



ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 1 Newsletter - Term 1, 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the beginning of our new school year. We hope you have enjoyed a restful and rewarding break with family and friends. We hope that you are reinvigorated for all that lies ahead in 2020. Our Year 1 Motto for 2020 is "*Be Kind, Work Hard*".

This is a newsletter distributed at the beginning of each term to keep you up to date with the current events, activities and reminders in the Year 1 classrooms.

Year 1 School Classrooms for 2020

There are four Year 1 classrooms:

Room B1: Melanie Alexander & Elise Smock

Room B2: Sue Wickham & Leah Brooks

Room B3: Maddy McMurray & Cara Chisholm

Room B4: Louis O'Connor & Mary Lane

Year 1 Team Learning Leader: Sue Wickham

Specialist Classes for 2020

Library, LOTE and Art - Semester 1 & Drama - Semester 2: classes are timetabled weekly for one hour.

Room B1: Library: Monday

LOTE: Tuesday

Art: Tuesday

Room B2: Library: Wednesday

LOTE: Thursday

Art: Monday

Room B3: Library: Wednesday

LOTE: Tuesday

Art: Tuesday

Room B4: Library: Wednesday

LOTE: Friday

Art: Thursday

All students will need to bring a named **Art smock** for Art classes.

Children can borrow books weekly in their library class but they can return books and borrow from the library anytime, such as before/after school or at lunchtime.

The Library is open for the first half of every lunchtime for children.



Snack and Eating Times

10:00am Compulsory fruit snack (Whole School)

This is supposed to be a quick snack so chopped and ready to go would be ideal. Large pieces of fruit take longer to eat and could be left for after recess. **If your child does not eat fruit**, pieces of vegetables are a great choice too. Eg., chopped carrot, cherry tomatoes or snow peas.

11:30am to 11:40am Little Lunch.

Children are encouraged to eat part of their lunch or parents could include an extra sandwich at this time.

1:35pm to 1:45pm Big Lunch

Children have supervised eating time inside before they go to play.

School lunches are a great opportunity to promote healthy eating habits! **Lollies and chocolate treats etc.**, are best kept for after school. Great ideas for snacks include: fresh fruit, dried fruit, cheese & dry biscuits, rice crackers, celery/carrot sticks, small cakes and muffins. It is also important that the children have a drink bottle of water.

*** Remember to name containers and bottles.**

*** Please be aware that some classes are designated 'nut free'. A note will be sent home to those who have a child with allergies in their classroom.**

Parent and Teacher Interviews

During Week 3 Parents will have an opportunity to share information with their child's new teacher. Times will need to be booked online. This meeting is only for 10 minutes so if you need to continue discussing your child's needs please don't hesitate to organize another time to meet.

Classroom Supplies

You will need to supply your child with a small pencil case, textas & pencils and an art smock (an old large t-shirt is fine). **All of these items should be clearly named!**

Each child is also asked to bring in a family size box of tissues **each** term for the whole class. This keeps our classrooms in supply of tissues for the year.

Parent and Teacher Communication throughout the Year.

We value any information that you need to share with us about your child as situations can change daily and weekly. If you need to discuss anything with your child's teacher please don't hesitate in making a time with them after school. The morning times can be extremely busy with preparations for the day. Also, if something needs to be talked about without other children listening, making a separate time would be a much better idea.

Small clarifications or quick messages can be communicated via your child's reader record with your child's teacher. If the issue needs further discussion please book a time. We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Reminder

Please be on time, especially in the morning! Children should be ready at school to start classes at 9:00 am. Classroom doors are opened at 8:45am so the children have plenty of time to get organised. As this is an important skill to develop for independent learning we ask parents to leave their children at the door or encourage their child to walk into the school on their own or with a brother, sister or friend.

Home Reading Program

Your child will be bringing home books to read over the next couple of weeks. Teachers carefully select the level your child will bring home as Take Home Reading Books. Students may decode (break words apart) at a much higher level than they can comprehend a text. The books your child brings home need to be easy and enjoyable, which means both decoding and comprehension need to be easy.



Reading easy and familiar books at home will help your child develop their confidence and skills, while talking about what they have read will help their understanding. Remember children of all ages enjoy being read to and sharing the reading task can be enjoyable for you and your child. **The classroom teachers will be signing and checking your child's book record every morning as reading regularly is a valued and an important focus for your child.**

Uniform

ALL children are to wear full school Summer uniform. Please send a note when necessary and appropriate if your child is out of uniform.

Sports uniform is to be ONLY worn on the designated day that your child's class has Physical and Health Education days. It is not part of the Summer uniform. Sports shoes are only to be worn with the sports uniform.

Sunsmart School

At St. Joseph's we are a registered Sunsmart School. From February to May and all of Term 4 **every child needs to wear a school hat** when they are outside. Children need to have sunscreen applied before they come to school or they bring some to apply themselves.



Physical and Health Education Days

Each classroom has designated Physical and Health Education days. Children will need to wear their sports uniform and runners on the following days. The focus this year is on how to be healthy, physical activity and well being. The children won't always be doing 'sport' outside.

Room B1: Tuesday and Thursday

Room B2: Tuesday and Friday

Room B3: Monday and Thursday

Room B4: Monday and Thursday



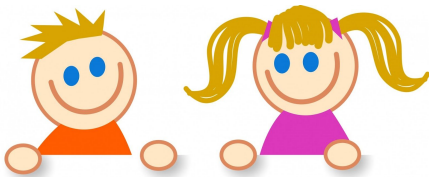
Numeracy News

The Numeracy testing in December 2020 allowed teachers to gain an understanding of the needs of your child in Numeracy. We thank parents for their support and cooperation with this process.



This term the Year 1's will focus on **Counting, Place Value and Time**. We encourage you to play counting games with your children at home, such as Snakes & Ladders, card games, and counting aloud together in everyday situations.

Religious Education



Our topic for Term 1 is "**Identity**". This investigates the choices children make and the effect these have on the relationship with self, each other and God.

We will focus on The Easter Story as we prepare for this significant part of the liturgical year.

Ash Wednesday is the 26th February, a time for our Liturgy will be sent closer to the day.

St. Joseph's Fair

On **Sunday the 22nd of March**, the school will be holding its major fundraiser for the year. Each class will be contributing an activity towards the children's stall. Some extra help may be needed beforehand so check with your child's classroom teacher.

Classroom Coordinators

Please let your child's teacher know if you are interested in being a Classroom Coordinator during 2020. This role can be shared by a couple of people, this allows flexibility for working parents.

Literacy News

Year 1 students participate in a well-structured two hour Literacy block each day. It is important that children are **ready to start each day at 8:55 am**. This means that students are expected to be at school **before** this time. Classroom doors are opened at 8:40 am so children have time to **organise** their school bags, book bags and lunch orders.



Parent Helpers in the Classroom

Classroom teachers will inform parents when they require helpers after a settling in time for our new classes. Reminder all parents need a current **"Working with Children Check"** to help anywhere in the school or on excursions.

Important Dates

Term 1

Monday 6th of February: Whole School Family Picnic Night

Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th February: Parent Teacher Interviews

Monday 17th of February: Year 1 & 2 Basketball Clinics run throughout the week

Tuesday 25th February: Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday 26th February: Ash Wednesday

Monday 9th March: Labour Day Holiday

Friday 6th March: School Closure Day

Thursday 19th March: Year 1 & 2 Extended Day

Sunday 22nd March: St. Joseph's School Fair 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Thursday 26th March: F-2 Sports Day

Friday 20th March: End of Term 1 - School finishes at 2:30 pm

Term 2

Tuesday 14th April: Term 2 commences

