

Year 4 Term 1 2024 Curriculum Letter

SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC SCHOOL KEW



Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new and exciting year in Year 4. The children are making a very successful transition into their new grade. We welcome Brian and Huake, and their families to our wonderful school community.

Congratulations to our class leaders for Semester 1, 2024
Class Captains: Grace Nesbitt and Hugo Burgess
Environmental Monitors: Anne Edwards and Leo Duffy

Religious Education

The RE topics for Term 1 are 'Meeting God Through Prayer' and 'Alleluia – He is Risen'. In the first unit, the students will explore how prayer is part of people's lives and will examine and experience a variety of ways to communicate with God through prayer. In the second unit, the children develop their understanding of the seasons of Lent and Easter.

Sacramental News: First Eucharist

Students in Year 4 are traditionally eligible to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist in Term 3. This usually follows the reception of First Reconciliation in Year 3.

Our new Parish Priest, Father Trevor has indicated that all baptised students of Sacred Heart School, should feel most welcome to participate in this important Sacrament. In addition, this year the registration and preparation of students for the Sacrament of First Eucharist will, in the first instance, be overseen by the school.

Father Trevor has also indicated that any baptised students who may **not** have received the sacrament of First Reconciliation are most welcome to apply for First Eucharist so that we can organise for the Sacrament of Reconciliation to be conferred before Term 3.

Later in the year, all students will undertake learning at school about Eucharist through the Religious Education Curriculum which will support their understanding and preparation for this sacrament.

More information about dates and registration details will be distributed shortly through the school.

Please see James Millane if you need any further information.

English

A deeper understanding of comprehension of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, will be a focus throughout the year. The students will continue to focus on how to use a variety of strategies when reading and viewing different text types including websites, magazines and books. They will explore vocabulary related to the Inquiry unit.

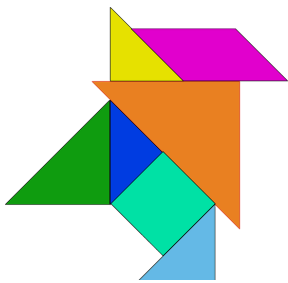
In addition, SMART Spelling will continue to be used to support the English Curriculum.

In Writing, the students will write information text pieces relating to our Health Unit with a focus on staying healthy, safe and sound. There will be an emphasis on including information features such as tables, diagrams and blurbs.

The students will be given opportunities to address an audience as they present recorded or collated information.

Handwriting

Handwriting continues to be a focus in Year 4. We will be concentrating on posture, pencil grip, letter formation, joining of letters and legibility. We ask for your assistance in supporting your child to present all homework activities neatly and to a high standard.

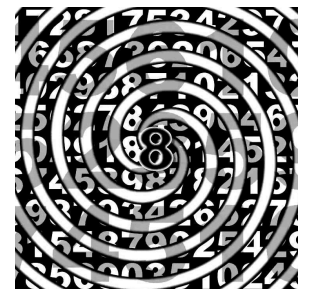


Maths

It is important your child develops automatic recall of times tables and basic number facts to 10, extended to 100, in Year 4. Tables knowledge and the properties of numbers form the basis of a student's ability to understand operations and complete them successfully.

Number and Algebra

- investigate and use the properties of odd and even numbers
- recognise, represent and order numbers to at least tens of thousands
- investigate number sequences involving multiples of 2, 4, 8, 3 and 6
- recall multiplication facts and related division facts of targeted times tables based on the term pre-test (all students will be working towards individual goals)



Measurement and Geometry

- measure and compare length using scaled instruments
- investigate the concept of area
- use am and pm notation and units of time

Essential Assessment On-Line

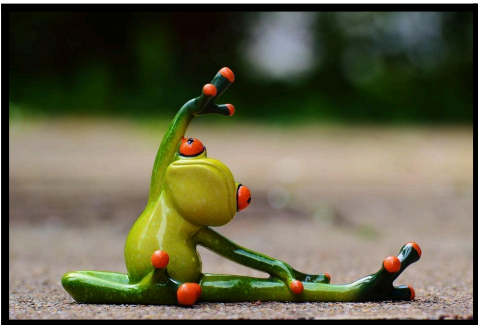
Essential Assessment is a Victorian Curriculum Numeracy and Literacy assessment model that delivers a whole school approach to summative and formative assessment. Students will be assigned individual assessment tasks and activities throughout the year that aim to support their mathematical knowledge and key understandings of concepts taught. Literacy and Reading activities are also accessed for teachers and students to work through systematically. **This platform is for school use only and is not accessible for home use.**

EssentialAssessment™
Assessment and Curriculum made easy

Wellbeing

Year 4 students will be focussing on units from Respectful Relationships as part of our Inquiry unit - 'Healthy, Safe and Sound,' with a particular emphasis on emotional literacy. Activities will assist students to:

- Describe the influence that people, situations and events have on their emotions
- Investigate how emotional responses vary in depth and strength
- Understand how to interact positively with others in different situations
- Examine how success, challenge and failure strengthen personal identities.



Inquiry – 'Healthy, Safe and Sound'

During Term 1, we will be drawing on the curriculum areas of Health and Physical Education, Digital Technologies and the Personal and Social Capabilities to investigate issues of wellbeing, safety and health. We will explore how words and actions can be interpreted differently by different people and some strategies people use to enhance their health, safety and wellbeing.

Digital Technologies

iPads will be used across curriculum areas in Year 4 as part of the Digital Technologies Curriculum. During Term 1, we will set up our Year 4 Google Classroom, which is where students will access some daily class work and their homework online.

We will revise the iPad Responsible Use Agreement as part of a Cybersafety focus. Students will also undertake the eSmart Digital Licence+ Program, introducing them to the knowledge and skills they will need to approach the challenges of the digital world. This Program, which is accessed through the Alannah and Madeline Foundation, develops the students' digital intelligence, enabling them to use technology in a safe, balanced and healthy way through active self-regulation and self-awareness, and encourages them to communicate and collaborate online with respect, kindness and empathy.

Seesaw

We will continue using Seesaw this year. Please set notifications to 'on' so that you are alerted when your child uploads new learning they would like you to see, comment on and like.

Subject Teacher Timetable

The Timetable for Subject Teachers is as follows for Term 1:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Physical Education Visual Art <i>Library</i> 4JM odd weeks	Performing Arts Mandarin	Class Sport

Students are to wear their sports uniform on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Library

Once the Library re-opens for the year, students will have the opportunity to borrow books on a Wednesday afternoon. Please note that students are able to return library books on any day.



Homework

It is very important that children read every night from a text they select, ideally with a page to be read **aloud and discussed with an adult**. These can be books from home or books from the Library.

For Term 1, weekly Homework will consist of Reading (15 minutes, four nights a week), Spelling (Spelling Grid and one activity) and Number Facts (focus times table, 5 minutes, four nights a week). In addition students will generally be asked to complete one other Maths/Religion/Inquiry/English task per week. Homework will be issued on a Monday (beginning Friday February 11) to be returned **signed by a parent** on the following Friday.

We do not expect students to need to complete homework over the weekend.

Remember that Homework is not meant to be a challenge or a chore but a revision of work already covered in class with the main focus being the development of organisational skills. Please contact your child's teacher if there are any issues with Homework.

As mentioned above, when the Year 4 Google Classroom has been set up for the year, this is where students will access their homework.

Diaries

Diaries are used as a source of communication between parents and the classroom teacher and are also a record of what is scheduled for the week.

Please sign your child's diary on a Monday night to stay informed. Diaries are required to be at school **every day**.

Please remember: If your child is absent for any reason, make sure you inform the school before the school day commences by phoning the office and having the absence recorded or sending an email to admin@shkew.catholic.edu.au

If you have any need to contact us throughout the term we would love to hear from you via the usual methods, a note in the diary, a phone call to the office that we will return as soon as possible or an email to admin@shkew.catholic.edu.au that Caroline Reid will forward and again we will respond as soon as possible.

We are looking forward to a wonderful term of learning and fun,

James and Matt

OTHER INFORMATION

Sacred Heart is a Child Safe School

Catholic schools have responded positively and proactively to the new child safe standards, strengthening policies and strategies for the ongoing wellbeing and safety of every child in our schools.

- The Victorian Child Safe Standards were introduced into law in late 2015.
- The Minister for Education, the Hon. James Merlino MP, issued Ministerial Order No 870, which came into effect for schools from 1 August 2016 as a registration requirement.
- On 15 November 2016, further legislation was passed in Victoria providing the Commission for Children and Young People, powers to oversee and enforce compliance with the child safe standards by relevant organisations.
- The Children Legislation Amendment (Reportable Conduct) Act 2017 (Vic.), was passed by the Victorian parliament, preparing the way for the introduction of a Victorian Reportable Conduct Scheme (Scheme).

At Sacred Heart we require all volunteers to have as a minimum a **current** Working with Children Check, however a **current** Police Check will be necessary for those wishing to attend excursions or to transport children in private vehicles for school events throughout the year. Please check your documents for expiry dates.

The school will need to hold signed copies of the following forms.

- **2024 Volunteer Application Form and other relevant information**
- **2024 Sacred Heart Kew Child Safety Code of Conduct**

If you are new to our school community or did not submit the above forms to the school in 2022 you can access the necessary documentation required to volunteer at Sacred Heart in 2023 via the Skoolbag App.

To protect the privacy of our students, and at the request of parents, please note that any videos/photos that you take of your child (which include images of other children and/or identify our school) cannot be uploaded on to any social media without written permission.

Student Attendance

In 2017 the Victorian Minister for Education reviewed the student attendance guidelines. As a result ... 'schools must advise parents/guardians of unexplained absences, on the same day, as soon as practicable, including for post-compulsory aged students'.

After the attendance rolls are taken in the classrooms, teachers will alert the office of absent children. If we have not heard from you by 9.30am via phone or the Skoolbag App you will be contacted by the school.

Anaphylaxis and Allergies

Sacred Heart is a 'Nut Aware' school. We would appreciate your cooperation in refraining from sending food, snacks or treats (made or packaged) that contain nuts (e.g. peanuts, cashews, peanut butter and Nutella) to school or any school gathering.

Birthday Treats

Should your child be celebrating a birthday and wish to hand out treats please send in a commercially wrapped treat to share with the class. For safety purposes no lollipops. Please also let the teacher know in case they need to cater for a child with an allergy. Also make sure there is an extra treat packed for the teacher as well. We appreciate your ongoing support with this.

Communication

Our Newsletter will be sent home on a fortnightly basis. Communication to families can be found in a number of places –

- School Newsletter
- Audiri App
- Operoo
- Sacred Heart website
- Parents Association Reps WhatsApp groups

Please support us in our endeavors this year to reduce, reuse, repurpose.