Welcome everyone to Kindergarten 2017! We hope it’s a happy and successful year.

**Religious Education**

*Belonging to God’s Family*

In this module, students will explore being part of a family as a way to come to know God’s love. A family will be seen as a group of people who are connected in special ways. Children will explore how to come to know the love of our God in the gift of creation and the gift of people in our lives. Children will reflect on and celebrate the uniqueness of their families and appreciate that they can come to know and love God through family relationships.

*Lent to Easter*

In this module students will explore the themes of Lent/Easter in a creative, integrated and relaxed way. Through participation and involvement in the module as well as in whole school Lent and Easter activities and celebrations, students will gain an awareness of the stories, actions and symbols of Lent and Easter.

During the school year there will be several opportunities for the St Agatha’s community to come together to celebrate feasts and special events. We warmly welcome parents and other family members to such liturgies.

**History**

This unit is called *Personal and Family Histories* and provides students with the opportunity to learn about their own history and that of their family; this may include stories from a range of cultures and other parts of the world. As participants in their own history, students build on their knowledge and understanding of how the past is different from the present.

Key Inquiry Questions:

- What is my history and how do I know?
- What stories do other people tell about the past?
- How can stories of the past be told and shared?

**Science and Technology**

Our unit this term is called *On the Move*.

The children are ready to explore their new environment. Children at this stage learn through hands on experiences so all senses are alert and engaged. Everything in our environment is moving. Movement is effected by size, shape and the texture of a surface. Children will be exploring together how things move and the part of the body that assists them in this movement.

**English**
English is the Key Learning Area where students develop knowledge, skills and understanding about English language and literature. The outcomes and content are organised into three strands: Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing and Writing and Representing. Throughout the year children will be involved in many tasks in all three strands.

**Speaking and Listening**
This will include Interaction Skills, Presentation Skills and Listening Skills.

**Reading and Viewing**
Children will develop reading skills to read short predictable written texts on familiar topics. The children will be given opportunities to engage in the meaning of a variety of written and visual texts through daily shared, guided and independent activities. Children will share big books (whole class), participate in guided reading (small groups) and engage in independent reading (silent reading, Library, take home readers).

Guided reading is a time when children will have the opportunity to work with the teacher, reading a book at their level. At this time other children in the class will complete other activities such as fine motor activities, phonics awareness, spelling and sight words.

**Writing and Representing**
Children will recognise some different purposes for writing and that texts differ in a variety of ways. The children will be given opportunities to engage in joint and independent writing constructions, such as copying, tracing, labelling and independent texts. We will also be looking at recounts, which is the retelling of an event.

**Mathematics**
We teach mathematics from the five strands – Measurement, Space and Geometry, Number, Patterns and Algebra and Data. Mathematics is taught to the children using open-ended challenges, which encourages them to investigate concepts and ideas themselves.

This term we will be covering the following areas:
**Patterns and Algebra** - recognising, describing, creating and continuing patterns and number patterns
**Whole Number** - counting, ordering, reading, representing numbers 0-30, in a variety of ways
**Addition and Subtraction** – combining groups (addition) and taking part of a group away (subtraction)
**Multiplication and Division** – making equal groups (multiplication), sharing objects equally (division)
**Fractions** – dividing objects into two parts, recognising and describing halves
**Length** – identifying, comparing and describing lengths, informally
**3D Shapes** - manipulating, sorting and describing 3D shapes using every day language
**2D Shapes** – manipulating, sorting and describing 2D shapes
**Position** – giving and following simple directions, using everyday language
**Area**- describes area using everyday language and compares areas using direct comparison

**Physical Education (P.E.)**
The Gross Motor skills to be developed during Term One are catching, locomotor and non-locomotor skills. All students in Kindergarten will have PE once a week with their class teacher and will need to wear their sports uniform. The children will also have PE with our specialist PE teacher, Mrs Vella. The children will need to wear their sport uniform on Wednesdays and Fridays.

**Music**
All children in Kindergarten will participate in music lessons with Mrs Brand once a week in the Music Room. They will achieve outcomes through activities involving singing, playing instruments, moving, creating and listening. Children will experience beat, sound and silence, long and short sounds; identify sound source; experience beat and rhythm patterns; distinguish between high and low sounds, and experience same and different phrases.

**Library**
The children have a Library and Technology lesson each Wednesday with Mrs Ford. Children will borrow library books in class time and will be required to bring their library bag each Friday.

**Important Dates for Term 1**
- 10th February - Welcome BBQ 6pm
- 20th February - Pupil Free Day, MAI testing
- 14th March – Year 6 and Kindy Grade Mass 9.30am
- 27th March – Open Classrooms 2.30pm
- 31st March – School Photos
- 31st March – School Disco K-2 5.15pm
- 7th April – Staff Development Day

Please feel free to contact your child’s teacher should you have any questions or concerns throughout the term.

Kind regards,

Mrs Madeline Olding  
**Kinder Green**

Mrs Lauren Cahill / Mrs Virginia West  
**Kinder Red**