



Your Year 3 Term 1 Teaching Team is:

Mrs Brianne Hoitink, Mrs Karen Davies, Mrs Sarah Blundell,

Mrs Jeannine Ucdereli, Mrs Holly Hough,

Mrs Robyn McDougall and Mr Sam Taylor

We are very excited to work in partnership with you and your child this year.

WEEKLY ORGANISATION-

3D - Mrs Davies will teach full-time with the exception of the middle session on Fridays when Mr Taylor and Mrs Ucdereli will take the class for Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

3H - Mrs Hoitink will teach full-time with the exceptions of the middle session on Mondays when Mrs Blundell will take the students for Science and Technology and Fridays when Mr Taylor and Mrs Ucdereli will take the class for Creative Arts and PDHPE.

The Year 3 teaching team will be working collaboratively and adopting the approach that we are all responsible for each and every child's learning and wellbeing across the year no matter what "class" they are in. The classes will combine for many exciting learning opportunities throughout the term and the children will be taught at different times by any member/s of the teaching team.

Our students will be supported by our wonderful Educational Assistants throughout the year.

HERE'S WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE LEARNING THIS TERM:

In **Religious Education**, for the first half of the term the students will learn that they are created in the image and likeness of God and loved by God. The students will come to appreciate that they have been created by God to be free and creative and to engage with all of creation.

The second half of the term will focus on the season of **Lent** as a time of renewal and a time to reflect on ways we can change and follow Jesus more closely through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In the Gospels we learn how Jesus gave himself for others. The unit concludes by providing students with the opportunity to reflect on the events of **Holy Week**, in preparation for the great celebration of the Easter Triduum and Easter season.



The **Sacrament** celebrated this year will be **Confirmation**. The children will prepare for the Sacrament in early Term 3. We encourage families to attend the Youth Parish Masses on Sundays at 5:00pm at St Agnes' Church.

In **English**, we will focus on how to write *imaginative* texts. The children will be exposed to quality literature to explore how authors use a range of literature techniques such as character development and plot tension to engage the reader. Students will learn how to structure a narrative piece of writing and engage in the process of planning, writing, editing and publishing a piece of writing. Children will experiment with a range of vocabulary exploring the meaning, spelling and how to employ words to enhance their writing. The children will be engaged in reading opportunities everyday in order to develop comprehension strategies such as monitoring, questioning, inferencing, predicting and evaluating. They will receive group and targeted individual instruction in order to set goals to improve their reading skills.

In **Mathematics**, students will continue to develop their understanding of numbers through daily number fluency sessions. They will learn different strategies in Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division and how to apply these to solve increasingly complex problems. Other content areas including Space and Measurement, Patterns and Algebra and Chance and Data will also be covered.

In **Science and Technology** we focus on the **Living World** strand; specifically on the classification, life cycles and survival of living things. The students will experience the similarities and differences between life-cycles of living things and how they are all interconnected. Through hands-on investigations, students will investigate the environmental features and threats to bees in our local environment. Students will use scientific data to develop their understanding about why data is represented in different ways.

In **PDHPE**, the focus is on active participation in a broad range of movement contexts to develop movement skills and enhance performance. During **Sport** students will participate in a Gymnastics and Cricket program. In **PDH** (Personal Development and Health), students will work on developing the skills of empathy, inclusion and respect for others.

NOTE: Sports uniform to be worn Thursday and Friday in Term 1.

In **Creative Arts**, we cover the areas of **Drama** and **Visual Arts**. The children will develop their knowledge, skills and understanding in making artworks and in appreciating the work of others. Artworks will be linked to our Science and Technology unit. The children will participate in making drama collaboratively by taking on roles and creating imagined situations shaped by the elements of drama.



In **History**, we will explore concepts of 'identity' and 'diversity' in both a local and a broader context. Students will examine historical features within our community, including; local, state and national symbols and emblems of significance, celebrations and commemorations. Students are given opportunities to sequence key events and people in chronological order and identify key dates. They will pose a range of questions about the past, identify sources (such as written, physical, visual, oral) and locate information to answer these questions.

We will visit the **library** each week on a Friday afternoon. Students are reminded to bring their library bag in order to borrow. They are also encouraged to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge which begins 1st March this year.

At approximately 10:00am each day we will have a short break for **Crunch & Sip**. We encourage the children to bring only fruit or vegetables. We find this is a great way to get something healthy into potentially picky eaters!

Prayer will be held Monday mornings in the Hall. Year 3 has a turn at preparing and hosting prayer throughout the year.

Home Learning - Reading every night is so important in the development of children's decoding and comprehension skills. Parents are asked to sign the reading diary to indicate how often a child is reading at home.

Communication between home and school - Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have concerns. It is often best to make an appointment by calling the front office. Urgent messages **MUST** be communicated to the front office via a note or phone call to ensure they reach the appropriate person.

The school has a Facebook page which we regularly post whole school information, photos and share the children's learning on. Log in to your Facebook account and search 'St Joseph's Primary Port Macquarie' to like our school page.



IMPORTANT: Please note that whilst we post on

Facebook from time to time, our main source of information will be in **Joey's Jottings** and the **School App**. Please ring the office if you have any questions about this.

We ask that you read our school newsletter every week which will be emailed to you. **Joey's Jottings** has all the information you will need with links to different online forms. You can find all the newsletters, including past issues, on the school's web page <https://www.pmacilism.catholic.edu.au>. You can also access information through the School App. Please make these your primary source of information regarding your child's schooling.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents & Friends Association (P&F) - The P&F is a great way to meet other parents and become involved. All the info you need can be found on our website. You are very welcome to join us.

School Counsellor and Wellbeing Support - If you feel your child is experiencing difficulty and you would like information on accessing our school counsellor, please see your child's teacher for a referral form and this request will be passed on to our Principal, Mrs Koning. We are also fortunate to have the support of Mrs Hearle in her wellbeing role two mornings a week.

Afternoon pick up - Please enter through the side gate and walk through to the next gate next to the hall. This system should be a continuous flow of parents maintaining 1.5 metre social distancing. We ask that parents do not stop during this process and continue to walk and exit through the Hall gate. If you have not collected them by 3:30pm, they will be redirected to the front office and the Office Aunties will give you a call.

Our goal is to encourage and inspire the children to learn, to be responsible for their own learning and to achieve the best that they possibly can. We also want them to feel happy, safe and cared for.

We look forward to a productive and exciting year!

Your Year 3 Team

