A Community of Faith; Learning for Life.

Faith
A vibrant faith community living like Jesus, in the spirit of the Good News.

Learning
Confident life-long learners who embrace challenges and experience success.

Life
Active, informed and courageous members of a global community.

TEACHERS:

EITHNE KING
CHANTELLE JACKSON
KAREN WILLIAMS
Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term Three! We hope you enjoyed your holidays and those few sunny days that brought smiles to many faces in the dreariness of Winter. This term, like many others, will be a busy but exciting one! We urge you to check your child’s communication folder regularly for any important dates, news or events that may be occurring.

This term we will be celebrating the Preps 100th day at school on Wednesday 29th July. The students will be busy completing activities throughout the day, to help celebrate this very special and exciting event.

This term we keep the Year Six children in our prayers, as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 28th August. We pray for them as they move through the next Sacrament in their faith journey.

We look forward to a great term with many exciting things planned such as buddy sessions, 100 Days, Book Week, Fathers’ Day celebrations and many more!

Please read through the information outlining this term, and do not hesitate to come in and see us at any time.

Yours Sincerely,

The Prep Team

Eithne King, Karen Williams, Chantelle Jackson

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CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is integrated into the daily conversations and learning experiences that we have and plan for with all of our students. Through our school values and the Gospels of Jesus, we endeavour to be active Christians in today’s world. Students at this level participate in parish daily mass, whole school masses, classroom liturgies and focus lessons based on the Good Shepherd Experience as outlined in the Catholic Education text, ‘To Know, Worship and Love’.

This term we will begin a new unit, ‘How it All Began!’ We will learn about the two main parts of the Bible, the Old and New Testament. In this unit, the Preps will be focusing on stories from the Old Testament, beginning with the Creation story. The students will learn that God created the world as a gift of love and that we all have a role in looking after our world. They will hear the stories of God’s people from the Bible and identify the characters chosen by God to lead His people. During this unit, students will be listening, retelling and responding to stories from the Bible through various activities. e.g. song, Godly Play, art etc.

We warmly invite you to attend whole school and class masses that will occur throughout the term. (Please see some dates below) The Prep students will attend school masses with their buddy or a 3/4 class who will assist them with routines and behaviours expected at Mass.

Dates for Masses
Friday 24th July 9.15am School Mass-Farewell to Fr Laurence
Tuesday 11th August 9:15am Prep J and 3/4GA
Tuesday 18th August 9:15am Prep KW and 3/4BB

Better Buddies

During this term, the Prep students will continue to meet with their buddy. Through a variety of activities they will continue to develop the following skills and values:

- sharing and taking turns
- treating others with respect
- acceptance of differences and including others
- caring and support
- cooperation
- organisation
- leadership
- no putdowns.

LITERACY

This term, the students will look at different letter combinations that make the same sound e.g ‘r’ as in ‘rain’, ‘rr’ as in ‘cherry’, ‘wr’ as in ‘wrist’, in order to improve their reading and spelling. The 100 Common Sight words will continue to be explored and the students’ knowledge of these strengthened, in reading and writing. In our Reading hour, the children will continue to work in small groups that cater for their individual needs. Some activities include tasks that
focus on: rhyming patterns, comprehension, letters, words and sentences, sounds and blends. Please ensure your child reads their take home book each night and that all details are recorded in their yellow log book.

LITERACY continued

The students will further consolidate their writing skills and letter formation. They will focus on the correct structure of sentences and include more detail to enhance their writing. The students will continue to explore the use of punctuation in writing. They will also be encouraged to edit their writing when a task is completed. Students will read over their writing and make any corrections or adjustments to improve their written work.

‘Speaking and Listening’ skills will continue to be a focus this term as the students identify and practise the following skills:

‘What does a Good Speaker do?’
- Body Language: keep still in front of an audience
- Eye Contact: make eye contact with the audience
- Speed: speak at a good speed, not too fast or slow
- Volume: speak loud enough to be heard by everyone
- Sharing: share my thoughts and ideas.

‘What does a Good Listener do?’
- Body Language: keep still while the speaker is talking
- Eye Contact: make eye contact with the speaker
- Listening: listen to the speaker and don’t talk to others
- Ask Questions: ask questions to find out more information.

There will be many different opportunities to practise speaking to an audience, listening to a speaker and responding appropriately to questions throughout all areas of the curriculum.

MATHS

In Number and Algebra, students will continue to investigate numbers through sequencing numbers up to 20 and beyond. They will be involved in activities to use the skills of counting backwards and forwards from different starting points, skip counting and number patterns. They will continue to experiment and develop simple addition problems and further develop skills of counting on from the bigger number. They will also begin to experiment and develop simple subtraction problems.

In Measurement and Geometry, they will sort, describe and name some common three-dimensional objects in the environment. The students will also be introduced to measuring Capacity and comparing objects, using the language ‘holds more, holds less’. They will be encouraged to use mathematical language when describing and comparing two objects. In Statistics and Probability, the students will collect and organise data to create a simple graph. They will also make simple statements about the data.

INQUIRY

This Term, the Prep students will be investigating culture through our new unit, ‘Kids Around the World.’ The students will explore the essential question:
**‘How does culture impact our lives?’**

We aim to work through the following understandings:

- There are similarities and differences between the everyday lives of children around the world
- Culture can have a big impact on our daily lives
- Children all over the world have access to different experiences and resources.

**REMINDES**

**School Newsletter**

We encourage all families to read the School Newsletter and Prep Newsletter when it goes home each Thursday (email sent by the office from week 2) and Friday night. These are the main point of correspondence for school events and updates.

**Classroom Helpers**

Again we thank those parents/family members who come into our classrooms to assist with the learning program. We cannot run such effective programs without the assistance of Classroom Helpers. Helpers are reminded that a current Working with Children’s Check is required and a copy needs to be recorded at the school office. Confidentiality is of the utmost importance whilst helping in the classroom.

**Parent/Teacher Contact**

Parents are urged to contact the class teacher if they have any queries regarding the progress of their child. All that is required is a telephone call, email or note to arrange a mutually convenient appointment time. Discussions before the morning bell may not be suitable if the teacher is in a meeting or preparing for the day. We, too, will contact you if we feel there is a need. During Term Three, we have parent/teacher interviews and your child’s progress will be presented. We look forward to sharing and celebrating your child’s learning on either Tuesday 15th or Wednesday 16th September.

**Late Starters**

Winter has definitely settled in and the mornings are very fresh, however the school day begins at 8:55am! Students need time to organise their belongings for the start of the school day and therefore need to be at school before this time, at 8.45am. This settling time prepares the students for the school day and allows for the prompt starting of the Literacy block. Just a reminder, no students are allowed into the classroom without the presence of a teacher.

**Crunch and Munch**

We encourage students to bring in a portion of fruit/vegetable or cheese to eat at a designated time during the school day. This will allow for increased concentration for your
child in one of the two hour learning blocks. If your child is using a re-usable container, please don't forget to label it to ensure it doesn't go missing.

School Uniform

During Term Three, the school hat is not required to be worn whilst out on the yard. It is advisable as we are in the cold winter months that students wear coats and rug up to prevent some of those nasty colds. Scarfs are permitted in the mornings/evenings; however are not safe on the yard during recess and lunch.

NO FOOD SHARING POLICY

We ask parents to be vigilant in the food that they pack for their children as at Holy Family we are a non-food sharing school. Due to allergies amongst our students, we do not allow students to share food brought from home. We remind parents that foods containing nuts including Nutella or other hazelnut spreads, and some muesli bars, are not permitted. We also ask that foods containing legumes such as hommus and bean based products are also left at home. Children with severe allergies do attend our school and your assistance in providing a safe environment for all children is appreciated. At times cooking will occur in the classrooms and information regarding any food item that will be provided or used within these learning experiences will be sent home prior to the learning activity.

Action Plans and Medication

It is the parents' responsibility to provide an up to date action plan to the school for all children suffering from asthma or allergies. Medication forms can be found at the office and will need to be filled and returned, should you require school staff to administer scripted medication to your child. Class teachers do not have these forms in the classroom. Please see Lyn or Susan in the office for further explanation of this procedure.

Please Note:

- Each class has a lunch box tub that is outside during recess and lunch. All students are expected to place their containers in these tubs to avoid lost items and leaving these in the corridor. Please speak to your child about placing their lunch box within their class's lunch box tub.
- Sports uniform (including runners) is to be worn on the designated sports day only.
- Should students be absent through illness, or for any other reason, a brief note must be forwarded to the class teacher explaining the reason for non-attendance.
- Students are reminded to bring a water bottle (preferably a pop-top) to school, which they are able to drink from throughout the day.
- When students go on holidays, extra work will not be provided for your child. We encourage students to write a journal of sorts to recount their daily activities if the parents choose to do so.
- Toys and electronic equipment should not be brought to school.
- At times, balls brought from home may go up onto the school roof. If your child’s ball does go onto the roof please inform the office staff so that when the appropriate person
is available, balls will be collected from the roof. Due to occupational health and safety regulations, school staff are unable to collect balls from the roof.

**Classroom Specialist Timetables**

**Please note that Physical Education and Sport Sessions require full sports uniform**

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**Library**
The students will continue their lessons with Mrs Morris, throughout the term, and are reminded that they need to have their library bags for their weekly borrowing session with their teacher.

**Dates for the Diary**

**July**
Friday 24th
Wednesday 29th
School Mass-Farewell to Fr Laurence
100 Days of School for Preps

**August**
Wednesday 5th
Friday 7th
Monday 10th
Tuesday 11th
Tuesday 18th
Monday 24th
Friday 28th
Art Learning Celebration
School Closure Day
Excursion to CERES
Class Mass Prep J and 3/4GA
Class Mass Prep KW and 3/4BB
Book Week – 'Books Light Up our World'
Sacrament of Confirmation

**September**
Friday 4th
Sunday 6th
Friday 11th
Tuesday 15th
Wednesday 16th
Friday 18th
Father’s Day Prep & School Celebration
Father’s Day
School Disco
Parent/Teacher Interviews
Parent/Teacher Interviews
End of Term 1:30pm Finish