Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new and exciting year in Year 4. The children are making a very successful transition into their new grades. We would like to extend a warm welcome to Jan Hendry who will be teaching in 4DM on a Tuesday and to Tony Hollamby who will be in 4SD every Friday.

We would like to congratulate our Semester 1 Class Captains:
4DM – Sienna Salter and Lachlan Hollamby
4SD – Maddy Driscoll and Marcus Te Lintelo

and our Environmental Officers:
4DM - Ella Rusmir, Charles Finch and Matthew Girdlestone
4SD - Grace Haslem and Tom Auld

**Religious Education**
The RE topics for Term 1 are ‘Meeting God through Prayer’ and ‘Alleluia – He is Risen’. In the first unit the children explore how prayer is part of people’s lives and will examine and experience a variety of ways to communicate with God through prayer. In the second unit the children develop their understandings of the seasons of Lent and Easter.

**Inquiry – “The ANZAC Spirit Lives On”**
History and Civics and Citizenship will be our focus this term and will include exploring the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli. We will be visiting the Shrine of Remembrance as part of our learning for this unit and shall take part in a lesson called ‘Loyal Friends’. The lesson identifies important values by looking at the service of animals during wartime and peacekeeping such as the story of Simpson and his Donkey. It also involves storytelling that reinforces the values of service men and women and their loyal animal friends, highlighting such qualities as courage, devotion and kindness.

**English**
A deeper understanding of comprehension of a variety of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, will be a focus throughout the year. The children will focus on reading different text types including websites and newspaper articles from the past. They will be further introduced to the vocabulary related to the Inquiry unit.

In Writing the children will plan, draft and publish information texts and also character portraits in first person.

The children will be given opportunities address an audience as they present recorded or collated information.

**Handwriting**
We will be concentrating on our posture, pencil grip, letter formation, joining of letters and legibility, in preparation for our Pen Licences!

**Maths**
It is vital your child develops automatic recall of times tables and basic number facts to 10, extended to 100, in year 4. Tables knowledge and the properties of number form the basis of a student’s ability to understand operations and complete them successfully.
Number and Algebra
- Counting odd and even numbers, ordering numbers to at least tens of thousands
- Investigating number sequences involving multiples of 2, 4 and 5
- Counting patterns
- Recalling multiplication facts and related division facts of 2, 4 and 5 times
- Investigate equivalence of fractions- ½ and ¼, including counting by halves on a number line

Measurement and Geometry
- Convert between units of time –analogue to digital
- Perimeter

Specialists Timetable
Timetable for specialists is as follows for Term One from Week 3 (Week 4 for Library):
**Tuesday:** Library Ms Coman  
**Wednesday:** Music Mrs Fabian and Mandarin Ms Chen  
**Thursday:** ICT Mrs Grasso and PE Mr Price  
**Friday:** Grade 4 Sport

Homework
It is very important that children are reading every night from a text they select, a page of which needs to be read out loud and discussed with parents. These can be books from home, classroom ‘take home’ readers or the Library. Please refer to the Handy Hints Sheet, which is pasted into your child’s Homework book.

For Term 1, Homework may consist of L.S.C.W.C., (Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check) vocabulary activities, tables and basic research. Homework will be issued on a Thursday to be returned and signed by a parent on the following Wednesday. This gives everyone time to complete tasks over the weekend if they have busy after school schedules.

Remember that Homework is not meant be a challenge or a chore but a revision of work already covered in class.

We ask that parents sign Homework Books, Reading Logs and Diaries. Please contact your child’s teacher if there are any issues with Homework.

Diaries
Diaries are used as a source of communication between parents and the classroom teacher and are also a record of what is on for the week. Please sight and sign your child’s Diary on a Monday night to read what is on for the week. Diaries are required to be at school every day.

Eucharist – Grade 4
Children will be receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist in Term 4. It is a requirement of the Sacramental Program at Sacred Heart that parents of First Eucharist candidates attend these events.

Dates:
- Inaugural SACRAMENT INFORMATION EVENING – for parents of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation candidates run by Father Michael Kalka - Wednesday 25th February
- Eucharist Parent and Child Evening: Wednesday 3rd June  
- Eucharist Commitment Masses Weekend – Sat 20th/Sun 21st June  
- Eucharist Reflection Day – Friday 11th September  
- Sacrament of Eucharist:  
  4SD – Saturday 12th September 6pm  
  4DM - Sunday 13th September 11am
Please be advised that your child **MUST** attend the First Eucharist Mass with his or her own grade.
It is also a requirement at Sacred Heart that Eucharist Candidates have previously made the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please see Denise Muggleton if you need information regarding this.

**Reminders**
- Hats are to be worn in Terms 1 and 4.
- All children will need to have an art smock for art lessons.
- For legal reasons, a note is needed whenever your child is absent from school.
- Any mobile phones brought to school will be put in the office tub in the morning and returned at the end of the day.
- Children need to be aware that any precious items brought to school are their own responsibility.

**Dates**
Keep an eye on the school newsletter and children’s Diaries for dates that pertain to your child’s grade.

- Thursday 12th February: Prep - 6 Parent Information Evening (4DM classroom) 6:30 – 7:00pm
- Sunday 15th February: Opening School Mass @ 9am
- Monday 16th February: District Swimming for selected children
- Wednesday 18th February: Ash Wednesday Mass @ 9:15am
- Wednesday 18th February: Parent /Teacher Chats
- Thursday 19th February: School photos
- Monday 23rd February: Grade 4 Excursion to the Shrine of Remembrance
- Wednesday 25th March: School Sports Day at Sacred Heart
- Wednesday 25th March: Term 1 concludes at 3.15pm

**FOOD ALLERGIES**
Sacred Heart is a ‘nut aware’ school. Please be aware of this and gluten/egg intolerances when you wish to distribute food as part of your child’s birthday celebration. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to contact us to make an appointment to discuss any aspect of your child’s education throughout the year.

Hoping that the year is a happy and successful one for all,

Denise Muggleton and Sarah Duffy