Welcome to Term 1 in Year 3!

It’s hard to believe that these youngster are in grade 3 already! We are off to a flying start this week as we celebrate the new friendships and share our stories, getting to know each other and establishing a wonderful working atmosphere that will be “Year 3: the place to be!” - our year level motto for 2017.

There are many important events on our calendar for this year and we look forward to working closely with you to ensure that the students in year 3 have a positive experience and achieve their very best.

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Important Dates

February 8th - Parent Information Evening 7-8pm
February 10th - Start of Year Mass
February 14th and 16th- Meet the teacher
February 27th- Dendy Swimming Carnival
February 28th- Shrove Tuesday
February 29th- Ash Wednesday (Whole School Mass)
March 3rd- Sacrament of Reconciliation Reflection Evening
March 13th- Labour Day Public Holiday
March 14th- School Closure
March 17th- St. Patrick’s Day
March 24th- Athletics Carnival
March 28th- Sacrament of Reconciliation
March 31st- End of term Mass
-School pick up 1:50.
Literacy

In Literacy this term we will be reading, as a class serial, the story of ‘Matilda’ by Roald Dahl. This story is very much linked to the theme of our Faith Life unit on Reconciliation. It is a story that deals with relationships and how people need to forgive and be forgiven.

We will continue to develop reading strategies, extend reading stamina and improve responses to text, through the CAFE reading program. It is imperative that your child reads at home each night, allowing them the opportunity to further practise and enhance their reading and comprehension skills.

Writing this term will see the students looking very closely at the ‘7 Steps to Writing Success’ in conjunction with the VCOP and Big Write Framework. These are approaches which can be applied to all genres. We will be focusing on the Narrative and Persuasive genres this term.

We will also be having a specific focus on spelling. The students will be revisiting some of the skills from previous years, such as syllabication and phoneme sounds, as well as learning new strategies to help with sounding out and spelling new and more difficult words.

Numeracy

We will continue to encourage students to use a range of strategies when solving mathematical problems, justifying their answer/solution.

Some of the topics we will be covering this term include:

- Place value
- Counting/ mental computations
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division
Faith Life

In this unit, students will explore the concepts of forgiving and healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They will explore the different Rites of Reconciliation celebrated in the Catholic Church. Students will discover what it means to be a good friend and examine the four stages of reconciling a relationship.

Homework

Homework will continue to be distributed fortnightly and collected on a Friday, unless otherwise stated. Students are to complete activities in their homework book.

In line with our new homework policy, parents are asked to correct and sign any work completed at home and sign their child’s reading diary on a daily basis.

As part of their homework, students will be asked to complete 1 double sided Maths Mate sheet per week. This is to be handed in with their completed and signed reading diary each Friday. Maths Mate sheets will be corrected in class with the teacher. Parents are not expected to correct the Maths Mate, but asked to sign in the parent signature area.

Please do not stress if your child is finding a task difficult, as we may not have covered it in class yet. If you highlight or asterisk the question/s, we will endeavour to go over them in class together, as there may be other children experiencing similar difficulties.

The timing for homework is a total of 30 minutes per night. The recommended breakdown could be a minimum of 15 mins of reading and 15 minutes of the other assigned activities.
Some parents have requested the names of popular authors and books that Yr 3 students may like to read. Here are a few that you could try:

- Trekker series
- Aussie Bites/ Nibbles series
- Emily Rodda
- Roald Dahl
- Paul Jennings
- Judy Bloom series
- Louis Sacher
- Andy Griffiths

Uniform and Specialists Days

At St Finbar’s in Year 3, it is important that we continue to be wearing correct uniform with pride and modelling to the younger children the high standards that we uphold. A reminder that nail polish and jewellery are not to be worn to school. Earrings must be plain sleepers or studs.

3D
- Tuesday - P.E.
- Wednesday - Performing Arts
- Thursday - Italian, Art and Sport
- Friday - Library

3M
- Tuesday - Performing Arts
- Wednesday - P.E.
- Thursday - Italian, Art and Sport
- Friday - Library
**ICT**

Students will continue to develop their ICT skills through a range of Google applications including: Google classroom Google docs, sheets, slides and forms.

**Communication**

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to email or make an appointment with us if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Each teacher is also available via email:
Margy D’Rozario: mdrozario@sfbrightoneast.catholic.edu.au
Amanda McCurdy - amccurdy@sfbrightoneast.catholic.edu.au

We hope that Term 1 will be a successful term of fun, cooperation and learning. We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout 2017.

Thank you for your time and support.
The Year 3 team.

Margy D’Rozario and Amanda McCurdy