Welcome to Term Four 2014!

We are almost at the end of another exciting year where so many new discoveries have been made and concepts learned but… there is still more to learn before we are happy to pass these cherubs on to the next educators.

**Religious Education**

In our unit “God Loves Us No Matter What” we will focus on Reconciliation as a way to rebuild our relationships with God and others. We will look at Jesus as a model of and forgiveness and learn about the prayers, words and actions that help us celebrate God’s love and forgiveness. We will also focus on the special waiting time of Advent as we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. Mary had to wait for the birth of Jesus and we too are challenged to wait for His arrival which takes patience.

**Maths**

**Number and Algebra**

- Mentally compute and recall simple addition and subtraction calculations up to 20
- Create and solve one and two digit subtraction problems using a range of mental and written strategies (for example, doubles, near doubles, building to 10)
- Explore the connections between addition and subtraction fact families
- Make links between multiplication and division
- Recognise and represent multiplication as repeated addition, groups and arrays
- Recognise and represent division as grouping into equal sets and solve simple problems
- Recognise and interpret common use of halves, quarters and eigths of shapes and collections
- Count and order small collections of Australian coins and notes according to their value
- Make links between subtraction and Australian currency
- Measurement and Geometry
- Identify key features of common 3D objects and shapes using key mathematical language such as face, edge and corner

**Statistics and Probability**

- Collect, check and classify different types of data in a variety of ways
- Graph data collected using picture, bar and column graphs

**Literacy**

**Writing**

Throughout the writing process the students will be encouraged to continue self-editing their work. This involves re-reading their writing to check that it makes sense, identifying spelling of unknown vocabulary and strengthening their sentence structure.

The students will continue to write about their thoughts, musings and ideas in their Daily Pages. Daily Pages provides time for students to write freely about topics of interest to them.

We will be working on the structure and features of Persuasive Texts. To link with the privilege of almost being in Year Three, each student will plan and write a persuasive letter to Mr Grant, arguing their case for being able to play in the senior yard for the last 4 weeks of Term 4. The process begins with building from their personal persuasions with family and friends, to looking at a range of texts to discover the features of this
genre. From their findings, students will create an argument to give to Mr Grant with supporting reasons. Persuasive texts teach students how to argue a point/opinion with evidence and reasons for their ideas. They will be encouraged to use emotive language to make their argument stronger and this emotive language will be highlighted in our shared reading texts.

Poetry will also be another style of writing we will delve into as the term progresses. Diamante poetry focus on using verbs, adjectives and opposites to write poetry using appropriate structure.

Throughout Term 4 we will continue to work through the Words Their Way sort appropriate to each individual. This spelling program targets each student where they are at as shown through prior assessment and we are encouraging the students to use their new spelling knowledge in all their writing.

Reading
The students will continue to be exposed to focussed reading groups as identified through prior testing. These groups will highlight the areas of reading or comprehension that they need in order to read fluently, solve words independently and have full understanding of the text read.

The students will be introduced to the key features of persuasive texts (for example, introduction, arguments, supporting evidence, high modal words) The foci will be on the skill of analysing the information read and the author’s purpose of these types of texts as well identifying the different features. To assist with their writing of a persuasive letter, the students will utilise these new skills and understandings.

Tying in with our Inquiry Unit, Inspire and Amaze, the students will read and follow simple procedural texts.

Investigation Time
In Term 4 we will be continuing Investigation Time with raised expectations. The students will explore the new investigation areas of music, mosaic, construction, sewing and gardening and will be encouraged to make links between these areas and our fortnightly learning intentions. All Investigation areas are based upon the Year Two student’s interests and class subject areas. Before commencing an investigation, students will be expected to plan and outline their intentions.

Our Design, Creativity and Technology Inquiry Unit, Inspire and Amaze, will tap into their knowledge of simple toys to investigate, design, produce, analyse and evaluate their own simple toy. We will be following a variety of procedures to make simple toys then investigate different designs and materials to use in order to produce the best result for our own toy.

I.C.T
During Term 4, we are encouraging the students to use new iPad apps that can help foster enjoyment of learning outside of school as well as reinforcing some of the skills we are practising and to continue using skills learned in past terms eg. time

You may like to try the following:

- Mad Math
- Jungle Time
- Mathmateer
- Puppet Pals
- Uno Friends
- Friends of 10
- The life of Jesus Christ Bible Videos
- Math Duel
- Storylines
- Book Creator
- Togzede
- Explain Everything
Physical Education
- Continue to develop control of motor skills when changing speed, direction and level when involved in minor games and athletics
- Develop an ability to describe the link between performing physical activity and their health
- Develop the understanding of how rules and procedures contribute to the safe playing of games
- Demonstrate an understanding of using space and equipment safely

Performing Arts
- Further develop Performing Arts skills in the elements of dance, drama and music
- Identify by sound and sight classroom percussion instruments
- Develop skills in reading and performing simple beat, rhythm and graphic notation using different a variety of percussion instruments
- Develop improvisation skills through a range of drama games
- Prepare for Christmas with a range of Christmas songs, scores and plays

Visual Arts
- Share and discussing their art and the art of others.
- Look at and respond to art created using left over materials from machinery.
- Use a variety of materials to create an image of a piece of technology.
- Use a variety of natural materials to create a piece of art celebrating Christmas.

Critical Dates
Friday 17th October - Year 2 Assembly
Monday 3rd November - School Closure
Tuesday 4th November - Melbourne Cup Day
Wednesday 5th November - Year 2 Mass 10am
Wednesday 3rd December - School Closure

Additional Information

HOME READING!
It is important for the students to read a minimum of four times a week and for them to make a record in their Reading Journals including the date, title and comment. We are encouraging them to be independent with this and read aloud to an adult but do the recording themselves. Their Reading Journals will be checked on a Friday when the students change their take-home readers. Students may read from the Take-Home Readers available at school or any library books or home books that they are currently reading at home. The main point is that they are reading aloud regularly and fluently.

For additional information please contact Kate, Michelle or Carolyn.