

#### **To communicate with us or set up a meeting:**

Please email **both** teachers to keep us across all communications.

Email: [anita.brooks@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:anita.brooks@dbb.catholic.edu.au) and [kath.fogwell@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:kath.fogwell@dbb.catholic.edu.au) We will respond within 48 hours.

#### **We will communicate with you in the following ways:**

- All school-based communication through Compass
- Specific class notifications on Compass

**Thank you for your support. We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout 2025!**

Warmest regards,

Anita Brooks and Kath Fogwell