Welcome to Year 3

Welcome to the start of 2012. We hope you have all had a restful holiday and are ready for a brand new school year.

As you know we are team teachers and this is our sixth year together. Rene works on Monday through to Wednesday and Mandy works on Thursday and Friday.

Our newsletters will come out every three weeks and you can access them on the school website. The class newsletter will contain curriculum information and school events relating to our class. The children will also assist with the newsletters by reporting on events and classroom activities. This will be collated at the end of the year and sent home in a PDF as a reminder of their year.

In the first week we will be setting up routines and looking at behaviour relating to our essential agreements to ensure a positive learning environment. We will talk more about behaviour management strategies for our class in our Parent Information Night.

In the first few weeks we talk about how to work with others and get along with others in the playground. We have found the following system a good way to start.

The 3 Steps System on how to solve a problem is as follows:
1. Say: Stop I don't like it.
2. Say: Stop I don't like it and if you continue I will tell the teacher.
3. If behavior continues then go and tell the teacher.

We will talk more about routines and class expectation during our parent information night in week 2.

Yours in Christ
Mandy and Rene.

Curriculum

For our first unit we will be inquiring into Visual Art. Our central idea is Through visual arts people express, explore and interpret ideas and feelings. We will require some parent volunteers next week for a walk down the street to check out artworks in the local community.

During maths we will inquiring into shape, angles, location and arrangement with shapes. Throughout first term the students will also explore base ten, addition and interpreting word problems.

Our literacy focus is grammar and how to use punctuation correctly in writing recounts.

A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need.
Proverbs 17:17

Dates to remember -

Parent information night
Wednesday 6th Feb.

Cultural Infusion Day
Friday 15th Feb

School Photos
Friday 1st March

Sports Day—
Friday 15th March

Homework grids will begin in week 2 so you get a little re-prieve from homework until next week.

Special points of interest:

Items needed...

Don’t forget to bring back your blue bag and art smock from last year!

Sharing time:

This week your child can share about their holidays on any day they choose. Usually our sharing topics can be found on the homework grid.
German

Guten Tag! I’m Mrs Westermann, and I’m the new German Teacher at St Michael’s. For the last 12 years I’ve been teaching German and Japanese at Unity College. Before that I taught at various schools in Japan, at Mt Barker High, Cornerstone College and Scotch College, where I was Head of German and taught for 15 years.

I’m really looking forward to helping your children learn more German and explore the culture of the many countries where German is spoken. The three classes I met last year all seemed very capable and enthusiastic, so I’m hoping to build on the students’ current skills as much as possible.

The main focus in the first few weeks will be on helping the students talk about themselves and their interests in German and it would be really helpful if all students from Foundation up to and including the Year 5s could bring in a standard sized colour photo of themselves – either just a head and shoulders shot, or if they prefer it could also be a picture of them with their favourite toy or pet. Towards Easter we will be looking at making „Fensterbilder” (decorative paper cut-outs for windows) and Easter egg decorations. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me at the school, either by phone (8388 7228) or email (hwestermann@stmichaels.sa.edu.au). I would also love to hear from any German speaking visitors or people in the St Michael’s community who might be interested in coming into classes sometimes to speak with our students and share their experiences.

Mrs Westermann

Christian Studies

During Creative Arts this term we will start the year with an explosion of visual art. Our unit of inquiry will take us on an artistic journey that enables the students to view and trial many artistic forms and styles. They will develop a rich understanding of artistic terminology and interpretations. This truly is an exciting unit that provides them with the skills to express themselves through many different art forms.

Physical Education

Welcome back kids to another school year at St Michael’s. I hope you are all well rested because the sporting calendar is looking to be extremely busy in Term 1.

In weeks 1 and 2 students will be given the opportunity to participate in attack and defend games that promote team play, strategic understanding and athletic ability.

Weeks 3-7 will see the students practising for sports day in the different events they will be participating in on the day. The central idea for this unit is: The ability to manipulate the body through balance and locomotion provide us with the motor skills required to participate in athletic activities.

In weeks 8 we will start hockey, with the unit running till the end of week 11. The central idea for this unit is: Performance in a game is determined by the effective combination of game sense with technical ability sufficient to achieve a desired outcome.

So buckle up and enjoy the ride because term 1 is going to be a ripper!!

Mr Phillips