Dear Parents and Carers,

This overview outlines the content that will be covered during this term with your child. It is a great reference to keep somewhere prominent so that you can refer back to it with your child and discuss specifics of their learning. Please don’t hesitate in contacting us if you have any queries or concerns about your child.

**Religious Education**

The units of work that we will be completing this term are:

**A time for Reconciliation:** In this unit there is an in depth analysis of the parable of the Prodigal Son in the context of a study of Lent as a season whose liturgy challenges and invites us to conversion and reconciliation with God and others. Students will interpret the parable’s purpose/message within the context of the Lenten liturgy and the celebration of the sacrament of Penance.

**The Way of the Cross:** Students will study and celebrate the events of the Passion of Jesus as recorded in the Gospels and celebrated on Good Friday. Students will relate Jesus’ feelings as presented in the Gospel accounts of the Passion to times when they and others may have experienced hurt and disappointment.

**Follow me:** In this unit students will explore what Jesus meant by the invitation, 'Come, follow me' with reference to the Gospel readings of the Easter Season.

**English**

During this term, students will be reading and viewing a wide variety of texts. We will be focusing on how writers use language features and other elements to meet the needs of their audience and the purpose of their writing. We will be focusing on a range of comprehension strategies such as:

- Activating prior knowledge
- Questioning
- Summarising

Students will write informative, persuasive and imaginative texts. Through our analysis of students’ own writing, we will identify areas of grammar, spelling and punctuation that will be explicitly taught so that students may use these more effectively.

Throughout speaking and listening, writing and reading tasks this term, students will be encouraged to:

- Express themselves
- Think imaginatively, creatively and interpretively
- Reflect on their learning

**Mathematics**

Number will be the primary focus for this term. We have already begun working on whole number and place value. Our priority will be the development of mental strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. These skills will be applied in a variety of tasks focusing on length and area. We will be working on applying these strategies to real-life situations through open-ended tasks.
History
This topic provides a study of colonial Australia in the 1800s. Students look at the founding of British colonies and the development of a colony. They learn about what life was like for different groups in the colonial period. They examine significant events and people, political and economic developments, social structures and settlement patterns. Students then look at how these events have shaped Australia to become the country it is today.

Personal Development, Health & Physical Education (including Sport)
During Term 1, students will develop skills in athletics and novelty games in preparation for our school athletics carnival. PE lessons are on Fridays this term. Students will need to wear their sport uniform on that day.

This term students will participate in a Peer Support program called 'Better Buddies'. They will meet regularly throughout the term in K-6 groups to interact with their buddy leaders and peers. The program focuses on the strand of Interpersonal Relationships and links to our whole school social skills program. The focus of Better Buddies is to create friendly and caring schools, fostering an environment where all students feel safe and happy. Younger students are supported by older students and learn about respect, responsibility, valuing difference, including others, care for others, friendship, negotiation and managing positive relationships with peers.

Students in Year Five will be assisting Year 6 in delivering the program to rest of the school.

In term 1, year 5 will have their sports day on Friday. In PE, the focus will surround athletics and the development of skills in the area of sprint, discuss, shot put, and long jump. Students will be accorded, assessed and have the opportunity to earn a position at the Athletics carnival in field events. They will also participate in novelty athletic events leading into our Athletics carnival.

In PDH, Students will focus on the “Active Lifestyles” unit, in which students will learn to show how to maintain and improve the quality of an active lifestyle. Students will do this through exploring others physical activity habits and the reasons for them.

In peer support this term as well as in PDH, students will also cover content about relationships where they will learn to be responsible in the role of developing and maintaining positive relationships with others.

Visual Arts
We will engage in a range of visual art experiences related to a variety of Key Learning areas. Students will be given the opportunity to make and appreciate different forms of art.

Music
Music lessons are on Fridays this term.

Library
Year 5’s borrowing day will be on each Thursday.

Exercise Books: We have already sent home books to be covered in clear contact. Would you please ensure your child’s books are covered as soon as possible as it helps them to last through the year.

We look forward to seeing you on our Your Child and Their Learning night on Thursday 12 February at 7:30 pm.

Please don’t hesitate in contacting us should you have any queries.

Caitlin Dooley and Deepa Francis

Year 5 Team