



St Thomas the Apostle Primary School

Term 1 2017

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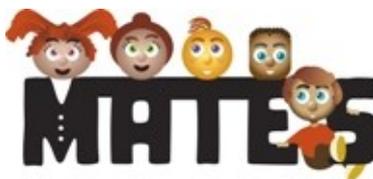
WELCOME TO 2017

Mates Are:

Thoughtful,

Engaged,

Safe



Teachers:

Mrs. Anne Barbic	3/4B
Mrs. Penny Vanzwol	3/4VL
Miss. Leyrizza Leyes	
Mr. Matthew Lowe	3/4L

Welcome to the 2017 school year! We hope that you and your family enjoyed the Christmas holidays as much as we did. We look forward to meeting all of you over the term and working with you to ensure that your child has a happy and successful year.

Curriculum:

Religion - Our overarching theme for 2017 is Follow Jesus' Way. Our Religious Education unit in Term 1 is called Church of Service. Students will learn about the features of the local parish and how it reaches out to the local community. Module prayer on Fridays will continue to be an important part of our Religious Education Program. Family members are welcome to join us in the library at 9am each Friday. Keep an eye to the school calendar as there will be some Friday mornings when we will attend parish mass.

Integrated Unit - Our Integrated Unit for this term is Community. During this unit the students will learn about the lives of the first Australians before European Settlers arrived in Australia and the causes and reasons for the journey of the First Fleet. They will practise thinking and acting like historians as they are immersed in stories of first contact between Indigenous Australians and European Settlers.

English - In English the children will be immersed in a variety of literary forms which will continue to develop their skills in reading, writing and oral language. The children will concentrate on developing the skills required to read and write persuasive and narrative texts. Spelling is an integral part of daily Literacy Blocks and in ICT the children will develop their word processing and keyboard skills.

Creative Arts - Our Creative Arts Program links closely to our Integrated Unit. We will be exploring how Creative Arts was and is used as a means of passing down stories, culture and history.

Mathematics - This term we will be covering all strands of the Australian Curriculum. Concepts to be covered include, number, patterns and place value, measurement, space and geometry. Mark Bazzana will provide additional assistance during the week, allowing the creation of four Mathematics classes, four days a week.

Home Learning / Home Reading - Formal homework for Year 3/4 will begin in Week 2 and will include reading, spelling and number practice. Students are encouraged to read a wide variety of rich literature at home and are expected to read every night. Students will need to return their reading diaries **daily**.

Days to Remember:

Sports Days - Tuesday & Friday

Library & Indonesian - Wednesday

Chess - Thursday

School Prayer - Monday morning in the Church

Module Prayer - Friday mornings in the Library

Important Dates for Term 1:

- Information Night and Welcome

BBQ - Tuesday 7th Feb 6.00pm

- Sacrament Enrolment Masses -

Saturday 11 Feb & Sunday 12 Feb

- Monday Prayer by 3/4 B, 13 Feb

Week 3

- Swimming Carnival - Friday 24

Feb - **Week 4**

- Assembly - **Week 7** - 17 March,

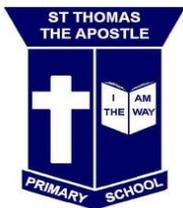
1.45pm. ALL 3/4 CLASSES

- Cross Country Carnival - Friday

24 March - **Week 8**

Special Points to remember:

- All items of clothing must be labeled—especially Hats and Jumpers.
- Children have fruit break every morning so please provide a small snack.
- Please provide an absence note if your child is absent within 3 days of return.



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Physical Development Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) - This term we will focus on preparing for the Cross Country Carnival, Athletics Carnival and fundamental skills required for a variety of sports. The children will participate in a Protective Behaviours unit and lessons focussing on establishing and maintaining sound relationships with their classmates and peers. The children need to wear their Sports Uniform on Tuesdays and Fridays. We have a fruit break during the morning session and encourage the students to bring small pieces of non-messy fruit/vegetables, cut and in a labelled re-useable container.

Uniforms- Children are expected to be in full, correct school or sport uniform at all times. This includes socks that rest above the ankles. Children out of correct uniform on any given day should bring a note from home so that we know that the parents are aware of what the child is wearing on that day.

The St Thomas' broad-brim or legionnaire style hat are part of the full school uniform and are required to participate in playground and outdoor school activities. Any child who does not have a correct school hat will be supervised, whilst sitting in a shaded area of the school. A baseball style cap is not a substitute for a school hat.

Jewellery, outside of studs or sleepers in the ears, a wristwatch and/or a simple cross necklace, is not permitted, as is any form of make-up and/or nail polish. If there has been a need for these items over the course of a weekend or during the week they should be removed before the next school day.

Absences from School - When your child is absent for whatever reason, a note must be sent to school, even if the school has been informed by phone. This written and signed note of explanation is a legal requirement for school rolls. Please note that we also accept emails or a note sent via the 'Skoolbag' app.

Incidentals - All medication must be held by the Front Office and detailed instructions must be provided.

- We would like to remind you that the children are not to bring toys to school. This includes personal sports equipment, swap cards and any other current-trend bracelets.
- If your child needs a mobile phone for before or after school use, it must be handed into the classroom teacher each morning.
- Please remember that we are a 'nut free' school when packing your child's lunch and providing birthday treats. There are children in Year 3/4 who have serious nut allergies.
- If you haven't already downloaded the 'Skoolbag' app we suggest you do as this provides regular updates of school happenings. Instructions on how to do this can be found on the School's website.

Meeting Your Childs Teacher -

We are always happy to talk to you about your child. Whilst it may be tempting to grab a quick word in the morning, please remember that we can be on duty or preparing for class at these times, and are often unable to give you the time or attention that you and your child deserves. We ask instead that you arrange an appointment by contacting the front office, either by email, phone call or note. We can then arrange a time to talk by phone or schedule a face to face meeting where we can give you our undivided attention.

To help with a smooth start to the year you may wish to fill in the 'Kids Matter' form, which was sent home separately, to assist in your initial conversation with your class teacher.

Thank you for your support.
Yours sincerely,

Anne Barbic, Penny Vanzwol, Leyrizza Leyes & Matthew Lowe