Year 6G – Term 1, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians of 6G,

Welcome back to St Mary’s Primary and the last year of your child’s primary school education. This year your child’s teachers in 6 G are Mrs Flannery and Mr Keighley (pronounced Keethley). Together we have nearly 60 years of teaching experience!! Together we will create exciting and engaging learning for your child in a positive, happy, encouraging and settled classroom environment.

Things for your diary!

Opening School Mass: Friday 6th February

Parent Goal Setting Meetings – 9th and 10th February

Swimming Carnival – Wednesday 11th February

Ash Wednesday – 18th February

Family Fun Night – Thursday 19th February

What we are Learning!!

iPads

We will send home a reminder of the Use of Technology and iPads agreement to remind all families of the conditions of use of our iPads at St Mary’s. Our students are fantastic with their iPads – but the beginning of the year is a good time to reset ground rules at home and at school.

Our curriculum topics this term include:

R.E – God Revealed – Students will learn about God’s presence in the world highlighted through Scripture and lived out in their everyday life.

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 utilizing the fun apps on our iPads.
English – Out in the Cold – This term we will be building a portfolio of related texts – experiencing the different forms, language features and genres of texts across a central theme.

Science- Our main focus for this term is Earthquakes. This unit provides opportunities for students to investigate the causes and effects of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions (and allows for a wonderful little bit of Ancient Pompeii!)

Visual Arts – This term the students will be exploring different types of mediums in preparing skilled works of art for our Art Show.

PDH- Mr O’Brien will be working with the students on Personal Development, Health and Protective Behaviours.

P.E – Mr Keighley will be providing fundamental skills development through weekly sessions – he will conduct sport and PE with 6G on Mondays and Fridays.

Music and Drama: Music will be enjoyed and taught specifically using our new music resources – should be a great deal of fun. And of course – Mrs Flannery loves doing drama!

Reading – Each Term we will focus on a different type of reading experience – class novel, reciprocal reading, literature circle book clubs and reader’s choice. This term we will have Reciprocal Reading, which is designed specifically for improving reading comprehension across a variety of subjects and themes. Students work collaboratively in a group to read the text using the strategies of predicting, clarifying, questioning and summarising.

Homework

READ READ READ – If you want your child to improve their literacy, comprehension, writing, imagination and understandings, the most important thing you can do is to insist upon them have a book to read each night.

#####The most important thing for parents to do in our class is to monitor and fill in the reading log that goes home every night to support your child in developing the habit and love of reading.

Students will begin homework in Week 4 and will involve spelling, maths mental, literacy based activities and to ensure capacity for secondary school – independent research tasks.

Uniform – it is our expectation that uniform policy be complied with in Year 6. It is a matter of fairness to all that our expectations be consistent. Thank you.

House keeping

➢ Library day is Thursday.
➢ If your child is absent from school please remember to send a note in when they return to class.
➤ Please label all clothes and belongings – particularly drink bottles!
➤ PLEASE !!! Remember to pack cut fruit for fruit break and a water bottle each day – it is a long time until the 11.30 break and they really need that fruit break.
➤ Please ensure that lunches are healthy and adequate – Year 6 kids need a lot of energy and healthy food – they have really big days and good nutrition is so important for them.
➤ Please be aware our learning time is essential and that students need to arrive prior to the commencement of class time to ensure disruptions are limited.

We would love to hear from you with feedback, concerns or questions – email is usually the easiest but please phone if the matter is urgent or involved.

My email is

helen.flannery@cg.catholic.edu.au

We look forward to meeting you at our goal setting meetings. In the meantime could you please complete the attached survey and return to school by Wednesday 4th February! Thank you.

Kind Regards

Mrs Flannery and Mr Keighley