15th April 2016

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to Term 2. This term is quite exciting for your child as they take on new learnings and further develop their skills of independence and self-directed learning. Following is an outline of the content to be covered for Year 5 for this term.

If you need to see any of us about your child, please drop in for a quick chat before or after school; if you need a longer discussion, we ask that you make an appointment so we can devote sufficient time to your needs.

Gods blessing on you,

Alyce Stone, Anne Maree Leonard, Catherine Kenney
Year 5 Teachers

Martyn Savage
Principal

ST ANTHONY’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, 1 ST ANTHONY’S DRIVE, ALEXANDRA HILLS QLD 4161
Phone 07 3820 1200 | Fax 07 3820 1255 | palexhills@bne.catholic.edu.au | www.stanthonyalexhills.qld.edu.au
Religion

This term the students will be continue to explore the Holy Spirit specifically in relation to the formation of conscience. They will also look at Marian prayers and continue to develop their own spirituality through class, school prayer and liturgies.

English

Reading: Always integral to their learning, reading and comprehension skills will continue to be taught throughout the year. Students are taught a range of comprehension skills to give them every opportunity to read and understand texts appropriate to their ability. To enable students to keep abreast of curriculum demands it is strongly advised that students read at least 20 minutes every night.

Novel Study: This term, Year 5 will be looking in depth at Tim Winton's novel "Blueback". Blueback is the story of a young boy growing up on the West Australian coast with his mother. It is a beautifully written, yet simple tale about family, belonging and living a life in tune with the environment. The children will look at character development, similes and metaphors and how to use these literary devices to improve their own writing.

Writing: This term, in preparation for NAPLAN, students continue to practice their skills in writing narrative and persuasive texts. These text types will be explored across the curriculum including the History, Geography and Science. Grammar, punctuation and editing are taught over the entirety of the year.

Speaking: This term students will take part in a prepared book circle discussion where they will discuss different aspects of the class novel and respond to answers from the group.

Maths

We begin each year with some revision from the previous year before moving onto new concepts. The topics covered in term 2 include:

- Five digit addition, multiples, drawing prisms and pyramids, square centimetres, division strategies, 2-digit multiplication, column graphs, triangular & hexagonal prisms, 5-digit subtractions, factors, probability from 1 – 0, cubic centimetres, 3-digit multiplication, order of operations, nets of 3-D objects, am & pm, 24-hour time, mixed numerals, reading scales on a map, perimeter, 3-digit multiplication, discrete & continuous data, square metres, decimal tenths & hundredths, measuring angles with protractors, the tonne, ordering decimals, describing chance, properties of prisms, rules of divisibility, fractions an a number line, databases.
History

Students will investigate the gold rushes of the 1800’s in particular the Eureka Stockade and the social and political conditions that led to this event. To support and enhance this learning, students will take part in a living history excursion later in the term – more details to follow closer to the date.

Science

‘Light’ will form the basis of science investigations this term. Reflected, refracted and absorbed, the students will conduct a range of experiments to understand how light works and how they can manipulate various elements to gain desired effects.

Geography

The geography inquiry for term 2 is "How do people and environments influence one another?" During the unit, the children will look at the influence of people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on the environmental characteristics of Australian places, question and plan an inquiry, collect and record data and represent the location and features of places on large and small scale maps using the BOLTSS technique.

Technology and Design

Over the next two terms, students will move into a realm of design, planning, creating and presenting a particular product. To this end they will create their own ‘Arcade’ games. Students will follow a design process, adjusting and modifying their build as required. We ask that should you have any unwanted boxes at home, that they be sent to school with your child as the basis of their building materials.

Japanese

For Term 2, Japanese classes will be held every Monday and Wednesday. We are fortunate that Tominaga Sensei is able to provide the students with extra tuition this term.
**Sport, Music & Drama**

These specialist lessons will continue to be held every Thursday morning. Starting this term, students will begin participating in Gala Sports Days where they will play a specific game against other local schools for an entire day – this will enable them to gain excellent game and team experience.

**Visual and Media Arts**

Art forms an integral part of the curriculum and will see the children experience different mediums and techniques. To this end the students will begin extended projects late in the term that will encompass a wide range of skills and technologies.

**NAPLAN**

NAPLAN tests are held this term on 10th, 11th and 12th May. Whilst some students may feel anxiety at this time, we strongly encourage you to help your child see the place of these tests in the entire context of their learning. At school, whilst we have been practising various skills to support the students throughout these tests, it has always been done with an emphasis on familiarising the students with what they may face in a particular test and giving them strategies to work through problems. If your child is feeling any anxiety around these tests, or you would like to know more, please contact your child’s teacher.

**Uniforms**

Formal uniforms are worn every Monday and Wednesday. Sports uniforms are worn on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We cannot stress enough the importance of a school hat – apart from the obvious sun protection, any children without hats are not allowed to play in the yard during breaks.