



St Canice's Catholic Primary School

Katoomba

P O Box 200
158 Katoomba Street
Katoomba NSW 2780

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Curriculum Overview

Term 1	2017	Stage 2B
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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am looking forward to teaching this class of combined year 3 and year 4 students. We have already had many meetings to put new systems and schedules in place to cater for this diverse group. It will be a new and exciting year for everyone. This overview outlines the content that will be covered during this term with your child. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or concerns about your child.

Religious Education

The Term One topics will be:

Talking and Listening to God: In this unit students will be invited to deepen their relationship with God through prayer. They will have opportunities to pray and to learn what prayer means in the life of the Church community.

Lent : An Invitation to Believe: In this Lenten unit students study the Gospel reading, 'Jesus cures the man born blind from birth' and explore its themes of faith and spiritual discernment in relation to Baptism and the celebration of the Season of Lent.

The Passover & Exodus: Students study the Exodus story and its celebration in the Jewish Passover meal. The unit seeks to develop students' understanding of the new meaning Jesus gave to the sharing of bread and wine at the Last Supper and to relate the Church's celebration of the Eucharist to its hospitality and service to refugees and immigrants.

English

Literacy will occur during the first session of each day. There will be listening, speaking, spelling, writing, grammar, handwriting and reading activities every day. All students in Stage 2 will be involved with the same reading scheme involving levelled fiction and non-fiction texts. There will be many opportunities for the students to develop a wide range of writing and comprehension skills.

We will be developing a spelling program that teaches a repertoire of spelling knowledge including skills with specific phonic strategies that are needed for this age group. In Stage 2B, there will be an in-depth study of a brand new novel called 'Book Scavenger,' by J.Bertman. It's a fun new book for this age group revolving around code breaking adventures. I will be reading this book to the class for ten minutes each day. Students are able to 'Crunch and Sip' while listening to the book. Only water, fruit or vegetables can be eaten during this time.

Mathematics

I would like all students to become confident, creative users and communicators of Mathematics, to be able to apply mathematics to the real world and to have a lifelong positive attitude to this key learning area. During the year, the class will be expected to develop a strong knowledge of number and algebra, measurement and geometry, statistics and probability. I will be using an

Growth Through Love & Learning



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approach that engages students in open-ended tasks, which encourage children to think independently, question, reflect and analyse problems. During the first term, there will be a thorough testing and revision in the areas of Counting, Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division. Some of the topics that we will cover this term include: Data, Addition and Subtraction, Place Value, Multiplication and Division, 2D shapes, Angles and Working Mathematically.

Geography

Our main focus for this term is the Earth's Environment. There will be a focus on sustainability, particularly waste management practice. Our SAS (Sculpture at School) for 2017 will also highlight best environmental actions for our oceans.

The study of Geography enables students to become active, responsible and informed citizens able to evaluate the opinions of others and express their own ideas and arguments. This forms a basis for active participation in community life, a commitment to sustainability, the creation of a just society and the promotion of intercultural understanding and lifelong learning. The skills and capabilities developed through geographical study can be applied to further education, work and everyday life.

Science & Technology

This term we will study a Biology unit called 'Feathers, Furs or Leaves.' It provides opportunities for students to explore features of living things and ways they can be grouped together. Through hands-on activities, students explore how living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things. They use this knowledge to investigate the animal groups in the leaf litter of their own school grounds.

Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

Sports will be held on Fridays. During these lessons, students will develop a range of ball skills as well as some traditional and fun dance routines.

In Personal Development & Health, the class will be learning about drug education and road safety.

Visual Arts

This term students will be developing new skills and incorporating these in artworks that reflect our Geography unit on sustainability. Preparation for SAS 2017 will also begin this term.

Music

Music will be taught on Thursdays with Ms Frazer. This will involve a range of instruments and the singing of songs and the learning of Music notation.

There are also Orchestra lessons each Wednesday in which your child will be able to learn how to play an instrument (violin, cello and double bass). Some students may be invited to be part of the St Canice's Ensemble which has rehearsals on Friday afternoon 3pm-4pm. The Ensemble students are able to participate in public performances.



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Library

The children will be attending Library each Tuesday and will require a library bag to protect the books. During Library time the children will have the opportunity to borrow books that will be used for silent reading as well as at home.

Homework

Students will be expected to complete 25 minutes homework each night as per the St Canice's school Homework policy. Students in Stage 2B will be given a homework sheet on Monday, which should be completed by Friday. Students are also expected to do at least 10 minutes reading at home each night or morning.

I am looking forward to a stimulating, creative and productive year. Please feel free to organise a time to contact me if you would like to discuss any issue that may arise. I look forward to meeting you all soon.

Regards

Mrs Vivianne Byrnes
Class Teacher