

Curriculum Notes

Year 3/4



Welcome back to the last Term for 2023!

We hope you all had an enjoyable break and were able to enjoy some lovely sunshine! We have another busy term ahead of us, which includes lots of enjoyable learning experiences.

Our Inquiry has a strong focus on community and connections this term, which means it will look different to how it has in other terms. Please see the Inquiry section of our curriculum notes to find out more!

Our doors are always open for you, so don't hesitate to get in touch! This term is 11 weeks, so it will be a long one, with lots of tired children. Please let us know if there is anything we can assist with.

With the warmer weather this term, students are required to wear their hats again. If you have your child's hat at home, please ensure it is sent to school with their name on it. It is also important to ensure your child is coming to school with a drink bottle each day.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to a fantastic term filled with growth, fun, and achievement.



English



Reading and Viewing

Students will continue to work in guided reading groups four times a week, where they will be working on reading strategies specifically targeted to their needs. Guided reading sessions provide the perfect learning opportunity for students to discuss the focus texts with one another, identify words and phrases and relate these discussions to the real world.

Writing

Term 4 will see us focusing on writing Procedure (how to do something) and Persuasive texts. We aim to incorporate lots of fun, engaging activities with these topics, such as more hands-on learning as well as writing tasks. We will continue to build on our knowledge of sentence structure and punctuation through these learning experiences.

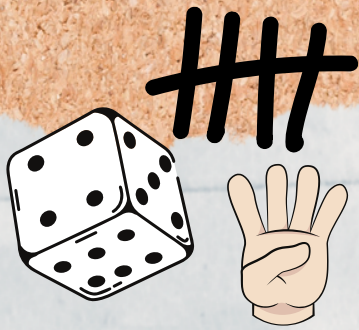
Speaking and Listening

This term, we will continue to develop your child's communication skills, building their confidence in speaking to a group, and fostering effective interactions with their peers and teachers. This will involve developing oral language skills (expanding vocabulary, constructing sentences & using descriptive language), listening skills (active listening and comprehension of spoken language), speaking skills (oral presentations & conversation skills), group discussions and collaboration (sharing, participating, problem solving and make decisions), storytelling and retelling (sequence events, use story elements & retell stories in their own words) & identifying letter patterns, and sounds in words.

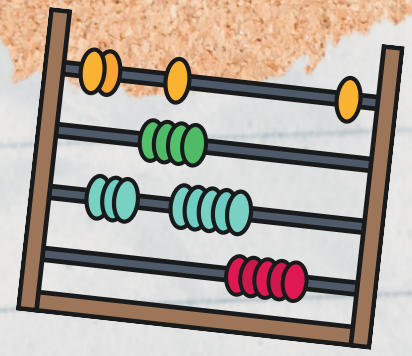
Spelling

In Spelling we will be focusing on learning words using the S.M.A.R.T. spelling approach, where we will be focusing on a particular vowel digraph (letter/s used to make a particular sound in a word, ie. 'ai' as in snail) each week in the classroom. We will also be learning words associated with Inquiry, Religion and Maths..





Mathematics

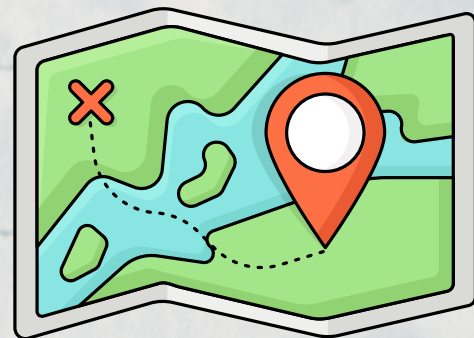


This term students will be learning and consolidating a wide range of skills including, how to read and make maps, measuring capacity, mass and volume and looking at chance and data. We will also continue to focus on Place Value.

Students will focus on recognising, ordering and modelling numbers (three digit and four digit numbers). During these sessions students will identify 100 more and 100 less than a number over the decade, plot and place numbers in the hundreds and thousands on number lines and identify and read numbers into the thousand and millions.

Students will learn about mass, capacity, and volume to understand how things are heavy (mass), how much they can hold (capacity), and how much space they take up (volume).

The students will be collecting, analysing and making decisions about data that can inform their thinking. We will have the opportunity to analyse other data from different sources as well.



Religion

FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIPS



This unit focuses on the development of relationships within our families and the importance of understanding ourselves in relation to the way we feel and respond in given situations. Students will learn to demonstrate a respect for others, identify what it means to feel safe, have a sense of identity and self worth and describe methods for recognising and avoiding harmful situations.

CHRISTMAS, THE MESSAGE OF JOY AND PEACE

Students will be given the opportunity to explore Christmas as a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Students will recognise the liturgical season of Advent as a time to prepare for Jesus's birth. Students will also describe ways that we can model the Christmas spirit of peace and joy in our daily lives.



Inquiry

Connections

Connections are everywhere in our lives. Our brains are made up of billions of connections that help us talk, walk, think and dream. We make connections with other people, places and things all the time.

During term 4 students will connect with people and places in our Rochester community. Students will work in multi age groups (Foundation to Year 6) twice a week to engage in a learning experience of their choice.

Students will have the opportunity to choose between the following learning experiences; Active, Art, Sustainability and Cooking.

The sessions will occur on Monday and Thursday afternoons from 12:40 -1:40 and will be facilitated by a variety of different school staff and community members.

There will be two activity blocks - Weeks 1-4 and Weeks 5 - 8. During Weeks 9&10 students will focus on our History and Geography component of the curriculum. They will have the opportunity to explore and learn about many different locations in the Rochester community such as Rochester Sports Museum, Wirima playground, Murals and Silos and our beautiful river walk to the Red Bridge.

RRRR

with Mrs Bennett

This term in RRRR's children will explore Gender and Identity. Learning experiences will support the students to learn about some of the differences and similarities between students in the class and appreciate that it is important to respect differences between people. Students will play games such as Human Bingo and create an Identity wheel to learn about the similarities and differences between each other. Discussion will support students to value and show respect for diversity and difference, and learn how to apply these attitudes within respectful relationships. The second unit, Positive Gender Relations, is focused on identifying different forms of gender-based violence, including physical, verbal and psychological and the effects this has on targets, witnesses and perpetrators. Student will describe and demonstrate what respectful, gender inclusive behaviours look like in action informed by human rights. They will also describe and practice help-seeking and strategies that can be used when encountering uncomfortable or unsafe situations involving peers or adults.

Digital Tech

with Mr Davison

This term, students will embark on a fascinating journey into the realm of digital technologies. We will be diving into the personal use of information systems for entertainment and communication, allowing them to navigate and understand the technologies that shape their daily lives. Our exploration extends to the world of databases, using the school library borrowing system as a practical example to demystify these essential components of information systems. Additionally, we'll be delving into the broader community context, exploring how information systems play a role beyond the classroom. To broaden their horizons, virtual tours with a class context will transport them globally, offering a unique perspective. Finally, we'll wrap up the term with festive computer coding activities to infuse the spirit of the season into our technological endeavours. It promises to be an exciting and enriching term, and I look forward to guiding your children through these captivating lessons.

Physical Education

with Miss MCEVOY

This term the Foundation to Grade 6 students are extremely fortunate to have specialist tennis coach, Paul' Milo' provide students tennis skills and tips in a fun and supportive environment. These lessons will be conducted under the pavilion over an 8 week period.

For the junior students these lessons will be fun-filled and conducted in a scaled-down environment which is designed for little players to learn the basic tennis strokes and ball skills. This aims to support students' motor skills such as hand-eye coordination, balance, movement and spatial awareness. For students who already have a grasp of tennis, these students will learn consistency, hitting to different targets and will be introduced to playing with a variety of spin. As the players skills progress, lessons will incorporate serve, rally and scoring together in various point play games with a strong emphasis on guiding the player towards competition.

A big thanks goes to a parent of St Joseph's who received some funding for the school which will provide students brand new equipment for each lesson. This includes new nets, racquets and tennis balls. We can't wait to see students showcase their skills and talents and look forward to seeing some super star tennis players in future years!

Visual Art

with
Mrs Carmichael



This term students will explore this great land of Australia and Australian artists such as Sidney Nolan and Margaret Preston. Using the places that make our land our home; the colours, the landmarks, the places and the animals students will use a range of mediums from paints to collage, oil pastel to watercolours to produce true blue inspired art.

Students will continue to consolidate their ability to personally and critically reflect on pieces, evaluate their own pieces, provide feedback to peers and use art vocabulary during discussions.

AUSLAN with Tim

At St Joseph's we use the TCL (Teachers as Co Learners) approach to language teaching. In a TCL approach, all teachers and students are co-learners of the school's target language. The TCL approach requires access to a proficient speaker of the language to facilitate the learning journey for teachers and students. Our facilitator, Tim , will again work with both students and teachers weekly (on a Friday). He will revise previously taught vocabulary/signs and introduce new vocabulary/signs throughout the term.



Kelly Sport

with Coach Wade

Welcome to term 4 . This term students will participate in an 11 week Kelly Sports program with a "Sports" focus. Students will have a 40 minute session each week (on a Friday). They will have the opportunity to focus on the following sports; cricket, golf, T- ball, frisbee, basketball, netball, soccer and AFL. Each week, through a focus on a sport, students will learn the basic skills associated with each sport eg throwing, catching, kicking, dribbling, shooting and passing. Students will also participate in a mini Olympics circuit with a range of events to test their athletic abilities. They will be invited to create team banners and choose a country to support for the session. Students will participate in team building activities where they will need to work in teams throughout a variety of challenges to promote working together as a team. The final session will be an end of year celebration where students will celebrate their year of Kelly sports with activities such as parachute and water sports. It is certainly an action packed term of Kelly sports.

KEY DATES

Week	What's on
Week 1 2 - 6th October	3rd: Elmore Field days 4th: Elmore Field days 5th: Elmore Field days 6th: Kelly Sports & Auslan
Week 2 9 - 13th October	10th: Foundation Excursion - Kyabram 11th: Heartkids Fundraiser 13th: Campaspe Basketball 13th: Kelly Sports & Auslan
Week 3 16 - 20th October	18th: DUO Day - PBIS Whole School Dress Up Reward 19th: Waranga Summer Sports Day (Grade 5/6) 20th: Waranga Summer Sports Day (Grades 3/4) 20th: Kelly Sports & Auslan
Week 4 23 - 27th October	23rd: Life Relationships Evening 6pm (Grade 5/6) 27th: World Teachers Day 27th: Granparent's Day Assembly 27th: Kelly Sports & Auslan
Week 5 30 - 3rd November	30th: Real Schools Parent Information evening 30th: RSC Transition Visit (Grade 5/6) 3rd: Kelly Sports & Auslan - Community Learning Day
Week 6 6th - 10th November	6th: Pupil free day 7th: Melbourne Cup Day Holiday 10th McKillop Art Exhibition (Bendigo) 10th: Kelly Sports & Auslan 11th: Remembrance Day
Week 7 13th - 17th November	17th Kelly Sports & Auslan

KEY DATES

Week	What's on
Week 8 20 -24th November	21st: Learning Conversations 22nd: Learning Conversations 24th: Kelly Sports & Auslan
Week 9 27 - 1st December	1st: F - 2 Kaboom sports (Kyabram) 1st: Kelly Sports & Auslan
Week 10 4 - 8th December	4th: First Aid for children 5th: First Aid for children 6th: Year 5/6 North Melbourne Huddle excursion, Melbourne 8th: Pupil free day
Week 11 11 - 15th December	11th: Pupil free day 15th: Kelly Sports & Auslan
Week 12 18 - 20 December	

SCHOOL CONTACTS

Principal:

Mrs Elizabeth Trewick
principal@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

Deputy Principal and Pastoral Wellbeing:

Mrs Jessica Carmichael
deputy@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

Learning and Teaching:

Mrs Susan Kerlin
skerlin@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

Learning Diversity:

Mrs Cheryl Schwab
cschwab@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

Administration:

Office hours 8:30am - 4:00pm

Mrs Maria Whitehead mariaw@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Bree Cox -

Finance Officer

bcox@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

Phone contact: Office - 54841797 Mobile - 0488191875 (please note this phone is not manned at all times and any urgent messages should be given via phone call)