



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST SCHOL'S

TERM ONE, 2019

School Improvement Focus

St. Scholastica's is driven to providing a rigorous contemporary learning environment that challenges and empowers students to grow as active, independent and successful learners.

Teaching and Learning

Our goals are to:

- Collaborative plan with the teaching and learning leader to use data to inform our teaching
- Build Teaching and Learning knowledge in mathematics supported by a learning consultant from Catholic Education Melbourne

Student Wellbeing

Our goal is to implement the Whole School Behaviour Management plan for Positive Behaviour Support.

Some exciting events happening this term include:

- Bush dance-20th February
- School photos- 26th February
- Shrove Tuesday- 5th March
- Ash Wednesday Mass- 6th March 11 am
- Bunnings BBQ - Saturday 9th March
- Twilight Sports- 15th March
- Optional parent teacher interviews- 27th march
- Holy Week Paraliturgy-5th April
- End of Term- 5th April



WHAT'S HAPPENING

in the Junior School...

InquiRE

Faith is an integral part of our everyday life at St Scholastica's, shaped and informed by daily prayer rituals. Religious Education is closely linked to our Inquiry Topics and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) programs, creating our approach of InquiRE. The use of an inquiry approach invites students to investigate and connect faith and life. We will be focusing on exploring the different parts of our lives in which we belong. These include the ways we belong to God's family, the church, our own family and the community around us. The Junior students will be completing a unit called 'Marvellous Me'. This unit focuses on belonging and answers the questions 'Who am I? And "How do I belong?'



The students will also learn that Lent is a season lasting 40 days starting from Ash Wednesday through to Palm Sunday. They will explore some of the liturgical symbols and colours of Lent as well as some of the christian traditions such as almsgiving prayer and fasting. Students will become familiar with the events and characters of Holy Week and participate in class and school liturgies.

All children will be encouraged to participate reverently in daily prayer times and attend Mass. Through these experiences, the children will strengthen their relationship with God and recognise that there are many ways to pray.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we will support the students to develop understanding of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Our major focus in Mathematics this term will be on Counting, Place Value, Number Fluency and 2D shape. We will be working to ensure that the students are confident working with numbers up to 20 (Prep) or hundreds (Year 1) and thousands (Year 2.) We will be encouraging the students to develop their confidence in being able to read, write and represent numbers in pictures, digits and words. We want the students to be confident with understanding the value of ones, tens, (hundreds and thousands) in a variety of situations, as well as being able to count forwards and backwards from various starting points. We will also be exploring simple number facts (5 and 1 make 6, 4 and 2 make 6 etc) and number buddies (3 and 7 make 10, 5 and 5 make 10).

English

In English, the students will be completing their assessment which will provide information for the teachers to cater to individual needs. Students have begun working in small reading workshops to target reading skills such as fluency and expression, language experience, oral language, word vocabulary, decoding strategies and comprehension. This term the focus for comprehension is making connections. In writing, the students will focus on sentence structure, letter formation, grammar, spelling and building vocabulary through a variety of writing styles.

Junior students will work on these skills through the writing purpose of Describe. The students will begin to look at different ways to describe familiar stories, characters and recount familiar

experiences. We will continue to develop our recount writing skills, in the form of small moments, umbrella writing and descriptive beginnings in Year 1 and 2.

Library

The students will visit the Library once a week. These sessions will provide the students with access to a wide variety of quality fiction and non-fiction books that will cater for a range of reading abilities and interests.

Digital Technologies

The Prep students will be introduced to ICT tools and equipment. They will learn to logon to the computer and become familiar with how to use the mouse. They will also be using the iPads for literacy and numeracy activities.



The Year 1 & 2 students will develop and reinforce the skills of logging on to the school network. They will continue to develop their ability to navigate the school network and develop the practise of using a file-naming system that is both meaningful to the students, and avoids confusion over who owns particular files.

To improve the presentation of text and images, students will develop and reinforce the skills of simple techniques such as bolding, centring and changing case in programs such as Word and Google docs.

The Junior students will also be using the app 'SeeSaw' as a digital learning journal. Seesaw empowers students to independently document their learning with built-in creative tools and provides an authentic audience for their work. Seesaw also gives families an immediate and personalised window into their child's school day. Further information about this app will be provided throughout the term.

Homework

Information about homework will be sent home in greater detail as it is introduced to the students.

Students in Prep are asked to:

- *Read* aloud to a parent each night
- Learn Sight words
- *Count* forwards and backwards to 20

Students in Year 1 and 2 are asked to:

- *Read* aloud to a parent each night
- Learn sight words with speed and accuracy
- Learn spelling related to their writing
- Counting patterns and number buddies with speed and accuracy
- 1 spelling activity completed each week



Some exciting events happening this term include:

- 1/2 Mass- 27th February
- Swimming in weeks 8 and 9 (Not Mondays)
- 1/2 H assembly-15th March

We look forward to working with you and if you have any questions the door is always open!

Thank you for your support,

Brooke Cincotta, Nerina Marotta, Georgia Halloran and Daniel Cotesta



WHAT'S HAPPENING

in the Middle School...

InquiRE

Faith is an integral part of our everyday life at St Scholastica's, shaped and informed by daily prayer rituals. Religious Education is closely linked to our Inquiry Topics and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) programs, creating our approach of InquiRE. The use of an inquiry approach invites students to investigate and connect faith and life.

Our InquiRE unit this term will focus on "**The Importance of Belonging**". The students will explore all the different groups they belong to. They will investigate why people belong to groups and the benefits and responsibilities that are associated with "belonging." The students will be exploring how they belong to the Church and through that they will discuss how forgiving and being forgiven can bring peace to self and others.

Reconciliation

On **Sunday the 3rd of March** the **Presentation Mass for Reconciliation and Eucharist Candidates** will take place at **11am**. We encourage all families to attend this Mass not only to support the Reconciliation Candidates but also to welcome you all as valuable members of our Parish community.



Presentation Mass	Reconciliation Faith Night	Reflection Day	Reconciliation Sacrament
Sunday 3rd March 11am	Tuesday 26th February 7pm	Thursday 21st March Full School Day	Tuesday 26th March 7pm

Mathematics

The Mathematics program will include Number testing which will help us to focus on the needs of the students. Students will be expected to learn their timetables throughout the year.

Our major focus in Mathematics this term will centre on the following areas:

- Counting
- Place value
- Addition and Subtraction
- Length
- Location
- Multiplication and Division
- Scales and Legends



English

In Reading, students will be taught specific strategies to improve their comprehension skills with the focus this term on making text to text connections. They will use their prior knowledge about a topic to help them understand a new text. We will also be concentrating on a range of guided reading strategies to support and develop the student's reading stamina and individual reading goals. Students will participate in reading workshops throughout the week as well as taking part in teacher directed small group sessions focused on decoding and fluency.

In Writing, the students will be learning the writing purpose to Describe. The students will begin to explore different ways to describe characters.

Our **Grammar** Focus will be on:

- Sentence structure
- Punctuation
- Emotive vocabulary
- Nouns, verbs and adverbs
- Connectors
- Paragraphs



Each week a new **spelling** blend or rule will be introduced to the students as well as working on their own individual spelling needs. The students will be given new spelling words each Monday and will be tested every Friday.

Library

The students will be encouraged to borrow books from the library regularly to assist them in developing their interest in independent reading.

Digital Technologies

This term, Year 3 and 4 students will begin creating an eportfolio which can be accessed live by parents in order to showcase students work throughout the year. They will continue to develop their ability to navigate the school their individual Google Drive and develop the practise of using a file-naming system in order to store and find their work easily. Students will plan, create and communicate ideas and information independently using Power Point slides, applying skills such as importing files and altering text to improve presentation. They will also learn about ethical and social protocols when using online technology.

Homework

Students are asked to read on a daily basis (Mon to Thurs) with a minimum of 15 minutes for Year 4 and 10 minutes for Year 3. The homework grid has commenced and is to be handed in fortnightly. Your child's reading is to be recorded in their school diary and signed nightly by a parent. Tables and spelling are to be practised every night. Homework grid tasks are to be completed then checked and signed by an adult at the end of the fortnight. We encourage the students to ask their teacher's for help if they are experiencing difficulty with their homework.

Circus Skills

The *Circus Crew* will be running circus skills classes for the 3/4s. The first 1 hour session is on Tuesday 19 February. The program will run for 7 weeks and finish with a display for the parents.

Term 1 Dates

Circle Skills 19th February for 7 Weeks

Thank you for your support,

Steven McNamara and Stephanie Paolilli-Treonze



WHAT'S HAPPENING

in the Senior School..

Welcome to a new school year. We are looking forward to a great year!

InquiRE

Faith is an integral part of our everyday life at St Scholastica's, shaped and informed by daily prayer rituals. Religious Education is closely linked to our Inquiry Topics and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) programs, creating our approach of InquiRE. The use of an inquiry approach invites students to investigate and connect faith and life.

Our InquiRE unit this term will focus on "The Importance of Belonging". The students will explore all the different groups they belong to. They will investigate why people belong to groups and the benefits and responsibilities that are associated with "belonging." The areas they may investigate include their interests, their cultural background, their faith or their learning.



The students will:-

- reflect individually on where they feel like they belong
- explore the basic human need to belong to or choose certain groups and examine some of the purposes of these groups
- identify different types of groups, their composition and the benefits to their members
- research other cultures and groups.

These areas will be linked to their faith development and the ways in which we experience a sense of belonging to our church community.

English

In English, the students will continue their small group reading workshops to target reading skills such as oral language, word vocabulary, decoding and comprehension. Each child will participate in teacher focused sessions to cater for their learning needs.

Students will continue to work on building their Stamina Reading skills. They will focus on:-

- choosing "just-right" texts
- phrasing and fluency to support meaning making
- using punctuation to regulate reading phrasing and fluency
- adapting the pitch, tone, stress and volume of their voices to match meaning
- self-correcting if needed
- thinking about meaning of what they read
- making personal connections to text.

Students will be working on oral and visual English skills each week through viewing, discussion and reflection of written and online resources.



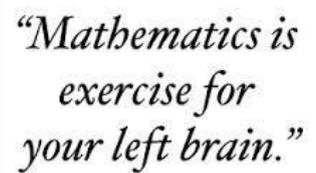
In Writing, the students will be focusing on the social purpose to entertain. They will commence with narratives and will be working on punctuation, spelling and grammar. The students will have focused success criteria to develop their writing.

LIBRARY

The students will visit the Library every Friday and are encouraged to bring a library bag. These sessions in the library will provide the students with access to a wide variety of quality fiction and non-fiction books that will cater for a range of reading abilities and interests. Regular borrowing of books by students will be encouraged as part of our school's learning program to enrich their reading and help them become engaged and motivated readers.

MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics, the students will be developing their skills and understandings of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability and Fluency. To begin the year there will be a very strong emphasis on fluency which entails automatic recall of number facts including timetables. This will include a weekly personal assessment of number facts and timetables which the students will monitor themselves.



*“Mathematics is
exercise for
your left brain.”*

Further topics which will be explored will be Place value and Number, Location, Addition and Subtraction, Length and perimeter and 2D shape.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

The students will continue utilising Google drive. This will include uploading files and folders to their Google Drive as well as using Google Slides as a presentation tool. Students will adapt their skills from the windows platform to Chromebooks and explore apps and tools from GAFE (Google Apps for Education) to enhance their learning. They will set up and insert work samples into their ePortfolios. The students will also utilise their school email account where appropriate to assist in the learning.

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS

The students have been allocated sports for the Summer Interschool Sports program which has already commenced. Parent helpers will be needed for this program to run efficiently. More information will be sent home.

CAMP

We are attending Camp on **Monday 1st April to Wednesday 3rd April**. Camp is always a highlight in the Senior Level and we are all very excited. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Term 1 Dates

Interschool Sport Fridays throughout the Term
5/6 Level Mass - 22nd February 9:15 am in the library
Camp - Monday 1st- Wednesday 3rd April

Thank you for your support,
Jennifer Teoh, Carolyn Day and Micki Smith



WHAT'S HAPPENING

in Italian ...



The whole school will be focussing on La Famiglia – The family. The language areas of listening, writing, speaking and reading will be incorporated into Italian, directly relating to the topic. The learning is to develop a sense of self, others and belonging to the school community. Students will learn classroom rules, greetings and la Famiglia- The Family. The students will focus on discussion about oneself and introduce structures and vocabulary to their Italian language.

The students will also be learning a daily prayer in Italian and will explore the traditions and language that relate to the special liturgical season of Easter - Pasqua.

together LOVE
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
LOVE Family
memories ★
★ ★ laugh BLESSING

WHAT'S HAPPENING

In P.E. ...



In Term 1 the school holds our Twilight Sports at Bill Stewart Reserve in Burwood. The date this year is Friday 15th March.

In Prep, Year 1 and 2, the students will participate in a variety of physical activities both outside and inside. They will explore different actions of the body and practise basic motor skills such as running, hopping, jumping, skipping, catching, throwing, kicking, rolling, balancing, twisting and turning. In first term, we start with an awareness of space and boundaries and rules for safety and fun for all. We will also be working hard to get ready for Twilight Sports.

In Year 3 and 4, students build on skills developed in the Junior School and use more complex manipulative and movement skills in both an outdoor and indoor setting. They will practise and develop competency in a range of complex motor skills such as running, throwing catching and baton exchange in preparation for Twilight Sports.

In Year 5 and 6, students work at expanding and refining their range of skills and aim to perform them with increased precision, accuracy and control in more complex movements, sequences and games. A main aim in the Senior School is for students to acknowledge the benefits of participating in regular periods of moderate to vigorous physical activity and explore training principles for improving components of health related fitness and ways to monitor exercise intensity. The children prepare for and help to organise Twilight Sports.

This term the children also take part in the Inter-School Sports program and play one of 4 team sports against other schools in our District (WESA).



WHAT'S HAPPENING

in Performing Arts...



Throughout this term, the students will be exploring different skills and techniques used in the three main Performing Arts areas; Music, Dance and Drama. The term will be split into these three areas. Within music lessons, students will be focusing on singing as well as the use of instruments and the different classifications used to describe these instruments. Throughout Dance, students will be focusing on the emotions that can be expressed through dance as well as warm ups and warm downs. Within the Drama area, students will focus on skills used to engage audiences when on stage. These skills will include mime, ad-libbing, tone, volume, projection and the use of different levels on stage.

We are extremely excited and can't wait to get started. We will also begin to look at our school production which will be taking place in Term 4.

Brooke Cincotta



WHAT'S HAPPENING

in Visual Arts...



This term in Visual Arts the students will create and present a range of art forms that express their ideas and feelings using different techniques and mediums. So far the students have demonstrated a very enthusiastic attitude to all the art lessons. They are learning new skills and having fun.

The seniors will be exploring a range of painting techniques such as applying paint, painting backgrounds and using colours. The emphasis is on understanding the tools and knowing which tools to use. The students are very creative when they are given the opportunity to experiment.

The middles will explore different printing techniques like block printing and stamping. They will be creating their own designs and printing with blocks. They will use paint, ink and sponges to make their print.

The Juniors will be using their imaginations to explore paper collages. They will use a variety of techniques and materials including crayons and paint.

Children use art to express their individuality by showing the world their imagination and their emotional responses. Visual Art is a fantastic opportunity for the students to learn new skills and experience success at school.

