Hello and a warm welcome to our year 2/3 class of 2017!

My aim for this year is to ensure that the classroom is an inspiring, motivating environment where children can have fun and enjoy learning.

The children have settled into the class so well. I am really enjoying getting to know each child; their personality and their interests.

As you are all aware school begins at 8:50 and children are allowed in the classroom from 8:30 onwards. It would be fantastic if all children were at school by 8.45 am every morning. This will help set up children for a successful day at school.

**Monday:**
- Line Up: 8:50 – if children are late, they are to come straight to line up with their bags and are not to wait outside their classroom.
- Hand up quick numbers for changeover.

**Tuesday:**
- I am on morning bus duty Tuesday morning from 8:20 – 8:50. The classroom will be locked during this time. Children can drop off their bags at the classroom then head out the front to play. They will have a chance to unpack their bags, once I have returned from duty.
- Fitness
- Japanese Lessons – 1:40-2:20

**Wednesday:** Wear sport uniform – Upper Primary Sport lessons.

**Thursday:**
Sport lesson: 10:15-11:00 – Wear Sport Uniform
Bring Library books back for Friday’s lesson.
Fitness: We are aiming to do buddy fitness with our year 5/6 buddies every Thursday morning.

**Friday:**
Nightly Reading Diaries will be checked every Friday. This is to monitor each child’s reading progress and ensure they are filling in their reading log correctly.
Library Lesson with Michelle Edmondson 1:35 – 2:15
✓ **Communication:** Diaries will be checked each morning. It is your child’s responsibility to bring this to school each morning and place it out the front of the classroom as soon as they arrive at school. Diaries will be sent home each night in reader folders. Feel free to write any notes or reminders in this book for me to see.

✓ **Responsibilities:** We have a job chart in our classroom that is changed each Monday morning. These jobs enable students to take responsibility for looking after their school and classroom and gives children a chance to work with other students to maintain a supportive learning environment.

✓ **Fruit Break:** This will occur every day at approx. 10am. Please provide your child with a piece of fruit which they can eat during this short break. Please give your child easy to eat fruit/vegetables.

✓ **Homework:** Spelling homework will be given from Monday – Thursday.

Each child will be expected to spend 10 mins Reading and 10 mins learning their weekly Soundwaves listwords (Mon – Thurs only).
Activities will be set for students to do and can be completed in student’s homework books.
Unfinished work may be sent home with the students to be completed for homework. A maths worksheet may also be sent home during the week to allow parents to see the topics their child is currently learning.

Homework is checked every morning. **If a child has not completed their homework and does not have a note from a parent/guardian stating why it has not been completed, they will need to complete their work in rethink at lunchtime.**

Nightly readers are sent home with the children each day. These readers are set appropriate to each child’s reading level.

Children will need to be responsible for changing their reader once they have completed it. If children would like to do extra reading of another book of their choice on top of the 10mins reading, this is great and can also be recorded in their nightly reading log!!

It is an expectation that parents will fill out and sign their child’s reading log (Green book – year 2, Yellow book – year 2) every weeknight.
The information filled in in these books is used as data in semester reports.

Children who have not finished their sight words will also need to practice these for homework. This is a short activity that should not take longer than 3 mins. Sight words this year are in the form of a bound booklet. I will test sight words weekly.
Quick numbers: Quick number cards are maths flash cards. They are kept in reader folders and collected for changeover each Monday. Please ensure your child is practising these at least 3 nights a week.

✓ Behaviour Management: Our behaviour management procedure (The 5 R’s) can be seen displayed in the classroom. We follow this procedure unless an incident occurs which is more serious and require the principal’s immediate intervention.
The lunchtime rethink room is only used after all the above steps have been taken or work has not been completed in the allocated class time.

The year 2/3 class has a reward system this year that will incorporate the 5 Program Achieve keys. The reward program is run through a teacher website called Classdojo, which rewards student via a point system. The boy and girl with the most points at the end of a week will be rewarded for their positive behaviour.

Curriculum
Speaking and Listening:
This year for speaking and listening we will be focusing on improving students oral language skills through discussion, questioning and social language skills. They will complete one research task this term about a country and continent, which they will then present to the class in their designated week.
Attached is speaking roster with research questions and date they are presenting.

Reading and Viewing:
Each week children will be involved in reading groups. These groups involve students participating in several reading activities throughout the course of a week. Activities include: guided reading, comprehension activities, Reader’s Theatre and listening activities.
I will endeavour to listen to each child read, individually, once a fortnight.

Buddy Reading: This will occur frequently throughout the year. Students will read or be read to by their year 5/6 buddy. This program has worked really well in the past. It has enabled children to develop their reading aloud skills.

Behind The News: Children will watch BTN once a week. I believe it is important for children to keep in touch with what is happening in the world around them. BTN is able to deliver this in a way that is engaging and relevant to children. It will also be incorporated into the listening and speaking program. Therefore, children will be given tasks associated with btn after it is viewed.

Spelling:
Children will be given new spelling words every Monday and tested on their weekly words on Friday of the same week. They have a list of weekly spelling activities that will help them to learn their list words. The school is in its fourth year of using the Soundwaves approach to spelling. This focuses on teaching
the children the sounds in words by breaking them down into phonemes and graphemes.

**Handwriting:**
Each week children will have handwriting lessons. This will aim to teach correct posture, grip, letter formation, spacing and style skills.

**Writing:**
Throughout the school year, the class will be focus on different writing genres including: recount, exposition, narrative, poetry, procedure and report writing. They will also be focusing on developing their editing skills and improving the detail in their writing by adding description.

**Maths:** The year 2/3 and 3 class are trialling a new maths text book this year, Signpost maths. This term, number and problem solving skills will be taught Monday to Wednesday and measurement and mapping skills will be taught on Thursday and Friday. Throughout the year children will also look at other maths topics including: multiplication, division, 2D & 3D shapes, measurement including length, perimeter, area, volume and capacity, fractions and decimals, money, problem solving, symmetry and location and position.

**Religion:** Prayer circles, Bible stories, Programmed RE lessons, regular Friday Masses, Class liturgies and a Carinya visit. Religion Lessons this term will focus on the topics: Lent and Our Special place in God’s World. Daily Prayer will be run by the students and will take place every morning. Year 3 students will also join the year 3 class for the sacrament of Reconciliation lessons in term 2 &3.

**Fitness:** Will include a range of activities that will keep all children active and increase their heart rate in a 10-15 minute time frame. Short movement activities will also be conducted throughout the school day to help keeps students brains working to their full potential.

**Science:**
In Term 1, both the year 2’s and 3’s will be looking at Earth and Space science. The year 3 science focus will be looking at the concept of night and day, whilst the year 2s will be focussing on water in our world.

Science lessons will be taught separately this term due to the differing nature of the year 2 and 3 curriculums. Kym Carpenter will assist the year 3’s for science. I will be taking the year 2’s.

**Technologies:**
**Design and Technology:** Identify how people design and produce familiar products, services and environments and consider sustainability to meet personal and local community needs.
**Digital technologies:** Children will develop their understanding of word processing programs and how to represent data in numerous ways in these programs. They will also look at coding and basic computer programming.

**Geography:** Places we know, Mapping, Australia – states and territories, Continents, our connections to places, our geographical neighbours. Geography will be taught in semester one. Incorporated in this will be a cycling excursion to St. Aloyisuis church in Sevenhill with the year 2 class. A significant place in our local community and one that St joseph’s school has an important link to.

**History:** – History will be taught in semester 2 this year. We will focus on places of historical significance in our local community as well as how transport has changed from the past.

**Health:** Program Achieve – Revision of 5 keys: Confidence, Persistence, Getting Along, Organisation and Resilience, Revision of Success/Worry Scales and Feelings thermometer. Keeping Children Safe Protection Curriculum, looking after others and ourselves, identifying ways we can be active and healthy. Much of Health also links closely to the Made in the Image of God religious education program

**PE:** with Mrs Marissa Lloyd. Thursday 10:15-11:00

**The Arts:**
This year the arts curriculum for years 1-3 will be taught on a rotation program. With each class completing a term of one area of the arts curriculum. The year 2s will be split into two groups giving them a chance to work with the year 2s from the other class. It is a great opportunity for students to be taught by other teachers.

Below is timetable for the arts program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>YEAR 2a</th>
<th>YEAR 2b</th>
<th>YEAR 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Media Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Media Arts</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Media Arts</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Media Arts</td>
<td>Drama</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Below is an outline of the subject teacher:
Leanne Nield- drama
Sarah Lawson – visual arts
Sarah Linn – Music
Alex Roberts – Media arts.

**Buddies:**
The year 2/3 buddy class is Mr Slattery’s year 5/6 class. Children will spend time with their buddies at least once a week, including a buddy walk for morning fitness each Thursday.
Year 3 camp: Year 3s will be attending a two day camp to Adelaide on the 10th and 11th of August. I will be attending the camp, along with Alex Roberts, who teaches the other year 3 students, and two parent helpers. It is a great opportunity for all the year 3s to interact and socialise together. More information will be sent home closer to the date.

NAPLAN: The year 3s will complete NAPLAN testing on 9th, 10th and 11th of May. More information regarding the tests will go home later this term. During class time I will work with the Year 3s to develop their understanding of NAPLAN topics during class time and will also send home practise tests for children to complete to assist them in understanding the questions and formatting in the three tests.

Thank you for attending the parent information night! I look forward to working with both you and your child this year.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any queries or concerns. I am available to answer any questions you may have anytime before or after school, except on Tuesday morning when I am on bus duty. If you would prefer to send me an email, my email address is: slinn@stjoclar.catholic.edu.au.

Kind Regards,
Sarah Linn