Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2016 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 Wednesday afternoons due to Professional Learning Meetings. If you wish to meet with us, please make an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Shaw – Room 18
Jessica Terranova – Room 19
Adam Bremner – Room 20
Sara Tsemetzis – Room 21
Sabrina D’Costa – Room 22
Kathryn Barrie – Room 23
### Religious Education

The students will engage in the following unit:

**Unit 1: Lent to Easter: “Mercy is giving us a second chance”**.

In this unit students are learning that God’s mercy is ‘unconditional’ (never ending) and that opportunities for mercy and forgiveness are everywhere and for everyone. They will also learn that a second chance means forgiving again and again. Students are learning that during Lent and Holy Week, Christians reflect on God’s mercy.

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.

### 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, “Everybody wants to rule the world”
- 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 and humour.
- Students will be exposed to short stories with a focus on governments.

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. Students will learn to identify and describe properties of prime, composite, square and triangular numbers. They will learn to select and apply efficient mental and written strategies and appropriate digital technologies to solve problems involving all four operations with whole numbers and make estimations for these computations.

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 **“Everybody wants to rule the world”**

In this unit, students will develop an understanding of Australia’s system of government and the historical events that have led to its formation.
- Understand how our democratic system was formed
- Understand the three levels of government and their respective responsibilities
- Understand that Australia is a secular democratic nation into a multicultural and multi-faith society

### 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.