Curriculum News

Year Two Term Four

Welcome to Term Four 2013.

Religious Education

In our Unit "Signs of God’s Love" we will focus on ways in which people show care, respect and love for other people. We will look at the signs and symbols of God’s love in the sacraments.

In our unit "Advent and Christmas" we will focus on the real message of Christmas and the ways in which prepare ourselves for this special time in the Church Year. 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 subtraction calculations up to 20.
- Create and solve simple one and two digit subtraction problems up to 100 using a range of mental and written strategies (for example, doubles, near doubles, building to 10).
- Recognise and represent multiplication as repeated addition, groups and arrays.
- Recognise and represent division as grouping into equal sets.
- Make connections between dividing collections of objects into equal groups and related fraction language.
- Recognise and interpret common use of halves, quarters and eighths of collections.
- Represent multiplication and division by grouping into sets and divide collections into halves, quarters and eighths.

Measurement and Geometry

- Use balance scales to investigate mass and determine whether the mass of different objects is more, less or about the same.

Literacy

Reading and Writing

After watching the visual text The Lion King, the students will explore the features of Open Minded Portraits. They will take on the persona of Scar/Simba to think more deeply about that character and reflect on story events from the character’s point of view. Through these portraits they will write short pieces and will be encouraged to include quotes, questions, emotive language, etc. to make their writing more powerful. Students
will also analyse and make inferences about the script, storyline, visuals and character development to enhance their understanding of what messages the writer is trying to convey.

This term they will also be exposed to persuasive texts and diamante poetry. 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. Diamante poetry focuses on using verbs, adjectives and opposites to write poetry using appropriate structure.

The students will continue to use the skills taught as a class in their independent reading and share their thoughts with others.

**Investigation Time**

In Term 4 we will be continuing Investigation Time with raised expectations. They will explore the new investigation areas and will be encouraged to make links between the areas and our fortnightly learning intentions. They will be immersed in design and creativity through our Puppet show and puppet making workshop. Students will be encouraged to evaluate the design briefs they follow to assess whether they have achieved what they set out to do.

**I.C.T**

During Term 4, we are encouraging the students to continue the use of the MyClasses Year 2 page and some iPad apps that can help foster enjoyment of learning outside of school as well as reinforcing some of the skills we are practising.

You may like to try the following:

- Math Zombies
- Math Racing (choose addition or subtraction)
- Measure Length
- Fraction Basic
- Multiplication
- Number Lines
- 3 Time Math
- Poetry Creator
- Write Your Opinion

**Performing Arts**

In Performing Arts for Term 4, students will continue to investigate emerging performance skills to communicate ideas, feelings, expressions, experiences, observations and things imagined. They will explore ways to develop, create and present emerging Performing Arts skills in the arts disciplines of Music, Drama, Dance and Media.

Our major Performing Arts foci for Term 4 are **Music and Drama**.

In **Music** students will explore percussion instruments, formal instrument scores, explore elements of music [e.g. dynamics, tempo, texture] and continue singing a variety of styles of songs, including Christmas Carols.

In **Drama** students will perform simple role-plays, explore mime, expressive dialogue and improvisation through drama games and activities.
Visual Arts

Students will:
- share, reflect and discuss their art and the art of others
- draw shapes to create a castle and use painting and collage materials to add detail.
- explore printing methods such as stamping and taking rubbings.
- use a variety of natural materials to create a piece of art celebrating Christmas.

Physical Education

Students will:
- 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

Italian (Languages)

Students will focus on language related to activities that can occur in the various rooms of a house, through the story C'è un opossum nella casa (There's a Possum in the House). They will look at the language of adjectives to describe homes.

Additional Information

HOME READING REMINDERS!

It is important for the students to read a minimum of four times a week and make a record in their journals including the date, title and comment. This will be checked on a Friday when the students change their books.

Critical Dates

Monday 14th, 21st and 28th October - Cricket Clinic
Friday 25th October - World Teacher's Day
Monday 4th November - School Closure
Tuesday 5th November - Melbourne Cup
Friday 8th November - St. Vincent's Athletics Carnival
Monday 11th November - Remembrance Day
Wednesday 13th November - Year 2 Mass
Wednesday 4th December - School Closure
Wednesday 11th December - Parent Helpers Morning Tea
Friday 13th December - Year 6 Graduation
Wednesday 18th December - End of 2013 school year