

Life in the Junior Community during Term One is always a busy and exciting time. New friends and teachers to meet requires an openness to new experiences.

It is pleasing to observe the air of positivity within the Junior Community as each member develops a deeper understanding of what it means to belong to a community. Throughout inquiry investigations this term, the students will explore how ***communities have systems that help us to maintain order within our community.***

Developing a shared understanding of the attributes of a community will hopefully inspire in all members a sense of increased awareness, participation, pride and ownership.

We look forward to a successful year ahead and thank you for your continued support.

The Junior Community Team

English

This Term students will be exploring recounts and poetry. They will read and be read different versions of these genres, compare them, analyse the structures and try to compose their own. To develop our students' independent writing, we will practise working through 'the writing process'. Students will learn how to think of an idea, put a plan together, and to then write a draft.

By breaking up the writing process students are given the freedom to draw, speak or write their ideas down while planning and drafting without concern for handwriting or spelling errors. We encourage them to write as fast as they can for as long as they can, "Just write it down!" "What is your idea?" the Junior teachers will be saying and asking!

Later, over the next few terms, we will look at editing skills, conferencing, feedback and different publishing options.

Our handwriting will begin with the exploration of dotted thirds for some of our students, and for others it will be refining and speeding up existing letter formations.

Dates to remember

**Stella Maris
Family Fun Day:
February 27th**

**Beginning of Year
Whole School
Mass**
Date: Friday
February 19th
Time: 9:15

**Junior Community
Mass**
Date: Friday March
4th
Time: 9:15 am
followed by
**Junior Community
Learning Assembly**
Date: Friday March
4th
Time: After Mass

Easter Liturgy
Date: March 24th
Time: 9:15 in Hall

End of Term 1
Date: March 24th
Time: 1pm

We would love to see you at these important events

Spelling will include developing personal spelling goals/lists and exploring how we will learn these words! Students will then explore rhyming patterns, spelling patterns, alphabetising words and syllabification – Dr. Seuss would be proud of our Juniors, yes he would!

MATHS

Throughout Term 1 the students will explore concepts related to the following areas:

Number and Place Value

This unit will focus on making and counting collections of objects. Representing these quantities using numerals, number names and visuals also known as a number triad. The students also compare quantities and locate numbers on a number line.

Also concentrating on Forward Number Word Sequence 1-1000 and Backwards Number Word Sequence 1-1000 from any given number and identify number before and after.

Data- representing and interpreting

This includes collecting data (ie. information) and then sorting and classifying the data to make simple picture and tally graphs. They will create displays of data using lists, table and picture graphs and make generalisations to help interpret information.

Pattern

The students will explore patterns and non-patterns. They will learn how to recognise and describe the unit of a pattern and justify what is a pattern. They will also use mathematical language to describe the counting patterns and identify counting patterns such as twos, fives, or tens.

2 Dimensional Shapes

In this unit the students will be asked to recognise and classify familiar two-dimensional shapes using mathematical features. They will explore the concept of **fractions** when they recognise and describing equal parts of a whole.

Religious Education

In Term 1, the Junior Community Religious Education unit will explore the concepts of 'Growing in our community through Lent'. Students will learn and reflect on symbols and actions of Ash Wednesday, Lent and Easter. Students will explore their own experiences and scripture stories of love, care, forgiveness and compassion.

They will begin to have experiences of guided meditation as one way of being close to God and, reflect on times they have experienced forgiveness in family, and experiences of saying sorry.

LIBRARY

All children need to use their library bag to carry their books home in each week. Please ensure your child brings their library bag to school each week. New bags can be purchased at the library for \$5.

