Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 1 of 2015! We are looking forward to working with you and your children this year. Below we have provided some dates for your diary, and a brief outline of what we have planned for our Year 5 students this term. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries about the curriculum and/or your child’s progress.

All school events are posted on the website [http://stmattsps.act.edu.au/communication/calendar.html](http://stmattsps.act.edu.au/communication/calendar.html)

### Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27 February</td>
<td>15:30 – Community Council BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 06 March</td>
<td>09:30 – Y5 attends Parish Mass with Y1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 09 March</td>
<td>Canberra Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 13 March</td>
<td>12:30 – Awards Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Family Week (no homework, no meetings)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 24 March</td>
<td>15:00 – 18:00 - Learning Journeys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 26 March</td>
<td>Cross Country Carnival &amp; Walkathon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27 March</td>
<td>12:30 – Awards Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 02 April</td>
<td>11:45 – Whole School Holy Week Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 03 &amp; Mon 06 April</td>
<td>Easter Public Holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5, Term 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Year 5 Camp @ Cooba – more information later this term !!!</strong></td>
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### Curriculum Overview – A Review of Semester 1, 2015.

**Values Program – Making Jesus Real**

We will continue to participate in an ongoing program known as MJR (Making Jesus Real). During these sessions the students will undertake teacher-led and student-led activities designed to reinforce school values.

**Religious Education: Prayer and Scripture, and the Life & Mission of Jesus**

Topics and skills covered include: scripture as a rich source of personal and communal prayer; patterns of prayer and worship in different faith communities; prayer through meditation, music and movement; prayers for different purposes; Lent & the Easter story; links between Old & New Testament.

**English: Narrative & Persuasive Texts**

Topics and skills covered include: story creation, expositions, debating/discussion, written arguments, shared reading, factual texts and visual persuasion. It is our aim to reinforce many of these skills when studying other subjects. We will also do some public speaking in preparation for the Australia-wide Rostrum competition in Term 2.

**Numeracy / Mathematics: Term 1**

**Mental Maths:** times tables, problem solving, efficient strategies, etc.

**Number & Operations:** fractions, decimals, multiplication & division (long & short), place value

**Measurement & Geometry:** shape, grids, direction, location, transformations

**Statistics & Probability:** data representation & interpretation
Personal Development, Health and PE

In 2015 students wear sports uniforms on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Topics and skills for Year 5 this term include: dance (a program led by a qualified instructor), cross country & athletics and fitness and healthy eating. We will also be working on ways we can build personal resilience and positive attitudes.

Science & Technology: Light / Our Place in Space

All students learn scientific methods and skills, and important science facts from history, as part of their general science studies. Year 5 will expand their knowledge of light and its sources as well as an understanding of the solar system. They will learn about the properties of the planets and the impact on our lives from space exploration.

History & Geography

Year 5 studies life in the 19th century. Over the course of this first semester we will look at the concept of ‘cause and effect’ focusing on major events such as settlements, conflicts and strikes.

Information Technology

This will be integrated into all curriculum areas, focusing on a variety of technical and research skills.

The Arts

Visual Arts – This term we will explore techniques for adding detail. We will use a range of techniques and materials to create visual artworks which reference our religious, scientific and historical topics.

Music with Mrs Susan Curbishley – Body percussion, improvisation & exploring form.

Languages: Japanese with Mrs Hodgkin – Each class has a 30-minute lesson on Tuesday.

Please note:
✓ Library lessons with Mrs Watt will be held on Wednesdays.
✓ NAPLAN testing dates this year are 12 - 14 May (Tues – Thurs)
✓ Information will be provided throughout the year via the website and the school newsletter. Please ensure the front office has your current email address.
✓ Feel free to email us at any time.
✓ Ms Bew is 5B and Mrs Mason & Mrs Taber are 5M.
✓ Mrs Taber teachers 5M on Monday and Tuesday
✓ Mrs Mason teaches 5M on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
✓ To assist with administration we ask that you return all notes to us, rather than the office.
✓ We could always use TISSUES, SMALL BIN LINERS & WET WIPES please!!!

Thanks for everything you have already done to assist us this term, including covering your child’s books!

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Tegan Bew, Michelle Mason and Victoria Taber