

WELCOME!

Dear Year 1 Parents and Carers

We welcome you to Year 1! Thank you for trusting us with the care and education of your treasured child. We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning and fun! Here are a few things as we begin the new year.

Our **Year 1 Teaching Teams** for 2021 are:

Year 1 Class Teachers - **Mrs Debbie Rennes (1R)** and **Mrs Kathy Bailey (1B)**



Our Year 1 Teachers will be supported by **Mrs Veronica Hawkins** and **Mr Damian Lawrence** while they have some valuable planning and collaboration time on Tuesdays.



Our students will also be supported by our wonderful Educational Assistants.

This is an overview of your child's learning this term:

In **Religious Education**, we will begin by learning about Creation. This unit focuses on God the creator who is present in all of creation. The first creation story is presented. The focus for this story is: God the creator, the goodness of creation and creation as a reflection of God's love and goodness. Lent and Holy Week will follow as we move towards the Easter season.

In **English** our unit of work is based around a variety of texts that link with belonging. Children make connections between a text and their own lives. They identify the elements of a text and the relationship between words and images. We will focus on using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces consistently. We will further develop our sound and word knowledge to assist our spelling and writing capabilities. We will also focus on being able to retell the stories we read to demonstrate comprehension.

In **Mathematics**, our lessons will be varied across all strands, however there will be a strong focus on building a deeper understanding of numbers. For example - that they all consist of a numeral/symbol (7), a quantity (*****) and a name (seven). We will explore concepts such as 'more/less than', different ways to add and subtract and learn how to make groups and share collections.

In **Science and Technology** our unit of work is called **Energy Around Us**. In this unit students will engage with the physical world through the concept of 'Energy'. Year 1 will be introduced to the different forms of energy and the impact that it has on our everyday lives. Students will engage in the Design and Production process, generating design solutions and evaluating the success of their ideas.

This semester in **Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)**, the students will be starting studies in **History**. We will investigate present and past family life within the context of the students' own world. We will learn about similarities and differences in family life by comparing the present with the past and begin to explore changes that occur over time. We will identify differences and similarities between student's own daily lives and life during their parents' and grandparents' childhoods, including family traditions, leisure time and communications.

In **Creative Arts** this term the children will be exploring colour in **Visual Arts**. **Music** and **Drama** will provide students with the opportunity to learn the key elements and engage creatively in a variety of improvised situations.

In **Personal Development, Health And Physical Education (PDHPE)** outside of the classroom students will practise using their Fundamental Movement Skills and engage in Gymnastics, Soccer and Cricket skills. Students will need to wear their **sports uniform** on **Tuesday, Thursday** and **Friday**. In the classroom students will learn how we are all unique and valued and that fair play is important during physical activity.

Library day for Year 1 is Monday

Please return any library books you have at home on your child's library day, in their library bag. Students without a library bag will be unable to borrow a book. This can be as simple as a shopping bag or pillowcase.

Compulsory Home Learning:


READING- This year your child will change their own home reader daily and be responsible for packing it into their **reading folder** to bring home. If you find your child is repeatedly bringing home the same book, please encourage them to choose a new one and let us know so we can do the same. Inside your child's reading folder you will see a yellow reading log book, each time your child reads their home reader, we ask that you fill in the log book which helps to inform us how often they are reading at home.

Also we would encourage you to read your child's library books with them as an alternative to listening to your child read their home reader. Just write down into the yellow reading log book the name of the book you read.

One important skill we hope they achieve in Year 1 is to be able to tie their own shoe laces. Please assist them by practising this at home.

Communication

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 as it is unlikely that other communication platforms such as Facebook or email will be checked during the school day.

In Year 1, our team utilises the  **Seesaw** platform to show students learning, photos of their school experiences and the occasional reminder. A note will go home to advise you of the steps to join Seesaw.

The school also 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.pmacjlism.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.

We look forward to working in partnership with you this year!

Kind Regards

Your Year 1 Teaching Team

To ensure your child’s safety and reduce any potential anxiety, we like to be clear on the travel arrangements for your child. Please take a moment to complete the details below and return to your child’s teacher at your earliest convenience.

My child in class will travel home as follows:

Please tick	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Bus Please include which bus					
Home Lines Please collect from the Hall not the classroom or the class line on the way to the Hall.					

Other information (if necessary)