



ST CANICE'S
PRIMARY
KATOOMBA

Curriculum Overview

Term 1, 2021

Year Kindergarten

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome you and your beautiful child to Kindergarten. We are looking forward to a fantastic year, filled with fun and exciting learning. Below is an overview of what we will be covering in the curriculum this term.

Religious Education In Religion this term we will explore some key questions about Friendship:-

How can I be a friend?

Who is Jesus?

How do the actions of Jesus provide a guide for being a true friend?

Why does the way I treat my friends enhance my relationship with Jesus?

How can a person be a friend of Jesus and to others?

The children will have plenty of time to talk about their personal experiences with being a friend and making new friends. For many this will be an introduction to the person of Jesus and how he provides a model of friendship and is a friend to us.

Later in the term we will learn the Easter Story in simple terms.

The children will join in whole school prayer and classroom prayer every day and on Fridays at assembly.

English We will be reading lots of fun stories and learning about the conventions of print (for example we read from left to right and there are spaces between words). We will have many opportunities to read as a whole class, in a small group, with a partner and by ourselves. The children will also begin to learn sight words that are found in each of the books. Sight words and high frequency words found often in texts. The children will learn to recognise them quickly and accurately. The sight words for each week will be sent home at the beginning of the week so you can practise them at home too.

We will begin learning about letters and the sounds that they make. The sounds that we will be covering this term are c, a, d, h, m, t, s, i, n, g.

The children will be having a lot of fun engaging in quality and creative play experiences which will develop their oral language and cooperative skills. The play experience will then become a springboard for writing and recording our experiences and ideas.



Mathematics This term we will place a great emphasis on aspects of number. We will be looking at numbers 1-10 (or higher depending on each child's ability level) involving 1:1 correspondence, numeral identification, dot plate recognition.

The children will be making simple repeating patterns and describing them with words and numerals.

The children will also be involved in many hands on investigations where the process of thinking and working things out is highly valued. The children will be developing their ability to explain their mathematical thinking and to listen and respond to each other

Geography The unit for this term is 'Places are Special'. The children explore their school and home environment and the features that make it unique. We will do some drawing of these places as early mapping skills.

Science & Technology The unit we will be learning about is 'What's the Weather'. In this unit the children describe and record different types of weather. The children will have a chance to make some original devices to measure the wind and rain.

Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

In Health we will be looking at 'Who am I?', where we learn about how we are unique. We will learn about our external body parts (including which parts are private). We will learn about our emotions and thoughts and how they may be different from other people.

In Sport the children will be learning dance with a fantastic dance company called Dance Fever. The children will participate in these lessons every Friday. **Please wear your sports uniform every Friday.** We will also have some opportunities to develop our gross motor skills on Fridays as well.

Visual Arts

The children will participate in an art lesson each week with our specialist art teacher, Ms Morely for 60 minutes on a Wednesday. Students will explore how colour, texture, line and shape can be employed to express ideas about themselves, producing drawings and paintings in various media. Please send in an art shirt for your child to use.

Music

The children will participate in one hour of musical experiences with our specialist music teacher Ms Kristina Frazer every Thursday. During this time, they will discover that music is a series of sounds and silences. The students will also focus on the pulse/beat and how to feel it, move to it and play it. Aural skills will be acquired by listening to and analysing melody, as well as learning and singing playful, movement songs which reinforce structure and dynamics. We will also be doing singing and moving every day in the classroom.

Library

Our library borrowing day is every Tuesday. The children require a library bag and are encouraged to borrow each week.



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What You Can do to help your Child at Home

As your child's first and most important teacher we recognise that you have had, and will continue to have, the biggest impact upon them as people and learners. So continue to do what parents do best-love and nurture your child and encourage them to see themselves as capable of tackling tricky things at home and school. Let them know that mistakes are just a natural part of learning, not to be feared, but a stepping stone to growth. Allow them to see you as a learner- trying new things, getting it wrong and trying again. Learn the power of the word "**yet**". When you, or your child, cannot do something frame it as "I can't do that **yet**, but I can learn it".

Other things that are invaluable to do at home during this developmental stage:-

- Read together as a fun and enjoyable activity. Snuggle and make it feel a safe and nurturing time.
- Talk! Talk about all sorts of things and encourage questions. Feel free to say you don't know the answer but you can find out together.
- Play board games that involve counting
- Cook together and talk about measuring things and the ingredients
- Garden together and, you guessed it, talk about what you are doing and why
- Write shopping lists together and involve your children in finding the items in the supermarket when you shop
- Encourage screen free time with lego, drawing, colouring and creating
- Practice the sight words that will come home each Monday

As you can see, all the activities that helped your preschooler are still appropriate for helping your kindergartener. Keep in mind that your child will be very tired over the coming weeks as well. From Term 2 small reading books will be available for your child to practice their reading, but for now concentrate on the above list. More than anything, have fun with them. Learning should be seen as a fun adventure.

We hope this gives you a little bit of an idea as to what's happening in our classroom and I look forward to working in partnership with you. Please don't hesitate in seeing me, should you have any queries.

Yours in education,

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Growth Through Love & Learning

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