

# Curriculum Notes Foundation



Welcome to the final term for 2023. This year has flown by and this term is sure to do the same as we have a busy term between transitions where we will be welcoming and helping next year's Foundation students, our excursion to the Kyabram Fauna Park, end of year celebrations and I am sure much more!

Our timetable needed some changes for the final term, this means that our **Library** day is now **Tuesday's**.

This term provides a great opportunity for the current Foundation students to learn and practise their leadership skills through supporting the transition of the 2024 Foundation students. They will have an opportunity to teach the younger students routines and expectations that they have worked so hard this year to develop as well as provide empathy and encouragement to these students as they work together on a range of activities.

We have really appreciated the support we have had from families in the classroom during Term 3 and would love to continue to have parents listen to students read in the morning and stay to play a literacy game if you are able to. Please let me know if you are able to volunteer.





# English



## Reading and Viewing

Throughout the year we have been learning letter sounds in different stages. As a whole class students are introduced to a variety of letter sounds, however in reading groups students are working at their point of need with opportunities to consolidate their learning at home through readers, fluency folder, sight word booklet and flash cards. This term students will be introduced to b,h,f,l,j,v,w,x,y,z letter sounds. While they will be introduced to these letter sounds it is important to remember that students are working at different levels so resources coming home may not be at this level yet.

## Speaking and Listening

Appropriate speaking and listening skills for social situations and effective communication skills will be continued to be practised, including speaking at an appropriate volume, using eye contact, asking questions, ensuring to stay focused on the conversation, listening and word selection in conversation. Each day we practise a range of phonemic awareness drills that include rhyming, initial/final/middle sounds, adding and deleting sounds to make words, changing sounds in words to make new words.

## Writing

Students practise writing sentences for a range of prompts including recounts, sentences starters about our senses and dictation. This term students will be introduced to writing a range of sentences that include basic punctuation (full stops, question marks and exclamation marks). Students will continue to practise their spelling using the letters that they have been learning in reading, with a focus on listening for sounds in the middle of words.

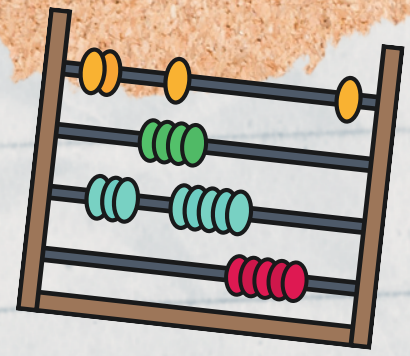
## Helping at Home

Any support that you can help provide at home would be greatly appreciated in consolidating what students are learning at school. Opportunities for home learning should not be a long task after a big day of learning at school. Learning tasks could include reading readers, practising sight words, listening to a family member read (and talking about the text), fluency folder practice, writing shopping lists, writing cards or letters for friends and family, counting or playing card/board games.





# Mathematics



## Measurement and Geometry

### Measurement (Capacity)

We will explore capacity through discovering things that hold more or less and discussing why. Students will test capacity through using concrete materials (eg: blocks), sand and water.

### Time

Students were introduced to time in term 1 as we looked at days of the week and what we do on different days of the week. They were also introduced to the duration of different tasks, looking at what would take more/less time. We will revise both these topics in Term 4 while also being introduced to clocks.

## Statistics and Probability

### Data

Students practised asking and answering yes/no questions in Term 1. They used this skill to learn about their class members and share their likes, dislikes and skills. In Term 4 students will practise asking their peers questions and recording their answers using tally marks then graph and interpret the data.

## Numeracy and Algebra

### Counting

This term we will continue to practise counting by 1s, working towards all students being able to count to and from 20 from both regular and irregular starting points. Students will then be extended to counting to and from 100 by 1s and will be introduced to skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s if ready.

### Addition & Subtraction

We have touched on addition and subtraction in term 2 but this term we will continue to build on our ability to solve addition and subtraction problems through using concrete materials (eg: counters) and drawings. Students will practise counting on from the largest number when adding numbers together and counting back when subtracting.

### Division

Students will be introduced to division through sharing. Students will use concrete materials to physically share numbers between groups to solve division problems.



# Religion

## **Called to Live Like Jesus**

In this unit students will learn about the way in which Jesus lived his life, looking at the reasons why he did different things. Students will relate their own lives to Jesus, reflecting how they can act more like Jesus. Students will think about their own needs and how they can care for themselves. We will also think about how we can care for others and take action to caring for others.

## **We celebrate Christmas**

Students will explore the celebration of Jesus' birth and the concept of waiting and preparing for special events in our lives. They will explore waiting, how this is seen in our everyday lives and how Mary and Joseph waited for Jesus. They will be encouraged to relate their experiences of giving, receiving and celebrating to Christmas.

# Inquiry

Connections are everywhere in our lives. Our brains are made up of billions of connections that help us talk, walk, think and dream. We make connections with other people, places and things all the time.

During term 4 students will connect with people and places in our Rochester community. Students will work in multi age groups (Foundation to Year 6 ) twice a week to engage in a learning experience of their choice.

Students will have the opportunity to choose between the following learning experiences;

- Active
- Arts
- Sustainability
- Cooking

The sessions will occur on Monday and Thursday afternoon from 12:40 - 1:40 and will be facilitated by a variety of different school staff and community members. There will be two activity blocks - Weeks 1 - 4 and Weeks 5 - 8. During Weeks 9&10 students will focus on the History and Geography component of the curriculum. They will have the opportunity to explore and learn about many different locations in the Rochester community such as Rochester Sports Museum, Wirima playground, Murals and Silos and our beautiful river walk to the Red Bridge.





RRRR

*with Mrs Bennett*

This term in RRRR's children will explore Gender and Identity. Learning experiences will support the students to develop an awareness of positive and negative gender norms and an appreciation of difference. Through a range of learning experiences such as picture story books, drawing, role play and games students will explore their likes and dislikes. They will recognise that sometimes they will like the same things as their friends and that sometimes they will like different things (and that is OK). Students will talk about and explore the importance of being able to be strong and gentle when they feel angry so they do not hurt themselves or others. The second unit, Positive Gender Relations, is focused on developing an understanding of the negative impacts of gender-based violence and the positive impact of respectful gender relationships. Students will discuss and practice skills to support positive peer relations. They will also identify and practice assertive and help-seeking strategies to help keep themselves safe.



Digital Tech

*with Mr Davison*

This term, our focus in the Digital Technologies class is on instilling responsible digital practices in your children. In the first activity, we aim to impart the art of mindful photography—teaching them not only how to capture moments but also the importance of seeking permission and considering the implications for others. This approach emphasises creativity over mere consumption in their digital endeavours. Subsequently, we delve into strategies for sharing digital resources. As digital technologies increasingly permeate our lives, it becomes paramount to equip children with the skills of cooperation and turn-taking to mitigate potential tensions. Lastly, our curriculum addresses the critical aspect of seeking assistance when faced with digital challenges. By delineating between "faces they know," "faces they don't know," and "faces they can trust," we endeavour to establish a foundation for discerning online interactions. Your collaboration in reinforcing the significance of co-viewing and co-play with technology is integral to our collective efforts in fostering a safe and constructive digital learning environment.







## AUSLAN with Tim

At St Joseph's we use the TCL (Teachers as Co Learners ) approach to language teaching. In a TCL approach, all teachers and students are co-learners of the school's target language. The TCL approach requires access to a proficient speaker of the language to facilitate the learning journey for teachers and students. Our facilitator, Tim , will again work with both students and teachers weekly (on a Friday). He will revise previously taught vocabulary/signs and introduce new vocabulary/signs throughout the term.



*with Coach Wade*

## Kelly Sport

Welcome to term 4 . This term students will participate in an 11 week Kelly Sports program with a "Sports" focus. Students will have a 40 minute session each week (on a Friday). They will have the opportunity to focus on the following sports; cricket, golf, T- ball, frisbee, basketball, netball, soccer and AFL. Each week, through a focus on a sport, students will learn the basic skills associated with each sport eg throwing, catching, kicking, dribbling, shooting and passing. Students will also participate in a mini Olympics circuit with a range of events to test their athletic abilities. They will be invited to create team banners and choose a country to support for the session. Students will participate in team building activities where they will need to work in teams throughout a variety of challenges to promote working together as a team. The final session will be an end of year celebration where students will celebrate their year of Kelly sports with activities such as parachute and water sports. It is certainly an action packed term of Kelly sports.



# KEY DATES

| Week                           | What's on   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Week 1<br>2 - 6th October      | 3rd: Elmore Field days<br>4th: Elmore Field days<br>5th: Elmore Field days<br>6th: Kelly Sports & Auslan  |
| Week 2<br>9 - 13th October     | 10th: Foundation Excursion - Kyabram<br>11th: Heartkids Fundraiser<br>13th: Campaspe Basketball<br>13th: Kelly Sports & Auslan  |
| Week 3<br>16 - 20th October    | 18th: DUO Day - PBIS Whole School Dress Up Reward<br>19th: Waranga Summer Sports Day (Grade 5/6)<br>20th: Waranga Summer Sports Day (Grades 3/4)<br>20th: Kelly Sports & Auslan |
| Week 4<br>23 - 27th October    | 23rd: Life Relationships Evening 6pm (Grade 5/6)<br>27th: World Teachers Day<br>27th: Granparent's Day Assembly<br>27th: Kelly Sports & Auslan                                  |
| Week 5<br>30 - 3rd November    | 30th: Real Schools Parent Information evening<br>30th: RSC Transition Visit (Grade 5/6)<br>3rd: Kelly Sports & Auslan - Community Learning Day                                  |
| Week 6<br>6th - 10th November  | 6th: Pupil free day<br>7th: Melbourne Cup Day Holiday<br>10th McKillop Art Exhibition (Bendigo)<br>10th: Kelly Sports & Auslan<br>11th: Remembrance Day                         |
| Week 7<br>13th - 17th November | 17th Kelly Sports & Auslan  |



# KEY DATES

| Week                          | What's on   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Week 8<br>20 -24th November   | 21st: Learning Conversations<br>22nd: Learning Conversations<br>24th: Kelly Sports & Auslan   |
| Week 9<br>27 - 1st December   | 1st: F - 2 Kaboom sports (Kyabram)<br>1st: Kelly Sports & Auslan  |
| Week 10<br>4 - 8th December   | 4th: First Aid for children<br>5th: First Aid for children<br>6th: Year 5½ North Melbourne Huddle excursion, Melbourne<br>8th: Pupil free day |
| Week 11<br>11 - 15th December | 11th: Pupil free day<br>15th: Kelly Sports & Auslan   |
| Week 12<br>18 - 20 December   |   |



# SCHOOL CONTACTS

## **Principal:**

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

## **Deputy Principal and Pastoral Wellbeing:**

Mrs Jessica Carmichael  
deputy@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

## **Administration:**

*Office hours 8:30am - 4:00pm*

Mrs Maria Whitehead mariaw@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

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)