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,

We welcome you to Term Four and hope that your holidays were enjoyable away from the routine of school. This term promises to keep everyone on their toes as we move towards the end of the 2015 school year. We welcome the younger brothers and sisters of our current students, who are enrolled in Prep for 2016 as they begin their transition program into Holy Family.

Term Four will bring about many fantastic opportunities for learning, as the Preps prepare to move into Grade One. Already we have enjoyed welcoming members of our local community into our classrooms- the fire brigade. The Preps were involved in the ‘Fire Education Program’ organised by our local fire brigade to learn about fire safety.

We also look forward to the swimming program towards the end of this term (see below for more information). The Preps will begin to prepare for the Nativity Story and get ready to present this to all school families at our Christmas Family Night.

Reports will be sent home towards the end of this term. With the report you will be notified of your child’s class teacher for the following school year. Teachers work with leadership and put a lot of effort into making sure the needs of your child are met when creating the class groups for the following school year. All students will also be involved in a Transition program at the end of the year, to get to know their new teacher and classmates for 2016.

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

This term we will be focusing on our School’s Vision Statement and how we can contribute to our school community in each area: Faith, Learning and Life. The Prep students will also revisit Meditation and reflect on their role during this time of prayer. The students will also learn about different types of prayers e.g. prayers of thanks, prayers of petition, prayers used in liturgy (Our Father, Hail Mary, School Prayer). The students will make their own ‘Prayer Bags’ and learn to write their own prayers.

We will conclude the year with our unit on Advent and Christmas. In this unit, students learn about the seasons of Advent and Christmas. They explore the concepts of waiting and joyful anticipation that are expressed through the use of the Advent wreath. Advent is introduced as a time of preparation that points us towards Jesus Christ. The Christmas story is told through the stories of the Annunciation, the birth of Jesus Christ, and the visit of the shepherds. In engaging with aspects of the story, students are presented with the Good News that Jesus Christ is the promised Saviour, the gift of God.

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.

INQUIRY
This Term, the Prep students will be investigating our body through our new unit, ‘Our Brilliant Bodies.’ The students will explore the essential question:

‘How does our body work?’

We aim to work through the following understandings:

- What are the different features of our body- inside and outside?
- What are the different body systems and how do they work?
- How can we keep our body healthy?

From this, the students will learn about:

- Our body has different features both on the inside and outside
- Our body is made up of different body systems that work together to keep us alive
- Our bodies need food, water, rest, exercise and protection (shelter and clothing) to keep healthy
- Our lifestyle choices impact on our health (food, activity, health)

LITERACY

This term, the students will continue to investigate the different letter combinations that make the same sound e.g ‘z’ as in ‘zip’, ‘zz’ as in ‘fizz’, ‘ze’ as in ‘sneeze’, 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.

The children 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 to make any corrections or adjustments to improve their written work. Different writing types will be explored throughout the term, such as factual, recount and descriptive writing.

‘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.
The students will be presenting their learning/ideas to the whole class, in a variety of ways. 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 consolidate their understanding of addition and subtraction. We will also be exploring the ‘teen’ numbers through place value (e.g. 14 is one ten and four ones). They will continue to build their confidence and take risks in mathematical activities. Students will continue to be supported and encouraged to explain their mathematical thinking.

In Measurement and Geometry, the students will revisit the concepts of: Location, Time, Shape, Length, Mass and Capacity. Students will also further develop their understanding of time by reading and making o’clock times. They will be encouraged to use Mathematical language throughout all units.

**REMINDEERS**

Swimming

The 2015 Swimming Program will be at SwimWorld in Glen Waverley. We will be the only school using the pool for the duration of our lessons, which will be taught in the one pool. Whilst swimming is still six weeks away, we have included a list of the equipment that will be required. A more informative note will be sent home prior to the beginning of the program. Over the two weeks of the program, your child will be required to wear their bathers, under their summer uniform. Students do find it easier to change in and out of their school shorts and t-shirts. For your information we do leave school shoes and socks at school and wear our thongs to and from the pool. To help you prepare, students will need to bring the following in a labelled bag:

*Thongs  * Towel  *Underwear  *Goggles(optional)

**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) 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.

No Hat, No Play!

Since it is now Term Four, our ‘No Hat, No Play’ policy will again be reinforced. Students who do not wear their school hat will be asked to stay under the shade sail in the quadrangle. Please ensure your child has both their hat and a water bottle with them each day, as the warmer weather is fast approaching.

Late Starters

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.

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 in 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. Action Plan and Medication Administration Forms are available for you to print, on the school website under the School Community Section. Each child who needs asthma medication at school requires their own spacer due to health regulations.

**School Uniform**

Spring is here and from the first day of Term Four, students are required to wear their summer uniform. This **does not** include stockings under the summer uniform.

**Please Note:**

- Classes borrow from the school library on Mondays. We ask that you remind your child to find and pack their library books into their school bags and return to school on Friday OR Monday.
- 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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<td>ICT</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Italian</td>
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<td>Borrowing</td>
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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**

**October**
- Friday 30th

**November**
- Monday 2nd
- Tuesday 3rd
- Tuesday 10th
- Wednesday 11th
- Thursday 19th
- Friday 20th
- Monday 23rd
- Tuesday 24th
- Monday 30th

**December**
- Wednesday 2nd
- Monday 7th
- Wednesday 9th
- Thursday 10th
- Friday 11th
- Tuesday 15th
- Wednesday 16th
- Friday 18th

- Worlds Teachers’ Day
- Report Writing Day – School Closed
- Melbourne Cup Day – School Closed
- Prep KW Class Mass
- Remembrance Day
- Buddy Activity
- Italian Day
- School Closure Day
- Book Fair begins
- Prep J Class Mass
- Swimming Program Begins P-4

- No Swimming on this day
- Christmas Family Night
- Swimming Program continues
- Grade 6 Graduation
- Reports Sent Home
- Move Up Day Meet New Class
- Swimming Program Concludes
- Whole School Thanksgiving Mass
- Final Assembly
- Students Finish 3:15pm