Welcome to Sacred Heart!
We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas break and are ready to start the new school year. It is an exciting time and we look forward to working together throughout the year. There are lots of wonderful learning experiences planned for our gorgeous Prep children.

RELIGION
Our Religious Education Units for this term include:

**Gods great family**
In God’s Great Family students learn about belonging to family and to the People of God. They explore the story of Abraham and Sarah as a story of promise and trust, and formative to our identity as the People of God. They also learn about some of the people in Jesus Christ’s family and some of the gospel stories concerned with his childhood.

**Following Jesus-Loving and Serving/Lent**
In this unit students begin to learn about Lent and Holy Week. They are introduced to the stories of the Lost Sheep, the Washing of the Feet and the Last Supper.

**MASSES**

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<tr>
<th>Mass</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning of Year Mass</td>
<td>15th February 2015 at 9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass</td>
<td>18th February 2015 at 9:15am</td>
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ENGLISH
Each week we will focus on one letter of the alphabet, learning the name, the sound it makes and associated words. Additional activities will enrich children’s knowledge and challenge them further. We will introduce high frequency words each week within the context of what we are reading. We will explore the process of writing through recording personal experiences, developing fine motor skills, correct pencil grip and letter formations. The Literacy program, involving parent helpers, will begin for Prep in Term 2. Although we will not send readers home until term two, we encourage you to read with your child each night to set positive routines and nurture a love of reading.

**Show and Share**
Oral language is a major focus in Prep, therefore we encourage children to share news and items from home. Each child will have an assigned day for Show and Share. We suggest you prepare your children for this time by helping them to choose one item to show, practise sharing three things about this item at home and discuss possible questions peers might ask. This will make for a more enjoyable experience for your child.

**Show and Share time table:**
Please note: Show and Share will start in term 2.
**MATHEMATICS**

In Mathematics this term we will be focusing on Number.

We will:

* Model, count, compare and order collections up to 10.
* Recognise and write numerals up to 10.
* Count orally forwards and backwards between 0 and 20.
* Look at basic 2D shapes such as triangles, squares, circles and diamonds.
* Compare lengths. (e.g. longer, shorter, wider.)

**IDEAS to help your child at home:**

* Counting practice (0-20)
* Looking at dates on a calendar.
* Learning to say the days of the week and the months of the year.
* Discuss the different features of the seasons of the year.

**INQUIRY UNITS**

**Me, My Family and My Community (History)**

We will be basing our inquiring on the following questions:

* What are the names of my new classmates, the people in my family, some people in my school?
* What is my role/place in my family and my school community?
* What can I do to get to know the people in my school?
* How can I care for others?
* How can we deal with conflict?

**BRAIN FOOD/FRUIT SNACK**

Children are reminded to bring a water bottle to school.

This is extremely important especially as the weather will continue to be warm this term. We have also introduced 'brain' food. Each child is asked to bring fruits or vegetables to school every day ready to eat at 10:00am. Children cannot manage to eat a whole apple/orange in the short time so please cut these into quarters.

Please remember that at Sacred Heart we have a "non-sharing of food" policy. Also we ask that you do not send to school any nut-based products such as Peanut Butter, Nutella, Snickers, etc.

**SUBJECT TEACHER TIMETABLE**

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<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>LIBRARY</td>
<td>Ms. Coman</td>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Mandarin</td>
<td>Sport</td>
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<td>Please send in a</td>
<td>Mrs. Grasso</td>
<td>Mrs. Chen</td>
<td>Mr. Price</td>
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<td>library bag.</td>
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OPENING SCHOOL MASS
The Opening School Mass will be held on Sunday February 15th at 9am.
All Prep children and children and teachers new to the school will be presented at
this Mass. We will be meeting in the Church Foyer area at 8:45am, please be
prompt so your child can enjoy the experience and not feel flustered. The
children will process down the aisle with Father Michael. Parents will be asked to
collect their children from the front of the church so that you can enjoy
the mass together.

STATIONERY
Thank you to all those parents who have brought to school everything on the book
list. It is very important that all items are safely at school ASAP.
Particularly items like...
* Art Smock
* Reader Pouch—Bought from Bob Stewart's
* Wet day activity book
* Handwriting book
If you are unsure about any items on the book list or whether or not you have
bought the correct items please feel free to come and see us. If items are on
back order please send them in as they arrive.

BLOGS
We will be using a class blog as a way to share our learning experiences.
This is an excellent opportunity to keep up to date with what's happening in the
classroom as well as comment on all our fantastic learning.
Prep CD: http://ourlearningspace.global2.vic.edu.au
Prep MW: http://misswirth.global2.vic.edu.au

CURRICULUM NIGHT
An information evening will be held on Thursday the 12th of February at 7:30pm in
Prep CD, all parents are welcome to attend.

PARENT TEACHER CHATS
Parent teacher chats will be held on Wednesday the 18th of February. This is
an opportunity for you to inform us about your child. Please make your time via the
Further details are in the school newsletter. Attached is also a form for you to
fill out regarding extra information about your child. Please return prior to your
parent teacher chat.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to make a time to come in and
see us. We look forward to a happy and rewarding year working with you and your
child.

Kind regards,
Courtney Drought and Megan Wirth