



St Columba's School Bayswater

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Faith Wisdom Peace Grow in Faith Seek Wisdom Live in

2018

Year Six

Parent Information Booklet

TEACHERS

Year 6 White: Mrs Amanda Xavier & Mrs Jo McCluskey

Year 6 Green: Mrs Leesa Vinciullo

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.

School Prayer

*God of Love and Mercy
bless our school, our parish and community
as we aspire to walk in the footsteps of
Catherine McAuley.*

*We ask for your help to live by
the Mercy values that we hold dear.
Holy Spirit, we ask you to guide us
to act more justly
to strive for excellence
to be generous in your service
to show compassion
and to be examples of your mercy.*

*Guided by St. Columba, let us
grow in faith
seek wisdom
and live in peace.*

St. Columba, pray for us.

Catherine McAuley, pray for us.

Amen



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Year Six, 2018. The three of us are looking forward to an exciting and busy year with:

- Camp (8th -10th October),
- Confirmation (Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th September) and
- Graduation (27th November) ahead of us.

We are looking forward to guiding your children through the curriculum and preparing them for their first days in high school. This booklet is designed to provide you with some general information that you will be able to refer to throughout the year.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

We strongly believe that we go to school not only to learn to read, write and do arithmetic, but to discover our PASSION in life! Furthermore, we are adamant that every child has the right to learn and develop to his or her full potential within a safe, supportive and collaborative environment.

Each child brings their unique and individual skills, talents and interests to the classroom. They will be exposed to a variety of subjects, topics, learning experiences, resources and opportunities and will be encouraged to develop self-discipline, independence and co-operation through a variety of whole class, group and individual tasks. We will encourage all students to strive for excellence, to produce quality work and to achieve personal improvement and will assist them in these endeavours by employing a variety of teaching and learning strategies focused on meeting each student's individual needs.

CLASS FOCUS

We encourage every student to acknowledge that they are leaders of the school and to act accordingly at all times. We have high expectations of their behaviour and their attitude.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

There will be an emphasis on developing intrinsic motivation amongst our students, however, in order to encourage and foster a positive learning environment, students can also expect to receive:

- Verbal praise
- Merit certificates
- Showing work to principal or other teachers
- Group and whole class rewards

CONSEQUENCES

By creating learning environments and experiences where students are motivated, engaged and interested, as well as developing an understanding of each child as an individual, most undesirable behaviours should be eliminated. To remind students of their behavioural boundaries, they may be given :

- A verbal warning
- Time out in class

- Time out at recess or lunch

Please note that for serious or continuous infractions, the leadership team and parents will be notified.

SPECIALIST LEARNING AREAS & SUPPORT

PLEASE NOTE: All children will be involved in the following specialist areas, while some children will be involved in Enrichment & Support programs.

DAY	YEAR 6 WHITE (Mrs Xavier & Mrs McCluskey)	YEAR 6 GREEN (Mrs Vinciullo)
MONDAY	LIBRARY (Mrs Cuthbert)	ITALIAN (Signora Leahy)
TUESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCIENCE (Miss Trott & Mr Potito) • DANCING (Term 1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCIENCE (Miss Trott & Mr Potito) • DANCING (Term 1)
WEDNESDAY	ITALIAN (Signora Leahy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE (Mrs McCluskey)
THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE (Mrs McCluskey) • CHOIR (Mrs Smith) • EXTENSION (Mrs Ioppolo) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MUSIC (Mrs Smith) • CHOIR (Mrs Smith) • EXTENSION (Mrs Ioppolo)
FRIDAY	MUSIC (Mrs Smith)	LIBRARY (Mrs Cuthbert)
IMPORTANT NOTES	<p>Students must wear their sports uniform on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. (Please see the School Uniform Policy for correct attire).</p> <p>Students are now required to have the St Columba's School Homework Bag (purchased from the Uniform Shop) for book borrowing on Fridays. Borrowing and reading library books is a compulsory element of the English learning area.</p>	<p>Students must wear their sports uniform on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. (Please see the School Uniform Policy for correct attire).</p> <p>Students are now required to have the St Columba's School Homework Bag (purchased from the Uniform Shop) for book borrowing on Tuesdays. Borrowing and reading library books is a compulsory element of the English learning area.</p>

DIARY OF EVENTS: *The following is a list of important dates for Semester 1.*

9 th February	Whole School Mass 9am: commissioning of Student Leaders, Board and P&F
11 th February	Community Mass 9.30am
14 th February	Ash Wednesday Whole School Mass 9am
23 rd February	Year 6 & 2 Parish Mass
5 th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
8 th March	Years 4-6 Faction Swimming Carnival
16 th March	Parish Stations of the Cross 7pm
29 th March	Holy Week Liturgy 2pm
30 th March	Good Friday Public Holiday
2 nd April	Easter Monday Public Holiday
3 rd April	Easter Tuesday School Holiday
12 th April	Term One concludes
1 st May	Term Two commences
10 th May	Mother's Day Mass 9am
11 th May	Interschool Swimming Carnival
12 th May	Community Mass 6pm
4 th June	WA Day Public Holiday
7 th June	Sacred Saints
8 th June	St Columba's Day / Whole School Mass 9am
14 th June	Sacred Saints
21 st June	Year 6 Winter Carnival
22 nd June	Year 6, 5 & 2 Parish Mass
29 th June	Term Two concludes
27 th July	Year 6 Assembly Item - combined

PLEASE NOTE: The school website is updated daily. Please register online for access to the website :
<http://www.saintcolumbas.com.au>

Please go to the school website to access the newsletter, school policies and the school calendar.

THE YEAR SIX 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.

We 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.

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, students will be able to make connections and see the relevance and benefit through all aspects of their day.

Students 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

MATHEMATICS

Different approaches to teaching this learning area will be applied throughout the year. 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 understandings.

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 choosing 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, adding, subtracting and multiplying decimals and dividing 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

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.

HEALTH & 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.

ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

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

We are more than happy to discuss your child's progress or any concerns you may have throughout the year. If you have any concerns about your child please make an appointment to see us.

SCHOOL ROUTINES

- 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 not permitted to be on the school grounds before 8.15am, unless they are in OSHC.
- If students arrive at school before 8:30am they must wait either on the oval or under the new undercover area, where there is a teacher on duty. Students are NOT to be outside classrooms at this time.
- Between 8:30 and 9:00am each morning the class undertakes morning administrative duties including the roll, prayer, collecting money and notes etc. Please do not try to meet with staff during this time.

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 45 minutes each night. There will be times when particular tasks will be set and need to be completed that night.

ENGLISH HOMEWORK

Spelling and Word Work

While students will be participating in different Spelling programs, they are all expected to complete the word work activities set for their group each week.

Reading Eggspress

In order to have students completing comprehension activities at their appropriate level, students are required to complete **AT LEAST ONE** Reading Eggspress comprehension passage each week. Students have completed a Placement Test to ascertain their comprehension levels and now tasks are allocated that suit their abilities and requirements.

MATHEMATICS HOMEWORK

Mathletics

Students will be set 10 tasks per week based on the topic being covered in class and / or revision of previous topics.

Worksheets (either printed or on-line)

These are also based on the topic being covered in class and / or revision of previous topics.

OTHER HOMEWORK

- **Unfinished class work:** in order to prevent students from falling behind, or to ensure class time is used productively, students may be asked to complete unfinished class work at home.
- **Assignments:** at times throughout the year special assignments will be given and some of this work may need to be completed at home.

Please take careful note of the following:

- **Presentation:** is to follow classroom expectations; ruled up, neatly written and with a title and date.
- **Responsibility:** the completion of homework is the responsibility of the student and their parents. If a child is unable to complete homework on a given night, it is expected that they will catch up the following night. Should homework not get completed on consecutive nights, a note in the diary will be required.
- **Diary:** important dates and notes will be communicated through the diary, so it is vital that parents check and sign their child's diary each week.

AREAS OF IMPORTANCE

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 (including a current Action Plan for staff to have in the classroom). 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 in the school office 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.

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, even 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. We would appreciate that the time from 8:30 – 8.45am be reserved for children to get organised and to have a chance to speak to the classroom teacher. Appointments can be arranged for after 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. Email addresses can be found at the end of this document.

Absentees

If your child is absent from school or arrives after the 8.40 am bell, and no notification has been received by the office, you will receive an SMS (approx. 9.30 am) making you aware of your child's absence.

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.

Supervision and Duty of Care

Children are not supervised at school before 8:15am and it is important that they are at school and settled ready to start at 8:40am. Late arrivals and disorganisation cause disruption at the start of the day and cut into learning time. Children are only supervised until 3:15pm, by which time they need to be picked up, as staff need time to plan and prepare for the following day's lessons.

Sign in/out

If you are taking your child out of school during school hours, it is important to sign them out at the front office and then in again if they are returning on that same day. Please inform classroom teachers of any planned activities scheduled in the morning, preferably via a written note. Also, if a child arrives at school after 8:40am they will need to be signed in at the office.

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.

Communication

Communication between the teacher, students, parents and colleagues is vital in order to receive support and improve the learning of each student in our classrooms. We value a good relationship between teachers and parents, and 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. We will strive as teachers to ensure that we are positive role models, and provide students with opportunities and equip them with skills to function within society. We will provide enriched learning experiences in a safe environment so students can reach their full potential. We will ensure that we continue to be reflective teachers and when necessary adapt our teaching strategies to support students' needs.

Staff Contact Details

Please feel free to use email as a form of communication with us. Our email addresses are:

Amanda.Xavier@cewa.edu.au

Joanna.Mccluskey@cewa.edu.au

Leesa.Vinciullo@cewa.edu.au

Mrs Amanda Xavier, Mrs Jo McCluskey & Mrs Leesa Vinciullo

Year 6 Class Teachers