ST ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

KINGSTON CAMPUS

PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET
2015

Prep
Prep W ~ Miss Lisa Wheeldon
Prep O ~ Ms Carol Otten and Mrs Erminia Sorella
Prep N~ Mrs Melissa Nichols
**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 Kingston 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. This document focuses on students’ growth in knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Throughout the year we celebrate the Eucharist at our Parish Church, Christ the Priest Church. We celebrate special days such as feast days, Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day, Grandparents’ Day, and a special Mass on our College feast day. These liturgical celebrations are an opportunity for children to deepen their understanding of God and to appreciate the significance of Christ in their lives. These opportunities build on the faith life fostered in families.

At the Kingston Campus a climate of prayer is encouraged and the symbols of prayer form a focal point in all classrooms. Students use a variety of prayer forms at the commencement and conclusion of the school day. Students also have the opportunity to participate in Christian Meditation under the guidance of their classroom teacher.

The school recognises parents as the first educators in faith. Children wishing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation are enrolled by their family in the Parish Sacramental Program. The school supports this program by focusing on religious knowledge of the Sacraments at a time when the Parish program is in progress. Initial preparation for the Sacraments is conducted in small groups led by parents and members of the Parish. These groups are conducted outside of school time.

Through the experiences we offer, we aim to provide a Christ-centered community, a role model of Christian behaviour, attitudes and values, and a high quality balanced education.
At St Aloysius Catholic College - Kingston Campus we actively teach and reinforce desired behaviour. We have four main expectations of behaviour:

**Be a Learner**
**Be Safe**
**Be Fair**
**Be Respectful**

The 4 B’s are consistently reinforced throughout the Campus and we have a very special mascot - Betta-Bee who assists with reinforcing these expectations. During the first weeks of school each class will be working with their teachers to develop an understanding of what the 4 B’s look like in different ways in our school. Two years ago we introduced Betta-Bee cards as part of our positive behaviour support program. This was a very successful initiative. Class teachers and specialist staff will be handing out Betta-Bee cards to students exhibiting desired 4 B’s behaviour. The table below clearly explains to staff, students and parents the current reward system at the Kingston Campus. Students carry their Betta-Bee tallies from one year to the next.

**What happens if I make a good choice?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Betta-Bee Card</th>
<th>Reward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Five Cards</td>
<td>Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten Cards (Fifteen Total)</td>
<td>Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifteen Cards (Thirty Total)</td>
<td><strong>Bronze Badge</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five Cards (Thirty-Five Total)</td>
<td>Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten Cards (Forty-Five Total)</td>
<td>Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifteen Cards (Sixty Total)</td>
<td><strong>Silver Badge</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five Cards (Sixty-Five Total)</td>
<td>Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten Cards (Seventy-Five Total)</td>
<td>Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifteen Cards (Ninety Total)</td>
<td><strong>Gold Badge</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty Cards (One Hundred and Forty Total)</td>
<td>The Betta Bee Wall of Fame - The Honeycomb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Hive Five Morning Tea
The Hive Five morning tea is a special event that occurs once a term. It involves a lot of nice food and a few jokes with Mrs Doran and Mr Gill. Each teacher chooses two students from their class who have been consistently displaying the 4 Bs. The students who are chosen have been a valuable part of the class and school community that term - regularly displaying God Moments!

GOD MOMENT: a moment where God's presence is revealed.

What happens if I make a bad choice?

One
Warning from teacher

Two
Relocation in the classroom
Teacher notifies parent

Three
Relocation to another classroom
Senior staff notifies parents

Four
Relocation with Senior Staff to administration block

Make a good choice
Make a bad choice
Restore relationships + Consequences
Restore relationships + Consequences

Warning from teacher, Relocation in the classroom, Relocation to another classroom, Relocation with Senior Staff to administration block.
LEARNING AND TEACHING

Australian Curriculum
The Australian Curriculum sets out the core knowledge, understanding, skills and general capabilities important for all students at each grade level.

The general capabilities (or twenty first century skills) include literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology, critical and creative thinking, ethical behaviour, personal and social capability and intercultural understanding.

We continue to use the Australian Curriculum in our planning for English, Maths, History, Science and Geography. Throughout 2015, The Arts and Health and Physical Education are being developed as part of the Australian Curriculum and will inform teacher planning.

Parents wishing to view information about the Australian Curriculum can do so by visiting the Australian Curriculum website. www.australiancurriculum.edu.au

The Australian Curriculum Shaping Paper suggests the following as a guide for how much time should be given to the teaching of each learning area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>% Allocation Prep-Gr 2</th>
<th>% Allocation Grade 3 - 4</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>% Allocation Prep-Gr 2</th>
<th>% Allocation Grade 3 - 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>Health &amp; PE</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Technologies</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>% of total time allocated</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English
In the Australian Curriculum, English is grouped into 3 strands of Language, Literature and Literacy.
Language: knowing about the English language
Literature: understanding, appreciating, responding to, analysing and creating literature
Literacy: expanding the repertoire of English usage.
Students in the early years (Prep – 2):
• develop an understanding that spoken sounds can be represented with letters and use their knowledge of letters and combinations of letters to make written words; develop their handwriting and develop basic sentences
• learn about essential forms of punctuation such as capital letters and full stops
• continue to extend their vocabulary and learn to read more words
• build their comprehension of the intended meaning conveyed in texts as they learn to read
• encounter a variety of texts, including picture books, short stories, rhymes, poems, and multimedia texts such as films, pictures and websites
• create their own narratives, drawing on their experiences with literature
• further understand the purposes of a range of texts
• compose short texts, starting from single words and sentences and moving to more sustained compositions, for different purposes.

Letters and Sounds Program - From 9:00am – 9:30am Monday to Thursday, the Prep students, along with Grade 1 and Grade 2 students, will participate in the Letters and Sounds Program. This Program has been designed to help students develop their knowledge of phonics, blending and segmenting of words, which are vital components of reading and writing. Prep students will start their initial Letters and Sounds sessions in their own classrooms. As the year progresses, students will be moving between classrooms and may be working with other staff members to cater for their differing learning needs.

Mathematics
In the Australian Curriculum, Mathematics is grouped into the 3 strands of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. There are also proficiency strands of Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning.
Students in the early years (Prep – 2) have the opportunity to access mathematical ideas by developing:
• a sense of number, order, sequence and pattern
• understandings of quantities and their representations, and attributes of objects and collections, and position, movement and direction
• an awareness of the collection, presentation and variation of data and a capacity to make predictions about chance events.

Science
Units covered this year are:
Biological Sciences: Living Things
Chemical and Physical Sciences: What’s it Made of?
Earth and Space Sciences: Weather in our World

History and Geography
Units covered this year are:
What is my history and how do I know?
Specialist Classes
**Physical Education (PE):** Mrs Nicole White
Children need to wear their sports uniform on their PE day.

**Social Emotional Learning Program (SEL):** Mrs Jacynth Cornish

**Music:** Ms. Marla Leitch

**Library:** Mrs Sarah Godwin
Please ensure your child brings their library bag to school on their allocated day.

**Literacy Intervention**
At St Aloysius Catholic College we are committed to providing a three tiered approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and behaviour needs. Students are provided with interventions at increasing levels of intensity to accelerate their rate of learning. The first tier of intervention involves high quality instruction, screening and assessment and differentiated instruction within the classroom environment e.g. Daily 5 Literacy Block (Grades Prep-4), Letters and Sounds (Grades K-2) and Sound Waves (Gr 3-4). The second tier involves more intense targeted intervention in small group settings e.g. Literacy Intervention Program (Grades 2 - 4). The third tier focuses upon individualised and extensive intervention for those students who are eligible for funding through our Special Learning Needs Program.

**Enrichment**
Opportunities are provided to students in our College for General Enrichment and Maths Enrichment sessions. Students are referred to Maths Enrichment classes by their classroom teachers and are involved in weekly lessons that encourage thinking, problem solving and reasoning. General Enrichment classes are held weekly and students are included in the classes based on specific assessment criteria. If you have any queries concerning your child in regard to Enrichment please contact your child’s teacher.

**Prep Teaching Team**
- **Prep N**
  - Mrs Melissa Nichols: Teacher
  - Mrs Di Mangione: Teacher Assistant
  - Mrs Julie Cubit: Teacher Assistant
- **Prep W**
  - Miss Lisa Wheeldon: Teacher
  - Ms Blithe Saxby: Teacher Assistant
- **Prep OS**
  - Ms. Carol Otten: Teacher (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)
  - Mrs Erminia Sorella: Teacher (Thurs)
  - Mrs Jodi Griggs: Teacher Assistant
General Structure of our Day in Prep
Our school day begins at 8:40am. The classroom doors will be open at 8:25am to allow the children time to unpack their bags and to settle in before the bell. In Prep we begin our day by taking attendance and saying our morning prayer. It is important that your child is on time to allow them to fully participate in our morning routine. Lateness can cause disruption not only to your child, but to others in the classroom. If your child arrives after 8:50am please ensure you inform the office.

Literacy Session - From 9:00am – 10:40am, Prep students will engage in a range of literacy activities, including Letters and Sounds and Daily 5. There will be opportunities for students to participate in a range of experiences to build their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

Mathematics Session- We have our focused Mathematics session, where children will participate in whole class and group activities, between recess and lunch. Throughout the year, students will complete units in the areas of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.

Daily PE- St Aloysius Catholic College is a Move Well Eat Well accredited school. In addition to the weekly PE lesson, Prep children will participate in short PE sessions to provide opportunities to experience the benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle. Such activities are also a valuable way to reinforce cooperation skills, and to have fun.

Fruit Break - Each morning during our literacy session, the children have a fruit/vegetable break. Students are encouraged to eat a piece of fresh fruit or a vegetable at this time. Please provide your child with a drink bottle of water to consume throughout the day.

Afternoon Sessions- The afternoon sessions are focused on specific topics and activities in the learning areas of Religion, Science, History, Geography, Health and the Arts.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Assembly
Assemblies will take place on a fortnightly basis on a Thursday afternoon.

Student Release Form
If you need to take your child from school during the day, a student release form must be obtained from the office and given to the class teacher.

Security Screening
All adults who wish to spend time in the school will need to ensure they have a current Catholic Education Police Safety Clearance. These forms are available in the school office. We recommend that forms are completed and returned as soon as possible.

** It is critical that if you wish to take photos of your child at school, or on an excursion or carnival, you do not include other children without parental consent.
Communication
Communication memo books are used to assist with messages to and from home. If you need to speak at length with your child’s classroom teacher please make an appointment time.

Food
Our College is allergy aware. It is important that your child’s lunch does not contain any nuts or nut products such as Nutella, chocolate and muesli bars containing nuts and peanut butter. Children also need to be reminded that they are not to share their food. However, if it is your child’s birthday, they are welcome to bring a treat to share. We encourage children to bring food that is easily shared without requiring cutting. If your child has allergies you are welcome to give the class teacher treats to keep at school to give to your child on days when we have birthday cakes/treats.

Uniform
Hats are to be worn in Terms 1 and 4. Please ensure that all your children’s items including hats, jumpers, water bottles and lunch boxes are clearly labelled. Due to safety, only silver or gold stud or sleeper earrings can be worn at school.

Home Reading
Our Home Reading Program will involve students selecting a few books to take home each week. Home reading experiences should include the children reading to an adult, children reading with an adult, and children being read to by an adult. Each child has a log book to record their reading experiences. Our reading program is aimed at enabling enjoyable reading experiences and to allow children to reinforce the skills taught in the classroom.
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.movewelleteatwell.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.