Religious Education

The Religious Education modules we will be studying this term are:

'Bible: Living the Good News of the Gospels': This module will introduce students to the gospels as a unique form of literature, which for Christians is 'Good News'. Students will explore the New Testament—the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Students will learn that the gospels are built out of the faith of New Testament communities who had a strong belief in Jesus’ resurrection. They will learn that each of the gospels which arose out of oral tradition and were compiled to address particular circumstances in the communities of each gospel writer. Whilst written for communities two thousand years ago, they have still have meaning for us today. We are able to reflect upon all four gospels to explore the life and teachings of Jesus and to consider how the work of the gospel writers in telling Jesus’ story may help us to live the Good News in 21st century.

Mary, Mother, Woman and Disciple

In this module, students will explore gospel stories that highlight Mary's faithfulness. Mary plays an important role in the relationship of Jesus’ Spirit with the Church. Mary was part of Christ’s mission from the start, beginning with the conception of Jesus (Lk 1:32) through to the fulfillment of Christ's mission at Pentecost. Students will be encouraged to discern and learn from the example of Mary and her response to God. Students will explore how in prayer Mary opened herself to the influence of God's Spirit. She believed in him, listened to him and imitated him. Mary was both mother and disciple. Students will have opportunities to honour Mary through liturgy and prayer.

Dates to Remember: Mary MacKillop's Feast Day Liturgy will be celebrated on Monday August 8, 9:15am.
Parish Mass for all Year 4 students: Week 3, Monday, August 1 at 9:15am.
Father's Day Breakfast Week 7 - Friday, September 2
Grandparents Liturgy - Friday, September 16 at 2pm.

English

Speaking and Listening:
The first part of this term, Talking and Listening will focus on Public Speaking.
Week 4: Yr. 4 Public Speaking at 2.00pm.

Speaking and Listening will be included in the integrated in Religious Education, History and Science and technology subjects. Students will be required to report to the class on research findings.

Handwriting:
Students in Stage 2 are continuing to use correct grip, maintain correct posture and aim towards joining their letters when writing texts. It is expected that all their written tasks be completed in accordance with whole school devised guidelines. Students have focused handwriting lessons each week as part of whole class modelling and writing groups. Students also engage in regular word processing and typing practise. Formal pieces of writing are published using word processing software, such as MS Word and MS PowerPoint.

Reading and Viewing:
Reading Groups – During their literacy block, students will participate in:
Reciprocal Reading, Shared Reading, Readers’ Theatre and D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read)
Children are grouped and learn independently while the teacher instructs a focus group. Children also take part in modelled, shared and independent reading daily. Some of the aspects we will be looking closely at this term are:

- Reading Expositions, Discussions, Reviews and Personal Responses
- Developing and reviewing strategies for reading
- Comprehension Strategies

The students are encouraged to read every night at home.

*Book Week: “Story Country” commencing Week 6 - August 22.*

**Spelling:**
Children use their dictionaries, different KLA Word Banks around the room and thesauruses to help with spelling when in the learning environment. Proof reading and editing skills are an important part of the writing process and are a major focus for Stage 2. Children will be explicitly taught a specific procedure when striving for spelling accuracy and will be expected to follow this in all written tasks. Children will also have a weekly spelling list as part of their homework. This will be based on pre-tested word families, theme words and words from their own writing, with lists tailored to individual student needs. Students will complete a variety of spelling tasks both in the classroom and at home.

**Writing and Representing:**
Students are involved in writing groups each week where the focus is: spelling and grammar, handwriting techniques, free choice writing, text types and writing conferences. Students are also involved in the construction of shared and independent texts. Texts to be covered this term are the Persuasive Texts- Exposition, Discussion, Review and Personal Response. Imaginative Texts- Narrative and Recount.

**ICLT:**
Students will be using class computers on a daily basis for word processing, research and to engage in Google Docs and Classroom, Mathletics, Reading Eggs, Coding, robotics and Studyladder.

**Library:**
Students are required to bring their Library Bag to school on Mondays. The students will also visit the library 2 to 3 times a week to enjoy silent reading and to choose and exchange books. They will also be required to review at least two books during Term 3.

**Mathematics**
The students will engage in learning experiences to develop and practise skills and understandings of fractions & decimals, money, 3D space and volume & capacity. Students will represent, model and compare fractions, using the denominators 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8. Denominators of 10 and 100 will be explored later in the unit, particularly when working with decimals and money. Students will investigate an increasing range of 3D shapes through activities involving sketching, making, comparing and describing the features of 3D shapes. Students will manipulate various shapes and their nets to develop a deep understanding of 3D space. Students will further explore 3D space by measuring, comparing and recording volume and capacity. Students will use units of millilitres (mL) and cubic centimetres (cm³) to record their measurements.

Students will revise place value, addition and subtraction skills as part of the learning activities to enhance their understanding of these concepts. The learning experiences are differentiated and students are encouraged to work in small groups, pairs and individually to practise the skills and concepts to develop their knowledge and understanding in Mathematics.
History
The unit ‘First Contacts’ students will examine through inquiry how the settlement of Australia’s first colony and the growth of colonies into a nation have impacted Indigenous Australians and the environment. Students will consider what life was like for convicts and how over time these hardships have shaped Australia into the country it is today.

Science and Technology
Students for the first 5 weeks will complete their studies and investigations about HEAT ENERGY. Following the Science Fair being held on the 18th August students will then be studying the Earth Science topic of Day and Night. Students will learn about: What causes night and day? The rising of the Sun and the Moon are daily reminders of the awe and wonder, beauty and power of the universe. Studying the relationships between the Sun, Earth and Moon helps us understand how we experience day and night on Earth. It also helps us understand directions in terms of North, South, East and West, how time is based on the apparent movement of the Sun across the sky and how time can be determined using a sundial. Students will use this knowledge from their Scientific Investigations to design or make something that will help society in some way.

Personal Development/Health and Physical Education

Personal Development and Health
The unit ‘Drugs and Road Safety Affects Me and Others’ examines how decision making can affect lifestyle. Here, students will recognise the differences between prescription and non-prescription medicines, and the risks involved in smoking and alcohol consumption. Safe and responsible choices will be explored through the unit. The unit includes revising safe practices on and near roads, including bike, skateboard, scooter and pedestrian safety. KidsMatter Component Two will be integrated into the above unit.

Physical Education
Students will participate in the ‘Marty Sports’ Gross Motor Program on a Wednesday, which develops the skills of handball, catching, throwing, touch footy, T-ball and tennis. On Fridays students will participate in the Gymnastics program. They will participate in Athletics Carnival preparation, Basketball and Softcrosse Skills lessons.

The school Athletics Carnival will be held this term, Week 3 - Friday, July 31, at Chatswood Rotary Oval

Visual Arts
Reflections and Shadows- People and Objects- This term, the students will be focusing on details of subject matter, both natural and manmade in relation to shadows created. They will discuss how artists create an effect of time of day and position using light. Charcoal and pencil will be used to create reflection and shadows in artwork. Students will also be experimenting with techniques in drawing and photography to create particular effects to suggest light and dark.

Music
Music lessons with Angela Quinn are on Tuesday.

MAKUKUHAN Performance - Musica Viva @ 10.00am Whole School Performance

Homework
Daily homework is due back the following day for correction. Learning tasks will include

• Learning of times tables and a weekly spelling list
• Spelling activities
• Daily reading
• Comprehension Task
• Parent/caregiver signature in Student Diary and Reading log daily

Reminders

Monday: Library
Tuesdays: Music
Wednesdays: ‘Marty Sport’

Friday: Sports - Gymnastics
         Assembly

Karen Townsend