

The students have settled in really well and we have spent the first couple of weeks getting to know each other.

We trust that together we can build a community of learning and growth as we journey through 2021.

We look forward to a great year.

Louise, Lucas, Julie and Lisa.

Visible Learning

St Martin de Porres has 6 Learning Powers. Learning powers are all about helping students learn **how to learn**. This involves knowing the mindsets and actions that are demonstrated by successful learners. Building and developing skills and habits of mind are as important as content to ensure students have dispositions that make them better prepared as lifelong learners.



REFLECTION

CREATIVITY

RESILIENCE

CURIOSITY

COLLABORATION

MOTIVATION

Tips for home learning:

- Encourage your child to talk about **how** and **what** they learnt in school each day. Which learning power did they use? How did they use it? What are they most proud of?
- Encourage your child to become an independent learner: dress themselves and take responsibility for their belongings-packing bag each day/putting on their own hat/jumper etc. (Please ensure all your child's belongings are labelled.)
- Engage with your child when they upload their work to Seesaw, Offer praise and feedback about their **improvement** and **growth** or willingness to have a go even when things are hard. Ask them what will be their next step in their learning.
- For more information on the definition of each disposition, refer to the learning and teaching tab on the SMDP school website.

Mathematics



We are learning about **place value**, and to recognise, represent and order numbers to at least hundreds of thousands and beyond

We are learning to solve **addition** and **subtraction** problems, using estimation and rounding and problem solving strategies

We are learning about **time** and how to compare 12 and 24 hour time systems and how to convert between them.

Tips for home learning:

- Relate place value to Money- how different coins can be renamed to make other amounts e.g. 10 x \$1 coins make 1 \$10 dollar bill etc.)
- Practice multiplication facts in random order.
- Bring Maths to real life as much as possible, mental computation- in the supermarket round prices to get an estimate

Inquiry

In Term 1 within Inquiry we are investigating, **'How can we be responsible citizens?'**

We will be exploring how to be a good school, digital and local citizen.

Tips for home learning:

- As a family make a list of the rules and responsibilities at home
- When going for a walk have a look for community rules, e.g zebra crossings and stop signs
- Discuss why it is important that we follow rules (e.g. they keep us and those around us safe)
- Discuss and encourage conversation on the use of being a safe digital citizen. What responsibilities do we have when we are online?

Reading

We are learning to become independent readers and sustain our reading focus for a period of time

Students are learning to understand texts using the comprehension strategies (reading powers) including summarising and asking questions.



Tips for home learning:

- Read every night using a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts
- Encourage understanding by using the following prompts:

General questions:

- Tell me about the characters
- Where is the book set?
- What are you still wondering?

Inferring:

- What is the message of the story? How can you use this message in your own life?

Summarising:

- Retell the story using the main ideas in the beginning, middle and end.

Writing

During Term One we will be focusing on persuasive writing, narrative writing and using the writers notebook to generate ideas.



Tips for home learning: (directly related to the Term focus)

- Give your child a topic eg. Dogs are better pets than cats and get him/her to list arguments for/against
- Write an alternative ending to a story they have read.
- Read a range of different books to build an understanding of how all writers have a different style
- Collect pictures or artefacts such as movie tickets, leaves that can be stuck into their school writers notebook to be used as a seed.

Religious Education

Students in grades 5 & 6 during Term 1 will be learning about **Prayer - 'How we are invited to pray in the Catholic tradition'**. In Term 1 students are extending their learning about Jesus and His relationship with his disciples through exploring the Scriptures. They will learn about (and may receive) the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist and research the significance of sacrament in their life.. Students will learn about the structure of the Church and engage in events of the liturgical calendar by suggesting ways they can participate and take action personally and as a member of the church community.

Tips for home learning:

- Discuss with your child how the holy Sacraments are a part of being a person of Catholic faith.
- Discuss how prayer looks and feels within your own home and family.
- Discuss liturgical celebrations that are coming up such as Lent and Easter, and what this means to you.



Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

In Grade 5/6 the students are engaging in **Respectful Relationships**.

Respectful Relationships promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours. It teaches our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.

In Term 1 we are focusing on Emotional literacy. We are learning to describe different ways to express emotions and the relationship between emotions and behaviour We are learning to demonstrate their understanding of emotions through a focus on the way in which they are embodied.

Tips for home learning:

- Encourage respectful communication that is reciprocal
- Discuss with your child how they are feeling and strategies to deal with positive, negative and mixed emotions
- Discuss body language and how we can use this to read people emotions



Specialists

Art

Year 5

We are learning about the elements of art whilst learning to paint. This will involve expanding our knowledge of colour theory and mixing paints to create a range of tints and tones. It will also involve working with a range of paint types, brushes and applicators to create texture or the illusion of texture in our artworks.

Tips for Home Learning:

- *Ask your child to list and describe the elements of art. Encourage them to identify any of the elements that are visible in artworks they may encounter in their home environment.*

Year 6

We are learning to create an artwork in response to a given theme. We will be designing and creating an artwork on canvas, to enter the Hobsons Bay Art Prize for 2021. The theme is Freedom.

We are learning printing and dyeing techniques. This will involve creating an artwork using tie-dye techniques.

Tips for Home Learning:

- *Encourage your child to share their ideas for their artwork with you. Discuss with them what the idea of freedom means, and what words and images come to mind when you think about freedom.*



Physical Education

Year 5

We are learning to explore more complex movement patterns and using combinations of fundamental movement skills. We are developing a more skill-specific and game-sense mindframe around individual Sports. We will be focussing on developing sport specific skills and thinking in Basketball, Cricket, Hockey and Tennis. This will be done through open discussions about tactics, explicit skill practise and exploration during game-play. We are developing our skills in applying rules fairly, problem-solving during activities and our communication within a team.

Tips for home learning:

- *Understanding game strategy - do you play for a team or watch a sport on TV - try and work out if/what their strategy is? Is it working? Would you change it?*
- *Cross Country Trials will be held this Term - Start training :)*

Year 6

We are learning to develop inquiry thinking in sports and games. We are refining our learnt complex fundamental movement skills and applying them into high pressure (quick response) situations. This will be done through modified sports; Teeball, Cricket, Volleyball, AFL. We will develop our sport-specific skills and apply team based solutions during game-play. We are developing our tactical thinking, problem solving, sportsmanship and ability to be inclusive and supportive to all during game play.

Tips for home learning:

- *Can you practise these complex skills at home:*
 - *Tee Ball - Sidearm strike*
 - *AFL - Punt Kick*
 - *Cricket - Bowl*
 - *Volleyball - Dig*
- *Cross Country Trials will be held this Term - Start training!*

Music

During Term One the students will be beginning African Drumming. They will develop an understanding of the significance of drumming and the rudimentary concepts involved. They will identify different speeds of pulse (tempo) by clapping and moving and playing drums. Students will also learn to improvise rhythm patterns and perform an independent part keeping to a steady beat.

Tips for home learning:

- *Using a few buckets for drums, set up an area where your child can have fun listening to music and exploring different rhythms that go in time with the music.*

Reminders

Important Term 1 Dates:

8th March: LABOUR DAY - Public Holiday

10th-12th March: GR. 5 Swim Program

17th-19th March: GR. 5 Swim Program

22nd-24th March: GR 5/6 Camp, Don Bosco Safety Beach

25th & 26th March : GR. 5 Swim Program

31st March: Gr. 5 Swim Program

1st April:: Last Day of Term 1 - Finish @ 1:00pm

Specialist Day

The students will be required to wear their sports uniform every Thursday for their specialist day.

Year 5 students wear their sports uniform for the 9 days of the Swim program.

Student Birthdays

Students **cannot bring in food/cakes/lolly** bags to celebrate their birthdays. This is due to the safety of students with life threatening allergies. We also discourage them from bringing gifts to share with their class

Library

Students will be able to **borrow and return books every week on a Friday**. They are encouraged to borrow one-three books. Students can only reborrow books when the others have been returned. Please remind your children to return their book on their library day.

Water Bottles

Staying hydrated has a major effect on energy levels and healthy brain function. It prevents headaches and has overall health benefits. **Every student is strongly encouraged to bring a water bottle to school** and to label it.

SunSmart

All students are required to wear a St Martin de Porres hat from September 1st to April 30th each year when the UV index is above 3 for all outdoor play and learning.