



St James

Catholic Primary School, Brighton

Year 5/6 Newsletter

Term 1, 2023

We would like to congratulate all the 5/6 students on a wonderful start to 2023. We have enjoyed settling into the new school year and being the seniors of St James. We look forward to an exciting term of learning together.

The students totally enjoyed their Camp experience during week four and reflected on how comfortable Year Five and Year Six students are as a result of this time away together. Reflections and photos illustrate the activities over the three days and two nights.

Below is an overview of the learning for Term 1.

ENGLISH

Reading and Viewing

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Understand how authors often innovate on text structures and play with language features to achieve particular aesthetic, humorous and persuasive purposes and effects.
- Understand how to use banks of known words, spelling patterns and strategies, word origins, base words, prefixes and suffixes, to spell new words through our SMART Spelling program.
- Recognise that ideas in literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints, which can lead to different kinds of interpretations and responses
- Analyse strategies authors use to influence and engage readers such as genre, characterisation, theme, imagery and descriptive language.

Writing

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Create narrative and biographical texts that experiment with structures, ideas and complex vocabulary.
- Using explored texts to inspire the planning, drafting, editing and publishing of narratives and biographical pieces.
- Explore grammatical features of written pieces to enhance their writing
- Develop a handwriting style that is becoming legible, fluent and automatic

Speaking and Listening

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Make connections between own experiences and those of characters and events represented in texts drawn from different historical, social and cultural contexts
- Understand how to move beyond making bare assertions and take account of differing perspectives and points of view

MATHEMATICS

Number and Algebra

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Recognise, represent and order numbers to at least hundreds of thousands
- Use estimation and rounding to check the reasonableness of answers to calculations
- Identify and describe factors and multiples of whole numbers and use them to solve problems
- Identify and describe properties of prime, composite, square and triangular numbers

Measurement and Geometry

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Compare 12- and 24-hour time systems and convert between them
- Interpret and use timetables
- Measure, calculate and compare elapsed time

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Through the Religious through line "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20) students will have the opportunity to;

- explain the Church's understanding of human dignity connected to our Inquiry unit
- interpret Church teaching on human dignity in relation to spiritual, social, ecological and physical well-being
- reflect on ways to build just and compassionate relationships
- explain the ways imagery, plot, setting and author's purpose contribute to the meaning of Lent and Easter through scripture stories
- interpret scripture texts using a variety of strategies and resources
- reflect on insights gained from scripture and identify ways to apply them to personal and communal experiences through Sacrament of Reconciliation

INQUIRY BASED LEARNING

History

Within this term we will have a focus on History, where students are able to:

- identify and describe change and continuity and explain the causes and effects of change on society
- compare the different experiences and perspectives of people in the past and explain the significance of an individual and group
- sequence events and people (their lifetime) in chronological order, and represent time by creating timelines
- describe the historical context of these sources to describe perspectives of people from the past and recognise different points of view.

Civics and Citizenship

During Civics and Citizenship students will have the opportunity to:

- identify the values that underpin Australia's democracy and explain the importance of the electoral process
- describe the purpose of key institutions and levels of government in Australia's democracy
- explain the role of different people in Australia's legal system and the role of parliaments in creating law

- identify various ways people can participate effectively in groups to achieve shared goals
- explain what it means to be an Australian citizen and how people can participate as global citizens.

Wellbeing

During this term's Wellbeing sessions students will be provided the opportunity to:

- discover different ways to express emotions and the relationship between emotions and behavior
- describe the influence that personal qualities and strengths have on achieving success
- identify and describe personal attributes important in developing resilience
- recognise and appreciate the uniqueness of all people
- explain how individual, social and cultural differences may increase vulnerability to stereotypes
- identify characteristics of respectful relationships
- contribute to groups and teams suggesting improvements for methods used in group projects and investigations
- identify causes and effects of conflict and explain different strategies to defuse or resolve conflict situations

HOME LEARNING

Formal home learning will be sent home via Google Classroom on a weekly basis starting Monday 15th March. Students will have activities in the areas of Reading, Spelling/Grammar, Mathematics, Inquiry and Religious Education. Home learning will reflect the learning that is occurring in the classroom and is an opportunity for students to gain the skills of time management and organisation.

Currently students are required to read for at least 20 minutes each week night. This needs to be recorded in their student diaries and signed by an adult. It is also expected that they practise their SMART spelling words each night in preparation for their spelling test on Fridays. Commencing this Monday, students will have assigned Mathematics tasks to complete as well.

BODYWORKS

Again this year the students in 5/6 will be participating in Body Works with Amanda during class time. Year 5 will have three, 1 hour sessions and Year 6 will have four, 1 hour sessions. We are currently in the process of finalising dates and will share this information with you shortly. These sessions have been very informative and the students have been mature in their approach to these lessons.

DAILY TIMETABLE

This year at St James during semester one we are trialing changes to our "recess" and "lunch times". Although our parents at home may not have noticed any difference, our staff and students have had a couple of slight changes to their daily routine. The day still begins and ends at exactly the same time however, we have increased our literacy time block in the mornings as well as shifted eating times for our students, playtime at 2nd lunch is now 40minutes.

Previously students had a fruit snack at 10am and then recess at 10.50am. However, this decreased the amount of time dedicated to literacy and students were rushing out the door to play even if they had not eaten enough food. After recess students would typically come in still hungry and may need more time to eat. Therefore in order to not only increase the literacy time block but to also assist with ensuring our students are fuelled with the energy they need through eating we have moved the eating times.

Students will now have "1st lunch" at 11.30-11.40am. At this time it is expected that students will eat their main lunch having already eaten their fruit snack at 10am. "2nd Lunch" will now be from 1.40-1.50pm before the students go out to play in the afternoon. This will typically be when they eat snack foods. We would also like to encourage our families to bring to school "nude food". Nude Food reduces single use plastic, foil containers or wrapping. Using reusable containers is a great sustainable practice but also encourages healthier eating options.

At St James we use the STAR tracker to track incidents on the playground. The data gathered from this tracker over the past few years has enabled us to see trends in the incidents on the yard, typically when they occur and what has happened. Through the analysis of this data we have noted that in the last 10 minutes of 2nd lunch there was a notable number of incidents occurring, including social conflicts, injuries and inappropriate play. In order to ensure our students have maintained positive play and have positive social interactions, the second lunch will be 40 minutes.

We will continue to trial this format until the end of semester one, when we will review the new routine with staff and student voice.

SPECIALIST TIMETABLE 2023

Week A

Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
PE - Mrs Georgia McNamara Italian - Miss Marinelli	Performing Arts - Mr Niarros (Year 6) Library - Mrs Joplin	Art - Mrs Egan

Library - If children would like to borrow they MUST bring a library bag this week. They are welcome to swap their books in the alternate week but this will not be supported with Mrs Joplin.

Week B

Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
PE - Mrs McNamara Italian - Miss Marinelli	Italian - Miss Marinelli Performing Arts - Mr Niarros (Year 5)	Art with Mrs Egan

Social Media - Please follow, like and share our school Facebook, Twitter and Instagram Feeds.



School Website: www.stjamesbrighton.catholic.edu.au

Twitter: [St James Catholic Primary School, 3186](https://twitter.com/stjamesbrighton3186)

Instagram: [stjamesbrighton3186](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesbrighton3186)

Facebook: [@stjamesbrighton3186](https://www.facebook.com/stjamesbrighton3186)

Please visit the Victorian Curriculum website for further information about what your child will be learning at this level.

<https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

Thank you for your ongoing support,

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