Welcome to another term of exciting opportunities! I hope you enjoyed a safe, refreshing break over the holidays and are ready for the many wonderful learning experiences ahead.

The year is definitely progressing quickly, and I am often left wondering about the future - What will it hold? What will it look like for our children and how do we educate them to live in a world that we just can’t predict? 21st Century education needs to be different, it must produce students who can think for themselves and respond to ever changing technology.

We seek to foster curiosity and creativity within our students and to equip them with the skills to communicate clearly as they collaborate with others. There are some exciting ideas for us to consider and we look forward to sharing them with you at our next Parent Information Session(s).

This term we will introduce our first annual Science Day where students across the school will engage in a variety of activities to support the development of scientific skills applicable to their programmed unit.

It is our desire, as a school, for students to see Science in everyday situations, where they can experiment with and explore common items accessible to them in the home and school environments. Our students need to see connections and understand how scientists play an important role in caring for the world and its environments through research and the development of solutions.

We encourage our students to be inquirers, risk takers and problem solvers, and these attributes are well developed through a love of Science. The syllabus identifies two main skill areas, Working Scientifically and Working Technologically, which develop in increasing complexity as students progress through their school years. Through these skills, students will learn to: identify problems and ask questions, research and develop a hypothesis or prototype, develop an experiment, observe and analyse results and make conclusions about their findings.

Further information can be found on the BOSTES website: http://syllabus.bostes.nsw.edu.au/science/science-k10/outcomes/

As you are well aware, the role of a teacher goes beyond what happens in the classroom, whilst the students are at school and at St Peter’s we are incredibly blessed to have a dedicated and passionate staff. Over this term, the teachers will reflect upon, and revise our current Scope and Sequence documents which demonstrate how we, as a school, ensure that all BOSTES outcomes are taught across a stage, and that the skills and knowledge of students are built upon each year. These documents are crucial for our teaching staff when programming, as they develop expertise not only in their current teaching grade level, but also an understanding of where their students have come from, and where they are headed. This enables each teacher to differentiate the curriculum for the variety of individuals within their room.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our teaching staff for their contributions to this newsletter, in sharing the experiences and understandings that will evolve in each of our grades over the course of this term, and for their dedication to continually provide engaging and authentic learning activities. As you read through these plans, please continue to reflect on how you may also be able to assist, support and extend these learning opportunities, and where applicable, make contact with your child’s teachers to share your expertise and availability.
Welcome back to another term of learning and fun. We are impressed by the way in which our students have settled quickly into routines and expectations. There are many exciting activities planned for this term both inside and outside the classroom.

**Mathematics**

By using a range of games, puzzles and hands on play experiences, students will learn about the numbers 1-10 and beyond. There will be opportunities to practise counting by rote and using 1:1 correspondence (counting a collection of objects by pointing to each one).

**Science/HSIE/PDHPE**

Our big idea for the term will be ‘Our Community.’ The children will explore what a community is and why we need them. We will focus on our school and local community while learning about people who help us and their roles. During this unit each class will have the opportunity to inquire and investigate aspects of the unit based on their interests and questions. It will be exciting to have a visit from the Police and enjoy a picnic at Mawson Park, allowing us the opportunity to look at the community around us.

**Prep**

Welcome back to another term of learning and fun. We are impressed by the way in which our students have settled quickly into routines and expectations. There are many exciting activities planned for this term both inside and outside the classroom.

**Scripture**

This term we will continue focusing on God’s great love for us. Bible stories from the Old Testament will be explored and we will talk to God in prayer.

**English**

The children will once again engage in Literacy activities during play and group experiences and be introduced to letters and the sounds they make. Rhyme through songs, stories and chants will be a major focus. During Library time, each class will enjoy listening to stories which will reinforce the concepts of rhyme and counting.

The PreLit program will continue with early literacy skills. Children will learn how to segment words and identify beginning sounds. The program also has a comprehension of texts section where the children will be encouraged to predict, question and discover new vocabulary. The children have really enjoyed recognising and tracing their names and will continue to work through their name booklets.

**PDHPE and Music**

Prep Koalas and Prep Wombats will continue to have a Music lesson each week with Mrs Pollett where the children will be developing skills in listening to the pitch, tempo and dynamic changes in music. Different styles of music will be introduced and a major focus will be on nursery rhymes put to music.

Prep Kangaroos and Prep Echidnas will have a weekly Physical Education class (PE) exploring different games and activities both with and without equipment. They will focus on spatial awareness games and thinking about how to use equipment safely. Students will also be introduced to the Fundamental Movement Skills of run and catch.

**Creative Arts**

We will also be learning about different artists and the unique styles they use. The children will have the opportunity to express their own creativity while experimenting with these styles. A future Picasso may be in our midst!
**Kindergarten**

**Scripture**
Students will learn about God’s rescue plan for the world and how He sent His only son into the world to save us. They will hear Bible stories about Jesus and the message He came to bring.

**Mathematics**
As students help to plan a birthday party for Humpty Dumpty they will continue to practise and consolidate early mathematical concepts. This will involve collecting, sorting and organising information into simple data displays.

We will investigate the process of sharing equally, by creating halves, and develop a greater awareness of two-dimensional shapes. Students will also have opportunities to explore the length and area of objects within our school environment.

**English**
During Term Two, Kindergarten will continue to develop their knowledge of letter sounds and sight words and begin to explore and apply a variety of strategies to assist them when reading and writing simple words. Literacy Groups will provide opportunities for students to develop reading comprehension skills and to learn new strategies to support them while engaging in a variety of reading tasks.

We will investigate the key differences between informative and imaginative texts and students will begin to write stories and facts about living things, with a particular focus on Australian animals.

Students will continue to present their ideas in class discussions and participate in a range of news activities where they will share their understanding about the needs of humans and living things.

**PDHPE**
During PDH lessons students will be learning how to interact positively with their peers. The lessons are designed to assist students to develop resilience and to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to deal with a variety of situations in everyday life.

PE lessons this term will see students exploring Fundamental Movement Skills while playing with, and sharing, a variety of equipment. We will look at how objects move when throwing and catching and observe how these movements change depending on the object’s size and shape.

**Integrated Science and HSIE**
Over this term our learning will focus on the features and needs of living things, including ourselves. Our unit commenced with an excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park where students observed a variety of Australian plants and animals in created habitats. We will look at the specific attributes of these habitats that are essential for the survival of plants and animals.

Students will investigate, design and create an environment or habitat to meet the needs of a chosen plant or animal. We will explore how our needs are met by people and resources, and consider the responsibilities we have in meeting the needs of ourselves and others in the amazing world God has created.

**Creative Arts**
Music - Students will be focusing on what music can assist them to imagine. They will be playing percussion instruments, undergoing movement activities and listening to excerpts of music. Students will also explore indigenous music at the end of the unit and create short compositions of their own.

Visual Arts - This term students will be exploring a world of patterns. They will be inspired by those who have made patterns before them and use a variety of materials and fine motor skills to create their own.
Languages
Kindergarten will learn new songs that will teach them to count in French. Students will develop vocabulary that they can use to have simple conversations with their peers.

This vocabulary will be based on information about themselves and questions they can ask others. There will be many games and activities used to reinforce the new content and revise what they already know.

Puppets and games like ‘quel est le temps Monsieur Loup?’ (What’s the time Mr Wolf?) will be great resources that we will use to keep the journey of learning French interesting and fun!

Term 2 Communication News

Uniform and Belongings
During Term 2 and 3, children will be required to wear their full Winter uniform to school each day and their full Winter sports uniform to school on Wednesdays. The uniform booklet, within your enrolment pack, outlines the specific requirements. Please take the time to assist your child to learn how to do up and undo their ‘tricky’ blazer buttons as we will be encouraging this independence at school.

It is also advisable that each student has either the school jumper (boys) or cardigan (girls) at school each day.

White Sports Shoes for PE
Kindergarten children now need to bring their white sports shoes on PE days. Red PE bags can be purchased from the uniform shop to assist with transporting PE shoes to and from school.

PE days for Kindergarten are as follows:
- Tuesday - KT and KN;
- Thursday - KL and KS.

Hand Towels
Please continue to send in a hand towel at the beginning of each week for students to use at their table whilst they eat their ‘brain break’ and lunch.

NOTE - Please ensure all uniform items and belongings are clearly labelled with your child’s first and last name.

Homework
Homework will be sent home from Week 2. This will have a similar structure to Term 1, however, we will be adding some simple list words, that go along with the focus sound, to assist children when practising the ‘stretching out’ strategy for reading.

More information will be provided with Term 2 homework booklets.

Late Notes and Absences
Please ensure if your child is absent from school, that a note is provided to your child’s class teacher on the day your child returns to school, outlining the date/s and reason for the absence.

Similarly, if your child comes to school after the commencement of the school day or needs to be picked up prior to the end of the day, an explanation letter should be provided and the child must be signed in or out at the school office.

If your family plans on taking leave within the school term, please address a letter requesting leave, to Mr Gorman, outlining the dates of your leave so that this absence can be approved by our Head of School. We appreciate your ongoing support in this area.
### Year 1

#### Scripture
Students continue developing their understanding of God as King. Beginning with Solomon and his request for wisdom in order to lead the people of Israel well, students will be able to describe the type of earthly king God’s people needed. By focusing on key figures such as King Josiah, Daniel, and Nehemiah, students discover that God is in control and that all His promises and plans point to King Jesus.

#### Mathematics
Students will complete a number of investigations where they will apply what they are learning throughout the term. In Measurement and Geometry, students will participate in activities that will explore and apply their knowledge of 2D shapes, 3D objects, position and directions. There will also be opportunities for students to build on their addition and subtraction skills. We will also be exploring length and number patterns.

#### Duck for Cover! Integrated Unit - HSIE/ Science/ Visual Arts and English
Our central idea is “Living things design and build a variety of shelters depending on their features and needs”. Students will explore the features and growth of different animals, and the shelters that protect them. This will form the basis for their informative texts in Writing. Natural and built features of the environment will be compared and contrasted. In Visual Arts, drawing and sketching skills will be developed throughout the term. Students can look forward to having some extra ‘friends’ in the classroom this term!

#### PDHPE
Health lessons will continue to focus on essential skills including resilience and building relationships. Sport aims to develop students’ movement skills of vertical jumping, catching, kicking and bouncing. The focus for PE lessons is the understanding that our daily practices can have an impact on our well-being. Effects of physical activity on the body, various types of physical activity and how to keep ourselves active will be considered.

#### Creative Arts – Music and Drama
In Music this term, students will continue to develop their understanding of notating and performing their own rhythmic composition using a variety of symbols to reflect differing durations. In connecting with learning in other areas this term, students will also commence an exploration of music from around the world, developing their skills to make opinion statements when evaluating and appreciating what they hear, using musical concepts to apply reasoning.

In Drama lessons, students will appreciate dramatic work during the making of their own drama and the drama of others.

#### Languages
In French this term we will continue with our unit on describing the people in our family. This unit has provided great opportunities for students to consolidate new learning with their previous knowledge gained in Kindergarten. Year 1 will then focus on vocabulary for conversational French based on feelings. Students will learn to ask the question and answer how they are feeling. There will be many opportunities to practise with each other through fun songs, activities and games.

#### Term 2 Communication News

**Send in a Photo**
To enhance our integrated unit on shelter, it would be helpful if all students could bring a photo of their shelter - their house, and also the shelters of any pets - dog kennels, fish tanks, bird cages, etc.

#### Awards
A reminder that three assembly awards can be brought in for a big certificate at Assembly. Twenty coloured awards can also be brought in for a big award to be presented in class.

#### Hand towels
Please ensure your child has a hand towel for lunch eating.

#### Uniform
Due to the changeable weather conditions, please send a cardigan (girls) or a jumper(boys) every day. Blazers must be worn to school each day. Please ensure all items are labelled and check that the school dress (girls) touches the floor when kneeling.

#### Sport Day
Year 1’s sport day is Wednesday. Winter sports uniform includes the jacket and long tracksuit pants. Students may wear their sports shorts under their track pants in the event that it becomes hot during the day.

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**Enlighten • Engage • Enrich**
Sports Shoes for PE Lessons
Please ensure your child brings his/her white sports shoes each week, in the school bag, for use during PE lessons.

1A and 1N - Monday;
1H and 1M - Thursday.

Sight words in home learning booklets
Please make sure that your child can instantly recognise each word in the set of sight words for a whole week before writing a note to indicate that the next set is required. Send the note with the home learning booklet on the Friday and the new set will be given on the Monday. There is no rush for students to learn the yellow sight words - there are 5 sets to be learned by the end of Year 1.

Communication Folder
Please ensure the communication folder is in your child’s bag every day. It is the way we can communicate with you. Please check your child’s bag every day for notes, uneaten food, etc.

If your child is absent from school, a note needs to be written, to the class teacher, explaining the reason for the absence. It is preferred that this note is brought to school with your child on the day he/she returns to school.
Year 2

Welcome to Term 2! It is great to be back as the weather becomes cooler.

The students look fabulous in their Winter uniforms and we appreciate the efforts taken at home to send your child in the appropriate attire each day. Some changes to our routines:
Library borrowing will now take place on Mondays;
Home Readers will be changed each Tuesday.

Scripture
Our God is King! During Scripture, we will continue to explore the concept of kingship. We delve further into the Old Testament, investigating various leaders who ruled over God’s people. We read about God’s people being divided as some make choices contrary to God’s directions. When focusing in on key figures in Judah such as King Josiah, Daniel and Nehemiah, students will see that God is ultimately in control and that all His plans point to Jesus.

Our memory verses for this term are:
Respect and obey God! This is what life is all about. Ecclesiastes 12:13a
Return to the Lord our God. He will be merciful and forgive your sins. Isaiah 55:7b

English
In keeping with this term’s big idea of Communication, in English we will consider the question, ‘Why do we communicate?’.
We are looking forward to exploring why people communicate through film, with a specific focus on Disney Pixar films.
Students will investigate the elements of film as well as character profiles and settings. Students will appreciate and analyse the narratives of Disney Pixar films and use this knowledge and understanding to develop their own film storyboard.
Comprehension skills of sequencing, comparing and contrasting, summarising and identifying the main idea will all be explored through film studies and reading groups.

Mathematics
Students will explore content from the Number and Algebra strand.
Understandings of whole number concepts will continue to be built upon, as well as those of addition and subtraction. Ideas of multiplication and division will also be examined. Number patterns will be investigated, including the movement of numbers forwards and backwards.
Students will explore content from the Measurement and Geometry strand. They will focus on using informal units to measure length. They will also look at the concepts of time and duration, focusing on informal units of time (sun, tides, clapping) and calendars. Students will explore content from the Statistics and Probability strand. They will use the language of chance to explore likely outcomes and then use graphing techniques to display data.

Science
Science is included in our term’s big idea of Communication. We will explore the process of giving and receiving communication by investigating how our five senses function to aid communication.
We will also consider how communication is used to advertise products, by analysing the use of colours and visual features in marketing, particularly to children.

In HSIE, we also think on our idea of Communication and ask the question ‘How has communication changed over time?’.
We will continue exploring how technology has affected and changed communication over time in a variety of contexts. We will have opportunities to compare the communication technology available to our parents and grandparents when they were children with those available today. We will discover the impact of communication technology on our society and community.

PDHPE
Throughout this term students will explore a range of concepts which contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They will look at the idea of nutrition as a way of maintaining a healthy body. Students will consider people who help us to manage our health as well as when treatments such as medicines may be required. They will investigate various preventative measures people use in order to maintain good health.

During PE this term Year 2 will be continuing their Athletics unit for the first few weeks. This will include throwing, jumping and running events. We will then move onto a Fitness unit looking at the connections between fitness and well being and the effects of exercise on the body while engaging in a variety of different activities.

Creative Arts
Visual Arts: Through an exploration of colour and symbol, students will discover ways in which artists communicate ideas. A particular focus will be on Aboriginal artworks and the means of storytelling through art.

In Music this term, students will continue to develop their understanding of rhythm, musical notation and the ‘musical alphabet’ by composing and recording small melodic pieces using a xylophone. In connecting with other learning areas, students will also begin to explore how music is used to communicate in a variety of ways, and will apply their understanding by creating a composition for a chosen emotion.

Languages
Students will continue to build on their German knowledge by reading “Kleiner Weisser Fisch” by Guido van Genechten.
This will allow us to explore colours and emotions which link with other learning areas. In addition, we will learn the vocabulary for things we use at school.
Year 3

Scripture
Following on from last term Year 3 will continue to explore the Bible, as they look at the different leaders that God gave His people. They will learn that although people reject God’s kingship and experience the consequences of their rejection, God’s kingdom plan continues. Year 3 will learn that God is Israel’s true King, and that as our King today He calls us to live under His leadership.

English
Throughout Term 2 students will focus on imaginative texts, looking particularly at themes of change and continuity and the works of Roald Dahl. 3F and 3G will do an in-depth study of The BFG and 3C will examine James and the Giant Peach. They will plan, compose, review and publish their own imaginative texts, assess their own work and give feedback to others. Literacy time will focus on oral reading, comprehension and spelling skills. Year 3 will continue to use a phonemic approach to spelling through the Sound Waves program, as well as increasing their recall of high-frequency words. Students will be excited to start joining their "exits" in handwriting as we begin to write in Cursive Foundation.

Mathematics
Year 3 students began to develop strong mental strategies for addition in Term 1 and will continue to consolidate these and apply them to subtraction and multiplication during Term 2. They will develop their knowledge and skills in measurement concepts such as volume and capacity, mass and 3D objects. Students will further their understanding of data collection, organisation and representation and continue to progress in their creative problem-solving skills.

HSIE and History
Has Campbelltown always been this way? What has changed? How? Why? This term students will learn about and explain how and why there has been change and continuity in their local community. Year 3 will also have the chance to explore how significant individuals, groups and events contributed to changes in Campbelltown over time.

ICT
Last term students were introduced to the process of creating a dichotomous key. Further work will continue this term to consolidate the children’s learning. Additionally, students will commence weekly touch typing tutorials to assist them in developing this important fundamental skill. During the latter half of the term, Year 3 will take photos of their Science experiments and use Lucidcharts to create a flowchart showing the changes to food and liquids caused by heat.

PDHPE
In PDH this term students will learn about growth and development and differences between individuals. They will learn how to describe life changes and associated feelings.

PE will see students learning different invasion games with a focus on creating space, improving physical skills, and developing effective communication skills to support students in successful teamwork. The sports used to develop these skills will be AFL and netball.

Creative Arts
During Term 2, students will continue to look at the colour wheel, shades and tints, and further their experience in mixing their own colours to create artworks. In the second half of the term students will begin to look at different types of sculptures and will have the opportunity to make their own sculpture. For this art project each student will need to bring in a pair of stockings. These can be of any colour or style, as they will be painted over in the process of making the sculptures.

Music
Term 2 will see students finish learning about the 4 instrumental families of the orchestra. They will develop their aural skills by learning to recognise the sound produced by various instruments and the dynamics they can make. Students will also start learning how to recognise and understand the structure of a piece of music as they are introduced to various instrumental pieces.
Languages
Students will continue with the unit we commenced on the weather and seasons, with the focus then moving towards clothing that is appropriate for different times of the year. We will conclude the unit with students developing a weather report script and sharing this with their peers. To finish the term we will research and learn about the 'Tour de France' and participate in a game online called "I spy" which relates directly with this unit.

Term 2 Communication News

Uniform
This term students need to bring a cardigan(girls) or a jumper(boys) to school every day as the weather is often unpredictable. Blazers must be worn with the winter uniform to school each day. It is essential that parents ensure all items are clearly labelled before they are worn to school. It is very difficult for teachers to support students to look after their belongings if they do not have their name written visibly on them. Please also make sure that girls’ dresses touch the floor when kneeling.

Diaries
It is important that parents continue to check diaries for notices that the students write in or for teacher communication. It is expected that each night students will write the title of the book that they read for homework in their diary and that parents will sign this.

Please also ensure that if your child is absent from school you send in a note providing a reason.

NAPLAN
Year 3 students will participate in NAPLAN during Week 3. More information will be provided soon but please note that students do not need to bring in any different equipment for this activity.

Roald Dahl books
Each class will focus on a Roald Dahl novel throughout the term. This book will be read during literacy time in class. Students who have their own copies at home are welcome to bring them to use at school. Please ensure books are clearly labelled with the student’s name as they will be kept in the student’s tote tray.
Year 4

It is exciting to look back and evaluate the progress made by your child throughout Term 1 and we are looking forward to observing continued progress during Term 2.

We would love you to join us in chapel each Tuesday morning at 9 o’clock and at our fortnightly assemblies held on Monday afternoons.

Scripture
Students will continue to develop their understanding that God is King. Through a study of leaders, such as Solomon and key figures in the Bible, students will discover that God is in control and His plans for His creation will continue, through Jesus.

English
Students will continue to build their reading and comprehension skills over the coming term during class and group time. We will be focusing on developing and extending the students’ knowledge and understanding when viewing and composing persuasive and imaginative texts, and begin to explore elements of visual literacy. Year 4 will be given the opportunity to publish their own short story or picture book as part of this unit.

Mathematics
In Mathematics, we will continue to consolidate the use of mental strategies in all four operations - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and how these are used to create number patterns. Children will be viewing and interpreting a range of graphs and tables. They will measure the volume and capacity of everyday items.

Students will further grow their understanding of whole number and how numbers can be represented as fractions and decimals.

Science
Have you ever wondered what is underneath your feet and how soil, rocks and landforms are made? These are the questions Year 4 will be asking themselves as they discover how time, pressure, heat, erosion and weathering has created many significant landforms around us. Students can look forward to getting their hands ‘dirty’ as they undertake science experiments and investigations throughout the term.

ICT
The major focus this term will be on learning and developing correct keyboarding skills. Students will need to use the correct fingering on a keyboard and improve their speed and accuracy. This is an important skill and students will be encouraged, where possible, to practise at home and in other lessons. We will also explore and revise some features in Google Drive, and learn how to use a presentation tool.

HSIE
Year 4 are going to take a closer look at significant landforms and cities around Australia. We will be developing our skills in mapping using coordinates, compass points and geographical terminology. There will also be the opportunity to use some of these skills during a Year 4 scavenger hunt.

PDH
Have you ever taken the time to look at how much sugar is in some of the packaged food and drinks we consume? Year 4 students will have the opportunity to investigate food packaging and how the decisions they make about what they eat impacts their health. They will then discover the impact that packaging has on the environment and the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling our waste. This unit will then continue to look at peer choices and elements that influence positive relationships with others.

Physical Education
During Term 2, Year 4 will focus on net sports. They will continue to develop and use skills involved in these games and learn how to transfer learned skills to other games and sports. Students will be taught how to use strategy to better their playing positions and also how to work together as a team to score points.

Creative Arts
In Drama, students will continue to explore improvisation and physical theatre to build mood and tension when playbuilding. Towards the end of term, students will look at the importance of voice and sound effects to build characters through reader’s theatre.
In Dance we will complete our unit on Aboriginal dance and begin to study the use of movement and body language to convey meaning and emotion.

Visual Arts will see students complete their focus on sketching and move towards developing new skills using air dry clay to produce a sculpture of a character. For this activity each student will need to bring in a shoebox, or other similar sized box.

**Music**
During Term 2, students will complete exploring the concept of duration as they develop further rhythmic skills through body percussion and Celtic music. Students will also develop their aural and performance skills as they examine pieces by Mozart and Tchaikovsky and develop skills on the glockenspiel.

**Language**
In German, we will continue our learning based on *Die Kleine Raupe Nimmersatt* by composing a description of our own imaginary caterpillar. This will also incorporate the language we learned in Year 3 for descriptions. We will learn vocabulary to describe geographical features, and discover some of Germany’s famous landmarks. This will connect with learning in other areas.

**Term 2 Communication News**

**Uniform**
The winter school uniform is to be worn in Terms 2 and 3. Please be mindful that your child has the appropriate hairstyle, badge pinned on the left lapel and is wearing a blazer and school hat, to complete their uniform, to and from school each day. On Wednesdays, children must wear their full sport tracksuit, however, shorts may be worn underneath.

### Stationery
All children are working towards their pen licences. Please ensure that the following items are in their pencil case and clearly labelled.

- 3 lead pencils (2B or HB)
- simple white eraser
- sharpener with catch
- wooden or plastic 30 cm ruler
- glue stick
- scissors
- small set of coloured pencils (set of 12 is sufficient)
- 2 blue ball point pens (no felt tip or gel ink as these bleed through pages)
- 1 red ball point pen
- optional - small set of textas, and/or coloured gel pens

### Diary
Thank you for the effort that was made during Term 1 with diary checking. Towards the end of the term, we noticed a lapse and would like to remind you that the diary is a means of communication between school and home, and should be with your child at school each day. We would ask that you view your child’s diary every day. This allows for you to sign your child’s daily reading as well as keeping you up to date with things that are happening at school. Please feel free to communicate with your child’s class teacher through a note in the diary. We thank you for your continued assistance.

### Concerns
In the event that you may have a social, emotional or educational concern involving your child, please make the classroom teacher your first point of contact.

### Homework
Homework will continue to consist of nightly reading and a series of small tasks to be completed and returned to school each Friday. Mathematics tasks will be set regularly by your child’s Mathematics teacher. Please communicate with the appropriate teacher if there are any issues.

### The week at a glance

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Welcome back to Term Two! We have lots of exciting learning experiences planned and look forward to working with you to help your child reach his/her potential.

**Scripture**
Throughout the term, students will continue to explore the world and each other through the grid of the gospel. In particular we will investigate God’s plan in the Old Testament book of Kings. By exploring the relationship between God and His people we will enable students to think through the implications and applications for our contemporary lives.

Spelling will continue to follow the Soundwaves program, focusing on one sound per week from Unit 11 to Unit 20 (inclusive). Students can access the weekly word lists and matching games via Soundwaves online (https://online.fireflyeducation.com.au/services/login/members) and using the student login: four050.

Debating will be the focus of our Speaking and Listening skills. Students will identify the features of a persuasive argument and work in teams to participate in a number of formal debates within the classroom.

**English**
5M and 5G will join together for reading groups for one hour each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Students will work in ability-based groups to improve their reading, comprehension and spelling skills. As part of our literacy groups, students will participate in small group comprehension lessons using texts about the Australian Gold Rush. Students will learn how to identify the main idea, summarise information and use features such as the headings and subheadings to locate information. 5V will use the text ‘Valley of Gold’ by Jackie French to consolidate their understanding of these skills.

**Mathematics**
During this term, students in Year 5 will continue to develop skills and understanding in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Students will undertake NAPLAN assessments in Mathematics during Week 3. Throughout the term they will also be asked to revise, summarise and communicate classroom knowledge to parents via the use of diaries. The aim of this exercise is to include parents in the daily lives of students and assist in developing a deeper understanding of the mathematical concepts and skills taught in class.

**Science**
Electricity will be our focus and students will develop their understanding through hands-on activities and experiments. Our Science unit, 'It’s Electrifying!' will explore the role of electrons in transferring energy in electric circuits. Through investigating batteries, light bulbs, switches, conductors and insulators, we will explain how battery-operated devices work. We will discover that electric circuits allow energy to be transferred from a battery to light bulbs, motors and buzzers, where it is changed into light, movement or sound energy.

**ICT**
Year 5 will learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, as they use coding skills to create a video game using an online program called Scratch. Students will either work independently or in a small group. Any completed video games that meet the criteria may be entered into the Australian STEM Video Game Challenge.

**Integrated Unit**
This unit will concentrate on media and the Gold Rush era in Australia. What is the role of Journalism and how has print media changed and developed our perception of the past? We will use historical documents, newspaper archives and a suite of other primary and secondary sources. Towards the end of term, students will be going on an excursion to the Powerhouse Museum! They will participate in a Gold Rush learning program and be taken on a guided museum tour and historical source study. To conclude this experience, students will participate in a costumed role play game. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to expand their knowledge and understanding of how the Gold Rush era helped shape our Australian identity.
Personal Development

"Who Am I?" is the question students will explore about themselves throughout our Personal Development lessons this term, where they will consider who and what has shaped their personal identity. They should continue to appreciate their own individuality and reflect on the changes in their lives. Students will explore how the media influences the choices we make. They will identify their own values and learn some strategies for coping with change.

Languages

Students will continue to develop their language skills to name the seasons and describe the associated weather. This term will see students expand their understanding to focus on the appropriate clothing to suit the seasons. Students will develop and present a weather report to demonstrate their learning. The term will conclude with an investigation of the ‘Tour de France’.

Physical Education

In Physical Education this term students will be involved in a variety of games and activities which encourage refinement of skills through practice. They will learn to communicate and adjust skills and movement including opportunities to pass and receive as they become aware of their place in space.

Music

This Term, Year 5 will complete our Stomp unit where they have been learning about what makes music. Students will finish composing their own routine and perform it for the class. This will be followed by a new unit where they will learn to identify and apply the characteristics of Blues music. Students will learn call and response, the Blues scale, a twelve-bar structure, a harmonic framework and a set pattern for lyrics.

Term 2 Communication News

Diaries

The school diary is an important communication tool between home and school. Teachers will continue to use this as a way to inform you of upcoming events and notable behaviours. From this term onwards, it is expected that students have their school diary at school every day. It is your child’s responsibility to ensure the diary is presented to the classroom teacher. We will require parents/carers to sign any communication to indicate it has been read. Teachers will endeavour to keep parents informed regularly, using the diary.
This term, Year 6 will be focusing on the concept of Power. We will be exploring the many different representations of power, which will involve identifying characteristics and analysing what they represent in a range of contexts and situations. This concept will be explored across most Key Learning Areas.

**Scripture**
In Scripture, we will continue to explore God’s great kingdom plan and also look at ways in which we can remember God is King. We will be looking through some books in the Bible, particularly 1 Kings, to assist with this study.

**English**
In English we will explore the various representations of Power in literature and engage in research about how power has been used throughout history, particularly by investigating various forms of government. This will form the basis for the construction of debates in Speaking and Listening and discussions in Writing.

**Mathematics**
In Mathematics, students will continue to explore and develop their use of problem solving strategies in more open-ended activities. In particular, we will focus on a range of content within the Number strand, including positive and negative numbers, decimals and patterns and algebra. Additionally, Year 6 will investigate the use of the metric system in measurement in order to find the perimeter and area of composite shapes, interpret statistics, explore causes of bias and construct line and column graphs.

Students will also consolidate their comprehension skills as they experiment with a range of strategies, such as visualisation, examine ways to support their answers utilising meaningful and relevant examples and explore how theme has been represented in literary pieces. Spelling and editing strategies will also be a key focus this term, as students learn to examine the deeper meaning behind words in order to increase their vocabulary and make meaningful improvements to their work.

Please be aware that in our study of Power we will be looking into some history relating to the Second World War, however, we will ensure that the presentation of this content will be age-appropriate.

Throughout Term 1 it has become evident that some students across Year 6 require revision of their basic number facts and times tables. This impacts their ability to complete more complex mathematical tasks. We would ask that students revise their basic number facts, particularly their times tables, for homework each week.

**Science**
Our God is a powerful God and He has given us powerful bodies and a very powerful earth. This term, students will be questioning and observing the scientific power associated with ‘Light and Sight.’ They will undertake investigations into how our eyes work and consider various sources of light.

**ICT**
This term, students will learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, as they use coding skills to create a video game using an online program called Scratch. Students will either work independently or in a small group.

Any completed video games that meet the criteria may be entered into the Australian STEM Video Game Challenge.

**History**
In History, we will be looking into various representations of political power through an investigation into government systems and a focus on the roles and responsibilities of Federal government. This unit will assist students to understand what it takes to run a country and to consider how power could be used in positive and negative ways through role plays, simulation activities, videos and an overnight excursion to Canberra!
PDHPE
In Personal Development and Health, students will discover the ‘Power of Self’ when exploring changes in growth and development. They will engage in a range of discussions and practical activities to learn how to cope effectively with expected and unexpected changes.

During PE, students will engage in Invasion Games. Games provide us with an opportunity to improve the effectiveness of our movements through regular practice. They will learn a range of effective skills and determine which skills are most important to practise and create space in games to improve the opportunity to pass and receive. Students will learn these skills through the games of lacrosse and ultimate frisbee.

Languages
During German lessons, Year 6 have looked at the causes of World War 1 and 2, and sought to understand the rise of Nazism. They have been fascinated by this topic. During Term 2 we will explore what it was like to live under the Nazis. Students will research a war hero, and prepare a presentation about their hero in German. The main question behind the unit for students to consider is “What would you have done?” This learning will link to the themes of power and propaganda being explored in Year 6 this term. If you have any questions about the unit, please don’t hesitate to contact me through the school office. Frau Holmes

Creative Arts
By examining Cubism, students will be exposed to The Power of Expression. They will learn the skills associated with making and appreciating artworks characteristic of this art movement. Drama will be accompanied by the representations of power explored in English this term. Year 6 will learn the processes involved in script writing and character development. In Music, students will be further developing their aural skills as they learn to analyse and interpret instrumental music. They will be focusing on the music style and features of Jazz music within our new unit.

Students will have the opportunity to listen to a variety of repertoire, organise sound, explore the rhythmic features of a chant, and then perform with what they have learnt.

On Wednesdays, children must wear their full sports tracksuit and sport hat. School sport shorts may be worn underneath.

Chapel will continue to be held on Wednesdays at 9am, and we encourage you to come along to these services if you are available.

Diaries
The expectation for Year 6 is that diaries are to be brought to school each day and kept on the student’s desk. Students will be required to write homework tasks and upcoming events in their diary as instructed by their teacher. Diaries also need to be available at any time for teachers to communicate information to parents. Parents are expected to check and sign student diaries at least once a week. We are endeavouring to teach students the importance of using a diary this year, as it is an important skill needed for high school.

Classroom Essentials
Throughout Term 1 we have noticed that many students have come to school without the equipment that they need for the day. For Year 6 the expectation is that students will come to school with the following items in their pencil case:

- Blue and Red ballpoint pens (no black pens please)
- Lead pencils
- Wooden or plastic ruler (not metal)
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- Glue stick
- Scissors

Please encourage your child to be responsible for their belongings and to ensure they are well equipped for class.

Upcoming Events
It is an exciting term ahead! Please note the following:

Overnight Canberra Excursion: Thursday 19th May and Friday 20th May