Dear Parents,
Welcome back to the 2015 school year. Below is an outline indicating the knowledge and skills your children will focus on in Term 1.

### Term 1 Timetable

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- Each child is expected to have a school hat, art smock and library bag, all clearly named.
- The 5/6 team are unavailable for appointments on Tuesday and Tuesday afternoons due to Professional Learning Meetings. If you wish to meet with us, please make an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

John Hein – Room 18
Sara Tsemetzis – Room 19
Vanessa Shaw – Room 20
Erica Carreon – Room 21
Sabrina D’Costa – Room 22
Christina Krajinovic – Room 23
## Religious Education

The students will engage in the following units:

**Unit 1: Lent to Easter: We are transformed!**

In this unit students explore ways in which Lent offers opportunities for growth and transformation. Through the exploration of the parable of the Prodigal Son and personal stories of people in the community, students learn that, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God offers hope to all Christians. Healing, reconciliation and transformation are experienced in the forgiving love of the Father and through the willingness to forgive and to rebuild relationships with others. The students use journals to reflect on any personal growth and change they undergo during the Lenten season. Students participate in both a prayer service and the sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Unit 2: My Mission in the Faith Community**

In My Mission in the Faith Community! students learn about Jesus Christ’s mission to bring the Good News of God’s love to all as a way of preparing to be confirmed. They explore saints and disciples of the past and present as role models of discipleship. They explore the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit that empower baptised people to live out the call to discipleship. At the conclusion of this unit students demonstrate their understandings of what it means for them to be a disciple and prepare to celebrate Confirmation.

Every Friday morning there is a whole school Mass at 8.30am. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray and celebrate as a community. We encourage the students to attend.

## Literacy Directions

**Oral Language**

In Oral Language this term, the Grade Five and Sixes will be focusing on expressing ideas, thoughts and feelings through shades of meaning in oral language. They will also be introduced to debating skills in an informal situation and will be evaluating the strength of their own and other’s arguments.

**Reading and Writing**

To support our Inquiry unit, “I am, You are, We are Australian”

- Students will be able to use the structure of narratives (short story) and persuasive texts and the grammatical patterns that sign the structure.
- Students will understand and use effectively a range of literacy devices.
- Students will understand how to engage the audience through linking to the reader’s emotions – happiness, empathy, humor.
- Students will be exposed to a large quantity of short stories, particular with an Australian historical focus.

The students will continue to be supported at their level of need through teacher focus groups. Some students will participate in small group activities with Learning Support Officers.

Homework for Literacy this term will focus on the students developing their home reading routine as well as reinforcing their literacy skills.

## Numeracy Directions

This term, activities will center on developing understandings of Number and Algebra. Number and Algebra consist of Place Value, Addition & Subtraction and Multiplication & Division.

Based on data collected throughout the term, students may also receive extra support or extension in small focus groups (tutor groups) according to their need. Some students will participate in small group activities with Learning Support Officers.

The students will continue to reflect on their mathematical thinking and will be encouraged to apply mathematical skills to real life situations.

Homework for Mathematics this term will focus on the students learning their timetables up to and including 12 x 12.
### Inquiry Focus

Term One’s unit is “I am, You are, We are Australian”

In this unit, students will develop an understanding of Australia’s system of government and the historical events that have led to its formation.

- Australia has a democratic system of government
- Australia was established as a British colony
- At the time of federation Australia was recognised as a country
- British colonisation impacted upon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

### Social Skills

Our focus in Term 1 will be to introduce the ‘You Can Do It’ program highlighting the following areas: resilience, confidence, getting along, persistence and organization. We will also be focusing on anti–bullying throughout the term. The students will be exploring these topics through circle time, activities and class discussion.