

# Curriculum Notes



Term 1, 2022

## Upcoming Events

- Shrove Tuesday- 1st March
- Ash Wednesday- 2nd March
- Labour Day (Public Holiday) - Monday 14th March
- St. Joseph's Feast Day - 19th March
- Golden Hammer - Friday 1st April
- Last day of Term 1 - Friday 8th April  
Finish at 2:15pm



Welcome back to a wonderful 2022 school year. This is an 11 week Term and we have so much to learn, but we can do it. We hope you all had a fantastic holiday and enjoyed relaxing in the sunshine and enjoying time with your families. We look forward to a fun and busy Term together!



# Meet the teacher



**Mrs Schwab**

Email:

[cschwab@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cschwab@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au)

## MY FAVOURITES

Food-Roast

Drink- Banana Smoothie

Place- Beach

Book-The Book of Lost  
Threads

Colour-Emerald Green

Season- Summer

## ALL ABOUT ME

Hi, my name is Cheryl Schwab and I will be teaching 1/2 Platypus class this year. I have been a part of the St Joseph's community for many years, both as a teacher and as a parent. For those of you who do not know me, I grew up in Essendon before moving to Rochester in 2000 where I now live on a few acres just out of town with my husband Darrel, my daughter Madeline. I also have two daughters, Hannah who lives locally and Eliza who is living and studying in Perth. I have a dog, Koda, a cat Maisy and 5 chickens who are very friendly- often greeting me at my front door or following me around the garden.

We are a very close family and we spend most of our time with our extended family and dear friends from Melbourne holidaying and enjoying each other's company by going to the races, trying new restaurants, camping and jet skiing.

I began studying an Advanced Diploma of Teaching - Autism last year and will graduate in June. In my spare time I enjoy staying fit and healthy, reading and trying new recipes each week for others to enjoy.

I'm looking forward to working with, and watching your children grow in many different ways throughout the year.

Cheryl Schwab



# Meet the teacher



**MISS  
Snowdon**

## MY FAVOURITES

**Food:** Chocolate  
**Drink:** Orange Juice  
**Place:** Home  
**Book:** The Wife and the Widow  
**Colour:** Sage Green  
**Season:** Autumn

## ALL ABOUT ME

My name is Emily Snowdon and I will be teaching the 1/2 Bilbies Class this year.

This will be my second year teaching grade 1/2 at St. Joseph's.

I grew up in Wangaratta with my Mum, Dad and two younger sisters Abbey and Hayley.

We also have two family dogs named Molly and Maisy who we love dearly. I moved to Bendigo at the end of 2020 after finishing University and get back to Wangaratta when I can.

I enjoy reading watching series and spending time with friends and family.

I look forward to watching your children learn and grow throughout the year.

# Literacy



## Reading & Writing

This term we will focus on reading and writing to entertain by using fairy tales to introduce the narrative text type. We will identify the structure, characters and language features of a narrative. We will read and view picture books, traditional tales, short stories and children's novels and create stories of our own. We will provide the students with opportunities to read and respond to short narrative texts by presenting comprehension questions to help with understanding the meaning of a story. For example...

- Does this story remind you of anything in your life?
- Can you tell me any of the emotions the characters were feeling
- What will happen next?
- Can you retell the story in order

Handwriting - We will continue to focus on letter formation and composing our messages. Students will be explicitly taught how to write on dotted thirds.

## 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 grapheme (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 focusing on the common words. (ie Oxford words).

.The SMART acronym stands for

- Say
- Meaning
- Analyse
- Remember
- Teach

SMART Spelling is two things. 80% of the time it is the systematic teaching of one spelling pattern at a time. 20% of the time, it is teaching at the point of need from students' own writing. In short, we incorporate the meaning of words, syllables, sounds and letters and the most useful spelling rules. It does however prioritise the meaning (vocabulary), phonology (sounds) and orthography (letters and letter patterns)

## OXFORD Word focus

We will explore our common words both in our reading and writing and students have their individual word lists which they will practice each fortnight as a part of their spelling.



# Numeracy

## Counting:

Students will develop their skills in counting forwards and backwards from different starting points. We will continue to develop our understanding of skip counting by 2's, 5's and 10's from various starting points using concrete materials to support understanding.



## Place Value:

Students will continue to focus on recognising, ordering and modelling numbers. The students will use materials such as counters, bundling sticks, bead sticks and bead strings. We will also investigate and discuss patterns that we find in number sequences. We will focus on partitioning (breaking numbers apart) and using number lines as a tool to support our learning.



## Addition and Subtraction:

Our focus in the areas of addition and subtraction will be on developing (and extending) mental strategies such as partners of 10, partners of 20, doubles and near doubles. We will use materials, games, role play and stories to develop the concept of addition and subtraction. Students will investigate mathematical language eg addition - add, plus, and, total, more, sum, together, increase, altogether are all words that mean addition.





# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## **We Can Pray in Different Ways**

In this unit students will have the opportunity to explore their relationship with God and examine the nature of prayer and how they can creatively express this relationship. They will experience some traditional prayers and gain knowledge in how to develop their personal form of communication with God. They will experience prayer as a way of talking and listening to God by creating a class prayer and analyse some artwork that shows different places and ways we can pray. They will discover that prayer can take many forms, something that they can be involved in at any time and in any place. We will create a class prayer booklet and share this with a buddy class.



## **Jesus helps me to choose**

In this unit students will explore the Sacrament of Baptism. They will explore right/wrong choices through picture story books, scripture, Godly, visual art and drama. Student will also explore the following questions

- Who can help us?
- What is the difference between getting even and making up?
- How does it feel when we have been hurt?
- How does it feel when we are not forgiven?
- How does it feel when we are forgiven?



## **Lent and Easter**

This will be the second unit we will explore and the students will explore Lent as a particular time for thinking about the way we live along with identifying how we pray to prepare for Easter. The students will engage in Visual Literacy and Godly Play experiences to learn about this significant time in our Church.

# INQUIRY

## **Places and Spaces**

Our first Inquiry Unit for the Term is Places and Spaces. In this unit students will learn about the services in their community. They will consider sustainable practices as they design and construct model buildings for a precinct in their community. Students will learn about navigation as they consider the language of direction and location. Essential questions that will be investigated are:

- What services are in my community?
- How can I use a map to navigate my community?
- Who in my community can help me in an emergency?



# Junior Rotations

The Junior classes will complete Physical Education, Science and STEM rotations each week. Each class will rotate between Mrs Schwab, Ms Sortino and Ms Snowdon.

## HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION WITH MRS SCHWAB

We will begin our HPE sessions focussing on how and why we move our body and develop and awareness of moving with and without equipment and the impact on how our body reacts and feels.

We will play games, listen to instructions, work with partners and also spend time reflecting at the end of each session.

## SCIENCE WITH MISS SNOWDON

Students will begin to explore the element of chemical science. Throughout the term we will be exploring and comparing different materials with different colours, textures and flexibility. We will investigate how materials can be manipulated, changed and combined for different purposes through experiments.

## STEM WITH MISS SORTINO

Students will learn how to use the bee bot devices, identify their features and use learning tools with them. They will begin to explore how to follow multiple instructions, program and experiment with creating accurate algorithms. Students will reflect on what has worked well, what can be challenging and what they can change next time. They will consolidate their skills to identify and discuss the safety and care of the devices.

# Visual Art

WITH MRS CARMICHAEL

This term students at St Joseph's will be explore being "Mooved by Art". Can you guess what the theme will be? COWS.



Children will be exposed to artists who use cows as inspiration to complete their artworks such as Dutch artist Peter Diem.

Using a range of mediums and art elements children will come to understand and use artistic language such as line, texture, colour shape

Most pieces will be held to present at an art show (covid pending) later in the year.

# RRRR

WITH MRS KERLIN

My name is Susan Kerlin. This year I will be teaching the subject Resilience, Rights and Responsible Relationships (RRRR) as part of the Specialist rotation. The aim of this program is to develop each students' social, emotional and positive relationship skills. Social and emotional skills help students develop the resilience to deal with change, challenge and unpredictability. These skills are also the foundation of positive relationships. In Term One, we will be learning all about emotions. What are they? What do they look like? What does our body do when we feel them? What does our face do? What situations make us feel them? We will also be identifying our personal strengths and our challenges, and identifying skills they would like to develop. How can we cope with change? Do we persist? Can we adapt? During the first weeks of Term we will talking about Bucketfillers. We will discuss the types of things that bucket filling people do to help others such as sharing, letting others join in games, give a smile and helping others when they are hurt.





# Performing Art

WITH MRS OAKLEY

In Performing Arts this term we will be using our voice, facial expression, movement and space to imagine and establish different roles and situations, using a variety of stimuli such as music, art and stories. We will be exploring roles, characters and dramatic action in dramatic play, improvisation and process drama by taking part in small-group activities, individual creative movement and whole group experiences. dd a little bit of body text

## BluEarth with Jimmy

### **The joy and power of movement**

BluEarth takes an approach to active living that goes beyond traditional sport and education models.

Sessions are less about competition, and more about positive participation experiences that develop skills and motivation to embed lifelong healthy habits for students to play, jump, run and generally be more active.

BluEarth is honed through the expertise of a team of internationally recognised experts in human movement and sports sciences.

At St Joseph's we are very lucky to have Jimmy as our resident expert and lead us through sessions each fortnight (Friday) for 40 minutes



# Focus Students

Each day the focus students will be timetabled:  
- 1: 1 reading with a teacher

Have classroom responsibilities for the day..

- Pack and unpack prayer space
- Take the classroom box to the office
- Set and pack up learning tools
- Be the classroom helpers

# Information about St Joseph's

## **Principal:**

Mrs Elizabeth Trewick

[etrewick@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au](mailto:etrewick@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au)

## **Deputy Principal:**

Mrs Jessica Carmichael

[jcarmichael@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jcarmichael@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au)

## **Administration:**

**Office hours 8:30am - 4:00pm**

Mrs Maria Whitehead

[mariaw@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mariaw@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au)

Mrs Bree Cox - Finance Officer

[bcox@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bcox@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au)

## **Phone contact:**

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