



YEAR 6

Term 1 Parent Info

TERM 1 DATES

Beginning of year Mass / presentation of leadership badges - Tuesday 14 Feb 9am

Swimming trials - Thursday 16 Feb

School photos - Monday 20 Feb

Year 6 assembly - Friday 10 March

School swimming carnival - Tuesday 14 March

Harmony Day - Tuesday 21 March

School athletics carnival - Tuesday 28 March (field events) & Thursday 30 March

Stations of the Cross - Thursday 6 April

RELIGION

Our school Religious Education program is based on units of work developed by Catholic Education Western Australia. The program is systematic and sequenced, helping children to relate our Catholic faith to their daily lives.

During Term One we will be completing units on Lent/Easter and Prayer. Students will explore the meaning of the Beatitudes and the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.

ENGLISH

We continue to follow the Diana Rigg spelling program in Year Six. Across the week, each spelling group (Stage 3, 4, 5 and 6) has one guided spelling session with the class teacher, one dictation session, one session focusing on the visual aspect of spelling and one focusing on the application of the weekly phonic concept to words beyond those in that week's spelling list. Students who have already completed Stage 6 will explore the application of more advanced vocabulary to their own writing.

In Reading, we will be commencing Literature Circles, which are similar to adult book clubs but with set roles like Summariser, Illustrator and Word Wizard to help guide student discussion. Students will have a set number of chapters of their group novel to read each week in preparation for their reading group's discussion. We will also be explicitly teaching Year 6 reading skills and concepts through guided reading sessions and independent "Read & Respond" tasks. Our class novel this term is *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen.

Our two text types this term are Discussions and Speeches. We will be building upon students' Year 5 learning about expositions by extending this to cover both sides of an argument. Similarly, our Year 6 speechwriting unit will encourage the development of longer and more detailed exploration of speech topics.

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MATHS

We are excited to be team-teaching Maths across both classes this term. While grouping students with similar learning needs is standard practice in education, we have decided to maximise the amount of teacher attention each Maths group receives by combining students from the two Year 6 classes for Number lessons. This means instead of each class teacher planning four different levels of work every lesson, each of us can specialise in what our particular Maths groups need.

Students have already given us feedback that they strongly prefer this team-teaching method and many are enjoying the novelty of having a different teacher for Maths, just as they will have different teachers for different learning areas in high school. The only difference you may notice as parents is that the name of the teacher for the Mathematics learning area on your child's report may be different to your child's regular class teacher, depending on which Maths group they are in.

Our Number topics this term are prime, composite, square and triangular numbers, integers, order of operations, number sequences and application of the four operations. In Measurement & Geometry we will be exploring angles and timetables.

HASS

Through this unit, students will explore the key events and figures that contributed to the Federation of Australia. We will be helping students develop their historical inquiry skills, such as locating relevant information and analysing information from a range of sources. We look forward to sharing our History learning with you as the term progresses.

HEALTH

In Health this term we aim to help students identify their own character strengths as well as differentiate between "friendship fires" and mean-on-purpose behaviour. We also explore the importance of water and good nutrition for optimal personal health and wellbeing.

SCIENCE

Working with the fabulous Mrs Deurloo, students will develop an understanding of the role of micro-organisms in food and medicine. Students will investigate the conditions micro-organisms need to grow, learn about yeast and the bread-making process, and research the development of penicillin.

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ART

We have some great projects planned for this term, including:

- a sneaker still life
- an oil pastel candle
- some silhouettes using different media
- a one-point perspective aquarium

MUSIC & ITALIAN

The lovely Mrs Hultink is our music specialist and choir teacher. Students have Music each week on Wednesday morning.

Signora Z takes each Year Six class for Italian on Tuesday afternoons. The children have some great Italian projects to look forward to this year.

TECHNOLOGIES

We will be studying Digital Technologies in Term 1, then Design & Technologies in Term 2. This term's project is the planning and development of a Choose Your Own Adventure in PowerPoint, a program that many people only associate with slideshows at meetings!

CODE OF CONDUCT

Just as there is a code of conduct for staff at St Anthony's, so too are there codes of conduct for students and parents. Both of these are available on our school website and we encourage you to familiarise yourself with them.

Students are expected to behave in a way that ensures the safety, dignity and growth of all in our school community. This includes appropriate use of ICT.

SPORT

Term One promises to be action-packed with both the school swimming carnival and school athletics carnival! Students have their weekly Physical Education lesson with Miss Borromei on a Thursday, then Senior Sport with both Year Six teachers on a Friday afternoon. Later in the year we will have other sporting events such as lightning carnival and Eagles Cup.

We would also like to remind parents of two particular aspects of their code: to refrain from approaching staff in an aggressive manner (or using technology to send aggressive messages), and to refrain from approaching other parents or students about issues your child may have raised with you at home. Remember that there are always two sides to every story and you have likely only heard one.

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LEAVERS SHIRTS

We are anticipating these at the beginning of Term 2 and will be taking orders for them soon. You can assist by making sure to place your order promptly. Once the leavers shirts arrive, students will be allowed to wear them on Thursdays and Fridays, the two days they would normally wear sports uniform.

CAMP

We understand that camp is an exciting (and sometimes daunting) event for students and parents. However, as it's not until Term 4 we would prefer to wait until closer to the time to release more detailed information.

For those of you who wish to mark the dates on your calendar, camp is booked for November 15 - 17.

CONFIRMATION

We will confirm the date of Confirmation as soon as it is definite.

All Year Six students will participate in preparation and reflection activities as part of our Confirmation unit, even if they are not receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

HOMEWORK

By now your child should have brought home his/her Homework book and you may have already had a look at the fortnightly grids.

You can see that access to OneNote is assumed for homework: please let your child's class teacher know if your household does not have Internet access or if you are having any issues logging in at home.

OneNote can be accessed in three ways: via the Teams app, via the OneNote app or via the Web-based version of OneNote. Simply go to office.com and have your child sign in with his/her school email address and school password. If it is still not working, send a screenshot of the error message to your child's class teacher and we will hopefully be able to figure out a way around it.

COMMUNICATION

Last but not least, please remember that we are both here to help your child have a successful and enjoyable year. If you ever wish to meet to discuss anything, please don't hesitate to contact us to organise a time.

Warm regards
The Year Six Teaching Team
(Megan and Kirsty)