Dear Year 5 & 6 Parents,

Welcome back to Term 3.

Our Religious Education Program will begin with the unit: Mission Possible. The children will be encouraged to consider that: A community ensures social justice when it respects the dignity and rights of each person. Each individual can bring about change that creates a just world.

The unit, Sacred Stories will follow and focus on the Faith concepts: revelation, story, beliefs, values, culture and identity. These units link to our major inquiry, Live for Life.

It is our intention to engage the students in a unit of work on Packaging which too links with Live for Life and also addresses standards in Design, Creativity and Technology, such as the development of design briefs that include some limitations and specifications. The students will be encouraged to pose questions, identifying situations, problems, needs and opportunities for the creation of useful products and simple systems.

The Literacy Program:
- **Reading:** a focus on independence and personal choice. Activities to support this will be ongoing and support Personal Learning through a structured program.
- **Writing:** major text types are Book reports /reviews and general essay writing. Explanations, persuasions and procedural texts will link to Packaging.
- **Listening and Speaking:** students will respond to their independent reading and to inquiry as well as engage regularly in discussion groups.
- **Spelling:** daily spelling will continue & specific strategies will be addressed and practised.
- **Behind the News:** BtN will continue on a regular weekly basis with every second week extended for student research.

In Maths (Number), we will round off and consolidate work on Fractions and, as a natural progression, move onto decimals where the initiating question is, “What are decimal fractions?” The program hinges on place value and involves the application of decimal fractions to the 4 Processes (+, -, X, ÷) to develop an understanding of how we use decimals in real-life situations. An investigation into Financial Matters will involve percent, discount, tax, simple interest and again consider where we use these in real-life situations. In Measurement & Geometry, the concepts of volume, capacity and mass will be investigated and supported by the number work in decimals. Towards the latter end of the term, the focus will be on Location (maps) which will be used during Camp.

In Sport, it is intended to play games such as a modified Korfball, an interactive game (Bloomsterball) that is highly engaging and loosely based on continuous cricket to extend Physical Education skills with whole level involvement. The Footy Day, will present the Yr 6 students with opportunities to pro-actively engage the whole school in physical activities that they prepare, organise and run.

A major event that will occur on Tuesday August 19th is the School Expo. The Upper School students have been preparing interactive exhibits which will explain their understandings arising from the level Inquiry Unit, Live for Life. The personal question that they set at the onset of Live for Life has engaged them in research, use of ICT, creative application of their information, teamwork, time-management and with guidance and consultation they have monitored their own learning through a Rich Assessment Task. We anticipate a lively and exciting evening.

**School Camp:** The camp this year is to be conducted at Stringybark Lodge, Gembrook: Monday 13th – Wednesday 15th October in Term 4. The focus of the camp is building resilience and persistence through safe, well-supervised outdoor activities that present challenges and which rely heavily on teamwork. It is a very sound platform for the Yr5 students in developing leadership and presents the Yr6 students with the opportunity to confront challenges in preparation for secondary school. Details will be distributed and we are happy to field any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Helen Zammit & Robyn Weinbergs
Aria Karigiannis & Rosemary Broderick