Welcome back for 2016! We hope you and your children have had a restful break and look forward to the year ahead.

Religion
This year the Our Lady of the Nativity community is focusing on the theme of I See You Lord. We will be discussing where we see God present in our lives. Through our inquiry unit ‘Who We Are’ we will also learn about the life of St. Francis and what it means to be a Franciscan. We will be investigating the different types of prayers and setting prayer routine in our classroom. We will conclude the term with the unit of ‘Lent and Holy Week’ where we will explore the events of Jesus’ life that are celebrated during Holy Week.

Units of Inquiry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who We Are</th>
<th>How the world works</th>
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<tr>
<td>Central Idea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowing ourselves and others helps build healthy relationships</td>
<td>Simple machines make our lives easier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lines of inquiry</td>
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<td>An inquiry into…</td>
<td>An inquiry into…</td>
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<tr>
<td>• How our learning community works</td>
<td>• What simple machines are</td>
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<tr>
<td>• How my actions affect others</td>
<td>• How simple machines work</td>
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<tr>
<td>• How to reflect</td>
<td>• How forces work (pull/push)</td>
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Key Concepts

| Function, responsibility, reflection | Form, Function, Causation |
**Literacy**

Good fit books:
Children will discuss what a ‘good-fit book’ is. We will discuss the ‘I PICK’ criteria for choosing a ‘good-fit’ book (Purpose, Interest, Comprehension, Know all the words). Children will practise following the ‘I PICK’ criteria in order to successfully choose a ‘good-fit-book’ for them.

Spelling:
In class, we will be completing spelling investigations to explore common spelling patterns, word endings and spelling strategies such as syllabification, listening to sounds and “having-a-go” then checking.

Reading:
We will be focusing on reading comprehension to develop deeper understanding about what students have read. We will also look at strategies we can use to assist with reading a tricky or new word. These include blending, chunking, reading forwards, reading backwards and using pictures. During reading groups students will discuss literal meaning of texts.

Writing:
During term one we will be focusing on recount and descriptive writing.

Listening and speaking:
This area will be addressed throughout all areas of learning. Speaking and listening conventions will be looked at as well as building up the confidence of students to share in front of a small audience. We will also introduce share time giving students the opportunity to bring in something of importance to them from home to share with their peers.

**Maths**

We will be investigating:

- **Counting and Number Patterns**
  - Identifying patterns on a hundreds chart
  - Creating number patterns
  - Counting forwards and backwards by starting at random numbers

- **Place Value**
  - Reading, writing, ordering and representing numbers
  - Representing numbers in different ways
  - Understanding the place value of each digit in a number

- **Number Facts**
  - Addition– building to ten, doubles, ten facts and adding ten
  - Developing speed and accuracy with quick facts
Other important information…

Sports uniform
The Grade 2s will be required to wear sports uniform on both Wednesday and Thursday each week for their P.E lessons.

Homework
Your child has a yellow reading diary to record home reading activity. Students are expected to read for 10–20 minutes at least 5 nights per week (as stated in Our Lady of the Nativity Homework Policy). This time includes discussion of the book. We recommend that there is a combination of independent reading and reading aloud to a parent. Reading diaries will be checked every Friday by the classroom teacher and we ask that parents sign and comment.

Homework will commence week 4. Children will be given their homework on a Wednesday and will have 10 days to complete it, being due the next Friday.

Library
Students will be given the opportunity to borrow ‘good fit’ books from the library each week. During this session students will be asked to select a current and future read. They will also have the opportunity to select picture storybooks, factual texts etc. Library borrowing will be weekly on a Friday.

We are looking forward to getting to know you and your children and a productive and fun term ahead!

Mr Milograd, Mrs Singleton, Mrs Mullen