

Year 6 Parent  
Information Meeting

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School



Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2016

# Year 6 Information Package

February 2016

Mrs Sarah Rees and Mrs Shevaun Bertelli

## 1. Classroom Philosophy

It is important that students feel comfortable in their learning environment and enjoy coming to school. They are encouraged to work with their peers, co-operating and learning from each other as well as working individually to complete some tasks. In Year Six, students are given opportunities to accept roles of responsibility and are encouraged to take greater 'ownership' of their own behaviour and learning. By the end of Year Six, students should be prepared to cope with the challenges of Year Seven and the transition to High School.

## 2. Curriculum Framework/Australian Curriculum-Outcomes Based Education

There are 9 learning areas covered in the course of each week. Please see overview of each learning area. The Curriculum Framework is set up in such a way that we are given a set of outcomes to reach for each learning area. We are also working directly with the Australian Curriculum in Mathematics, English, History, Science and Geography.

## 3. Classroom Discipline Policy

The '1,2,3 Magic' Policy will be implemented in line with school policy. Any severe behaviour issues will be dealt with separately in conjunction with the school and parents.

## 4. Punctuality

It is important that the students are on time to school in the morning so that lessons can commence promptly at 8.40am. It is also important that students do not arrive too early to school. They are supervised in the classroom from 8.20am, so parents are encouraged to 'drop and go'. Please note that any student that arrives late will need to go via the office and sign in.

## 5. Parent Absentee Notes/Absences

If a student is absent from school, a letter stating the reason for the absence is required for the school records. This letter needs to be written on a separate piece of paper and not in your child's diary, as all letters need to be kept on file (You may cut the ones in the back of the diary out to hand to the teacher). Absentee slips can be found in the back of the school diary for your convenience. Letters must be dated and signed by a parent or guardian, then given to the class teacher on the day the child returns to school. **Please ring or email to inform the office if your child is away for any reason (you still must provide a note).** The office staff will text you in the morning to confirm that your child is absent, if they receive no call from you.

### **STUDENTS LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE DAY BETWEEN 8:45am-3:00pm:**

Parents must attend the 'office' to "sign out" their child in the 'Sign Out Book' BEFORE taking students from the classroom during the day. There you will be given a 'slip' to present to the teacher indicating that this process has been completed. Please go directly to the Office first, as a child cannot be removed from the classroom until this process has been completed.

### **VISITING STUDENTS DURING THE DAY BETWEEN 8.45am-3:00pm:**

Should it occur that you need to contact/visit your child during the day, you will be required to visit the office to 'sign in'. You will be given a visitors badge to wear whilst you are on school grounds. Please ensure you return to the office to sign out when you are leaving.

## 6. Computers-Responsible Use Agreements

Students must realise their commitment to use computers responsibly in the school, as indicated in the terms and conditions of Leschenault Catholic Primary School's Responsible Use Policy. This is located at the back of your child's diary and must be signed by the student and parent prior to the student being allowed to use technology in the school. Loss of computer privileges will result from any misuse, including changing desk tops or logons, printing or emailing without permission, or using offensive language (certain words will trigger an alert), which is monitored by CEO and to which the school will be notified of. Students will have at least one session in the Computer Lab each week.

## 7. Specialist Teaching Areas

\*Information Technology sessions will be held weekly by Mr Portolan. Students will explore a range of technologies to facilitate communication, sharing and innovation, which they can translate into their learning within the general classroom environment.

\*Physical Education is held every week with Mrs Hancock. Students are required to wear their full sports uniform, unless otherwise informed. Our Swimming Carnival is held in Term 1 and our Athletics Carnival in Term 3. Selected students also participate in Interschool Carnivals throughout the year.

\*Indonesian sessions will be held weekly with Mrs Forrest. A special Harmony Week will be celebrated with a variety of activities during the year.

\*Science sessions will be held weekly with Miss Ridgeway. Students will be encouraged to think critically and explore and investigate the world around them.

\* Students have the opportunity to audition for the Senior Choir. Those students selected, have the opportunity to participate in the Performing Arts Festival in Perth and the Bunbury Eisteddfod. Choir is seen as an extra-curricular activity, but is still held during school time.

## 8. Interviews and Reports

Parent interviews are compulsory and will take place at the end of Term 1. Parents will receive an academic report in Terms 2 and 4.

**Parents are always welcome and encouraged to make an interview time with us, outside of the set ones, to discuss your child's progress, behaviour or any other issues that arise. When making an appointment, it is much appreciated if you could let us know briefly what your concerns or queries are so that we can ensure we are able to assist you and your child to the best of our ability.**

## 9. Homework

Reading, Spelling and Maths should be completed each night from Monday-Thursday inclusive. These tasks include the learning of times tables to the 12x. Some additional tasks may also need to be completed, particularly when students have been given an assignment with a specified date for completion. If for some reason your child is unable to complete their homework, please write a brief message in their diary. If a student is experiencing difficulties in completing a task, please write a note in the diary rather than a, "I couldn't do" from your child. In some cases, homework may need to be modified for a student and we are more than willing to discuss this if the need arises. When homework is untidy, we will ask the student to repeat their work. Often parents will pick up on untidy work and ask their child to repeat it. We will support you in your endeavours with this too.

Reading – 20 minutes – Novel

Spelling – 20 minutes – Activity Grid

Times Tables – 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x 6x, 7x, 8x, 9x, 10x, 11x, 12x

Assignments

Homework Club is available for the students each week on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 7.50am-8.20am in the Library. This is a fantastic opportunity for those students who are short on time or who may need a bit of extra assistance to work with one of the teachers in our school.

### **10. Other Information**

\*Both Year 6 teachers plan and teach collaboratively each term. Class lessons and homework are based on the same programme in both classes.

\*Parent involvement in this class is encouraged and welcomed.

\*If we are concerned about your child's progress or behaviour, we will contact you by phone or through the diary. We will also use this method of contact if we notice improvement in a child's behaviour or when they have done a particularly good deed for someone.

\*All exercise books, scrap books and texts must be covered, labelled & named.

\*Liquid paper is not to be used in any written work (without permission) and textas are not permitted in map work or in any exercise book, scrap book or text.

\*Our Buddy programme with the Pre-Primary students will commence later in the term, when the younger students have adjusted to their new learning environment. This programme allows for weekly interaction between the students, stimulates nurturing skills and allows for the Year 6 students to plan and create different activities during the year.

\*Guest speakers are invited into the school in order to enhance different learning areas.

\*All students have access to the computers and internet within and outside of class, once they have signed a Responsible Use Agreement Contract located at the back of your child's diary. The computer is integrated into all learning areas.

\*Our classes will present one Assembly and one Liturgy (each) during the year. We will attend all other Assemblies, Masses and Liturgies. We will also attend a Parish Mass once a term.

#### **\*Things to collect for classroom use are:**

Suitable magazines, scraps of material, balls of wool, buttons, egg cartons (great for holding paint and glue), scrap paper, sequins, small shells, cards-Christmas, birthday and other celebrations, jars, ice-cream/yoghurt containers, cotton/yarn/wool.

### **11. Learning Areas**

#### **Religion:**

During the year, a variety of topics are covered. These include looking at the Sacraments, Prayer, the Bible and the role of the Church today. The students will have the opportunity to reflect, meditate and pray throughout the year. We invite parents to attend our Masses, Liturgies and celebrations. This year students will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in Term 3. There will be more details to follow.

#### **Mathematics:**

Lessons are held each day for approximately one hour following the Stepping Stones program. This year the students should be familiar with tables up to and including their 12 x's tables. Students who are still experiencing difficulties with tables, should be learning them each night as part of their individual homework. We will continue to stream children and cater for academic need in these sessions.

#### **English:**

**Reading** on a regular basis is the key to future success in all learning areas. Students should read for a minimum of 20 minutes nightly. There will be a focus on comprehension strategies, such as inferencing. Students will be exposed to a variety of texts to consolidate skills.

**Writing** using a variety of genre (narratives, persuasive writing, reports, play writing, letter writing, scripts, procedures, poetry etc) should be seen as a natural progression of what the children read and view, together with their vivid and creative imaginations. During the year, students are given the opportunity to prepare and present oral presentations.

**Spelling** - Students are streamlined into ability groups and are given words based on specific patterns or rules, using the 'Words Their Way' program or 'Letters and Sounds' program that allows the students to work at their own spelling ability while applying spelling rules and investigating the different aspects of Word Usage. Spelling tests are conducted once a fortnight.

**Grammar** is imbedded into the whole English programme. We will focus on particular grammar conventions throughout the year, utilising the textbook 'Grammar For A Purpose'.

**Health:**

During the year, the students will cover a variety of topics that better help them understand their bodies & Puberty. All Year 6 students will also participate in programmes that promote self-esteem and provide strategies to enable them to recognise and cope with friendship and bullying issues, making informed healthy decisions and dealing with peer pressure.

**History and Geography:**

In keeping with the National Curriculum, the Year 6 students will focus on the theme of, 'A Diverse World'. While different topics will be covered during the year, the emphasis is placed on the development of specific skills e.g. Research, mapping, creating timelines and the writing of bibliographies. The students will often integrate this area with other learning areas like English and Maths. In Term One, we will focus on the topic of Geography.

We are looking forward to a busy and productive year working alongside you for the benefit of your children. It is wonderful to know that we have your support in what will be an amazing final year of primary school for your child.