Welcome to Year 3 at St Mary’s Young!

Dear Parents and Guardians of Year 3,

Welcome back to another year at St Mary’s! It is wonderful to see so many familiar faces and new families. We look forward to meeting you all in Week 2 at our Parent - Teacher Goal Setting sessions. There will be two afternoons, Monday and Tuesday, where we will have the opportunity to meet together to discuss learning goals for your child.

**CURRICULUM**
Below is a brief outline of the curriculum areas we will be enjoying in Term One.

**Religion**- God’s and God’s Creation

**English**- Our daily focus in our literacy block, is independent reading and writing and literacy groups. Our theme is “Imagining Amazing Animals” with a focus on the beautiful texts ‘Stellaluna’ by Janell Cannon, One Tiny Turtle by Nicola Davies, Saving Pandas by Carla Litchfield and ‘Fantastic Mr Fox’ by Roald Dahl. Sound Waves Spelling and our Grammar Rules programmes will enrich and consolidate core literacy skills. We will work towards student readiness for NAPLAN tests in Term 2, exploring a variety of test types including Narrative and Persuasive texts. We will prepare the children well at school but we do not stress the children about the tests at all, talking about it not until Term 2, and quietly doing appropriate preparation work. Children will continue to choose their own texts for Independent Reading in the classroom. They will also be choosing their own books to be taken home for nightly reading.

**Mathematics**- All strands including Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry, and Probability & Statistics. We are focusing on times tables and children’s quick recall of number facts to 20.

**Science**- Feathers, Fur or Leaves? Children will be studying how living things can be grouped and distinguished from non-living things. This will link to our English and art learning.

**PDHPE**- Our PE focus is sports and games,
Health – Nutrition and what makes a healthy school lunch box to enrich our learning.

Visual Art- Drawing and Painting – including folk art style and animal sketching skills. Paint shirts are required for all children to participate fully in Art lessons. Please bring into school as soon as possible

Music- Singing and Movement

History – What are special celebrations in Australia and around the world? Why do we celebrate and commemorate special days?

Each class will be taught Health and French by Mrs Jackie Bolger fortnightly. iPADS- we know that all of our three children are very excited about learning with iPads in our various subjects.

SPORT
- **Sport** is on Thursday for all Year 3. Sport uniform for all of Year 3 will be Thursday.
- PE this year will be taught by Mrs Amy Ryals and each class will have PE on different days. Activities for the term focus upon fitness, lawn bowls, soccer drills and skills as well as preparation for the cross country.
  3M – **Wednesday** – **Sports uniform**
  3F – **Tuesday** – **Sports uniform**

Uniform
- Please refer to the school uniform policy especially noting, blue hair accessories only for girls, no jewellery other than 1 pair of plain gold or silver studs or sleepers, correct socks and no nail polish.

Library days will be taught by Mrs Joanne Murphy. Please remind your child to bring in their Library bag.

  3M Library day - Tuesday
  3F Library day - Monday

Homework- will be issued on Mondays and will be simply a practice of basic skills, which is vital at this stage of learning. It will comprise of Reading, Spelling and Maths Mentals activities and some tables revision.

  3M - Homework to be returned by Fridays as Maths will be discussed and marked as a whole class activity.
  3F Homework to be returned by Monday as Maths will be discussed and marked as a whole class activity.

**DAILY READING**
Home Reading begins formally Week 3. At this stage it is still really important to listen to your child read daily and also to read to them, as well as have them read independently. It is essential to record your child’s reading daily, so that we know where they are up to.
TO REMEMBER EACH DAY!!!

- **Fruit break** is essential for nourishment in the morning session. PLEASE remember to pack each day a **piece of fresh fruit**. If preferred, children may bring in carrot or cucumber sticks etc.

- **The School hat and a water bottle** must be packed every day.

- Please continue to **label** all children’s clothing and any items they own especially **hats, water bottles and lunch boxes**.

- **Written notes** are required to explain all **absences**, including children who are arriving **late** or leaving **early** from school. Parents will be required to sign their child in and out **at the office** if late in the morning (after 8.50) or attending appointments during the day.

- **Bell times**-
  - Morning session: 8.50 am to 11.20 am
  - Middle session: 12.00 pm to 1.30 pm
  - Afternoon session: 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm

We look forward to an innovative, exciting and fun-filled learning experiences with your children this year. If you need to contact us about any matters, please email or phone us directly at Helen.Flannery@catholic.edu.au or Vanessa.McIsaac@catholic.edu.au or 63 825 844.

Kind Regards,

*Mrs Helen Flannery & Mrs Vanessa McIsaac*