



**Welcome to Year Four:
Curious, Inspire, Optimism and Respect
Homegroups!**

We are looking forward to a wonderful year with you and your children.

We hope that you find this handout useful as we begin our learning journey in 2025!

Curious Homegroup Teacher

Melisa Morabito

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Inspire Homegroup Teacher

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Optimism Homegroup Teachers

Alexandra Verzin (Grycuk) - Tuesday- Friday

Sarah Spiteri - Monday

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Respect Homegroup Teachers

Rebecca Jenkins - Monday - Wednesday

Georgia Clarke - Thursday - Friday

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Year 4 - Learning Support Officers

Jo Smyth

Romani Alwis

Linda Macri

Jess French

AN A-Z OF WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW THIS YEAR

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is very important for the development of learning, consistency of routines and maintaining relationships. However, any student who is unwell is required to stay home and return when they are well. Please keep your child at home if they are displaying symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or fever.

Absences

In the case of students being absent from school, written notification is required on the day of absence. Written communication can include an email, handwritten note or by filling out the absence e-form on the app. *The Audiri app is the most convenient way to do this.*

Please advise the school in writing of any extended periods of absence in advance.

Late Arrival or Early Leave

All students must be signed in and out at reception when arriving late or leaving early. If your child is required to be picked up early during the school day it is recommended that you collect them before or after break times.

First Break is from 10.55 to 11.35am and Second Break is from 1.45 to 2.25pm.

Brain Food and Eating Time Expectations:

Students are encouraged to bring small pieces of cut up fruit, sultanas, dried fruit, grapes, strawberries or vegetables etc in a labelled container, to eat in the homegroup. In Year 4, there will be no set stopping time for brainfood. Students will be able to 'graze' on these healthy snacks while they are learning. If a student has their brainfood in a larger lunchbox, they will be asked to take it out of their lunchbox. This will help ensure students are only eating their brain food during this time.

Eating time

After the first break, students will have 10 minutes of supervised eating time to eat their lunch. After this time allocation, if students have not finished their lunch, they may continue eating at the second break. A reminder also, there is no sharing of food during eating times due to allergies. Students may take wrapper-free snacks outside at break times.

Daily Timetable

- *School Begins: 8:45am*
- *First Break: 10:55am - 11:35am*
- *Second Break: 1:45pm - 2:25pm*
- *Dismissal for all students: 3:25pm*

Chromebooks

SMCM is an eSmart school and we promote the safe, smart and responsible use of technology. Students will continue to develop their understanding of cybersafety, responsibility for equipment and ability to follow Chromebook guidelines for use as articulated in the Digital Technologies User Agreement.

Chromebooks are a tool to help support effective learning and teaching.

At SMCM we have a 1:1 Chromebook program for students in years 3 to 6.

Each student will have a Google Education account to login into their Chromebook

Students will have access to Google Drive with Docs, Sheets, Slides as well as Gmail, Calendar, and school-approved Apps and Extensions that can be accessed on any device.

Student use and access is managed and monitored through firewalls, Google Apps Administration Console and Hapara for student safety and security.

To assist them in using their Chromebook as a learning tool, all students are required to bring a pair of headphones to use at school. Please ensure that they are clearly labelled with their name.

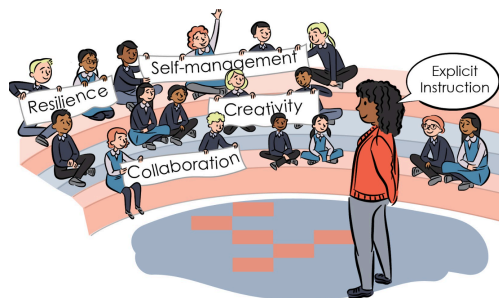


Communication

- **Meeting with teachers:** Please email teachers to make an appointment before or after school to ensure we can give you our full attention and time
- **Teacher emails** - see above. Please allow time for teachers to respond as we endeavour to read and respond to emails as soon as possible
- **Newsletter** - available fortnightly on Thursday on the app and Instagram
- **Instagram**- Follow us at @smcmessagingnth
- **Audiri App** - download the Audiri app from the App Store or Google Play store to receive important updates and notifications
- **Seesaw Family** - check Seesaw Family for announcements, reminders and information regarding your child's homegroup

Confident Learner Dispositions

- Traits, habits and skills that need to be developed for success in learning now and in the future
- At SMCM our learner dispositions are; **creativity**, **self-management**, **resilience** and **collaboration**
- These dispositions help us to learn. We can use them everywhere and anywhere, not just at school. They are skills for life!
- The dispositions are explicitly taught across all curriculum areas and should be reinforced at home.



Connectors - Sacramental Program

Important information about the Sacramental program will continue to be communicated through the newsletter. Families are asked to book online with their preferred date from Friday **February 7th 2025**.

If you need assistance with this, please contact your child's homegroup teacher or Sarah (sarah.spiteri@smcmessagingnth.catholic.edu.au)

Eucharist Family Faith Night

Wednesday, 21st May, 2025

At 7:00pm

Sacrament of First Eucharist

Saturday, 31st May, 2025

at 12:00pm & 2:00pm

Extra Curricular Activities

- **District Sports** - Some opportunities will be available for students to participate in external sports competitions throughout the year. Trials and selections will be held based on age groups.
- **Incursions and Excursions** - Incursions and excursions will be provided to enhance learning in different curriculum areas. The cost of these activities has been covered by the Excursion Levy in the School Fees
- **Swimming Program** - As part of the Health and Physical Education Curriculum students will participate in a Swimming Program at YMCA Epping Leisure City. The cost of the program is included in your school levy. Further information will be sent home regarding dates and times.
- **Extended Day Camp** - As part of our Outdoor Learning Program students will attend an Extended Day Camp. Students will experience the environment and structures of camp in preparation for overnight experiences in Years 5 and 6.

Home Learning

- Home Learning activities connect to the learning that is happening at school. It supports the student's ability to develop organisational skills and learning independence.
- Home Learning will be distributed weekly on **Tuesday** and will be collected on **Monday**.
- Instructions for Home Learning will be sent home with their Home Learning Book and posted on Seesaw on Tuesday
- We encourage families to talk with their children about balancing Home Learning and extracurricular activities. Creating a simple timetable together can help them manage their time effectively while ensuring they have time to rest and enjoy their interests

Students are expected to:

- Read for at least 15 minutes daily
- Complete set learning activities weekly
- Demonstrate responsibility by taking care of their Home Learning Book and returning each Tuesday

Library

Students are required to bring a library bag and to regularly borrow from the library. They are encouraged to borrow **at least two books**, one for home and one for school. Library days are as follows:

Curious - Tuesday

Inspire - Wednesday

Optimism - Monday

Respect - Thursday

Online Learning Logs

To communicate our reporting of learning & teaching, each student has an individual Online Learning Log (OLLs). The OLLs provide families and students with regular work samples and teacher feedback.



This year we will continue to use the Seesaw App as the platform for our OLLs.

To access your child's Online Learning Log you will need to download the Seesaw: Family App available from the App store or the Google Play store.

If you are having any technical issues with accessing the Seesaw App, please contact your child's teacher.

Resources for Learning

Please ensure that your child has the following items at school and are clearly labelled with their full name:

- Headphones
- Art smock
- School Hat

Could you also please send along a box of tissues with your child to school.

School Uniform

Wearing the correct uniform, including correct school shoes, promotes respect and pride in our school.

As a reminder, all school uniform items are to be clearly labelled with your child's first and last name. This will assist in any lost items being returned promptly.

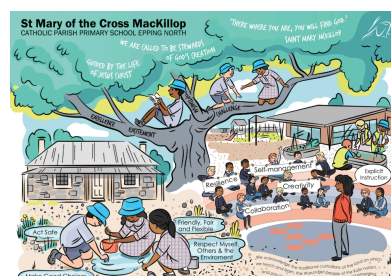
Social and Emotional Learning

Being responsible for my behaviour:

- Our whole school follows a restorative approach to help us build a positive learning community.
- We refer to our [Behaviour Matrix](#) to help support our understanding of the FARM code.













	Learning time	Gatherings	Outside Play	Inside Play	Eating time	Communicating with others (parents & staff)	Moving around the school (playground, lunch)
F Friendly, fair & flexible	Following rules with different people	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game
A Act safe	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game
R Respect yourself, others & the environment	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game
M Make good choices	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game	Following the rules of the game













Weekly Homegroup Timetables

Respect Homegroup

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch Orders 	Japanese 	Lunch Orders 	Library 	Lunch Orders 
Physical Education 	STEM 	Afternoon Gathering 	Physical Education 	Visual Arts 










Inspire Homegroup

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch Orders 	Visual Arts 	Lunch Orders 		Lunch Orders 
Afternoon Gathering 	Physical Education 	Physical Education 		Japanese 
		Library 		STEM 

Curious Homegroup

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch Orders 	Physical Education 	Lunch Orders 		Lunch Orders 
Afternoon Gathering 	Japanese 			STEM 
	Library 			Visual Arts 
				Physical Education 

Optimism Homegroup

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch Orders 	Visual Arts 	Lunch Orders 	Physical Education 	Lunch Orders 
Physical Education 	STEM 	Afternoon Gathering 		Japanese 
Library 