

CURRICULUM NOTES

ST JOSEPH'S ROCHESTER
YEAR 5/6



WELCOME TO TERM 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope you all had a safe and restful holiday. We are looking forward to working together with you to support your child's learning this term.

We are excited about the many opportunities ahead as we continue to build on what students have learned so far. We will be exploring new topics, developing important skills, and encouraging everyone to do their best and enjoy their learning.

This term will also include a range of whole-school activities and special sessions, such as Father's Day morning, anti-bullying workshops, girls' football, RU OK Day and many more events that help build our school community.

As always, please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or need anything throughout the term.

Warm regards,

Yvette and Maree



TERM 3 DRESS UP DAYS



**FRIDAY
8 AUGUST**

HAPPINESS HAPPENS DAY

Children will wear school uniform and a splash of a **happy colour**.



**FRIDAY
15 AUGUST**

National day of action against bullying

Children will wear school uniform and a splash of **purple**.



**FRIDAY
22 AUGUST**

Book Week Parade, 9.15am in the delany pavilion

Dress as a Book Character.



NEW!

**THURSDAY
4 SEPTEMBER**

Fathers day & footy colours day

Children are welcome to dress in their favourite team colours - any sport. Breakfast from 8.00am.



**THURSDAY
11 SEPTEMBER**

RU OK Day

Children are welcome to dress in **yellow**.



**FRIDAY
19 SEPTEMBER**

GOTCHA WHOLE SCHOOL REWARD DAY

Children are welcome to dress in CASUAL CLOTHES.



For more details and updates about these events, please follow us on social media

facebook.com/stjosephsrochester

ENGLISH

Mentor Text Number 1 - Tom Appleby, Convict Boy

This term in English, Year 5/6 students will be exploring the novel Tom Appleby, Convict Boy. Through this text, students will focus on building their reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. They will examine the historical context of the story, discuss characters and their choices, and explore themes such as survival, justice, and resilience.

Students will also practise writing activities linked to the novel, including summaries, character descriptions, and reflections. These tasks will help them develop their ability to explain ideas clearly, use descriptive language, and support their opinions with evidence from the text.

Reading and Viewing

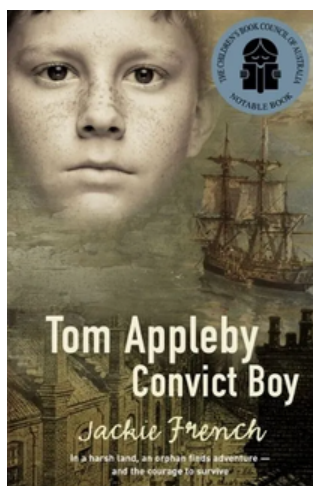
Year 5/6 students will read and view a variety of texts to deepen their understanding and thinking. They will learn to recognise how authors use words, sentences, and images to create mood, show feelings, and share ideas. Students will explore the historical and social settings in stories, discuss the meaning behind what is said and shown, and learn to evaluate information. They will also look at how different types of texts are organised and how images and sound work together to tell a story or share a message.

Speaking and Listening

Students will practise using clear and appropriate language when talking with others. They will share ideas, consider different opinions, and speak confidently to an audience with organised presentations, sometimes using visual or digital elements.

Writing

This term, Year 5/6 students will focus on writing information texts for specific purposes and audiences. They will develop ideas, organise their writing into clear paragraphs, and use precise vocabulary. Students will practise editing, using correct grammar and punctuation, and experimenting with features like figurative language to make their writing more engaging.



ENGLISH

Mentor Text Number 2 - The Grandest Bookshop in the World

This term, Year 5/6 students will be studying *The Grandest Bookshop in the World*. They will explore how authors use language features, sentence structure, and vocabulary to create meaning and mood. Students will discuss how the story reflects its time and place, share their opinions, and examine characters, settings, and themes. They will also practise writing and speaking tasks that help them organise ideas clearly and use descriptive language effectively.

Reading and Viewing

Students will read and view a range of texts to understand meaning, explore how authors create mood and ideas, and discuss historical and cultural contexts. They will also learn how images, sounds, and text features work together to tell a story or share information.

Speaking and Listening

Students will take part in discussions, using clear and precise language to share ideas and respond to others. They will practise explaining their thinking, considering different opinions, and speaking confidently to an audience with organised and purposeful talks, including using digital or visual supports.

Writing

Students will create written and spoken texts for different purposes. They will organise ideas into clear paragraphs, use precise vocabulary, experiment with language features, and edit their work to improve grammar, punctuation, and clarity.

Reading Fluency

This term, Year 5/6 students will continue practising their reading fluency in partners 3–4 times per week, using levelled texts chosen to match their needs. This routine will help them build confidence, improve expression, and strengthen their overall reading comprehension.



MATHEMATICS

This term, Year 5/6 students will be learning important maths concepts and using them in practical, meaningful ways. Here's what they will be working on in each area:

Fractions

Students will learn to compare, order, add, and subtract fractions with related denominators. They will explore mixed numbers and improper fractions, using visual models and number lines to make sense of fractional quantities. Real-life contexts like recipes and sharing problems will help them see how fractions are part of everyday life.

Decimals

Students will build on their understanding of place value to read, write and compare decimals to thousandths. They will add and subtract decimals in practical contexts, such as calculating money and measurements. Emphasis will be placed on explaining their thinking and connecting decimals to fractions.

Angles

Students will learn to identify and classify angles (acute, right, obtuse, straight, reflex, and revolution). They will measure and draw angles using protractors and explore the properties of angles in 2D shapes. Real-world contexts like design, construction, and navigation will help them see the purpose of angles.

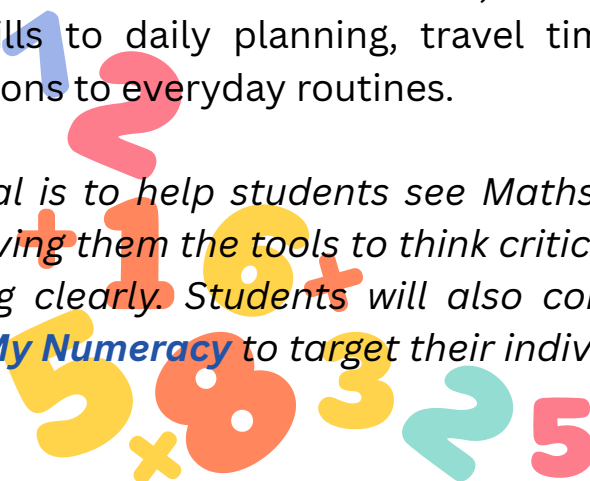
Measurement

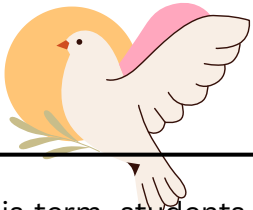
Students will work with length, area, and perimeter, selecting and converting between appropriate units (mm, cm, m, km). They will solve real-life problems, such as designing floor plans or measuring school spaces, encouraging them to plan, check, and reflect on their solutions.

Time

Students will read and interpret timetables and calendars, solve elapsed time problems, and convert between units of time (seconds, minutes, hours). They will practise applying these skills to daily planning, travel timetables, and event scheduling, making connections to everyday routines.

*Throughout Term 3, our goal is to help students see Maths as meaningful and connected to their world, giving them the tools to think critically, solve problems, and explain their reasoning clearly. Students will also continue to work with **Essential Assessment** and **My Numeracy** to target their individual learning needs and track their progress.*





RELIGION



Unit 1 : Sacred Stories

This term, students will learn about the Bible as a special collection of books with different types of writing, such as poetry, stories, history, and wisdom. They will explore how the Bible developed over time, how it is used in prayer, and how its messages connect to their own lives.

Students will create a folio with their work or photos of their work, showing what they have learned about the Bible, its different types of writing, and how to find and understand different passages.

Unit 2: Creation and Responsibility

This term, students will learn about God's creation and our responsibility to care for the world. They will explore the creation story in Genesis 1:1-26 and think about how we can live in harmony with others and the environment as co-creators.

Students will make a collage to show the days of creation. For each day, they will:

- Illustrate what God created using pictures or drawings.
- Write an action statement about how we can care for that part of creation today.

INQUIRY

Topic- The Journey to Discovery

This term, students will explore a range of science and technology topics designed to build curiosity and understanding about the world around them. They will investigate:

Solar System – Learning about the planets and creating models to show their size and distance from the Sun.

Light Refraction – Discovering how light bends when it passes through different materials.

Electrical Circuits – Understanding what is needed to make a working circuit and how electricity flows.

States of Matter – Exploring solids, liquids, and gases and how they can change from one state to another.

Coding – Learning the basics of coding to design simple computer programs.

Future Action:

Students will be encouraged to think about how these science and technology skills can help them solve problems and design solutions in their daily lives.



AUSLAN *with Tim*



This term in Auslan, students will continue building their vocabulary and fluency. They will explore topics such as families, emotions, and everyday routines while developing their ability to describe actions, ask and answer questions, and hold short conversations in Auslan. Through games, role-plays, and signed stories, students will also deepen their understanding of Deaf culture and respectful communication. We look forward to another exciting term of hands-on language learning!

We will also continue to be supported by Tim on Fridays as he introduces and consolidates topics of interest.

TRP / RRRR *with Miss McEvoy*

This term, TRP (The Resilience Project) and RRRRs (Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships) will be taught by Olivia McEvoy as part of the specialist subjects program.

Grade 5/6 students will begin the term with a focus on First Nations culture in recognition of NAIDOC Week, followed by lessons on empathy, exploring why showing empathy and performing acts of kindness creates positive feelings. Students will practise mindfulness through meditation, belly breathing and music. To finish the term, they'll explore different aspects of their lives that they are grateful for.

Key Term 3 Focus Events:

- National Week Against Bullying (August): Reinforcing messages of kindness, inclusion, fairness, and speaking up.
- R U OK? Day (September): Learning to check in on others and recognising how to ask for or offer support.



STEM *with Mrs Fellows*

During term 3, students will be undertaking a specialist subject called STEM. This subject merges Science, Technologies, Engineering and Maths together to provide a rich learning experience that is aimed at deepening Science content through the principles of design thinking strategies.

Students will observe structural adaptations of plants and suggest how these may help them survive in their environments, examine and explain how the characteristics of flowers, fruit and seeds are adaptations for reproduction in plants. They will analyse the advantages and disadvantages of particular adaptations and describe the ways that changing the habitat of an organism may change the value of their features.

They will encounter activities that encourage them to design in innovative ways, using nature as their inspiration. The students will also undertake a program called 'Nature knows how' in partnership with the Royal Botanical Gardens Victoria, with the underpinning idea, that we can learn from nature not just about nature.

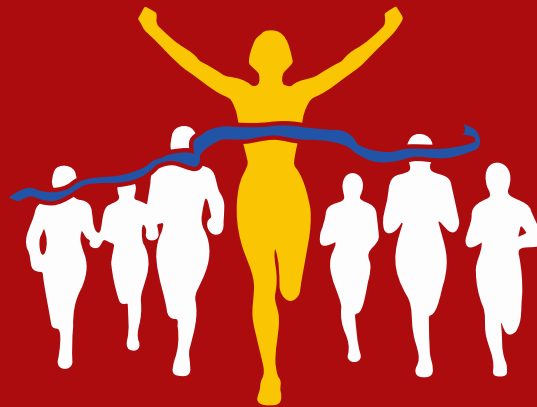


PHYSICAL EDUCATION *with Miss McEvoy*

This term in Physical Education, students in Grades 3 to 6 will focus on refining their athletics skills in preparation for the annual Athletics Carnival in Kyabram. Students will develop their technique and performance in a range of events, including the 100m, 200m, and 400m sprints, discus, shot put, hurdles, long jump, triple jump, and relay races.

In addition, students will take part in a 3-week lacrosse program, where they will learn and practise key skills such as cradling, passing, shooting, and game play using modified equipment suited to their level.

We look forward to a dynamic and engaging term of physical activity!



This term students will again participate in a weekly Kelly sports session. Content for the weekly sessions will include;

- Fundamental Movement skills in modified sports - Students will Focus on fundamental motor skills through sports like Tchoukball (modified basketball/netball), Newcombe ball (modified Volleyball), and AFL 9's (modified AFL). Emphasis on skill development over competition.
- Game Sense and Strategy - Students will develop tactical awareness through modified games like Ultimate Frisbee and Touch Rugby. The Focus will be on teamwork, communication, and decision-making.
- Inclusive games and Adapted sports - Students will explore inclusion and diversity through activities like seated volleyball and goalball. The Focus will be on empathy and adapting activities for all abilities.
- Reflection and Challenge week - In the final week of the term Students will participate in team trust activities and leadership games, setting goals for term 4 and reflecting on progress. The Grade 5 & 6 students lead short warm-ups or games for peers.

We are looking forward to another term of fun and activity.

VISUAL ARTS

This term in Visual Art, our Years 5 and 6 students are beginning an exciting unit of work focused on four well-known artists: Keith Haring, Yayoi Kusama, Henri Rousseau, and Georgia O'Keeffe. Each artist has a unique way of working and expressing ideas, and their styles will help guide students as they begin to explore how their own artwork can tell stories, share thoughts, and reflect their creativity.

We are starting with Keith Haring, known for his bold, cartoon-like figures that seem to dance across the page. Students will experiment with using strong outlines and simple shapes to show movement and feeling.

With Yayoi Kusama, students will look at how repeating patterns and dots can create rhythm and focus. They'll have the chance to develop their own designs using drawing and painting techniques that reflect Kusama's playful and expressive style.

Our nature-inspired project will take cues from Henri Rousseau's *Tiger in the Jungle*, where students will look closely at how he imagined wild jungle scenes using leaves, plants, animals and colour. They'll explore how to layer different elements to build their own creative scenes full of detail and texture.



Later in the term, we'll turn to Georgia O'Keeffe, and look at her detailed painting of a snail shell. This will help students explore how focusing on one small object and looking closely at shape, curve, and colour can make an artwork feel bold and powerful.

Students will be supported to plan their ideas, experiment with new materials, and reflect on their work as it develops. This term is all about discovering how artists make choices—and giving students the tools and confidence to start making their own.

IMPORTANT DATES

<p>Week 1: 21st - 25th July</p>	<p>21: Term 3 begins 25: Grandparents Day</p>
<p>Week 2: 28th July - 1st August</p>	<p>28: Pet Responsibility and Safety 29: 100 Days of School for Foundation Students 30: Girls Football (Grade 4/5/6 girls) 30: Shoelace Incursion (Grade F/1/2) 31: Inform & Empower parent session @ 7.00pm</p>
<p>Week 3: 4th - 8th August</p>	
<p>Week 4: 11th - 15th August <i>National Week of Action Against Bullying Science Week</i></p>	<p>11: F/1/2 Science Excursion 11: School Advisory Council meeting 12: Principal Tour 12: 5/6 Science Webinar 13: PUPIL FREE Day 13: Parents & Friends Meeting 14: 3/4 Science Excursion 15: Science Week Community Learning Day 15: Feast of the Assumption</p>
<p>Week 5: 18th - 22nd August <i>Book Week</i></p>	<p>18: The Blurbs - performance 22: Book Week Parade</p>
<p>Week 6: 25th - 29th August</p>	<p>26 - 29: Dental Van visit</p>
<p>Week 7: 1st - 5th September <i>Teacher Aide Appreciation Week</i></p>	<p>4: Father's Day celebration - Footy Colours Day</p>

IMPORTANT DATES

Week 8: 8th - 12th September <i>Wellbeing Week</i>	9: Principal Tour 9/10: Learning Conversations 11: R U OK Day
Week 9: 15th - 19th September	19: End of Term 3 - 2.15pm dismissal



SCHOOL INFORMATION

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Pastoral Wellbeing:

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(please note this phone is not manned at all times and any urgent messages should be given via phone call)