



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST SCHOL'S

TERM TWO, 2019

### Leadership

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:

- participate in weekly facilitated planning with the teaching and learning leader to use data to inform our teaching
- improve Maths learning outcomes by building teaching and learning knowledge in mathematics supported by a learning consultant from Catholic Education Melbourne
- implement The Learning Collaborative Plan in consultation with an Educational Leader from Ontario Canada through Catholic Education Melbourne

#### Student Wellbeing

Our goal is to:

- implement the Whole School Behaviour Management plan for Positive Behaviour Support.
- continue to implement the respectful relationships program across the whole school

#### Leadership and Management

Our goal is to:

- implement learning walks across the school

#### Some exciting events happening this term include:

- 3 & 10 May - Gymnastics 12-2pm
- 10th of May: Mothers Day Stall
- 14th of May: Think You Know Cyber Safety Evening
- 30th of May: School Closure Day
- 10th of June: Queen's Birthday
- 26th of June: Parent Teacher Interviews
- 28 June Food Line
- 28th June End of Term





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.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING in the Junior School...

### InquiRE

The Junior students will be completing a unit called 'Ch Ch Ch Changes'. This unit focuses on changes and answers the questions 'How does change occur?'

The students will also learn that Easter is a season lasting 50 days from Easter Sunday through to Pentecost with the arrival of the Holy Spirit. Students will become familiar with the events and characters of Pentecost 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 Addition, Subtraction, Length, Mapping, Data and Chance and Probability. 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 continue practising skills such as counting 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, students will continue 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 sequencing, text layout and features (Prep) and recalling and locating facts and details and finding the main idea (Year 1 and 2). 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 persuade. The students will begin to look at different ways to persuade people to agree with their opinion. We will continue to develop our recount writing skills, in the form of small moments, umbrella writing and descriptive beginnings.

### 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 continue learning to logon to the computer and become familiar with how to use the mouse as well as the student site and applications we regularly use. Students will also be introduced to the program 'Reading Eggs,' to assist with the development of reading skills. They will also be using the iPads for English and Maths activities.

The Year 1 & 2 students will continue to 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, centering 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**

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:**

- 11th of May: P-2 Mothers Day Mass
- 17th of May: 1/2 C Assembly
- 31st of May: Prep Assembly

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

Our InquiRE unit this term will focus on "**Change**". The students will explore the concept of change and how it links with the world around them. Specifically, there will be a focus on change in history and how society, places, technology and entertainment has changed over time. The Middle students will be completing a unit called "If I Could Turn Back Time". The unit focuses on change and answers the questions: *What do we know about the past? How did Australians live in the past? How did people live in other places? How has the past influenced the present?*

The unit will be linked to the text 'My Place' Nadia Wheatley, which traces the history of one small part of Australia and the people who have lived there, from the Dreaming until the present day. As time folds rhythmically backwards, children describe their homes, their families, their pets, and their special celebrations. Students will begin to think critically about how change has impacted our society and learn to compare and contrast between the past and the present.

## Mathematics

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

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

- Fractions
- Location
- Multiplication and Division
- Data representation and Interpretation
- Time
- Patterns and Algebra

## English

In English, the students will continue to complete assessment which will provide information for the teachers to cater to individual needs. We will be concentrating on a range of guided reading strategies to support and develop the student's reading stamina and individual reading goals. Students will continue 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 Recalling and Locating Facts and Details in the Text.

Through this students will be determining important ideas, events or details in texts, commenting on things learned or questions raised by reading and referring explicitly to the text for verification. Students will participate in reading workshops throughout the week as well as taking part in teacher directed small group sessions.



In writing, the students will continue to focus on sentence structure, letter formation, grammar, spelling and building vocabulary through a variety of writing styles. Middle students will work on these skills through the writing purpose of Persuasive. As children mature as writers, it's important to give them the opportunity to write using a variety of formats. Persuasive writing helps them develop clear reasons for their opinions, and provides an opportunity to research facts related to their opinions. As students develop an understanding of how writing can influence or change another's thoughts or actions they will begin to understand the persuasive nature of the marketing they are exposed to through television, the Internet and other media.

In a persuasive writing piece, the students will strive to convince the reader of the merits of their opinion or stance on a particular issue. To convince the reader of a point of view, or to take a specific action, the student must utilise a number of persuasive techniques to form a logical argument.

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 assessed every Friday.

### **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. 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 continue working on their 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**

The homework grid has commenced and is to be handed in fortnightly. This will contain tasks that revisit learning that is happening in the classroom, to promote further practise of skills and develop understanding.

### **Students in Middles are asked to:**

- Read aloud with an adult each night (Mon-Thurs), to be recorded and signed in their school diary  
**Year 4 students** - Minimum 15 minutes reading  
**Year 3 students** - Minimum 10 minutes reading
- Tables to be practised each night
- Spelling to be practised each night
- Homework grid tasks are to be completed, checked and signed by an adult at the end of the fortnight or when the grid is completed
- Ask teachers for help if they are experiencing difficulty with their homework.

### **Term 2 Dates**

- 14-16 May Naplan
- 23 May Cross Country
- 6 June Middle Level Excursion

**Thank you for your support,**

Steven McNamara and Stephanie Paolilli-Treonze

# WHAT'S HAPPENING in the Senior School...



## Confirmation

We look forward to working with the students as they prepare for the final initiation Sacrament in their faith journey. Please see important dates below.

## InquiRE

Our InquiRE unit this term will focus on "Change". The students will explore different aspects of change throughout history. They will investigate the following questions as part of our celebration of St Scholastica's 60th anniversary: *How do changes in society affect our everyday lives? How has the Church changed over the past 60 years? How has education changed over the past 60 years? How has the Australia changed over the past 60 years? How are these changes connected?*

These areas will be linked to their faith development. They will look at the Scripture story of Pentecost and how this changed the lives of the disciples going further. This is an integral part of the Catholic tradition and the sacrament of Confirmation. This will also link closely to our SEL program this term as students will focus on their personal strengths and how they can use these strengths to make positive changes in our world.

## English



In English, ongoing assessment will continue to assist teachers to differentiate the learning needs of each student. The whole class reading comprehension focuses this term are Sequencing and Summarising which build on the skills needed to complete work in Writing and InquiRE. Students will continue to participate in small group reading workshops to target reading skills such as fluency, oral language, vocabulary, decoding and comprehension. Each child will participate in teacher focused sessions to cater for their individual learning needs.

Students will continue to work on building their Stamina Reading skills by focussing on their individual reading goals. Reading goals focus on skills such as choosing "just-right" texts, fluency, phrasing using punctuation, adapting the pitch, tone, stress and volume of their voices to match meaning, accuracy and self-correcting when needed, expanding their vocabulary by finding the meaning of new words and using comprehension skills to answer questions about their text.

In Writing, the students will continue to focus on sentence and text structure, use of interesting and accurate vocabulary, punctuation, spelling and grammar in order to write for a specific purpose. This term we will explore the social purposes to persuade, inform and entertain. We will begin with Persuasive Writing then explore Chronological Reports during our history using in InquiRE as well as some poetry. Throughout each writing unit, students help to develop a focused success criteria to help them to remember and practise what they have learnt so that they can achieve success.

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

## Public Speaking

This term, students will be involved in a Public Speaking program run by Sylvia, a parishioner and Toastmaster. This program is aimed at developing students' confidence in front of an audience. They prepare speeches to be presented to their peers and build their skills in impromptu speaking. This will culminate in a Public Speaking Showcase. Details will follow.



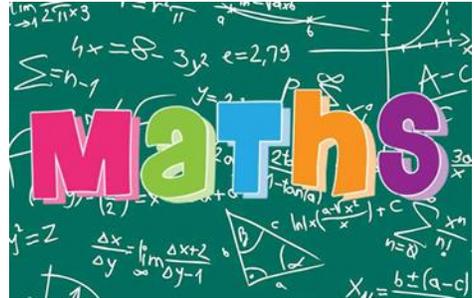
## Library

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 continue to develop their skills and understandings of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability and Fluency. There will continue to be a 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. Ongoing assessment will also help us to support or challenge students depending on their individual learning needs. This term will explore:

- 24hr Time
- Data Representation and Interpretation
- Multiplication and Division
- Factors and Multiples
- Transformations/Symmetry
- Measurement/Area
- Fractions-Parts of a whole and parts of a collection
- Fractions-Addition and subtraction



Throughout the above units, students will be presented with worded problems to solve where appropriate. This encourages students to understand what a problem is asking and the possible alternative ways of solving it. They are encouraged to explain the maths needed to solve the problem and the strategies used.

## Digital Technologies

Digital Technologies is closely linked and used across all areas of the curriculum. Throughout our Mathematics unit we will be using Microsoft programs such as Excel to represent and interpret data. Students will also continue to use Word Processing skills to publish their written work in English. In InquiRE, students will learn how to find reliable sources online, as well as search the school library catalogue in order to research and gather information.

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. They will continue to insert work samples into their ePortfolios. The students will also utilise their school email account where appropriate to assist in their learning.

## Interschool Sports

The students have been allocated sports for the Winter Interschool Sports program which will commence in Week 2. Parent helpers will be needed for this program to run efficiently. More information will be sent home.

## Important Dates to Remember in Term 2

- 3 May - Interschool Sports begins
- 14-16 May Naplan
- 23 May Cross Country
- 24 May Confirmation Reflection Day
- 26 May: Confirmation 2pm

We hope you all enjoy another great term and if you have any questions please contact us.

**Thank you for your support,**

Jennifer Teoh, Carolyn Day and Micki Smith

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Specialists...

### Italian

In Italian this term, the students from Foundation (Prep) - 2 will be developing their understanding of the numbers 1-20, colours and also starting on a unit on *Cibo* which will be completed in Term 3. Levels 3-6 - Grades 3-6 will be Completing 2 units, One on *Amici di Penna* – Pen Pals and will also be starting on the Dante Alighieri Poster with the topic being *Cibo Sano* – Healthy Food. They will also present their written work on an A4 poster in the form of an art piece reflecting their sentences. It is an expectation that the children will work on this project in class and at home.



The students will also explore and incorporate language to celebrate *La festa della mamma* – Mother's Day.

### Performing Arts



This term in Performing Arts, all the students will be focusing on rehearsing in preparation for the production in Term 4. Each class will be practising one item with their classroom teacher and one during Performing Arts. The students will also be focusing on the additional 3 whole school items. Students will continue to practise their acting skills such as mime, focus and silent communication skills in preparation for their acting scenes in the production. We are extremely excited to begin rehearsals as well as possible set and prop making opportunities!

### P.E.

#### **Prep/ Year 1/ Year 2**

This term the children in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will focus on Movement Exploration and Games Skills. The children will work on such skills as:

Running, Skipping, Jumping, Throwing, Catching, Fielding, Dribbling, Striking/Hitting, and Kicking.

They will explore and practise these skills individually, with a partner, in tabloid activities and playing minor games.

#### **Year 3 & 4**

This term the children in Year 3 and Year 4 will focus on their fitness and will train for the District Cross Country event. The children will train twice a week, running laps around the lower playground for 20 minutes. They will record the number of laps they complete and work towards improving the number and therefore their fitness. Year 4 children will then be able to try out for a place in the Cross Country team.

In P.E. lessons the children will experience Track and Field events in preparation for District Athletics in Term 3.



#### **Year 5&6**

This term the Year 5 and Year 6 children will focus on their fitness. The children will train twice a week for the District Cross Country event. They will run laps around the lower playground for 20 minutes twice a week and record the number of laps they complete. Their aim is to increase distance over the same time and improve their aerobic fitness.

In P.E. lessons the children will work on Track and Field events in preparation for District Athletics in Term 3. The children will also continue to participate in Inter School sport on Fridays.