Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Here we are nearly half way through the term. We are so pleased with how the children are settling into routines and life in Year One. As our ‘Meet the Teacher Night’ takes on a different format and isn’t until later in the term, we have just added a few extra points to help clarify things for you.

**SHROVE TUESDAY AND ASH WEDNESDAY**
This week is the beginning of Lent. We will be focusing on ‘good intentions’ and creating paper chains and Lenten leaves which will be displayed in the Church and classroom. The school is asking for pancake mixture donations for Tuesday. If you can help please use the recipe below only.

**Pancake Recipe**
- 2 ½ cups of self-raising flour
- 2 eggs
- 2 ½ cups milk (NO low fat milk thanks!)
Mix together thoroughly and pour into 2ltr milk container and send to school on Tuesday 28th February.

**MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE LESSONS**
MDC lessons begin this week with Miss Lisa Russell on Tuesdays.

**BUDDIES**
This year the children have new buddies and we will be catching up with them on Wednesday.

**INDEPENDENCE**
In Year One we would love to see children unpacking and carrying their own bags and placing notes and other items in the correct places to start the school day.

**MORNING ROUTINE**
Each morning we begin our school day with Morning activity and this is a valued part of our day. Children need to arrive to school punctually at 8:50am and begin activities. During this time teachers hope to listen to reading and facilitate learning. For this reason we are not available for discussion so please send an email or make a convenient time to discuss any issues.

**LIBRARY**
A reminder that our library day is on Monday. Children need to bring their library bag and books to return on this day. The children may keep their library bag in their chair bag or school bag. A few children already have overdue books!

**PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE**
As mentioned previously we are hoping that all students participate in the challenge. The children have until September to complete the challenge but can hand in their completed form at any time. Books from the library that are suitable for the challenge have a sticker on them. Children should keep their form in their blue reading bag. Please ensure your child's form is glued into their ‘Home Connections' book.
READING DIARIES/ MEMOS
We thank you for valuing reading and for giving it time each day. It is wonderful for children to develop a love for reading at this age. It is really important that children read their reading texts each night and we ask that you fill in your child’s Home Reading memo diligently. It is paramount for children to know the importance of building a strong reading base to ensure further success with their reading skills. We want children to develop confident reading habits instead of becoming fixated on what level they’re on. Re-reading is a good way to consolidate these skills. We thank you for your support.

DANCE
In week 5 we begin a new dance program on Thursdays. Children in 1ML and 1R will need to wear their sports uniform on Thursdays as well as their usual sport days.

HOMEWORK
Please remember to complete Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check each night for Spelling. This week we are looking at the “it” sound. The children may also complete an activity from the spelling grid in their ‘Home Connections’ book. Homework should not take longer than 15 minutes.

Science – please look out for the Science homework which will need to be back at school on Wednesday for 1R & 1DJ and Friday 1ML.

MATHEMATICS
This week in Mathematics our focus is on Number, Patterning, Measurement. It would be wonderful if you could make patterns at home using everyday items. It’s also great if you can look for patterns in our environment and in your home, e.g. floor tiles.

ICT
This term the Year 1’s have an opportunity to work with Ms Kim Martin to introduce the children to a variety of programs to be used on IPad. Our two programs will be:
- Book Creator
- Seesaw
More information will be shared with you by your child.

CARNEVALE ASSEMBLY
The children did a wonderful job singing our two Italian songs at the Assembly. If you weren’t able to make it, we have uploaded a video to the Star of the Sea Website – see link below

Here’s to a wonderful week of learning, laughter and fun!

Kind regards
The Year 1 Team,
Caterina, Karen, Ali, Nicci and Breanna