

# Term Three

## Junior Community Learning Newsletter

*Creating a learning community, nurturing and integrating faith and life,  
in a spirit of openness.*



Kaelan McIntyre experimenting at the Fizzics Science Incursion  
Challenge - How do people throw toilet paper high in the sky like they do in the movies?  
Answer- They use air blowing machines!

### Junior Community Teacher Emails

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If you would like to volunteer, make a time to talk about your student's learning or to simply give some feedback; please don't hesitate to email your student's teacher or Erin, the Junior Community Team Coach.

# Questions and Answers

## Question

“Will we be going on an excursion this year? I want to go on one so I can go on a bus.”

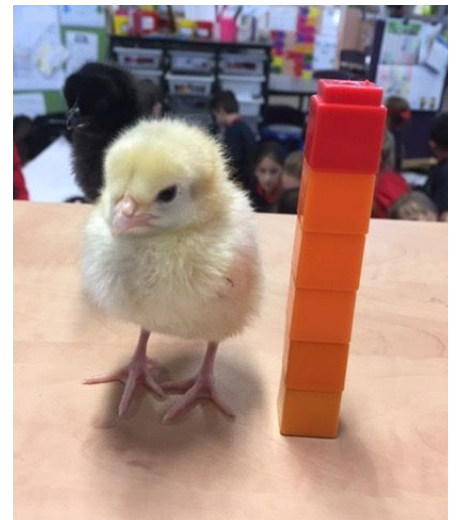
## Answer

At Stella Maris we think long and hard about what the students are interested in, need to know and what they are wondering about. We then research and plan for the best way for our students, in this case the juniors, to learn. Our decisions thus far have included ‘The Fizzics Science Incursion’ and our chicken incubators, both of which are funded through our incursion/excursion levy which is part of school fees. Unfortunately no bus as yet!

- The Fizzics science incursion. The presenters came to our school gym to teach us all about science and how things change! Having the expert visit our students meant we were able to participate in chemical reactions including fire, water, machines and explosions! The expert was then able to spend time with interested students afterwards, answering their unique questions.



- Placing our very own chicken incubator into the Junior Learning space for two whole weeks! We chose to do this rather than visiting a farm for MANY reasons including: we were able to actually watch many different chickens hatch in real time. Students learned how to take care of animals; deepening our Religious inquiries into God’s Creation and Stewardship. Students who were not in the chicken science inquiry group were able to participate in their science experiences, many children chose to use the chickens as a stimulus for writing and measuring tasks, some students started a Stella Maris Chicken club AND three of the chickens were adopted by a Stella Maris family!



We are all wondering what  
will happen next!

For children who are also wondering about busses, trams and other forms of transportation we highly recommend talking to your parents and teachers so that we can help you to find the answers to your wonderings!

## Cold and Windy Weather !

We have noticed that some children are coming into school without warm clothing!!!

As you know, Point Cook is a windy place and during winter it can get very cold. For this reason children need to come to school with a jumper and jacket so that they are prepared for the ever changing weather.



## Religious Education Term Three

Our first Religious Education unit this term is called, 'The Stories of Jesus'.

Students will engage with the stories and the teachings of Jesus and learn about the history of his family.

While exploring stories students will explore different ways people use the biblical texts including: using them as stories, as sources for prayer, as inspiration to build our community and as a guide to understand who Jesus is.

Linking in with our inquiry unit, students will have the opportunity to create a bible performance using light and sound to bring across a message.

To help your child in Religion encourage them to talk about different stories of Jesus.

Possible questions to ask to prompt thinking may be:

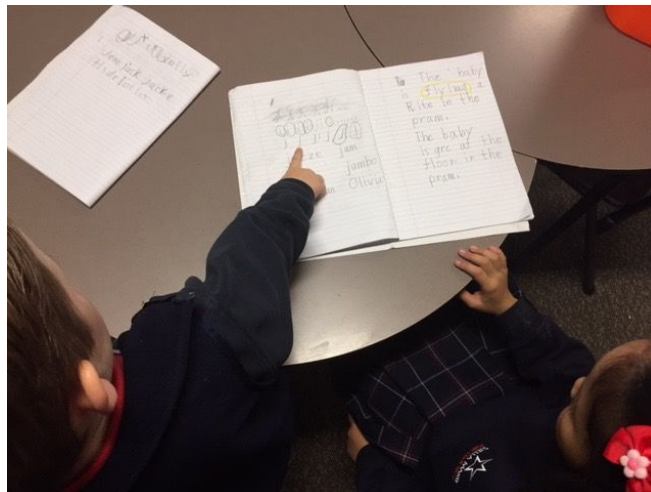
- How does this story help us to understand Jesus?
- What does this story mean to me?
- How does this story help us to be disciples of Jesus?



## English Term Three

During Term Three Juniors will continue to explore a variety of reading and comprehension strategies. In addition to this, as part of our Inquiry Unit, students will be creating and reading scripts! To be successful they will explore expression and fluency while reading aloud.

Within writing we will explore a variety of text types including scripts, poems and persuasive texts. The students will compare the different genres and attempt to apply their findings to their own writing.



Our weekly **Big Writes** will be continued every Tuesday. Each junior student keeps this work in their Big Write Display Folder. Students are encouraged to share this work with their parents before and after school.

To help your child in English please ensure you discuss their “talk homework” with them prior to our weekly Big Writes. Talk homework will go home every Friday afternoon.

Speaking and listening: Will be presenting scripts to an audience.



# Maths Term Three

We are starting Term 3 with our unit on 'Time'. Throughout this unit we will be exploring telling time. We are linking 'time' with our fractions work by encouraging our children to understand the link between fractions and time e.g. half past, quarter past etc.

Students will be using concrete materials to make their own clocks, telling time using analogue and digital clocks and watches and they will be starting to work out time duration, for example, it takes 3 minutes to brush your teeth.

Children will be consolidating and ordering their current knowledge of days of the week, months of the year and hours in a day.



Sunday Saturday  
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

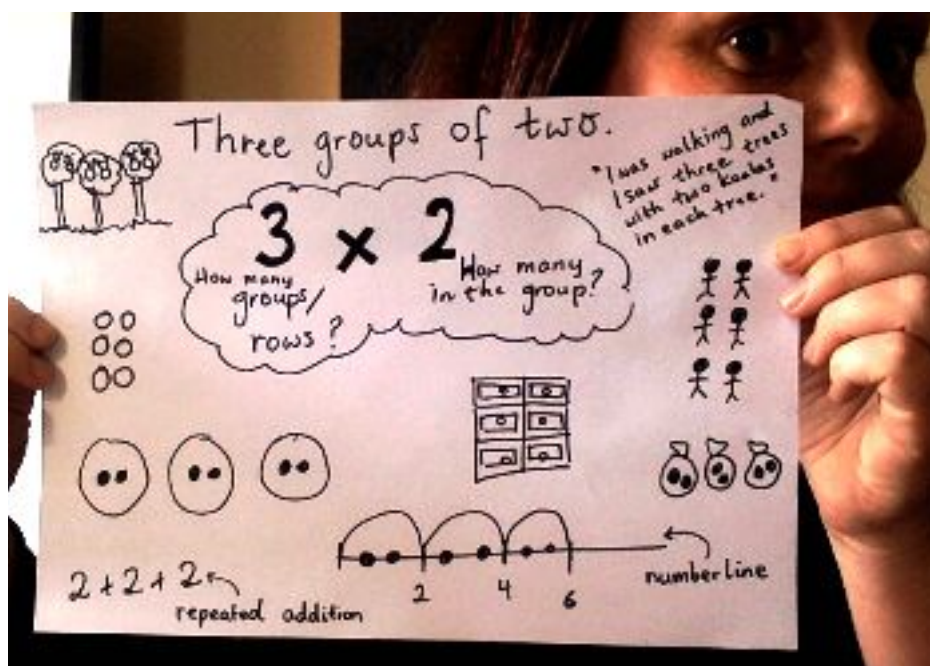
## WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME:

To help your child learn at home, you could ask them to tell you the days of the week, months of the year and which day comes after...? We use our calendar daily so you might ask your child to mark off the day or work out time duration with them e.g. in 3 days it will be?



Later in the term we will be exploring **multiplication!** Parents often ask us questions about how we teach multiplication, especially if they were taught to simply remember facts when they were in school.

In the Junior years at Stella Maris we spend time inquiring into what multiplication is and why it's an important strategy for mathematicians to use. Below is an image of how children will learn to represent the concept of multiplication *before* they rote learn facts.

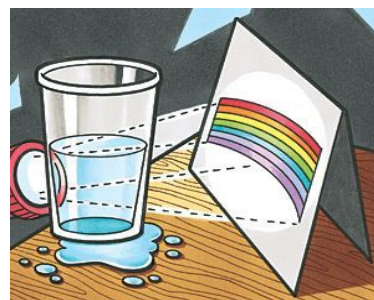


## Inquiry Term Three

Our Key Understanding for our inquiry in Term three is:  
**Scientific knowledge can be used to create a performance!**

To narrow down this big idea we will investigate the following smaller concepts:

- Light and sound have various purposes.
- Light and sound can be produced in many ways.
- Some artists use light and sound to add detail to their performance.
- There is a purpose and process when creating a performance.



To support your child before and during this inquiry you might like to:

- Watch/ explore different galleries, performances, movies, shows and discuss how sound and light make the art better.
- Ask your child how they think different sound and light is made and try different experiments!
- Research where light and sound come from in books and online.

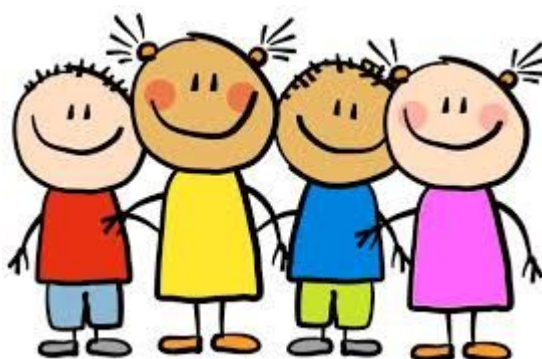
## CASEA

The CASEA Program was developed by the Royal Children's hospital as a program to be used in schools to improve children's capacity to regulate their behaviour, improve social relationships with others and improve social problem solving skills. This term in the Junior Community, we are running a modified version of this program.

Praise and positive language, rewards and incentives are given to encourage positive behaviours, such as, abiding by the rules, waiting for turns, sharing, showing consideration to others, cooperation, joining in or working well.

There will be eight sessions running throughout the term, accompanied by a CASEA noticeboard to keep everyone up to date with what we are learning about.

Talk to your children about what they are learning, some of the strategies may be useful at home!



# HELP! We are looking for ...

## Noisemakers and Light Machines!



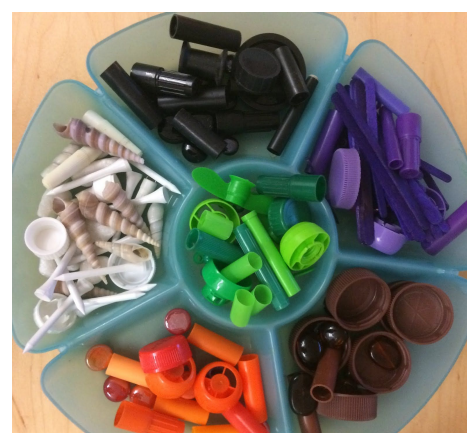
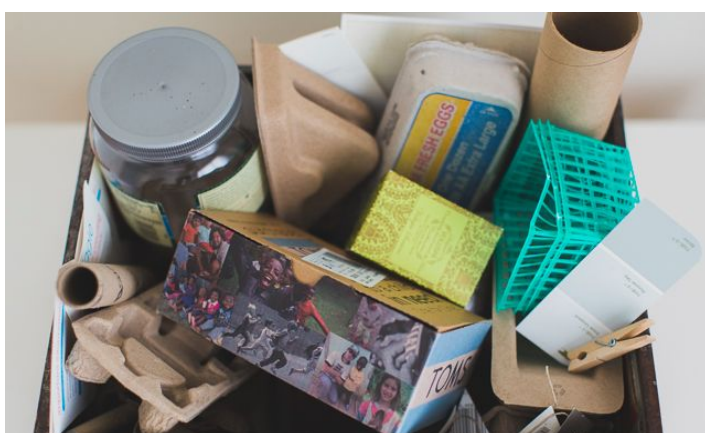
Do you have anything at home that makes an interesting sound?

Do you have anything that makes light?

We would love it if you could send your weird and wonderful objects to school with your child so that they can share with their community. (Please make sure it is named and in a safe container.)



## Containers, Boxes, Bits and Bobs and More!



We will be making lots of noise makers and puppets later in Term 3!

So if you have objects, containers, material, string, wool, bits and bobs (natural or man made) lying around needing to be upcycled PLEASE send them in!

Please **don't send:**  
Food containers or Toilet rolls