



Year 2 Newsletter

Term One, 2024

Welcome back to St James. We are looking forward to a fun-filled year in which each child can enjoy new friendships and learn in a safe environment.

Some Important Dates

- Friday 16th February 2:30pm- Year 2 Prayer Service
- Tuesday 20th February- St Johns First Aid incursion (Wellbeing Inquiry link)
- Friday 8th March- School Closure Day

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2A	AUSLAN		P.E Performing. Arts STEM	Library
2S		Library	P.E STEM AUSLAN Performing. Arts	

Religion

Our Religion unit this term focuses on

- Wellbeing
- Forgiveness and Compassion
- Lent
- Holy Week and Easter



Students will learn formal and informal forms of prayer and will reflect on what we can learn from a variety of gospel stories, including the Good Samaritan. They will learn about Catholic Social Teaching and what it means for us in a catholic school.

Students will come to understand the meaning of Lent and explore the events occurring on the days leading up to Easter. They will also create their own Lenten promises.

This will be linked to our Integrated Inquiry unit (see below) on 'How can we be the best me?'

Literacy

Literacy during Term One will focus on:

- Phonics
- Syllables
- Decoding Strategies
- Writing Recount texts
- Writing Procedural texts

Moving forward, students will also be guided to develop their Literacy skills by:

- Checking that the letters and letter patterns match what they are reading
- Putting the events in the text in order
- Retelling the main parts of a story
- Using strategies e.g. 'chunky monkey' and 'stretchy snake'; if they are stuck on a word.

We will also be revising individual letter sounds, exploring consonant clusters (e.g. when two consonants blend together, such as *br*, *sl*, *gr*), and digraphs (e.g. when two letters go together to make one sound, such as *ay* and *ph*). Students are also learning how to follow a structure and add detail when writing a recount, and we will then focus on procedural writing. There will be a continued focus on spelling and handwriting, including correct pencil grip, starting points, and letter formation.



Maths

The learning foci will include:

Number and Place Value:

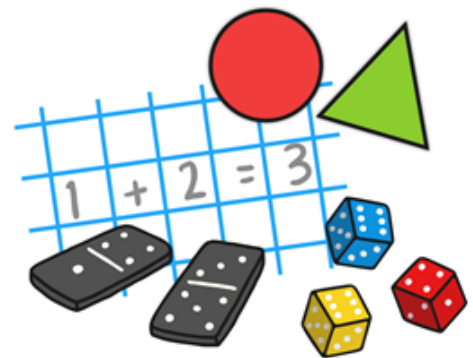
- How the Base ten place value system works
- Counting forward and backwards
- Skip counting by 2's, 5's and 10's
- Modelling, ordering and representing numbers
- A large focus on using concrete materials as a strategy to solve mathematical problems

Time:

- Calendars
- Ordering Months and Seasons

Chance and Data:

- Games and activities that involve chance
- Building vocabulary- 'likely' or 'unlikely', 'certain' or 'impossible'



Inquiry Based Learning

Our Integrated Inquiry topic this term asks the big question, 'How can I be the best me?'

Students will learn about wellbeing, with a focus on nutrition, safety, exercise and staying mentally healthy. During the term, the students will rotate through activities with the Grade 1 and 2 teachers and will eventually produce an advertisement to promote health and wellbeing.

An Incursion about health and safety will be a feature of this unit.

Some reminders:

All of 2S Specialist lessons will be on Thursdays this semester, 2A will have AUSLAN on Tuesdays, and the remainder on Thursday, so ALL the children will need to wear their Sports uniform on Thursdays. Mrs Broderick will be teaching in 2S every Wednesday, while Katie helps the teaching staff with Learning and Teaching throughout the school.

Library borrowing time for 2S will be on Wednesdays. Library borrowing time for 2A will be on Fridays. The children will need to remember their Library books and bags each week so that they can borrow more books.

Reading logs will be checked every Friday morning to ensure your child is reading at least four times a week for 15 minutes. Parents will need to remind the children to write the names of the books or page numbers read into their reading logs and sign it on a Thursday night/ Friday morning.

Children can bring in their own earbuds or over the ear headphones. We also have a class set of over the ear headphones for anyone who would like to use them.

Feel free to contact us at any time through our email addresses. We are looking forward to working together with you to help your child learn and grow.

katie.schroder@sjvermont.catholic.edu.au

nicole.addison@sjvermont.catholic.edu.au

bernadette.broderick@sjvermont.catholic.edu.au

Katie Schroder, Nicole Addison and Bernadette Broderick