



St Paul's Catholic Parish Primary School
Albion Park

*"In the richness of our Catholic
Faith and tradition
We achieve excellence"*

Term 1 2020 Grade Overview

Year 2

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to the start of another school year! The following is an outline to provide you with information regarding the learning experiences your child will be engaging in throughout Term One. We would also like to take this opportunity to give you an overview of some basic expectations of your child that will hopefully ensure a successful, exciting and rewarding year in 2020.

A Parent Information Evening will be held on **Tuesday 25 February 2020** (Week 5) at **6:30 pm in the hall**. After a brief introduction by the Leadership Team in the hall, we will be available to discuss and answer questions in our classrooms. We are looking forward to introducing ourselves on this evening and sharing with you your child's learning environment.

RELIGION

We will begin the year with a focus on our St Paul's Vision and Mission Statements. The first two weeks will be spent engaging students in activities which promote our school "Catholic Faith and Traditions" and enable students to understand the key words in our statements.

The two units from the Religious Education curriculum we will study this term are:

- Images of God
- Lent and Holy Week

During these units the children will explore their own images of God and respond to the story of human beings created in God's image from the book of Genesis. They will learn that Lent is a time in the Church's year when we are invited to turn to God again. The children will discuss the events of Holy Week and our celebration of them in the Liturgical Year.



ENGLISH

During Term 1 students will engage in the development of literacy through a wide range of experiences. They will read and write both imaginative and informative texts this term. Basic spelling and spelling rules will be taught through a 'Letters and Sounds' program at the beginning of each day. Grammar, reading and comprehension skills will be practised on a daily basis.

MATHEMATICS

The teaching of Mathematics will continue to build upon the knowledge your child has developed throughout the earlier stages of their schooling. There will be a significant focus on mental computation, number facts to 20 and counting forwards and backwards from different numbers. This term we will include topics such as place value and whole numbers, addition and subtraction, 2D shapes, length and time. We will also touch on multiplication/division. The students will be introduced to their 2x 5x 10x tables.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH

During Term 1 our focus question will be “How can I be responsible for my own and others’ health, safety and well being?”. The children will be describing situations where they are required to make healthy and/or safe decisions. We will be covering topics such as digital citizenship and staying safe online, school rules (Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe) and classroom procedures which reinforce our whole school approach towards Positive Behaviours for Learning (PB4L).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in **2 Blue** and **2 Red** will be required to wear their **sports uniform** on **TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS** to support the teaching of Physical Education. Physical Education Skills (PE) and related sports will be taught by Ms. Maree Pollard, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. McDonald-Cook and Mrs. Whalan.

CREATIVE ARTS:

Visual Arts and Music:

Creative Arts will be integrated throughout our Science and Religion units. Students will experiment with different forms of Visual Art such as drawing, painting and constructing. It would be greatly appreciated if a **paint shirt** could be brought to school to protect your child’s uniform when we are painting. A large adult’s t-shirt is ideal. It is important that the paint shirt is labelled with your child’s name.

INQUIRY: COMPUTERS and TECHNOLOGY

Throughout the year, Year 2 will be using laptops and iPads throughout all Key Learning Areas. Since a number of classes share our bank of computers we have found the best way to store data is for each child to purchase their own personal thumb drive (USB).

SCIENCE

The Science and Technology unit for Term One provides opportunities for students to describe ways that different places in the environment provide for the needs of plants and animals. They will observe different animals and plants in their specific habitats and explore how the needs of the living thing are met by the habitat in which they live. Students will also investigate how plants and animals are used to satisfy our needs for food and clothing and fibre. They will observe a range of farm animals and farm produce, and explore ways farm produce is packaged before being moved from the farm to places where food is sold or made into other products for sale.

HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

The Human Society and Its Environment unit for Term One is “**People Are Connected To Many Places**”. The students will focus on a wider range of places across the world and

the connections between our place and them. The vocabulary and ideas of geographical divisions and names of features are developed through the use of visual material such as maps, globes and pictures. This helps students to develop their own mental map of the world in relation to where they are located.

Teacher Relief

Mrs Carter will be relieved by Ms Maree Pollard each Wednesday afternoon and will take Year 2 Red for Science and Technology/STEM.

Mrs Whalan will be relieved each Friday morning by Ms Maree Pollard who will teach Year 2 Red Creative Arts.

Mrs McDonald-Cook will be relieved by Ms. Maree Pollard who will teach Science and Technology and Physical Education each Friday.

Library

Students also require a **Library Bag** otherwise they will not be allowed to borrow from the school library. Year 2 Red will visit the library each week on a Friday for 20 minutes and Year 2 Blue will visit the library each week on a Thursday for 20 minutes.

Crunch and Sip

Year 2 are permitted to bring a bottle of water into the classroom each day and refill as necessary. They are encouraged to bring a small amount of fruit or vegetable, to promote healthy eating habits both at school and at home.

Homework

It is important that learning is nurtured between the school and home environment. Therefore it is required that your child engages in **reading with an adult for 15-20 minutes each day at home**. We will monitor your child's home reading through their Home Reading Diary. We ask parents to check the diary each week and return it to school every Friday. The diaries are required to be at school **every day** to keep a record of your child's reading progress.

Practise of mathematical and literacy concepts will be part of revision work that may be sent home on a needs basis. Students could also revise counting forwards and backwards by 2's, 5's and 10's, starting at any given number.

Both classes require a large **ziplock folder/pencil case** for their reading books, additional tasks relating to Key Learning Areas and other notes that may need to go home.

A few important REMINDERS

Morning Arrival

Your child is expected to be at school before the first bell at 8:52 am. The second bell rings at 8:55 am. This is when school commences. The front pedestrian gate will be locked at this time. All late arrivals after this time will need to be signed in at the front office.

Absentee notes

If your child is absent for any reason it is very important that we receive a note on his/her return to school, as it is a legal requirement.

If you are going away on a family holiday for more than 3 days please contact the school office, as it is a legal requirement that you fill out an Approval for Exemption from School form. This form needs to be submitted at least two weeks prior to the leave. Once Mrs Rodwell has approved the leave an Approved Exemption from School Certificate will be issued to the student.

Late Arrivals

All students arriving late to school must be signed in by parent/carers

Changes to Afternoon Dismissal in 2020

Based on information received from the school community through surveys, St Paul's will change their dismissal procedures to have students safely and quickly with the parents or carers each afternoon. Please see the below details about the changes.

3:05 pm to 3:10 pm the front gate will be opened. Please assemble in the front playground to collect your child.

Dismissal 1

The following children will begin to move from **3:10 pm**

FRONT PLAYGROUND PICK UP:

All front playground pickups can go straight to their parent or carer. You may leave as soon as you have your child/children. Any remaining children will move to the waiter's area on the handball court nearest the office at 3:15 pm.

BACK GATE PICK UP:

The children will assemble at 3:10pm. The teacher on duty will open the gate. Please remember no student is able to leave the school premises unless accompanied by an adult.

ST JOSEPH'S WALKERS:

Will meet at the front steps. The teacher on duty will give them directions about when to leave.

Dismissal 2

The following children will begin to move at **3:15 pm**

WAITERS:

The waiters will be seated on the handball court nearest the office.

BUSES:

Bus children will move at 3:15 pm and go straight to bus lines.

Complaints Handling Procedures

A reminder - If there are issues arising about life at school and your child's learning, please approach your child's teacher about the problem.

To do this, please make an appointment through the School Office for an agreed time to address the issue. Please do not approach teachers on morning assembly lines on their way to class. At that time they have teaching responsibilities and need to be free to do their best work in the classroom to sustain a positive learning environment.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of that meeting, then make an appointment through the School Office to speak to a member of the School Leadership Team who works with the relevant stage. Due to a number of staff changes late in 2019 we are yet to finalise the details of the Middle Leaders working with each grade. When this is complete you will be notified via Compass.

In the meantime, please contact Mrs Rebecca Nunes (Assistant Principal) or Mrs Julie Ferguson (Religious Education Coordinator) if it is required.

In the event that one of these Leadership Team members are absent the matter will be referred to Mrs Rebecca Nunes Assistant Principal.

Please make an appointment with the teacher and or Stage Coordinator to discuss your concerns. Emailing issues does not always solve the problem, as a meeting will be necessary anyway.

Lastly, if you are still not satisfied with the outcome and feel that it is necessary to speak to the Principal, Mrs Michelle Rodwell about the issue, please make an appointment through the School Office. Your concerns will always be listened to and hopefully problems solved, as we consider the well being of the child as vitally important.

Parent Helpers / Volunteers

All Parent Helpers or Volunteers need to complete either a Working with Children Check Form or a School Volunteers Form. The school requires this before they can assist in the classroom, or with school activities such as the Athletics, Cross Country or Swimming Carnivals. If you have not already submitted one of these forms to us, please contact the office for a form to be sent home to you for completion.

We hope this overview will assist you in participating in your child's education through encouragement and interest in all they do each day at school. We look forward to working with you for the remainder of the year. Your role is vital and so supportive of our partnership as educators of your children.



Mrs Janet McDonald-Cook
Year 2 Blue Class Teacher

Mrs Wendy Carter & Mrs Tracy Whalan
Year 2 Red Class Teachers

NB: Mrs Wendy Carter (every second Monday ODD WEEKS, every Tuesday, every Wednesday)
Mrs Tracy Whalan (every second Monday EVEN WEEKS, every Thursday and every Friday)