



ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 2 News - 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 2 motto for 2020 is the same as the Year 1 motto, which 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 2 classrooms.

Year 2 School Classrooms for 2020

There are three Year 2 classrooms:

Room B5: Clare Stacey & Mary Lane

Room B6: Gabe Ewing & Monica O'Brien

Room B7: Marlie Boyd & Jayne Gercovich

Year 2 Coordinator: Marlie Boyd

Specialist Classes for 2020

Library, LOTE, ICT and Drama/Art classes are timetabled weekly for one hour. Art will be in the first semester and Drama will be in second semester.

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| Room B5: Library: Wednesday ICT: Friday | Drama/Art: Wednesday LOTE: Tuesday |
| Room B6: Library: Wednesday ICT: Tuesday | Drama/Art: Wednesday LOTE: Thursday |
| Room B7: Library: Tuesday ICT: Monday | Drama/Art: Thursday LOTE: Monday |

All students will need to bring an **Art smock**. This will be kept in their classroom for the year. Children can borrow books weekly in their library class but they can return books and borrow from the library anytime.

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

Snack and Eating Times

10:00am (5 minutes to eat) Compulsory fruit/vegetable snack (whole school)

This is a **quick** snack which needs to be **chopped** and ready to eat. Eg: apple pieces, peeled & chopped orange, small tub of grapes or berries, chopped carrot, cherry tomatoes or snow peas.

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

Children are encouraged to eat part of their lunch during 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! 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 minimise plastic packaging & name containers & 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 4 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.

In preparation for Parent Teacher Interviews a note will be coming home with your child for you to fill out and return to school before the interviews.

Classroom Supplies

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. 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 their day at 8:55 am. Classroom doors are opened at 8:40 am 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 child at the door or encourage their child to walk into the school on their own.

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. Please remember that 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 easier than what they are completing in the classroom.



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.**

Speaking and Listening

This year we are altering 'Show and Tell' to align with the Victorian Curriculum. Students will be asked to provide information on a particular topic and 'tell' the rest of the class about it. The audience will listen and are encouraged to ask complex questions like; Why do you think that? Can you tell me more? Why is that important to you?

We will be starting with the topic of 'All About Me' and the classroom teachers will assign students to a day by the end of week 2. This is encouraging all students to hone their skills in both speaking and active listening.

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 as Health will be taught in the classrooms.

Room B5: Monday and Thursday

Room B6: Monday and Friday

Room B7: Monday and Wednesday



Numeracy News

The Numeracy testing in December 2019 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 2s 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”.

We will focus on The Easter Story as we prepare for this significant part of the Liturgical year. Students will identify the link between the choices we make and the effect these have on the relationship with self, others and one’s relationship with God.

Ash Wednesday is the 26th of February. This marks the beginning of the season of Lent. The Year 2s will be holding their own liturgy on this day.

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 only to be worn on the designated day that your child’s class has Sport. 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 can bring some to apply themselves. Sunscreen is supplied at school if students need.

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.

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. The parents helpers program start in Term 2 and you are required to attend the Parent Helpers Program, run by our Literacy Coordinator, Monica Curren.

Year 2 gardening

Throughout the year, our lucky Year 2 students will be working in small groups with Mrs McCoy as a part of the school gardening initiative. Feel free to ask your child to take you on a tour to the ever-flourishing garden space, filled with healthy goodies.

Important Dates

Please refer to the School Calendar on the SZapp.

