

Curriculum Information for Term 2 2025 for Year 6

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you all managed to have a relaxing break and got to get away and enjoy some time with your families. In the interests of parent engagement, and the hopes that you will ask your child about their learning, this is a quick and simple guide to what your child is focusing on this term in Year 6.

Our **Religious Education** unit this term is **Love Others as I Have Loved You**. Students will explore the meaning of Christian discipleship and how they are called to live a Christian life. Students will study the Beatitudes as our way to live a Christian and moral life. Made in the image and likeness of God, we are called to respect the dignity of all humanity. Students will investigate judgements and behaviours that prevent people from preserving the human dignity of all. Students will explore Scripture, Church Tradition, and the actions of Jesus to deepen their understanding on how to live and act justly.

In **English** this term, we are teaching units from the new NSW English syllabus. Our main novel focus is *Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief* by Katrina Nannestad. The organisation of outcomes and content of the new English syllabus highlights the role and connection that Understanding Texts and Creating Texts have across all areas of English. The organisation of outcomes and content reflects the essential knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to learn, including the study of a wide range of literature. The focus areas for each stage support students' growing knowledge and understanding in the areas of:

- Oral language and communication
- Vocabulary
- Reading fluency
- Reading comprehension
- Creating written texts
- Spelling
- Handwriting and digital transcription
- Understanding and responding to literature

In this 10-week unit, students will gain a deeper understanding of the textual concepts of 'characterisation' and 'narrative'. Through the text *Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief*, students will explore the development of characters as depicted through their appearance, words, thoughts and actions. They will explore the models of behaviour presented and how the relationship between characters enhances a reader's engagement with the text. Students will create imaginative and informative texts, drawing on their knowledge of characterisation as well as historical knowledge gained. Students will also explore the textual concepts of 'imagery, symbol and connotation' with the supporting concept of 'genre' using the mentor text *Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief* by Katrina Nannestad and the supporting text *The Feather* by Margaret Wild. Students will discover that literature does not always follow the form and function of a single genre, and that symbols are used within both written texts and illustrations. Students will apply their knowledge of symbol, imagery and genre in the creation of a narrative picture book with poetic elements.

In **Maths** we are teaching units from the new NSW Maths syllabus. By studying mathematics, students develop essential numeracy skills and fluency, while nurturing the ability to think logically, critically and creatively. They learn about patterns and reason about relationships, creating opportunities to generalise their solutions and to solve non-routine problems.

When students enjoy learning mathematics, they develop a positive self-concept and become self-motivated learners through active participation in appropriately challenging tasks. This can enhance their resilience in solving mathematical problems relevant to further education and their everyday lives.

We will often do a check in assessment at the beginning of a learning cycle, to see where the students need explicit instruction, and another check in at the end of the cycle so they can see their growth and achievement. We utilise a range of settings including whole class, small group, partnered and independent learning across all areas of Mathematics. Explicit teaching of skills and content is always the initial focus, and then open-ended tasks challenge students' thinking at various points of need.

Science: Our unit is titled **Space Travel**. The students will:

- Recognise stars, galaxies, nebulae, exoplanets and black holes as astronomical features that exist beyond our solar system
- Research how living things can travel and survive in space
- Examine the development of our knowledge through discoveries and technologies, and how these benefit humankind
- Describe how First Nations Australians' knowledges of the positions of the Sun, Moon and stars are used for navigation and wayfinding

Geography: Our unit is titled **A Diverse and Connected World** - Students explore countries of the Asia region and the connections Australia has with other countries across the world. Students learn about the diversity of the world's people, including the indigenous peoples of other countries. Students will explore and reflect upon similarities, differences and the importance of intercultural understanding.

Creative Arts: This term we will focus on photography and digital forms. Our artists in focus are Ansel Adams and Annie Liebovitz.

PDHPE: This term our unit is Being Healthy. Students will acknowledge the impact of their choices and decisions on their own and others health and wellbeing. They will investigate and adopt practices resulting in a positive impact on a range of health areas in order to reduce the chance of lifestyle diseases. We will also continue to focus on the UR Strong program, throughout the term.

Home Learning

Current research on Home Learning is that it can be beneficial for students in Stage 3 to establish simple Home Learning routines to help build positive study habits ahead of secondary school. It is also helpful for students to revise what they are learning in class to facilitate the transfer of skills and content to their long-term memory. In Year 6, students receive Home Learning on a Monday (on Google Classroom) and it is returned by Friday. Most of the set work is digital.

Each week, students will need to be prepared for the following routine activities:

Monday - Home learning is set on Google Classroom

Tuesday – Class Sport

Thursday – Library, Assembly (even weeks)

Friday - PE, Music and home learning is handed in on a Friday (or Monday at the latest)

Uniform

Last term, our students in Year 6 set a very high standard for wearing their uniform. It is vital for our senior students to continue to model this high standard - thank you in anticipation of your support.

Communication

My door is always open and I **love** to talk with you about your children.

To communicate with me or set up a meeting:

Phone - 7256 2134

Email: lisette.calleja@dbb.catholic.edu.au (*I will respond within 48 hours)

I will communicate with you in the following ways:

- All school based communication through Compass
- Email through our class parents or specific class notifications on Compass

Thank you for your support. I look forward to working in partnership with you throughout 2025!

Kind regards

Lisette Calleja