Dear Parents,

We hope you all had an enjoyable break and are ready for fourth term—can you believe it! We are looking forward to another exciting term full of learning and enjoyment.

**Religion**

The units we will be covering this term are: *Exploring the Bible* and *God is with us* (Christmas).

**Exploring the Bible**

Students will learn about the different sections of the bible. They will explore New Testament stories about Jesus and discuss the message found in parables.

**Emmanuel God is With Us!**

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 and the story of John the Baptist. The Christmas story is told through the stories of the Annunciation, the birth of Jesus Christ and the visit of the shepherds.

**MASSES—TBA**

**Integrated Units of work**

**Bouncing Around Australia**

Throughout this unit we will be focussing on Australia. We will look at the different states and territories along with the capital cities in Australia. Children will be able to identify major monuments that are located in different places around Australia. Children will explore different native Australian animals and look at the way they survive the harsh Australian outback.

We will also look at our ancestry and how Australia became the country it is today.

To support our teaching we will be travelling to Healesville Sanctuary on Thursday 6th November. This promises to be the highlight of the year, which says a lot considering the year of learning we have had. Permission forms and further details are attached at the back of this letter. Please return the form promptly.

**Library**

On Mondays children will be having their library lessons with Ms Clare Coman. All children will be encouraged to borrow books. Please make sure your child’s library bag is in their school bag ready for their lesson. No library bags means no borrowing. This will be a great opportunity for you to continue to read with your child at home modelling the fluency and inflections of an accomplished reader.

**Science with Mr Hollamby**

Science will continue this term on Thursdays with Mr Hollamby. Building on what was taught last term children will explore the push and pull forces they can use to move objects in a variety of ways such as sliding, bouncing and pulling. Through investigations and activities they will observe and gather evidence about rolling objects and begin to explore the idea of fair testing.
English
Semester two testing will begin in November. Reading rotations and writing sessions will continue as normal until week 7, after which assessment, swimming and Christmas activities will take place during the morning block. Parent helpers are still needed, so please make sure you attend on the day that you volunteered to assist. Please continue to read at home regularly it does make a difference! It is extremely important that the children continue to practise their sight word lists. This will help to build their fluency and confidence in both reading and writing. We will not be sending home any more words.
You could try activities such as:

**Monday**
- choose three words and write them in a sentence

**Tuesday**
- look for little words in bigger words

**Wednesday**
- choose five words and write them in rainbow colours

**Thursday**
- say a rhyming word for six words and see if they can write it

**Friday**
- use flash cards to increase speed of recognition

**REMINDER**—If you have volunteered to assist with Literacy please make sure you continue to attend.

Literacy helpers will commence in **week 2**.

Maths
**Number and Algebra**

- We will:
  - Focus on addition and subtraction
  - Work on skip counting, doubles, counting strategies and equal sets
  - Use calculators to explore their operations
  - Work on identifying patterns for groups of objects and numbers

**Statistics and Probability**

- We will:
  - Collect record and interpret data.

**Measurement and Geometry**

- We will:
  - Compare length, capacity and mass of familiar objects using descriptive terms
  - Recognise o’clock times on analogue and digital clocks
  - Recall seasons and months of the year in order
  - Revise 2D and 3D shapes

**Dance Fever**.

On Thursdays we will start dance lessons! “Dance Fever” a company with extensive experience teaching dance in schools in Queensland and New South Wales are our specialist teachers. Already these lessons have become a very popular part of the day as the children boogie, groove and twist their time away. Let’s hope you see some of the cool moves demonstrated at home!! A showcase event will be held at the end of the term.
Swimming
This term we will begin swimming lessons at the Kew Recreation Centre. The children will swim, week commencing 8th December till the 12th December.
Prep MW = 9:30 ~ 10:10am departing school at 9:00am
Prep CD = 10:10 ~ 10:50am departing school 9:45am
Children will be required to wear their swimming costume to school under their sports uniform on these days. Please pack a small bag with underwear, a towel, drink and goggles if preferred.
There will be a permission note sent home before the swimming week commences.
If you would like to help walk classes to the pool and assist the children in getting ready, please let us know as you fill in the permission slip.
Children will need to bring extra food during the swimming week as they will be burning lots of energy.

Prep Breakfast
As part of Sacred Heart's Outdoor Education Program Prep children will be finishing the year off with a breakfast. Children will come to school in their pyjamas and have a special Christmas breakfast. Please put Wednesday 17th of December in your diary. More information to come closer to the date

If you have any concerns or queries please don’t hesitate to come and see us.
We hope you have a great term.
Warm regards
Courtney and Megan.
Tuesday 7th October 2014.

Dear Parents

Here is a list of topics that we will be using for Show and Share this term.

Week 1 Starting 06.10.14 Free Choice.

Week 2 Starting 13.10.14 Something I have made at home.

Week 3 Starting 20.10.14 Favourite Game

Week 4 Starting 27.10.14 Favourite Australian Animal

Week 5 Starting 03.11.14 No Show and Share (Long Weekend).

Week 6 Starting 10.11.14 Free Choice.

Week 7 Starting 17.11.14 How to be sun smart.

Week 8 Starting 24.11.14 My favourite thing at school this year was...

Week 9 Starting 01.12.14 Anything to do with swimming.
   (e.g. favourite bathers, picture, rules to remember when swimming.

Week 10 Starting 08.12.14 Something I would like for Christmas...


Show and Share is a really good opportunity to allow children to talk in front of an audience. Please discuss what your child is going to bring each week.

If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to ask

Thanks Courtney and Megan.
Dear Parents,

Our excursion to the Healesville Sanctuary has been scheduled for Thursday 6th November. This will be a fun and exciting educational experience for your child. We will have some free roaming time and a lesson about ‘Homes and Shelters’. Students will learn about the different homes and shelters of Australian Animals.

We will be travelling by bus to and from the Sanctuary. Children will need to be ready in the classroom at 8:45am. We can not wait for any late students as the bus will leave.

Children will be required to bring a small backpack containing their water bottle, snacks and lunch. Please pack extra snack food as children will get hungry. No yoghurt, fruit cups or food to share.

Children are to wear their regular school uniform including their hat. There will also be no Kiss and Drop first bell (3:15pm) as we may not be back until 3:30pm.

We will need 3 parent helpers per class. If you are free and would like to join us, please fill in the form below and return it to your child’s teacher. To be fair as not all parents can attend we will draw parents’ names out of a hat. Helpers will be assigned a small group of children to walk with and keep a closer eye on (no younger siblings please.) Parents will travel with us together on the bus. If you still want to attend but miss out on travelling on the bus, you are more than welcome to meet us there.

Kind regards,
Courtney and Megan

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Child’s name: __________________________________________  Prep CD / MW
Please circle your child’s class

I consent to my child taking part in the excursion to Healesville Sanctuary, and travelling by bus to and from the venue. Where the teacher in charge is unable to contact me, I authorise the teacher in charge to:
Consent to my child receiving medical or surgical attention as deemed necessary by a medical practitioner and take responsibility for payment of all expenses incurred.
Administer such first aid as the teacher in charge may judge to be reasonably necessary.

Parent signature: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________

I am available and would like to help out for this excursion:  YES / NO
I would be happy to car pool: YES/NO
I am available to be reached on:  Mother’s phone: ____________________________
                               Father’s phone: ____________________________