



St Thomas the Apostle Primary School

39 Boddington Crescent
Kambah ACT 2902
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Years 5/6 Information to Parents

22nd July, 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 3. We are looking forward to a busy, artistic term full of challenges and successes as we continue to grow together.

The following table contains important dates for Year 5/6.

<p><u>Important dates for Years 5/ 6.</u> <i>(Please refer to school calendar for further events and variations closer to the given date)</i></p> <p>29th July – Wakakirri Dress Rehearsal in school hall 4th August – Wakakirri Performance at Canberra Theatre 15th August – Assumption Mass 9:30am Girls Chess 16th August – Tuggeranong PSSA Athletics 19th August – Grandparent's Day 26th August – Book Week Parade 29th August – 5/6 Red Monday Prayer 31st August – SCC Family Night 2nd September – Father's Day Breakfast 6th September – ACT PSSA Athletics 9th September – 5/6 Red Assembly 12th September – 5/6 Blue Monday Prayer 20th September – St Thomas' ShOW Day 23rd September – 5/6 White Assembly</p>	<p><u>Years 5/ 6 Weekly Events</u></p> <p>Monday: Monday Prayer – 9am in the Church Parents are invited to attend. Home Learning given out and returned. <u>Sport Uniform</u></p> <p>Tuesday: Chess 5/6 Red and 5/6 White</p> <p>Wednesday: Library and Indonesian</p> <p>Thursday: Chess – 5/6 Blue <u>Sport uniform</u> - Gymnastics</p> <p>Friday: Module Prayer - 9am in Chess Room, parents are invited to attend. Whole School Assembly – <u>1.45pm</u> in the Hall, parents invited.</p>
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Religion

This term our unit title is 'Jesus in the Gospels'. Students will explore the four Gospels of the Bible in depth, including how, when and where they were written. They will compare and contrast the four Gospels, looking at Jesus' commitment to service and justice. Students will be challenged this term to design and lead their own mission activity and to be disciples of Jesus in their own community.

History/Geography

Our focus this term is to explore migration to Australia following colonisation. Students will look at the reasons people migrated to Australia, the places from which migrants came and the impact this had on both Australian society and the environment. In particular students will research Asia due to its close proximity to Australia.



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Learning Support

Learning Support for Years 3-6 continues to target, as a priority, those students experiencing significant difficulty with literacy. Parents of these students will be notified by letter.

Mathematics and English

Our Mathematics program will follow the school Scope and Sequence document. Students will investigate the mathematical concepts of Shape, Measurement, Number, and Statistics and Probability. Students will continue working in their current Maths groups.

For our writing focus this term we are looking at narratives. Students will explore the structure and exceptional examples of narratives. Students will have opportunities to write their own narratives, using the writing process to draft, edit and publish these. This term we are continuing reader's workshop and book club in our literacy time to help engage students in reading.

Physical Education

Our sports days are Monday and Thursday this term. On Mondays beginning in Week 4 students will be participating in Oz Tag and AFL clinics and Thursdays during Weeks 1 – 10 the children will participate in Gymnastics. Gymnastics clinics are held at school.

Wakakirri

Wakakirri is almost upon us and the children are very excited. We are continuing to rehearse our performance ready for the heats in Week 3 of this term. Thank you for all of your support in preparing for our performance at the Canberra Theatre. Tickets and performance notes were sent home this week.

Parent Helpers

We welcome parent helpers in our classrooms. If you are able to help please let your child's teacher know and they will make arrangements with you. If you are assisting in the classroom, please observe school policy by reporting to the Front Office to collect a Visitor's Badge and to sign in. Please respect the confidential nature of the work you do with the children. It is a legal requirement when working with children to hold a **Working with Vulnerable People** card. Please ensure you have it with you when assisting at school.

Home Learning

Home learning Time Guide for Years 5/6: 30 minutes of activities and 15 minutes reading - 4 nights per week.

Home learning in primary school has many purposes. One of the most important is the setting of good routines. We ask all parents to help your child set up these good routines by making time to do the home learning. Work should be neatly finished and returned to school on time. Parents please give assistance as necessary, especially during research times.

Home reading needs to be monitored regularly.



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Let your class teacher know if there are difficulties with home learning. We understand that some weeks can be difficult. If this happens a note from parents in lieu of completed home learning is acceptable. Home learning is sent home through the Showbie app on a Monday and completed home learning is due the following Monday.

Early pick up or late arrival

Please pick up children from the Front Office if they are leaving for appointments during school hours. A note should be sent to the class teacher to indicate this will happen. The office staff will call for your children to come to the office.

Late arrivals should report to the Front Office upon arrival to sign-in. School starts at 9.00am.

Uniforms

Children should be dressed in the correct winter uniform each day. Thank you for your support.

- Navy blue tights or white socks that rest above the ankles with black lace-up shoes.
- School hat – either broad-brimmed or bucket style. The Hats Off policy concludes soon and students will be required to wear their hats during play times. Dates for the commencement of the No Hat, No Play policy will be published in the school newsletter.
- Jewellery – studs or sleepers, wrist watch, simple cross necklace only.
- No makeup or nail polish.
- Navy or maroon headbands, **beanies and scarves only.**
- **Joggers / supportive sport's** shoes should be worn on Monday and Thursday with our sports uniform and above the ankle socks.
- If your child is out of uniform for any reason, please send a note to the classroom teacher. This note will only cover the child for that day, unless other arrangements have been made.
- All mobile phones should be turned off and given to the class teacher for safe keeping during the day.

Medication

If your child needs medication during school hours, it must be sent to the Front Office with a note indicating dosage and time for its administration.

iPads

The BYOD iPad program has been a great success in 5/6 this year. Students are enjoying the learning opportunities that have become possible with the use iPads and are showing great creativity and initiative in their learning.

Looking forward to a great Term 3 working with you,

Leah Godfrey, Natasha Pank, Nikki Arcidiacono and Tona Tallarida
(Years 5/6 Teachers).