

St. Columba's School Bayswater



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2017 YEAR SIX PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET

TEACHER: **Amanda Xavier**

VISION STATEMENT

St Columba's Primary School aims to foster the total development of each child within a caring community that is totally committed to supporting the Catholic principles and ideals

Introduction

Welcome to Year 6!

My name is Amanda Xavier, it is a pleasure to meet all of you. It is going to be a very busy and exciting year with Camp, Confirmation and Graduation ahead of us. I look forward to guiding your children through the Curriculum and preparing them for their first days in high school next year.

Prayer

Help us Lord to see You in our children.

Give us Lord the patience we need.

Make our homes and classrooms places where your love is seen at work.

Amen



Teaching Philosophy

My teaching beliefs are based around each individual child, knowing each child. I have a strong interest in being involved in, and promoting, inclusive education. I ensure that individual learning needs and requirements are taken into consideration and appropriate learning experiences are designed to meet each child's needs in order for them to progress and develop in a positive and happy environment. I design balanced, innovative programs that encourage students to be engaged in and develop a love of learning based on the teachings of Jesus. I truly believe in a holistic education where each child can develop spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, physically and socially.

Class Focus

We have developed our own classroom rules - what each child thought was important for our class to be happy



Classroom Rewards

ClassDojo's - ClassDojo is an easy and fun way to encourage students and for them to share their best moments. It is an interactive program where points are awarded for an array of attributes such as; being on task, thinking of others, teamwork, participating, positivity, working hard etc... Every fortnight the five children with the most points can choose a prize from the prize box.

Classroom Behaviour

I believe it is vital to know each child as an individual, taking into account all aspects of their life, to understand what may be impacting on them and causing unwanted behaviour. Creating learning environments and experiences where children are motivated, engaged and interested in what they are learning and experiencing will eliminate most undesirable behaviours.

Classroom Consequences

1. Verbal warnings
2. Time out
3. Mr Martin

Merit Certificates

ASSEMBLY: Friday mornings The names of students receiving a merit certificate will be listed on the school website by **WEDNESDAY** afternoon at the latest.

School Routine

School begins promptly at **8:40am**.

- It is essential that all children are organised and ready to begin their learning at this time.
- Students are expected to be in the classroom by 8.30am.
- Students are to come to the classroom by themselves.
- Students are not permitted to be on the school grounds before 8.15am.
- Staff members are unable to supervise students before 8.15am.
- Between 8:40 and 8:50am each morning the class participate in administrative duties including the roll, prayer, collecting notes etc.

Child Absent

The following procedures are to be followed if your child will be absent from school:

- If your child is absent from school please ring the office to notify them in the morning. If no notification has been given to the school prior to 9.00am, then you will receive an SMS (approx. 9:30am) making you aware of your child's absence.
- When your child returns to school the following day, they **MUST** bring a note explaining their absence.
- If your child is not going to be returning to school the following day, please call the office explaining your child's absence.

PICKING UP CHILDREN EARLY: If you are picking up your child early from school, you **MUST** go to the office first and sign them out.

Important Dates Term 1

Week 2	Friday 10 th February	Whole School Mass - Commissioning of student leaders
Week 6	7 th - 10 th March	Camp

The list of scheduled events is updated regularly on the school's website.

Timetable

YEAR 6 TIMETABLE 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:35 - 8:55 Daily Fitness	8:30 - 8:40 Daily Reading	8:30 - 8:40 Daily Reading	8:35 - 8:55 Daily Fitness	9:00 - 10:00 Mass/Assembly
9:55 - 10:55 Italian	9:40 - 10:55 Technology	9:55 - 10:55 Humanities		
10:55 - 11:15 RECESS				
	11:15 - 12:15 Music			
12:30 - 1:10 LUNCH				
			2:00-3:00 Science	2:00-3:00 PE

Confirmation

Term 3 Week 7

10th September

Camp 2017 Dare Adventures

Term 1 Week 7

7th - 10th March

Dare Adventures conduct an outdoor adventure learning camp for schools. The camp will be held over a four day period at Dare Adventures, Lot 1379 Vandals Road, Dwellingup. The students are supervised and instructed by qualified and experienced staff in the area of adventure learning.

Parent Helpers: The camp will require adult supervision

- ✓ 2 staff members from St Columba's
- ✓ 3 Parents. The school will cover the cost of the parents attending.

Our first priority will be parents of children with severe allergies. As this is a life threatening condition we require these parents to attend and aid in the supervision and care of their child.

Year 6 Curriculum

Religious Education

The main aim of the Religious Education program is to assist the students to relate their Catholic faith in their daily lives.

Children's Religious Education begins at home. Parents are educating their children in all sorts of ways long before they come to school. The Faith experience children have from the time they are born, forms the foundation and content of their Religious Education program in school.

I believe that for children to come to know, understand and live out the values of our Catholic tradition, there needs to be a partnership between the parents, the first educators of their children, and the school. Parents are key role models for

their children, particularly with regard to faith and church experiences. As teachers, we aim to support the parents by mainly focusing on the learning of knowledge.

Units covered this term

Loving Like Jesus- Baptism

Celebrate Jesus as Lord - Lent/Easter

English

English is a necessary and vital component to the education of each child.

Students will be provided with learning opportunities where they will learn how to apply specific codes and conventions of literacy to real world situations, children will be able to make connections and see the relevance and benefit through all aspects of their day.

Children in Year 6 will be provided with learning opportunities where they will analyse and explain how language features, images and vocabulary are used by different authors to represent ideas, characters and events. Students will compare and analyse information in different texts, explaining literal and implied meaning. They will select and use evidence from a text to explain their response to it. Students will select language features and language patterns for emphasis. They will show how specific details can be used to support a point of view. Students will be given opportunities to create detailed texts, elaborating on key ideas, for a range of purposes and audiences. They will be given opportunities to create presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions. There will be an emphasis placed on spelling and punctuation for clarity.

YEAR 6 ENGLISH ACHIEVEMENT STANDARD
SCSA

Term One Focus

Biographies, Interviews

Strands

~ Language

~ Literacy

~ Literature

Mathematics

Different approaches to teaching this learning area will be applied throughout the term. In the context of this Year 6 classroom, students will benefit from working collaboratively and cooperatively whilst maintaining a balance between whole class work, group work and individual learning. Considering the learning styles of the students a hands-on approach to learning is crucial to support their learning.

Mathematics in Year 6 will cover an array of topics such as:

Recognising properties of prime, composite, square and triangular numbers and using integers in everyday contexts. Problem solving involving all four operations with whole numbers. Investigating the connection between fractions, decimals and percentages as different representations of the same number. Solving problems involving the addition and subtraction of related fractions as well as those problems involving length and area. Making connections between the powers of 10 and the multiplication and division of decimals. Describing rules used in sequences involving whole numbers, fractions and decimals. Identifying the connection between decimal representations to the metric system and choose appropriate units of measurement to perform a calculation. Differentiating between capacity and volume, interpreting and representing data, locating fractions and integers on a number line, add, subtract and multiply decimals and divide decimals where the result is rational. Calculating common percentage discounts on sale items. Writing correct number sentences using brackets and order of operations, locating an ordered pair in any one of the four quadrants on the Cartesian plane and constructing simple prisms and pyramids.

YEAR 6 MATHEMATICS ACHIEVEMENT STANDARD

SCSA

Term One Focus

Strands

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry

The Arts

Children are expected to gain an understanding of the Arts developed through the Art forms. Students are encouraged to develop creative ways of expressing themselves and develop a critical appreciation for their works and those of others.

Focus: Visual Arts

- Line & Texture

Health and Physical Education

Health and Physical Education recognises the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual dimensions of the health of the individual. Children participate in a variety of activities, which are designed to enable them to make informed decisions for an active, healthy lifestyle. Furthermore children are taught movement skills and strategies to allow for confident participation in physical activity.

Focus: Health

- Developing skills to establish and manage relationships
- Examine the influence of emotional responses on behaviour and relationships

Assessment and Reporting

The Assessment and Reporting Policy is as per direction from the Catholic Education Office of WA. The Policy is available from the school website.

Important Matters

Medical Conditions and Medication

Please ensure that your child's medical conditions have been noted at the office and that you keep the file up to date. If puffers, antihistamines etc. are required in an emergency situation please supply the school office with spares and ensure they are clearly labelled with the child's name. If your child requires medication during school hours please take the medication to the office and fill out the relevant forms.

Updating Records

It is important that parents notify the office of any changes to their address, phone numbers, medical conditions and emergency contacts.

Collecting Children, Car park and 'Kiss and Drive' Areas

Parents are requested to be vigilant when parking their vehicles and using the 'Kiss and Drive' area. For safety reasons, parents are requested to follow the rules when using the car park and 'Kiss and Drive' areas. If students have not been collected by 3:15pm, they will wait on the basketball courts until collected. If you are collecting your child within the school grounds, please wait outside the classrooms and not disturb the children. Parents are requested not to enter the classrooms during the dismissal period to minimise distractions for the children.

Absentee Notes

Parents need to send in a note explaining their child's absence from school, upon returning to school. This is a legal requirement for records when maintaining a register of attendance.

Allergy Friendly School

St. Columba's School is an 'Allergy Friendly School'. Children are not permitted to bring any nut products to school as some children have life threatening conditions when exposed to nuts and other products. The school's policy is attached to this booklet and parents are requested to read the document and abide by the procedures and rules.

Parent Interviews/Appointments

Parents are welcome to arrange appointment times throughout the year at short notice. I would appreciate that the time from 8:30 - 8:40am be reserved for children to get organised and to have a chance to speak to the classroom teacher. Appointments can be arranged for times outside of school hours. Diaries and email can be used as a means of communication. Please remind the students to tell the teacher if there is a written communication in the diary. My email address can be found at the end of this document.

Uniform

The school has a set uniform which students need to wear and adhere to at all times. Please send in a note if your child is unable to wear the correct uniform. Any student not in the correct uniform will need to explain why they are breaching the school policy.

Homework

Homework is an important aspect of the education of each child. It consolidates what we are learning in class and helps develop sound work habits preparing them for high school. No new content will be set for homework unless a flip class activity has been set, where the child becomes the teacher and researches a concept or watches a clip, to prepare them for the next day's activities.

Homework is assigned on a Monday and children have the whole week to complete tasks to allow children who have commitments to plan their time and allocate when homework tasks are to be done. Reading and Word Work are the only components that **MUST** be done every night. The homework expectation for children in Year 6, is 35 to 40 minutes each night. There will be times when particular tasks will be set and need to be completed that night.

Reading

Children should read for at least 20 minutes each night. Various activities will be set in regards to reading to help with comprehension, fluency and expression. Every night children need to record the name of their book and the pages they read in their diaries.

Mathletics

Tasks will be set each week for the students to complete. The tasks will either be a review of what we are learning in class, extra exposure or be given before the topic is taught for me to determine what the students can and cannot do.

Word Work

The children complete the assigned word work tasks each night. They record their work in their **WORD WORK BOOKS**.

- ✓ Children will also be set an array of different tasks such as comprehension, a research task and maths.
- ✓ Assignments will be given during the year and will replace certain tasks of the weekly homework.
- ✓ Any unfinished classroom work that consolidates skills covered in class will be given.

- ✓ Presentation of homework is to follow classroom expectations, ruled up, title and date.
- ✓ Completion of homework is the responsibility of the child/parent.
- ✓ If a child is unable to complete homework for a given night, it is expected that the child will *catch up* the following night. Should the child miss consecutive nights of homework, a note in their diary will be required. It is the parents' responsibility to:

Check homework **every night and sign your child's diary on Thursday night**.
(Important events and notes will be also written into the diary).

Communication

Communication between the teacher, students, parents and colleagues is vital in order to receive support to improve the learning of each student in my classroom. I value a good relationship between teacher and parents, as I believe there is a need for strong parent support throughout a child's education.

Above all education should be an enjoyable experience for all concerned; the teacher, students, parents, families and the wider community. I will strive as a teacher to ensure that I am a positive role model, and provide students with opportunities and equip them with skills to function within society. I will provide enriched learning experiences in a safe and happy environment so students can reach their full potential. I will ensure that I continue to be a reflective teacher and, when necessary, adapt my teaching strategies to support students' needs.

The school website is updated daily. Please register online for access to the website. The newsletter is only available online. Parents without Internet access please notify the office.

Please contact me by email xavier.amanda@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Confidentiality

It is imperative that all parent helpers/volunteers agree to support the confidentiality policy of our school. Parent volunteers are asked not to discuss the happenings of the classroom with any other parent or the community.

School Website

<http://www.saintcolumbas.com.au>

Please go to the school's website to access:

- The weekly newsletter
- All school policies
- Classroom events
- School calendar

I believe in maintaining open communication between school and home and I am most happy to discuss any concerns or queries you may have. I know that you respect my need to attend to my teaching duties during class time and encourage you to make an appointment out of school hours or to communicate with me via diary, letter or email.

Amanda Xavier

Year Six Teacher

