Welcome back to school for another great year! We are really excited to be working with you and your children this year. We have already had a great start and we are looking forward to the rest of the term.

Here is what Term One has in store for Grade Three.

**RELIGION**

This year the school community of OLN will be focusing on, “I Thank You, Lord”. We will begin our year by inquiring into the concept of gratitude and the many blessings in our lives that we have to be grateful for. This will be done through personal reflection, scripture and prayer.

We will also deepen our understanding of the life of St Francis, a major figure in our school. Students will understand the good things Francis did in order to follow God’s message of love. We will also explore the wise words of Francis to help us be models of peace throughout our lives.

We will focus on one of the most important liturgical seasons in the Catholic calendar, Lent. We will be exploring the significance of this season as a time of waiting and preparing for the resurrection of Christ. Throughout the Lenten journey students are supported to take on acts of service and hope.

During this time we will also prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Students will be immersed in experiences related to forgiveness and the importance of asking God for forgiveness through penance. They will inquire into the different Rites of Reconciliation celebrated in the Catholic Church and examine the four stages of reconciling a relationship.
UNIT OF INQUIRY
HOW WE ORGANISE OURSELVES

Central Idea: All societies have rules and laws.

Lines of inquiry:
An inquiry into:
- The purpose of rules and laws
- How rules and laws are made
- How laws and rules reflect a community’s culture and beliefs

Concepts:
Function
Perspective

Attitude
Integrity

Learner Profile Attribute: Principled

HOW THE WORLD WORKS

Central Idea: The Earth’s surface changes due to forces and natural phenomena

Lines of inquiry:
An inquiry into:
- The geological structure of the Earth
- How natural phenomena change the Earth
- Why natural phenomena occur

Concepts:
Form
Causation
Change

Attitude:
Curiosity

Learner Profile Attribute: Knowledgeable

MATHS SKILLS
This term we will be focussing on the following concepts in maths

Place Value:
- Expanded notation, for example 500+40+7 = 547
- Expanding counting range
- Reading and writing numbers
- Determining more than and less than of a particular number, for example, 10 more than 197

Addition:
- Mental addition strategies
- Adding numbers with and without trading
- Addition strategies – traditional algorithm, left to right strategy, expanded method

Measurement
- Estimating and using formal units to measure

READING SKILLS

One of the major foci for this term is to foster the students’ love of reading. They will be provided with many opportunities to read their chosen novel during class time. We encourage you to regularly continue the conversation about what your child is reading. We will be working with students to choose ‘good fit’ books. We will be using the IPICK model to help choose books for student’s book boxes. This model helps students to choose books that they understand, are interested in and have a purpose for reading.

Students will build on their literal comprehension skills. The focus
will be on accurately identifying what the question is asking them to do, answering in complete sentences and providing evidence from the text to support their responses. Students will also further develop their ability to make simple inferences using information in the text and their knowledge of the world.

In this session students will be choosing books that will be used for their school and home reading. Each child will spend time with their teacher to ensure that they are choosing ‘good fit’ books. **Students are asked to bring this book to and from school each day.**

**WRITING SKILLS**

The main focus of this term will be expositions and descriptive writing. Students will be exposed to the specific structure of an exposition and how their writing can be enhanced through the use of emotive language, rhetorical questions and alliteration.

The children will participate in weekly spelling investigations, focussing on different spelling patterns in words. They will also continue to develop their handwriting skills.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

We will be visiting the discovery Centre weekly to allow the students to regularly borrow and be immersed in books. 3G- Monday
PE LESSONS
Children will be required to wear their sport uniform each TUESDAY and THURSDAY.

HOMEWORK
Each child is expected to read for at least 20 minutes every night. They are to record the title of their book and how long they read for with a parent's signature in their diary each night. This diary will be checked every Tuesday by the classroom teacher. Please ensure that the diary is at school each day.

Other homework will be issued weekly starting from week 4. Homework will be sent home fortnightly on a Wednesday and will be due back at school ten days later on the Friday. Please encourage your child to come and speak to their teacher if they require assistance or support with their homework.

TISSUES
It would be most appreciated if each child could contribute a box of tissues to the class. Thankyou!

ART
Students will attend a weekly visual art session with Mrs Wivell. 3B’s lesson will be held each Monday. 3G will be taken on a Friday.

We look forward to a term of learning and enjoyment. If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher.

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IMPORTANT DATES
Week 3
**Monday 13th February**  
**Parent Information Exchanges**  
**Thursday 16th February**  
**Parent Information Exchanges**  
**(3.30 – 6.30 pm)**

Week 4
**Wednesday 22nd February**  
**Homework commences**

Week 5
**Tuesday 28th February**  
**Shrove Tuesday**  
**Wednesday 1st March**  
**Ash Wednesday (School Mass)**  
**Friday 3rd March**  
**Grade 3 hosting Mass**

Week 6
**Tuesday 7th March**  
**Reconciliation Faith Night for parents**

Week 7
**Monday 13th March**  
**Labour Day Holiday**  
**Thursday 17th March**  
**St Patrick’s Day**  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Week 8
**Tuesday 21st March**  
**School Photos**

Week 9
**Friday 31st March**  
**End of Term 1**