



# Year 4 2024

MATTHEW GIBNEY  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



UNDER GOD'S PROTECTION

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Four, 2024.

In Year Four, my focus is on enabling children to become confident, responsible, independent and creative learners who are actively engaged in the learning process. I promote a happy classroom environment and equip students with the knowledge and skills to achieve this.

I hope that they will:

- ❖ take responsibility for their own learning - by having a positive "I can do it!" attitude and by making wise choices about their behaviour;
- ❖ be active rather than passive learners - contributing to class discussions and activities, asking questions, making suggestions;
- ❖ ask for help when they need it and listen to advice;
- ❖ support and encourage those around them with their learning; and
- ❖ challenge themselves to take risks and try new things.

If you have any questions or concerns, then please do not hesitate to speak to me or drop me an email.

I can be contacted via email [jessamy.bettridge@cewa.edu.au](mailto:jessamy.bettridge@cewa.edu.au)

By working closely together, I am sure that this year will be a very rewarding one for your child and that they will learn much about themselves and their own potential.

Thank you for your time and support.

*Jessamy Bettridge*



## WEEKLY TIMETABLE \*Specialist Lesson

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	SCIENCE LIBRARY	MUSIC	(Faction polo) ITALIAN	Spelling H/W due HEALTH  CLASS SPORT (school representative polo)

### USE OF THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Please be sure to ask permission (from a child's parents) before posting any pictures of students online. MGCPS encourages the responsible and ethical use of social media and the internet both at school and home. This applies to all members of our school community.

### PUNCTUALITY

Please ensure that your child is at school no later than 8.35am, as this allows them to unpack their belongings and settle into the day.

We begin class PROMPTLY **at 8.45am** with morning prayer.

Being late for school on a regular basis disrupts not only your child's learning, but that of their classmates.

### UNIFORM

The children are to wear their faction polo on Thursday and their school polo on Friday. If for some reason your child is out of uniform, then please write a note or send an email. Please ensure that your child takes pride in their uniform and that the school policy on uniform is adhered to e.g. No fluoro coloured runners, earrings can only be studs or sleepers etc

### BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

If your child arrives at school before 8:35am, they must sit in the undercover area outside the library. At 8.35am, the children move to their classroom when their teacher collects them. All children are required to bring into class all daily items – diary, crunch and sip, water bottle, novel, pencil case, notes, lunch orders, etc. In the afternoon, the children will be dismissed at 3.05pm. At the end of each day, we clean up the classroom and pray, before leaving the room in a settled and calm manner.



## PARENT HELP

During the year I will need parental help for cooking, art, sewing and excursions etc. I hope that all the parents will be able to participate in a class activity or visit the class at various times throughout the year. I will let parents know when I require assistance.

## PARENT INTERVIEWS

During Term One, I will meet with each parent. Booking for these interviews will be done online via the booking app (more in the newsletter). Throughout the year, I am more than happy to talk to you about your child and their progress. Please let me know via email and I will contact you, to arrange a mutually agreeable time. Please note I am unable to chat without an appointment in the mornings before school while other students are in the room.

## REPORTING TO PARENTS

Term One – Parent Interview  
Term Two – Interim Written Report  
Term Four – Final Written Report



## SEESAW

Our school uses the educational app called SEESAW as a way of keeping parents up-to-date with their children's learning. Please check this regularly.

**Please make sure you have connected to Seesaw, as this will be my major method of communication for class messages.**

I also use Seesaw to communicate aspects of your child's learning through photos of work samples and class activities.

## CANTEEN

Please ensure that lunch orders are handed in to the canteen or ordered via the app before school.

## ABSENTEE NOTES

If your child is absent for any part of the day, notification is required by the school. If your child is unwell, please phone/email the school office before 8:40am to inform the school. Please do not use Seesaw to communicate this information to school.

If your child is not at school and you have not contacted the school, you will be contacted by SMS to ascertain the reason.

**Even if you phone, a written absence note/email is still required by law for our records.** The class register is a legal document and absence notes are mandatory.

Please ensure that the note explains the reason for the absence, the date and that it is signed by the parent.

## **MEDICINE**

If for any reason your child needs to take medication at school, a form must be completed at the school office. No medication can be administered without prior written and signed notification.

## **EXCURSIONS**

Excursions and incursions are an important part of the learning program as they give the children the opportunity to experience and see what we are learning about in a different context. We will be visiting several places over the year, to enhance the children's understanding of the various topics we will be covering. A note will be sent home before each excursion, explaining the day, outlining requirements and asking for parent help. Please send all notes back to school via the Administration Office so we can check off names.

## **BULK SUPPLIES**

This year the school has bought stationery items in bulk. Students will receive their stationery items for their pencil cases.

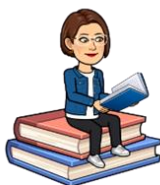
## **MERIT AWARDS**

Each child will receive at least one merit certificate within the year. You will be contacted via SMS or Seesaw when this occurs. Merit Awards are based on merit and some children may receive more than one in a year.

## **MAKING JESUS REAL**

Making Jesus Real aims to bring Jesus into our lives here and now, through the development of personal and life skills. These skills help us to become switched on to see Jesus in those we come into contact with and within ourselves and to also recognize the God moments that are a part of our lives every day. MJR encourages us to reflect on our day, every day, to recognize where Jesus has been in our day and work to take the next step to become the best people we can be.

Making Jesus Real uses catchy phrases and jingles to get the messages across to children in a fun and meaningful way. The values, attitudes and spirituality Making Jesus Real seeks to encourage, help to reinforce the belief that we are made in the image and likeness of Jesus and as his representatives we mirror the values of Jesus and the actions Jesus modelled when interacting with others.



## **FIRST EUCHARIST**

Commitment Masses for all Sacraments Dates: Saturday 9th March 2024 & Sunday 10th March 2024. Time: Any Parish Weekend Mass Saturday 6pm Sunday 8am 9.30am 6pm Place: St Francis of Assisi Church, Maida Vale

First Eucharist Parent/Child workshops Date: Wednesday 15th May 2024 Time: 4.00pm Place: Matthew Gibney School Library

Retreat: Date: Thursday 30th May 2024 Time: 9am – 3.00pm Place: Matthew Gibney School Library (Facilitated by 24/7 Ministries)

Rehearsal: Date: Thursday 6th June 2024 Time: 3.30 – 4.30pm Place: St Francis of Assisi Church, Maida Vale

Ceremony: Sunday 9th June 2024 11.00am Place: St Francis of Assisi Church, Maida Vale

## **HOMEWORK**

It is important to create a positive and supportive atmosphere for reading and spelling homework and if your child experiences difficulties, then please let me know.

## **HOME READING**

- The children will borrow Levelled Readers or Lexile Books from the Library.
- Please complete the details in their Reading log. These will be checked weekly.
- Children should be reading silently each night for at least 20 mins (more, of course, is wonderful).
- Reading aloud for about 5 minutes, twice a week, develops fluency and expression.
- Reading silently, followed by questioning or retelling the story in their own words develops comprehension skills.
- Don't forget to sometimes vary the types of reading materials – magazines, newspapers, travel brochures.

## **SPELLING**

- Each week the children will receive levelled spelling words to practise at home.
- This will be handed out on Monday and due on Friday. A dictation passage will be completed by the children using these words to ensure that they are transferring their spelling knowledge into their daily writing. This will be posted to See Saw regularly so that parents can monitor progress.

## **BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT**

The Behaviour Management policy reflects the values given to us by Jesus; respect, forgiveness, tolerance and justice. This is clearly seen in our Student Code of Conduct. By reinforcing positive behaviours in the classroom, an effective learning environment will occur. The class rules are frequently referred to, and clearly displayed in the room.

### **Positive Behaviour**

Positive reinforcement in the classroom includes verbal praise, golden stars on the board (10=free time), positive notes, a little fluffy monster on their desk, emails to parents, faction tokens, stickers and merit awards. There are rewards for the children at an individual and whole class level.

### **Inappropriate Behaviour**

The children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour, and to look at their actions in terms of choice. If they choose not to behave appropriately the following will occur:

#### *Minor Classroom Infractions*

First Warning	Verbal warning from teacher
Second Warning	Move to a new seating position in the classroom
Third Warning	10-15-minute time out at recess or lunch



#### *Serious Infractions*

In the case of a serious misbehaviour (bullying, physical violence, continual classroom disruption or ignoring teaching instructions) the child will immediately move to another classroom for time-out. They may also have a 20-minute time-out on the bench at recess or lunch, if the behaviour occurs during a break time. They may be asked to complete a written behaviour sheet.

Parents will be informed via SEESAW messages of the behaviour and the action taken. In cases of ongoing or very inappropriate behaviour, the child will be sent to the Principal or Assistant Principal. This will be followed up by an interview with the parents.

If we have serious concerns about your child's behaviour and the choices they are making, then we will request an interview with you. Students, who repeatedly engage in inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour, will be given the opportunity work through the behaviours and to help plan what action will take place. This allows them to see that it is their behaviour that needs modifying and that they are responsible for making the change. Plans may include a behaviour contract, or a communication diary between home and school.

At all times, we hope that an open and relaxed channel of communication between home and school will prevail, and that discipline problems will be quickly and effectively resolve.