Welcome to Kindergarten Term 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome to St Mary's. We have a very exciting, fun filled and jam packed term ahead. We look forward to getting to know you and your child and sharing this special year with you.

This term we will be covering the following units:

Religion- The unit we are studying this term is called "Prayer with Jesus". This unit introduces who Jesus is and continues through to the Easter Story. We are learning our school prayer, our class morning prayer and our class eating prayer.

English- This term we will be focusing on basic sentence structures, letter formation, pencil grip, sight words and reading. We will study Poetry through Nursery Rhymes and simple songs. This year from Kindergarten to Year 6, we are introducing the Sound Waves programme. This is a whole school approach to spelling.

Maths- There will be a strong focus on Number, counting to 10 and making connections between reading the number and the quantity.

HSIE- Our theme is "This is Me". We will be looking at who we are, our families and how much we have changed and grown. We will discuss how we are alike yet different, making us unique and special.

Science- The unit "What's it made of?" is an ideal way to link Science with literacy in the classroom. Through investigations, students develop skills of observing, describing, comparing and communicating. The unit provides opportunities for students to explore what things are made of in the school environment through hands on activities.

PDH- This subject will be taught by Mr Dan O'Brien on Wednesdays. The unit "Personal Identity" focuses on students identifying personal characteristics and qualities. Students express feelings and develop positive relationships. They interact with peers in a variety of play and group situations, listening, sharing and showing concern when working with others.

PE- Our Gross Motor Programme focuses on skills that involve the large muscles of the body which enable functions such as walking, kicking, sitting upright, lifting and throwing a ball. Our programme will run each Wednesday from 2pm- 3pm in the hall. All kinder classes will participate in the programme together.
Creative Arts- In Visual Arts, our unit is called "All About Me". In this unit, students explore their uniqueness and individuality when making their artworks. Students will make self-portraits developing their observational skills. Students will experiment with a range of media and make individual and group works based on their experiences. In Drama, we will be focusing on mime.

Homework- Homework books will come home on Mondays and be returned on Fridays. Homework includes reading, sight words and literacy/numeracy activities. Homework will begin in Week 4.

Home Readers- Our home reading programme will commence in Week 4. We ask that children read each night and discuss with you what their book was about.

Lunch Orders- If your child has a lunch order they can either write their order on a paper bag or place it in the lunch order box at school OR you can place an order online through our school website. Please remember to place your child’s name and class details on the orders.

Going Home- If there are any changes to your child’s daily routine please let your child’s teacher know so we can make sure they are where they need to be. If they are catching a bus please send in a note.

Label Items- Please clearly label ALL items of clothing, lunch boxes, containers and drink bottles. If any items are unclaimed they will be kept in the classroom.

Parent Helpers- We will be calling for parent helpers over the next few weeks to assist with Literacy groups and our Gross Motor Programme. Please check your child’s school bag in the coming weeks for more information regarding helpers.

Housekeeping for Kindergarten:
- PDH is on Wednesdays (with Mr O’Brien)
- We have Library on Fridays (with Mrs Murphy)
- Sport is on Monday and Wednesday
- Fruit break at 10am daily - please cut up fruit into small pieces
- School banking is on Tuesdays
- Newsletters go home on Wednesdays

News Days- A note will go home regarding news days for children later in the term.

Assembly-
KB - Our first class assembly item will be Thursday of Week 4 (February 21).
KW and KG assemblies will be in Term 2.
Finally, if you have any questions or concerns throughout the term please do not hesitate to pop in, call, email or make an appointment to see us. Our doors are always open and we look forward to catching up with you.

School phone: 6382 5844

Email:

Jillian Murray (KG):  jillian.murray@cg.catholic.edu.au
Vicki Eastwood (KB):  vicki.eastwood@cg.catholic.edu.au
Jessica Pearman (KW):  jessica.pearman@cg.catholic.edu.au

Many thanks,

Jillian Murray, Jessica Pearman and Vicki Eastwood