



ST ALOYSIUS
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

ST ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC
COLLEGE
HUNTINGFIELD CAMPUS

PARENT INFORMATION
BOOKLET
2017

GRADE 6

Welcome to the Grade 5/6 Learning Centre. This booklet will provide you with information you may need to know during 2017.

Staff in Learning Centre 2

Mrs Angela Sullivan – 5/6 Learning Centre Pastoral Care Leader and Gr 6 Teacher
angela.revell@catholic.tas.edu.au

Mrs Donna Duggan – 5/6 Learning and Teaching Leader and Gr 6 Teacher
donna.duggan@catholic.tas.edu.au

Mrs Su Heyward – Gr 5 Teacher
susan.heyward@catholic.tas.edu.au

Mrs Carol Duggan – Gr 5 Teacher
carol.duggan@catholic.tas.edu.au

Mrs Angela McCarthy – Gr 6 Teacher
angela.mccarthy@catholic.tas.edu.au

Mr Phil Roberts – Gr 6 Teacher
phil.roberts@catholic.tas.edu.au

Ms Anne McWatters – Gr 5 Teacher
annemarie.mcwatters@catholic.tas.edu.au

Mr Tim Harrington – Gr 5 Teacher
tim.harrington@catholic.tas.edu.au

Religious Education

St Aloysius Catholic College is first and foremost a Catholic school and aims to provide a caring and supportive environment where students are encouraged to grow in faith within a Catholic community and develop their potential. At the Huntingfield Campus, Religious Education plays an important role in the daily life of our students and the Religious Education program is central to our ethos as a faith community. The program is based on the Archdiocesan Curriculum *Good News for Living and To Know, Worship, Love* that focus on students' growth in knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Throughout the College Year, our Grade 6 students will participate in and organise Masses that take place at the Huntingfield Chapel and will also celebrate whole College Masses in our Multi-Purpose Centre. These include our Opening School Mass, College Feast Day and End of Year Thanksgiving Liturgy. Participation in many Liturgical celebrations throughout the year will take place to celebrate Feast Days, the Church's Liturgical Calendar and important College events. These liturgical celebrations are an opportunity for the children to deepen their understanding of God, to appreciate the significance of Christ in their lives and build on their faith life fostered in families.

At the Huntingfield Campus, a climate of prayer is encouraged and the symbols of prayer form a focal point in all classrooms. Students are involved in a variety of prayer forms at the commencement of the school day. Traditional prayers are learnt and used, as well as opportunities for the students to create spontaneous prayers for special occasions and needs.

Our Grade 6 Classroom Religious Education Program provides opportunities for the students to develop their knowledge and understanding, pose their own questions, interpret terms and texts, communicate in a variety of ways, identify and reflect by making group or personal observations, evaluate and integrate and respond and participate.

The Australian Curriculum

At St Aloysius Catholic College, we have been actively involved in the development of the Australian Curriculum since its inception in 2009.

The Australian Curriculum sets out what all young Australians are to be taught, and the expected quality of that learning as they progress through schooling. The Australian Curriculum can be viewed at <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/> (Please note that we are using Version 8.1)

Below is a link to the Australian Curriculum parent information pages that you may like to read in relation to subject information for Grade 6 students.

<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/resources-and-support/parent-information/introduction>

Mathematics

Learning Mathematics creates opportunities for and enriches the lives of all students at St Aloysius. The Australian Curriculum: Mathematics provides students with essential mathematical skills and knowledge in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. It develops the numeracy capabilities that all students need in their personal, work and civic life, and provides the fundamentals on which mathematical specialties and professional applications of Mathematics are built.

Number & Algebra	Measurement & Geometry	Statistics & Probability
Number and Place Value	Using Units of Measurement	Data Representation and Interpretation
Fractions and Decimals	Shape	
Money and Financial Mathematics	Location and Transformation	Chance
Patterns and Algebra	Geometric Reasoning	

English

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all students at St Aloysius. The English Curriculum is broken into three strands - Literature, Literacy and Language. The Curriculum helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that students learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them. The study of English helps young people develop the knowledge and skills needed

for education, training and the workplace. It helps them become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society.

Students in Grade 6 follow the Sound Waves Spelling program. The program takes a phonemic approach to learning to spell, as this is recognised as one of the most effective ways to teach Spelling and Reading skills. The Sound Waves phonemic approach uses a sound-to-letter strategy which acknowledges that sounds can be represented more than one way in written form. The phonics approach focuses first on the basic units of sound in our language – phonemes. It then explores the letters that represent these sounds and how they can be put together to form written words- graphemes.

Sound Waves also covers the key language concepts students need to become highly literate. These concepts, including prefixes, suffixes, Latin and Greek roots, synonyms, homophones and more, are woven into the activities for each Sound Unit.

The program offers students multiple opportunities, both within and across year levels, to conquer difficult words and concepts. It also extends learning with Extension Word Lists and Super Challenges.

After initial testing, each student is allocated a program level and assigned a spelling group teacher. Pretesting of each unit, occurs every Monday and every student has 10 weekly words to learn based on their pretest results. These words become part of their weekly homework. By pretesting, teachers are able to ensure that all students' needs are being catered. Formal teaching lessons take place three times per week. Friday is spelling test day for all students.

Students are also able to access games, list words and extension words online via a student code. Due to the nature of the program movement between groups can occur.

HASS- History and Social Sciences

In Grade 6 at St Aloysius the HASS content is organised into two strands: a) Knowledge and Understanding, and b) Inquiry and Skills. The Knowledge and Understanding strand draws from four sub-strands: History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business. These strands (Knowledge and Understanding, and Inquiry and Skills) are interrelated and are taught in an integrated way.

The key inquiry questions for the four sub strands are:

- How have key figures, events and values shaped Australian society, its system of government and citizenship?
- How have experiences of democracy and citizenship differed between groups over time and place, including those from and in Asia?
- How has Australia developed as a society with global connections, and what is my role as a global citizen?

Science

Science at St Aloysius is a dynamic, collaborative and creative human endeavour arising from our desire to make sense of the world through exploring the unknown, investigating universal mysteries, making predictions and solving problems. Science aims to understand a large number of observations in terms of a much smaller number of broad principles. Science knowledge is contestable and is revised, refined and extended as new evidence arises.

Science Understanding	Science as a Human Endeavour	Science Inquiry Skills
Biological Sciences	Nature and Development of Science	Questioning/Predicting
Chemical Sciences		Planning/Conducting
Earth and Space Sciences	Use and Influence of Science	Analysing Data and Information
Physical Sciences		Evaluating

The Arts

Students participate in drama, media arts and visual arts as part of their classroom teaching and learning program.

Music (Mr John Barnes)

Students will explore musical elements in a variety of different styles and situations. Some of the experiences will include lyric writing, melodic writing, creating loops, improvising, composing, working collaboratively with others to create a performance and responding to various types of music. Students in Grade 6 will complete a percussion unit that includes kit drumming and xylophone. They will focus on instrumental performance, undertaking the in-depth study of an instrument of their choice.

Technologies- Information Technology (Mrs Kate Bridge and classroom teachers)

In Information Technology (IT) this year, Grade 6 students will be taught how to look after their devices and how to use a number of applications to improve their learning. These applications will include word-processing, spreadsheets and collaborative tools. Students will learn about how the internet works and develop an understanding of simple networks. Students will learn how computers talk to each other in binary language and will begin to learn a programming language that will enable them to write simple programs.

Languages –French (Mrs Jill Britton)

Students will gain skills in speaking, reading, writing and listening to the French language. They will explore the similarities and differences between our culture and that of France and other Francophone countries.

Health and Physical Education (Mrs Nicole White and Mr James Hickey)

In Grade 5 and 6 the students have one HPE lesson per week on a Friday for 50 minutes taught by Mrs Nicole White or Mr James Hickey. The children participate in a range of activities including, softcrosse, European handball, gymnastics, Hot Shot tennis, cricket, futsal, indoor hockey, athletics, cross country and swimming. In Term Three, the students participate in the Southern Catholic Primary School Football and Netball Roster which is held every Friday afternoon from 12 noon. The aim of the roster is to provide students with the opportunity to play school sport in a friendly and social environment. The students also participate in Health lessons taken by their class teacher.

The **Specialist Teachers and Support Staff** in Grade 6 are:

Learning Support: Mrs Dee Spaulding

Library: Mrs Donna Duggan

Counsellor: Ms Bec Woolley

Support Teacher Assistants: Mrs Sonia Vince, Mrs Beverly Benavides, Mrs Katrina Denton, Mrs Christine Jones, Mrs Jacqui Adams, Mrs Janelle House

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS)

At St Aloysius Catholic College Huntingfield Campus, behaviour support is an opportunity for valuable social learning as well as a means of maximising the success of academic programs. Preserving and building student self-esteem and image, as well as encouraging self monitoring of behavior, are fundamental components of our positive approach to behaviour support.

Our shared expectations for student behaviour are plain to everyone, and allow all to work together to create and maintain a positive and productive learning and teaching environment, where all Campus community members have clear and consistent expectations and understandings of their role in the educational process.

SACC and our Learning Centre will have a consistent approach to positive behaviour support, based on building and restoring relationships. We follow the Restorative Practice Model which is based on building and restoring relationships. In our classrooms we teach about the '4Bs' which are Be Fair, Be a Learner, Be Responsible, Be Safe.

Student Support

Student support begins with your child's Class teacher(s), then the Learning Centre Coordinator, Huntingfield Pastoral Leader and, if appropriate, our College Counsellor, Ms Bec Woolley.

Uniform (Taken from our College Uniform Policy)

Blazers: At the Huntingfield Campus, students are to wear their blazers to and from school and when students are in public places while in school uniform, (e.g. shopping after school). The full, correct uniform must be worn at all times. The College jacket is only to be worn with the Physical Education uniform.

Jewellery: Our policy for earrings is: one set of plain gold or silver stud earrings, which are worn in the lower earlobes. Long, dangly earrings are not suitable for school wear for safety reasons. Coloured earrings are not acceptable. Other piercings are not permitted at school. One watch and one Christian symbol worn around the neck e.g. a cross or medal are acceptable pieces of jewellery.

To minimise WHS issues, it has been determined that students are not permitted to wear bracelets or rings. Coloured promotional bands are permitted to be worn only during the week of the promotion of a particular cause e.g. Cancer Council, Beyond Blue.

Hair: Ribbons, bands and clips are to be of College colours of navy blue, lime green or white. Hair bands in school fabric are available from the College Uniform Shop. Extreme haircuts, hair colours or overt multi-colouring are not acceptable. Students who dye their hair a natural colour, which is in contrast to their own colour, will be expected to ensure that there is no regrowth.

Makeup: The following items are not permitted: nail polish, makeup, including mascara and eyeliner.

Shoes and socks: Sports shoes are not to be worn to and from school unless part of the Physical Education uniform. Skate shoes, canvas gym shoes and volleys are not acceptable as a sport shoe. White sports socks are to be worn with the College sports uniform and grey (for boys) or white (for girls) socks with the formal uniform.

Hats: Students are to wear approved College sun hats during Terms 1 and 4. Students at the Huntingfield Campus may wear the College bucket hat or cap. Wearing the College bucket hat is strongly encouraged at the Huntingfield Campus.

Scarves: Neck scarves are permitted during cold weather, but they must be plain navy blue in colour.

Homework

Homework should not be stressful. If the homework is difficult or confusing, a note sent to school or via email is all that is needed. Homework duration for Grade 6 is approximately 30 minutes. Our College Homework Policy states that:

1. Students are expected to allocate sufficient time at home to complete unfinished class work, to complete research for projects and to practise their literacy and numeracy skills.
2. Reading daily is considered to be one of the most important homework elements for all students.
3. Homework will not be set for weekends or over holiday periods.
4. Students are expected to demonstrate pride in their homework by completing the work to a high standard and returning it within the given time frame.
5. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from teachers and parents/guardians when difficulties arise, including the amount of time spent on homework. Homework setting takes into account the students' home responsibilities, family arrangements and extra-curricular activities such as clubs, sport and part-time employment.

Phone Policy

Students are allowed to use their phone at recess or lunch only to check for communication from parents or carers. Phones should remain switched off in the student's bag at all other times.

Assemblies and Excursions

Learning Centre assemblies take place every Monday morning at 8:45am. All classes in LC2 take responsibility for organising and leading the assemblies on a rotational basis. All assemblies commence with a Prayer Service that the students organise and run. Excursions take place throughout the year. Detailed information about excursions will be sent home closer to the date of the excursion.

Grade 6 Canberra Trip

The Grade 6 Canberra Trip will take place in December. More detailed information and specific dates will be issued shortly to all parents/ guardians. There will also be a meeting for Grade 6 parents and students about the Canberra trip in Term 4.

Making Jesus Real Program

The Making Jesus Real Values Education program is for all Grade 6 students. MJR supports the Religious Education Program as it anchors itself in the Jesus of Everyday Life. Some of the terminology your child will learn during the program includes: "MJR is 24/7: It is happening now in your life", "Look for Jesus in yourself and those around you", "Where was Jesus in my life today?"

Committees/ Clubs/ Groups/ Student Leadership

The students in Grade 6 are provided with many opportunities to be involved in College Committees, groups and clubs and can nominate for positions of Leadership. These include SRC, House Captains, Mini Vinnies and throughout the year other lunchtime activities will be provided e.g. Chess Club.

Appointments

Please remember that we are often busy before school, organising our days. We are more than happy for you to make appointments to meet us at mutually agreeable times.

Please feel free to discuss your child's social and academic progress through appointments which can be made via the appropriate teacher.

Absences/Illnesses

If you know your child will be absent from school or your child is ill, please inform the Office Staff before 9.00am. If you need to pick up your child throughout the school day, please fill in a form at the Office before collecting your child.

Learning Centre Positions of Responsibility

Grade 5/6 Learning Centre Pastoral Leader – Mrs Angela Sullivan

Grade 5/6 Teaching and Learning Leader- Mrs Donna Duggan

General

- If your child experiences any problems or difficulties socially or academically, they will be encouraged to speak to their teacher in order to resolve the issue within the classroom.
- We strongly encourage our students to be independent in all aspects of school life.
- Students are encouraged to keep drink containers in the classroom. These must contain water only. As part of our Move Well, Eat Well program, children are encouraged to bring fruit or vegetables to eat during a food break taken during the day.

Move Well Eat Well

We are an Award school!

Our school has achieved a *Move Well Eat Well Award!*
This means we...

- Make water available as the preferred drink
- Enjoy fruit and vegetables everyday
- Make 'everyday' foods available at school
- Provide equipment and space for active play every day
- Make time for regular physical activity
- Enjoy walking or riding activities each term
- Have positive school policies about healthy eating and physical activity for everyone

For more information and for family ideas on healthy eating and physical activity visit
www.movewelleatwell.tas.gov.au

Department of Health and Human Services

The Tasmanian Move Well Eat Well Award Program is adapted from the Kids - 'Go for your life' Program.
© State of Victoria, Australia. It is a joint Australian and State Government initiative under the National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health.

Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

TAP WATER EVERYDAY

PLANT FRUIT & VEG IN YOUR LUNCHBOX

LIMIT OCCASIONAL FOODS

MOVE. PLAY. GO.

TURN OFF. SWITCH TO PLAY

STRIDE AND RIDE