

# CURRICULUM NOTES

**ST JOSEPH'S ROCHESTER**  
**YEAR 3/4**



## WELCOME TO TERM 3

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope you all enjoyed a relaxing and fun-filled break, and that your children are feeling recharged and ready to jump into another busy and exciting term of learning.

There is plenty to look forward to this term, starting with Grandparents Day in our very first week back. In Week 2, our Year 4-6 girls will take to the field for their football day, followed by Book Week celebrations in Week 5. The Dental Van will be visiting in Week 6, and we'll finish off the term with our special Father's Day celebrations in Week 7.

As always, we encourage families to continue supporting regular home reading. This daily practice plays a vital role in building confidence and strengthening literacy skills across all areas of learning.

Please see pages 9 and 10, for key dates and don't forget to keep an eye on our school Facebook page for reminders and any last-minute updates.

Thank you for your ongoing support - we're looking forward to a fantastic Term 3 ahead!

Amy Eade and Lauren Sortino



# TERM 3 DRESS UP DAYS



**FRIDAY  
8 AUGUST**

## ***HAPPINESS HAPPENS DAY***

Children will wear school uniform and a splash of a **happy colour**.



**FRIDAY  
15 AUGUST**

## ***National day of action against bullying***

Children will wear school uniform and a splash of **purple**.



**FRIDAY  
22 AUGUST**

## ***Book Week Parade, 9.15am in the delany pavilion***

Dress as a Book Character.



**NEW!**

**THURSDAY  
4 SEPTEMBER**

## ***Fathers day & footy colours day***

Children are welcome to dress in their favourite team colours - any sport. Breakfast from 8.00am.



**THURSDAY  
11 SEPTEMBER**

## ***RU OK Day***

Children are welcome to dress in **yellow**.



**FRIDAY  
19 SEPTEMBER**

## ***GOTCHA WHOLE SCHOOL REWARD DAY***

Children are welcome to dress in CASUAL CLOTHES.



For more details and updates about these events, please  
follow us on social media  
[facebook.com/stjosephsrochester](https://facebook.com/stjosephsrochester)

# ENGLISH

## Iron Man – Text 1

Through a comprehensive study of *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes, students will explore the purpose, features, and structure of an information report. Students will expand their vocabulary through context-rich exercises and identify and construct different sentence types, employing conjunctions to combine sentences effectively. Students will describe characters and settings with detail, analyse literary devices, and summarise the main ideas by writing concise summary sentences. Additionally, they will plan and write an information report with a clear structure, including an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion, while utilising appropriate language features and conventions. The process will involve proofreading, revising, and editing their work to ensure clarity and accuracy.



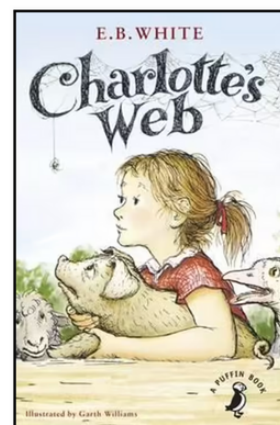
## Charlottes Webb – Text 2

Students will be diving into the much-loved novel *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White. Through reading and discussing this classic story, students will explore themes of friendship, loyalty, and the cycle of life in a way that is both age-appropriate and meaningful.

As part of this unit, students will build their reading comprehension skills by examining characters, setting, and key events in the story. They'll also learn to identify important messages in the text and express their own ideas through discussion and writing activities.

Throughout the unit, students will plan, draft, and complete their own narrative piece of writing. This process will help them develop important writing skills such as organising ideas, creating engaging characters and settings, and using clear sentence structure and vocabulary.

In addition to narrative writing, students will take part in creative tasks like writing from a character's perspective or imagining what might happen next in the story. This unit not only supports students' growth in reading and writing, but also encourages empathy, imagination, and a deeper appreciation for literature.



# MATHEMATICS

## Addition and Subtraction

Students will model addition and subtraction problems using bar diagrams, apply compensation strategies, and practice addition and subtraction algorithms without regrouping, all while exploring fact families.

## Multiplication and Division

Students will employ a variety of strategies to solve practical problems involving single-digit multiplication and division, demonstrating proficiency in recalling multiplication facts for twos, threes, fours, fives, and tens, and applying related division facts.

## Angles

Students will recognise angles as measures of rotation and use right angles as benchmarks to compare and classify other angles in everyday contexts.

## Time Telling

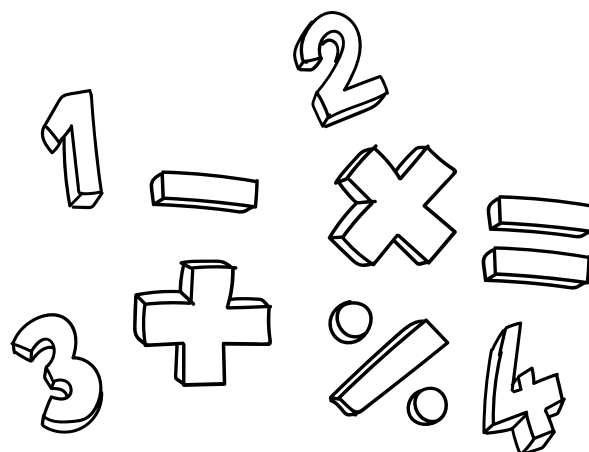
Students will develop proficiency in reading analog clocks by progressing from quarter-hour intervals to precise minute accuracy. They will build upon their foundational understanding of clock mechanics and time concepts, engaging with real clocks to practice and reinforce the relationships between hour and minute hands.

## Decimals

Students will apply their understanding of place value to represent tenths and hundredths in decimal form and explore the relationship between decimals and fractions.

## Mass and Capacity

Students will apply their understanding of familiar metric units—such as centimetres, metres, grams, kilograms, millilitres, and litres—to estimate, compare, and measure the length, mass, and capacity of various objects and events.





# RELIGION

## Jesus' Parables

This term, students will be learning about parables—special stories that Jesus told to teach important lessons. They'll explore how parables are written and what they mean, focusing closely on one in particular: The Parable of the Sower.

Students will talk about what this parable means and how its message can relate to their own lives. They'll also learn more about the Bible, including how it's made up of the Old Testament and the New Testament.

As part of this unit, students will discover how the Gospels help us learn about Jesus' life, and how Jesus often used stories like parables to share his teachings in meaningful and memorable ways.

## For Creation, Praise

In this unit, students will explore how we can come to know and feel close to God through the beauty and wonder of the natural world. They will learn that creation is a gift from God and that we all have a responsibility to care for and protect it.

Students will reflect on the first creation story from the Book of Genesis and discuss how God's love is shown not only through nature, but also through the kindness and compassion of others.

They will also learn about how Indigenous Australians share their own stories of creation through Dreaming stories, deepening their appreciation for different ways of understanding the world around us. Through this learning, students will grow in their awareness of the importance of looking after the Earth as part of their faith and values.

# INQUIRY

## Forces and Functions

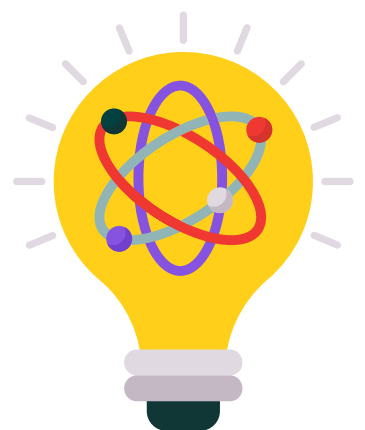
This term in our Inquiry unit, Forces and Functions, students will be exploring the exciting worlds of science and technology through hands-on activities and creative problem-solving.

They'll learn how forces—like pushes and pulls—affect how things move by designing and building their very own balloon-powered cars. Alongside this, they'll be introduced to basic computer programming using Scratch, where they'll create simple digital projects and share feedback with their classmates.

Students will also take part in fun experiments to investigate how different forces work in everyday life—whether it's riding a bike to school or playing on the playground. As they explore, they'll build their understanding of how science and technology are all around us.

Through these activities, students will be developing important skills in science, engineering, and coding. Some students may even choose to extend their learning by joining or starting interest-based clubs to share and grow their ideas with others.

It's going to be a fun and engaging term full of discovery and creativity!



## AUSLAN *with Tim*



This term in Auslan, students will continue building their vocabulary and fluency. They will explore topics such as families, emotions, and everyday routines while developing their ability to describe actions, ask and answer questions, and hold short conversations in Auslan. Through games, role-plays, and signed stories, students will also deepen their understanding of Deaf culture and respectful communication. We look forward to another exciting term of hands-on language learning!

We will also continue to be supported by Tim on Fridays as he introduces and consolidates topics of interest.

## TRP / RRRR

*with Miss McEvoy*

This term, TRP (The Resilience Project) and RRRRs (Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships) will be taught by Olivia McEvoy as part of the specialist subjects program. Grade 2 students will begin the term with a focus on First Nations culture in recognition of NAIDOC Week, followed by lessons on empathy, defining what empathy is, practise assuming the best in other people, and explore empathy in communities. Students will practise mindfulness through calm their brains, movement meditation, and find moments of mindfulness in nature. To finish the term, they'll explore what 'the present moment' means and how to practise gratitude in the present.

### Key Term 3 Focus Events:

- **National Week Against Bullying (August):** Reinforcing messages of kindness, inclusion, fairness, and speaking up.
- **R U OK? Day (September):** Learning to check in on others and recognising how to ask for or offer support.

## STEM

*with Mrs Fellows*

During term 3, students will be undertaking a specialist subject called STEM. This subject merges Science, Technologies, Engineering and Maths together to provide a rich learning experience that is aimed at deepening Science content through the principles of design thinking strategies.

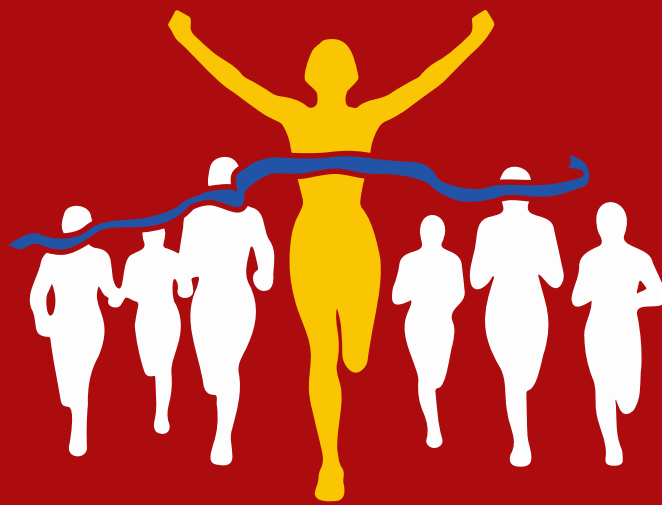
The students will recognise that minerals are the building blocks of rocks and that the different characteristics of rocks depend on the minerals within them. They will investigate rocks as key components of built and natural environments and recognise uses of minerals. Investigate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples' use of different rock and mineral types and how they were and continue to be used. Students will investigate which rocks or minerals are quarried or mined locally or regionally, and how those resources are used. They will examine different soils from local areas and use magnifying glasses to observe their living and non-living components. The students will be able to describe ways that living things, including humans, depend on soils for things such as food production, habitats, and for storing and filtering water. They will encounter activities that encourage them to design in innovative ways, using nature as their inspiration.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION *with Miss McEvoy*

This term in Physical Education, students in Grades 3 to 6 will focus on refining their athletics skills in preparation for the annual Athletics Carnival in Kyabram. Students will develop their technique and performance in a range of events, including the 100m, 200m, and 400m sprints, discus, shot put, hurdles, long jump, triple jump, and relay races.

In addition, students will take part in a 3-week lacrosse program, where they will learn and practise key skills such as cradling, passing, shooting, and game play using modified equipment suited to their level.

We look forward to a dynamic and engaging term of physical activity!



This term students will again participate in a weekly Kelly sports session. Content for the weekly sessions will include;

- Fundamental Movement skills in modified sports - Students will Focus on fundamental motor skills through sports like Tchoukball (modified basketball/netball), Newcombe ball (modified Volleyball), and AFL 9's (modified AFL). Emphasis on skill development over competition.
- Game Sense and Strategy - Students will develop tactical awareness through modified games like Ultimate Frisbee and Touch Rugby. The Focus will be on teamwork, communication, and decision-making.
- Inclusive games and Adapted sports - Students will explore inclusion and diversity through activities like seated volleyball and goalball. The Focus will be on empathy and adapting activities for all abilities.
- Reflection and Challenge week - In the final week of the term Students will participate in team trust activities and leadership games, setting goals for term 4 and reflecting on progress. The Grade 5 & 6 students lead short warm-ups or games for peers.

We are looking forward to another term of fun and activity.

# VISUAL ARTS

In Years 3 and 4, Visual Art is all about exploring how artists use shape, pattern, colour and nature to tell stories and express themselves. This term, we are taking inspiration from the work of Keith Haring, Yayoi Kusama, Henri Rousseau, and Georgia O’Keeffe, each known for their bold, imaginative styles and unique ways of seeing the world.

Keith Haring’s playful, moving figures are helping students learn how to show action and emotion in their drawings.

Yayoi Kusama’s use of repeated dots and patterns is inspiring colourful, creative designs. Our jungle artwork will be based on Henri Rousseau’s Tiger in the Jungle, where students will create their own lush landscapes filled with animals, leaves and layers of texture. We’ll also look at Georgia O’Keeffe’s cow skull paintings, encouraging students to observe natural objects closely and explore how simple shapes can be used to create strong, striking images.

Students will have the chance to experiment, take creative risks, and build their skills across drawing, painting and collage. It’s a vibrant, hands-on term filled with curiosity, colour and creativity.





# IMPORTANT DATES

<p>Week 1: 21st - 25th July</p>	<p>21: Term 3 begins 25: Grandparents Day</p>
<p>Week 2: 28th July - 1st August</p>	<p>28: Pet Responsibility and Safety 29: 100 Days of School for Foundation Students 30: Girls Football (Grade 4/5/6 girls) 30: Shoelace Incursion (Grade F/1/2) 31: Inform &amp; Empower parent session @ 7.00pm</p>
<p>Week 3: 4th - 8th August</p>	<p>8: Science Week Community Learning Day</p>
<p>Week 4: 11th - 15th August <i>National Week of Action Against Bullying Science Week</i></p>	<p>11: F/1/2 Science Excursion 11: School Advisory Council meeting 12: Principal Tour 12: 5/6 Science Webinar 13: PUPIL FREE Day 13: Parents &amp; Friends Meeting 14: 3/4 Science Excursion 15: 3- 6 Waranga Athletics 15: Feast of the Assumption</p>
<p>Week 5: 18th - 22nd August <i>Book Week</i></p>	<p>18: The Blurbs - performance 22: Book Week Parade</p>
<p>Week 6: 25th - 29th August</p>	<p>26 - 29: Dental Van visit</p>
<p>Week 7: 1st - 5th September <i>Teacher Aide Appreciation Week</i></p>	<p>4: Father's Day celebration - Footy Colours Day</p>

# IMPORTANT DATES

Week 8: 8th - 12th September <i>Wellbeing Week</i>	9: Principal Tour 9/10: Learning Conversations 11: R U OK Day
Week 9: 15th - 19th September	19: End of Term 3 - 2.15pm dismissal



# SCHOOL INFORMATION

***Principal:***

Mrs Elizabeth Trewick  
etrewick@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

***Pastoral Wellbeing:***

Mrs Jessica Carmichael  
jcarmichael@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

***Learning and Teaching:***

Mrs Susan Kerlin  
skerlin@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

***Learning Diversity:***

Mrs Cheryl Schwab  
cschwab@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

***Catholic Identity:***

Miss Eliza McNamara  
emcnamara@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

***Administration:***

Office hours 8:30am - 4:00pm

Mrs Maria Whitehead  
mariaw@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au  
(Monday - Wednesday)

Mrs Toni Cartlidge  
tcripps@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au  
(Thursday - Friday)

Mrs Bree Cox - Finance Officer  
bcox@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

Phone contact:  
Office - 54841797  
Mobile - 0488191875

(please note this phone is not manned at all times and any urgent messages should be given via phone call)