



St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School

Year Four Information Booklet

2023



Teacher: Mrs Jody Tait

Teacher Assistants: Ms Aming and Mrs Tomerini

Welcome parents and friends, to the Year Four class 2023. Thank you for taking the time to read over this booklet, outlining aspects of the program and practices that will be running in the Year Four classroom. The class at the time of writing this is made up of 20 children- 13 boys and 7 girls. Hopefully I will see many of you at our school open night on Thursday 23 February when the classrooms will be open from 4:00 - 5:00. Mrs Sheen and Mrs Padua will be available to run a parent session from 3:30 - 4:00 and 5:00 - 5:30. Please note, this evening is an opportunity for an informal meet and greet rather than a Parent/Teacher interview. If there are issues regarding the booklet information please feel free to ask me about these, or if you would like to meet with me more formally to discuss your child's needs, please make an alternative time. Unless your child has special needs that you need to see me urgently for, please grant me a couple of weeks to get to know your child before asking to meet.

Administration:

Classes start at 8:30: Please ensure your child is here at least ten minutes beforehand to allow for time to set up for the morning session. The classroom door opens at 8:15.



Recess: 10:22 -10:40

Lunch: 12:20 - 12:55

School ends: 2:45

Punctuality is important to ensure your child has the best start to the day. If for any reason your child is late to school, then we ask that, as the parent please accompany your child to the office and fill out the late registration. Your child will be given a card to take to the class teacher.

As a safety issue, all parents/visitors entering the school between the hours of 8:30 and 2:45 are required to report to the office and receive a visitor's badge. Parents are asked not to come straight to the classroom door requesting to see a student or seek my attention, or to the foyer to put things into a child's bag without first calling at the office.

Absences:

It is a legal requirement that any absence from school is followed up with a written note of explanation that includes: student's name, class level, date/s of the absence, reason, parent name & signature & date completed. Completing the online "Absentee Notification" on the front page of the schools website is the easiest way to notify us of an absence and complete the required explanation details at the same time. Phoning the office on the day is appreciated, however; this still needs to be followed up in written form. If the school has not received a message either by phone or email then an SMS will be sent to the mother's mobile phone. An email is acceptable as a written absence note so long as the above criteria is included.

Parent Helpers:

I have received very generous offers of parent help in the classroom. At this stage I do not intend to have parent helpers on a day to day basis, but rather as the need or opportunity arises. When needed, your help is very much appreciated, especially at sporting carnivals.

Parent Interviews:

At this stage these are scheduled for Week 9 of this term, Monday 27 March to Friday 30 March. As I will not be at the school during this week, you may request a meeting with my replacement teacher or wait until Term Two and make a time to meet with me. An interview notice will be made available for you to book a time. Please note, some of the times will be blocked out as they are not available and there will be a cut off time for making interview appointments. More information regarding this will be sent out closer to the date.

Uniforms:

Please make yourself aware of the correct uniform requirements and the days for sports uniform, (Tuesdays). A note explaining the reason for incorrect uniform is appreciated as this takes the pressure off the child trying to explain.

Stationery:

Thank you for your assistance in getting the stationery orders in and the naming of the stationery. It is important the children have the equipment to get on with their work. All spare pencils, books etc. are kept at school. Spare pencils etc. are kept in a named zip-lock plastic bag in a container in the classroom and given out as the child needs it.

Allergies and Health issues:

Many children suffer from allergies and I would like to reiterate the school's effort to be "nut and egg aware". We ask that you please endeavour not to include nut/egg products in any recess or lunches. Please ensure the staff at the school are aware of your child's allergy or special medical condition. Current action plans for these children are required and medication up to date.

One recurring area of concern has been head lice. If a note is sent home to inform that head lice are again being found, please check your child's head and follow up with the appropriate treatment. Unless we all follow up and complete the treatment, head lice will keep reappearing at both expense and stress for others.

Birthdays:

Following from the allergies present in the classroom, I ask that you please do not send along treats, (cakes, cupcakes, lolly bags etc.) to the school on your child's birthday. The birthday is recognised on the day, in the classroom by the children and at Thursday morning assemblies. Also keep the handing out of birthday invitations out of the classroom environment as children not invited, can be upset and I have to deal with the disappointed children.

Specialist Classes:

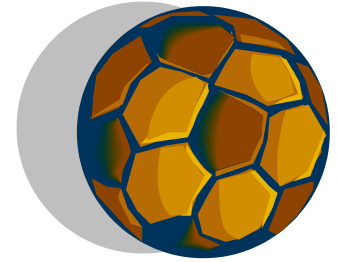
Recorder: Monday (Mrs Tait) Recorders are supplied

Library: Thursday (Mrs Lee-Gowland)


Sport/ Health: Tuesday (Mrs Lee-Gowland)

Science and Technology: Tuesday (Mrs Drysdale)

Chinese lessons: Friday 11:00 am.



Homework:



Year Four children are generally expected to do approximately 20 - 30 minutes a night. Homework is not compulsory, but rather a policy the school has set, in order to provide the children with practice activities that support the classroom program. Homework also gives parents an insight into the current work being carried out in the classroom. Mainly I am expecting that the children read every night and practise their Multiplication and Division facts recall. The Year Four curriculum standard is knowing all Multiplication facts and the related division facts up to 10x10.

Home Reading Program:

For the majority in Year Four, the children will be using the Lexile Reading Program, completing online quizzes after each book they read. Further information on the program can be sourced online or requested from me. A Reading Log is completed each night tracking their personal efforts in Reading.

As mentioned, Reading needs to be done every night. This may take the form of a school or town library book, a book at home or a book from the Lexile reading books in the classroom. These Lexile books are set for each child after a placement test has been sat. On-line quizzes follow-up most of the titles in the classroom. As a child finishes a book he/she sits a quick ten question on-line quiz. A pass mark of 7/10 gives the child points towards a certificate.

Weekly Spelling words:

Each child is given a weekly list of words to practise and these are also in the Reading Log.

It is important the students get the opportunity to share and talk about their day and their successes. Please help your child to set up good routines for homework and provide encouragement and support with the tasks. Read over your child's work and have expectations as to what is acceptable as well. You are the best teacher on hand as your child performs homework tasks. If you see your child making fundamental mistakes through something as simple as misreading the instructions, please make the most of this learning opportunity with your child.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

Behaviour:

As you may be aware, the school has adopted a Restorative Practice approach to behaviour management at St Cecilia's. The program promotes the development of self-control, encouraging positive behaviours and positive resolutions.



A child may go home and say they have been counted for a very minor offence as far as they are concerned. Our feeling is that if you prevent the small things and maintain a high standard behaviour expectation, hopefully no bigger discipline issues should arise. We also promote the 4 R's; Responsibility, Respect, Resilience and Reverence. Faction counters are given out for positive behaviours and each fortnight the winning faction is announced at assembly and receives an extra play period of 10 minutes. We strive to reward positive behaviours.

Religion:

A Program Pamphlet outlining the content of the 8 units is sent out accompanying this information booklet. Please keep this booklet for reference during the year.

Two units of work are covered each term and reported on at the end of each semester.

Term One:

- *The Church*
- *Lent and Easter*

Term Two:

- *Eucharist*
- *Confirmation*

Term Three:

- *Prayer*
- *Penance*

Term Four:

- *Baptism*
- *Advent/Christmas.*



This is a special year for the Year Fours as they celebrate First Holy Communion (Eucharist). During enrolment at St Cecilia's Catholic Primary, parents agree to support the Catholic program of the school and as this is such a special sacramental year, children are encouraged to attend Mass to support their knowledge and the teaching of Catholic practices, reported on each semester. Support given to these students, including students who are non-Catholic, during all religion units is appreciated.

Assemblies and Masses:

Assemblies take place on Mondays (on an odd week) in the Undercover Area and on Thursday mornings, (even weeks) in the Hall unless otherwise advised. Please keep an eye out for the Year Four assemblies, Masses and Reconciliations as these are noted for your information on the term planners available on the website. These term planners are subject to change and any changes will be notified.

Other Curriculum Term One outlines:

Literacy:

Reading: Reading instruction using the "Catching on to Comprehension" text as the main resource and supporting reading resources. A group of children also attend the MultiLit small group intensive program, focussing on phonemic awareness.

Writing: The first semester is focussed on Recount writing, Narrative and Report writing.

Mathematics:

Term One topics are below;

Number and Algebra - Large emphasis placed on knowing our numbers to the tens of thousands place value. Place value and partitioning numbers up to the ten thousand place value. Counting by quarters, halves and thirds including with mixed numerals. Locate and represent these fractions on a number line.

Measurement: Compare angles and classify them as equal to, greater than or less than a right angle. Use scaled instruments to measure and compare lengths.

Statistics and Probability: No topic covered in Term One.

HASSE:

The First semester focus is on History: Australia's First People, Early Exploration, The First Fleet and Early contacts between European and Indigenous Australians. The second semester focus is Geography.

Chinese Lessons:

Friday 11:00am. (30 minute lesson and follow-up practice sessions).

Meeting with the teacher.

If you have any concerns or wish to see me, please book a time for a meeting rather than trying to chat with me before or straight after school as the children are entering and leaving the classroom. These are busy times and I like to be able to offer you my undivided attention. When making a time, a brief indication as to the purpose for the meeting would be appreciated. Please contact the office by email or phone for a suitable time.

Looking forward to a successful and positive year.

Jody Tait.