

YEAR 1



NEWSLETTER

Welcome to Term 1!

After a restful and relaxing Christmas holiday, the children and teachers have come back refreshed and enthusiastic for the start of Year 1. We have a number of exciting things happening this year and we look forward to guiding your children throughout the year. As the Community Centre is currently being used by the Prep students, Level Masses will not be running for the foreseeable future. This term, the students will need to wear their hats each day.

The Year 1 Team - Daniel Egan, Anne Hayes and Charlotte Allan
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Upcoming dates:

- 29/30th January - Testing days
- 31st January - School Begins
- 10th February - School Photos
- 12th February - Parent Information Evening
- 23rd February - Founder's Day Mass (9:45 - 10:45am)
- 4th March - Shrove Tuesday
- 5th March - Ash Wednesday Mass (12pm)
- 7th March - School Closure Day
- 10th March - Labour Day
- 21st March - Harmony Day & Cinema Night (Time TBC)
- 3rd April - Last day of Term 1 for students
- 3rd April - Learning Conferences (3:30 - 5:30pm)
- 4th April - Learning Conferences (8:30 - 12pm)

Term 1 Timetable

M: • Assembly (9am)

T: • Auslan (1A)
• STEM (1E)

W: • STEM (1A)

T: • Physical Education
• Performing Arts
• Auslan (1E)

F: • Library,
Buddies

Literacy

- This term in Literacy, we are excited to explore a variety of essential skills in both Reading and Writing. During Reading, students will focus on understanding syllables, recognising letters and vowels and making personal connections to the texts we read together. We'll also work on developing predictions, reading CVC words, blending and stretching sounds, self-correcting while reading, chunking text into manageable parts, identifying rhymes and practising the important strategy of backing up and re-reading. In Writing, our focus will be on list writing, recounts, poetry, and spelling. The students will be building their confidence and understanding in these areas, with plenty of opportunities to practise and share their work with peers.

How Parents Can Help at Home:

- Practise breaking down words into syllables and sounding them out together.
- Encourage your child to make predictions when reading stories at home.
- Read and explore rhyming words through poems or songs.
- Support your child in creating simple lists or writing recounts about their day.
- Play word games that focus on identifying vowels, blending sounds, and spelling simple words.
- Read your take home reader daily.

Mathematics

This term, in Year 1 Mathematics, we will be focusing on building a strong foundation in key areas such as data, counting, place value, addition and subtraction. Students will be introduced to gathering and interpreting simple data, developing their counting skills and exploring how numbers can be broken down and represented in different ways. We will dive into place value to help students understand the importance of tens and ones and we will begin to develop strategies for simple addition and subtraction problems. These topics, aligned with the new Victorian Curriculum 2.0, will support students' confidence in using numbers in everyday situations.

How Parents Can Assist at Home:

- Encourage your child to count everyday objects (e.g. toys, fruits) to practise their counting skills.
- Play simple addition and subtraction games using household items.
- Help your child create and interpret simple graphs or charts from everyday events, like counting how many cars drive past your house.
- Practise recognising and writing numbers up to 100.
- Use everyday opportunities (e.g. cooking) to discuss quantities and measurements.

Humanities

During Inquiry sessions this term, the Year 1 and 2 students will be exploring a history unit focusing on their own personal histories. The big question we will be focusing on is:
'What's our story?'

The students will commence their exploration of this topic by identifying significant personal events and milestones in their own lives. These will be sequenced in chronological order to create a timeline of important events.

Family connections and relationships will be investigated through the construction of a simple family tree. The students will also gain experience in formulating questions which will be used to interview a family member to learn more about their family's personal stories, culture, history and origins.

This unit of work will involve the students completing some home learning tasks!

Religion

In Year 1 and 2, the students will explore the concept of discipleship, focusing on how followers of God demonstrate love, compassion, and service in their daily lives. Students will explore biblical and modern examples of discipleship, with an emphasis on figures such as Mary, Mary MacKillop, St. Patrick and Carlos Acutis.

Through scripture, reflection and discussion, students will learn how these individuals lived out the teachings of Jesus by loving one another and working for the common good. The unit will help students identify the qualities of a disciple and how they can embody these in their own lives.

During Lent and Holy Week, Year One and Year Two students will explore key events in Jesus' journey leading to Easter. Beginning with Palm Sunday, they will reflect on Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane and Good Friday, using songs, symbols and activities.

SEL (Social Emotional Learning)

In Year 1 and 2, our focus on Social Emotional Learning explores two key topics: Emotional Literacy and Respect. Through various activities, students will learn to recognise and identify their own emotions, understand the situations that may trigger these feelings and compare their emotional responses with those of their peers. This helps them develop a greater awareness of their own emotional states and those of others. Additionally, we emphasize the importance of Respect, teaching children to accept and appreciate others for who they are, even when differences arise. These topics will support our students in building strong, positive relationships with themselves and those around them.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Students are encouraged to read for 15-20 mins a night and record this in their reading log

Students are reminded to bring a library bag on Fridays.

The Parent Helper Roster will come out soon