Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope all families have had a lovely break over Christmas. Year five have a busy and exciting year ahead. A little bit about us, we have both been teaching for over twenty years in the local area and some of those years have even been in the same classroom in a job share arrangement. We are looking forward to a great year with your children.

Year Five will be visiting Mount St. Joseph's as part of our outreach program, they will also be involved in the school play, public speaking and our 1:1 iPad program.

Below is a brief outline of the topics that will be covered in each subject area for this term.

**Religion**- Children will learn about Jesus as part of the Jewish tradition and understand his mission which will clearly link with The Virtues Project, MIR and Scripture.

**English**- Our focus this term is adventure narrative. The children will be identifying features composers use to construct an adventure story and how to make it exciting so we can use the same techniques in our own writing. We will also look at the language composers use to persuade closer to the end of term. We will continue using a school wide spelling and grammar program, Sound Waves and Grammar Rules.

**Mathematics**- We will be covering all strands of Mathematics this term with the goal to strengthen the children’s knowledge and skills. The students will continue to be involved in learning their multiplication tables, number facts (incorporating our new iPads) along with a hands-on approach to learning new concepts.

**Science**- Desert Survivors. Children will be looking at the structural features and other adaptations of living things that help them survive in their environment.

**Technology**- Year Five will undertake an internet safety program and then begin to utilise their iPads across all subject areas.

There will be a parent/student iPad information evening Thursday 12th February in the Hall.

In view of this exciting new learning experience we’re keen to share with you our journey via a ‘newsletter/blog’ type format. In order to be involved in this project we require your email address to set up a group email. We are aware of the importance of privacy issues and will be discussing protocol with our ICT support person. There will further information to follow at a later date.

**iPad formatting Monday/Tuesday 2nd/3rd February** – please make sure all iPads are at school for these days.

**Creative Arts**- This term the students will be exploring different types of mediums and creating various art forms in preparation for our annual Art Show and the Black and White Ball auction.

**PDHPE**- Active Lifestyle: Keeping Active and Happy. Mr O’Brien will be working with the students on Personal Development, Health and Protective Behaviours. Mr Keightley will be providing fundamental skills development through weekly sessions (Tuesday 5G Wednesday 5B)

**Homework** – Each week children will be expected to complete reading (every night), literacy based activities and maths revision work. Homework will be handed out on Friday and due back the following Friday, with a weekend in-between to allow for busy afternoon schedules.

We would love to hear from you with feedback, concerns or questions via email or contact the office to arrange an appointment.

Looking forward to meeting you at the Parent Goal Setting Meetings – 9th and 10th February. If you could please complete and return the parent survey and return it to school by Wednesday the 4th February we would greatly appreciate it.

Sally Spackman (SGold) and Kym Connelly (SBlue)