

# St Patricks School



## Junior School Newsletter Term 1 2017

Welcome back everyone. It has been great to be back and begin another year together. 2017 sees Ms Macdonald join the syndicate in A2 and Mrs Newport (our old friend Miss Dine) has moved into A1. Mrs Thompson is in A3 with Ms Bevan in A4.

### Reminders and Pointers.

**Lunches.** Please check your child's lunchbox each day for the first few weeks to find out what they are eating and the amount to give them. Talk with them to make sure they are enjoying lunchtimes and let class teachers know if there are any concerns. Teachers check lunch boxes to see what has been eaten and encourage children to take uneaten food home.

**Uniforms** The year has begun well with all children having sunhats to wear while outside. Please make sure **ALL** items of clothing and footwear are named. This really helps us to return items to their owners. Lost property can be checked in A4's bag room.

**Our Play Based Learning Programme** is up and running in all classes as the children explore equipment and materials and the teachers work to build relationships and find out how each child learns and what they enjoy doing to learn.



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This year the Religious Education programme is integrated into all learning areas. The weekly homework notes will share what the focus will be for each week and classes will have displays showing learning progress. We believe this will help our children to build relationships with God and His people in all areas of their lives.

### Numeracy and Literacy

Reading, Writing and Number continues to be guided learning in small groups throughout the morning. All children will have books to read and share at home from Monday to Thursday. We have adult helpers who come into our classrooms to share reading with our children most days, as well as support from Teacher Aides.

*Please hunt out the book bags as all children need one.*

Children may bring home books they have read before. Help them to discuss what they are reading by looking for connections to things they may have done or hunting for words they can find on a page. Teachers have many ideas to make learning to read fun, please ask them to share. Remember a good book can always be read more than once!

Continue to do lots of counting with your child, backwards and forwards starting at different numbers. Board games and puzzles also help build number skills.

### Special points of Interest.

- *Art Deco Picnic at school 17 February at 12:30. Meet under the trees.*
- *Info evening and picnic 5:30 23 February.*
- *Gospel Value—February is Speaking with gentleness*
- *St Patrick's Day 17 March. Lots of green and fun at school!*
- *Junior Athletics 23 March 11:00-12:30*

### Discovery Time

We will continue to have Discovery Time every Friday. This is the opportunity children have to use their skills to work on their own projects and interests. To provide a rich environment we need lots of bits and pieces. Boxes, card, magazines, wool, buttons, beads... just ask a teacher if you have something that could be used!

We look forward to getting to know your child and their family throughout this year. Never hesitate to contact your child's teacher. It is only when we know something that we can do something about an issue.

May God always bless you and your family

Nikki Thompson A3 (New Entrants)

Jan Bevan A4 (Y1/2)

Elise Macdonald A2 (Y2)

Aimee Newport A1 (Y2)

Nadine McEwan A1 and A4 – for class teacher release