



St Thomas the Apostle Primary School

Term 1 2017

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WELCOME TO 2017

Mates Are:

Thoughtful,

Engaged,

Safe



Teachers:

Miss Lucy McMillan 1M

Miss Kaitlin Reedy 1R

Ms Angie Kisiel 1R
(every second Friday)

Days to Remember:

Sports Days - Monday & Thursday

Library & Indonesian- Tuesday

Music - Monday

School Prayer-Monday morning in the Church

Grade Prayer - Friday morning

Important Dates:

Opening School Mass 9:30am 2/2

Parent Information Night 6pm 7/2

Swimming Carnival 24/2

Monday Prayer- 1M 27/2

Parent Literacy Night 6:30pm 28/2

Ash Wednesday Mass 9:30am 1/3

Parent Numeracy Night 6:30pm 7/3

Monday Prayer- 1R 20/3

Cross Country 24/3

Special Points to remember:

- All items of clothing must be labeled—especially Hats.
- 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.

Welcome to Year 1 2017! We hope you enjoyed the Christmas period with your family and are looking forward to an exciting year!

Curriculum:

Religion: Our overarching theme for 2017 is 'Follow Jesus' way.' Through this, the children will learn a variety of ways to follow Jesus in their everyday lives. Our Term 1 unit is 'Church as Community'. We will learn about the Church as a community that celebrates God's love and the different ways we gather to share aspects of our lives.

Literacy: In Literacy, the children will be immersed in a variety of literary forms to help them develop their skills in reading, comprehension, spelling, writing, viewing and oral language. In writing we will focus on the conventions of writing eg. organising words into sentences, writing from left to right, using full stops and capital letters. During our Literacy blocks students will participate in Literacy groups in which the above forms are explored and practised. News will occur each day, with students being allocated a specific day. Topics will be given out at the end of each week.

Mathematics: This year, Year 1 will use an investigation based approach in Maths to cover all strands of the Australian Curriculum. We will be looking at Whole Number, Patterns and Algebra, Measurement (length, area and time), Addition and Subtraction, 3D shapes, Data and ways of Working Mathematically. The children will be assessed this term using SENA (Schedule for Early Number Assessment) through the 'Count Me In Too' program. They will participate in Numeracy Blocks which involve whole class teacher directed lessons and small group activities with an emphasis on problem solving.

HASS: This term in HASS students will learn about the services in our community. They will consider sustainable practices as they design and construct model buildings for a precinct in their community.

PD/H/PE: Sport days this term will be **Monday and Thursday's**. On Monday's, the children will participate in Gross Motor lessons and on Thursday's, the children develop their athletic skills in preparation for the school athletics carnival.

Arts: Students will attend Music lessons once a week for 45 minutes with Ms Zita Clifford. Visual and Creative Arts will be integrated across the curriculum to support a creative learning environment.

Indonesian & Library: Students attend Indonesian and Library lessons every Tuesday. Ibu Clifford is our Indonesian teacher and our library teacher is Miss Hayley Douglas. Students will need to **bring a labeled library bag** to borrow books. Please support them to return library books weekly.



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Grade Prayer: You are welcome to join us every Friday morning as we participate in prayer as a grade level.

Uniform Expectations: A reminder that all children should be in their full summer uniform. Students are expected to wear their hats. Please ensure every item of your child's clothing is clearly labeled. Accessories such as hair ribbons should be in school colours. Earrings should be simple sleepers or studs and nail polish should not be worn.

Home Learning: The expectation is that the **children read every night** and for parents to sign their 'Home Reading Record'. Home reading should be an enjoyable experience for all. It is a time for your child to show his/her developing literacy skills, and may be at a lower level than what is read at school. Home reading will begin in Week 1. Please use your blue bag for this.

Medications: If your child is sick at any point throughout the year and requires medication it needs to be taken to Jodie at the front office with a note outlining the administration of the medication.

Important Information:

St Thomas the Apostle is a **nut free** environment due to many children having severe nut allergies. Please ensure you do not pack any nuts or nut products (e.g. nutella, peanut butter, satays) in your child's lunch box. For this same reason sharing food is not permitted.

Birthdays: If you wish to send in cake for your child's birthday we are more than happy to celebrate with the class. We encourage you to send cupcakes (not whole cakes) as they are easier to distribute and we do not keep knives in the classroom for safety reasons. All food for the class needs to have a list of ingredients.

Parent Assistance in the Classroom: We would love to have some parent helpers to assist in Year 1! If you are able to assist, please put your name down on Information Night. Please note that all helpers must have a Working With Vulnerable People card to assist in the classroom.

Teacher Interviews: If you have any concerns or queries about your child/children, please feel free to make an appointment to speak to us.

We would love you to join us for the **Information Night and BBQ on Tuesday 7th February** at 6.00pm.

We are looking forward to a successful and enjoyable year. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Lucy McMillan and Miss Kaitlin Reedy.