Welcome to Term 1
Welcome back to school for 2015. The children were so excited on the first day back, to share all their news and it was wonderful seeing all their happy expressions! We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child with their learning.

Kind regards

Mary, Mary, Barb and Anna
Religion

In Religion this term the children will be learning about being a good friend and that God loves them. They will be explore Lenten and Easter traditions and reflect on their relationships with others. In MITIOG lessons we will be developing an understanding that each person is unique, special and gifted by God. In Week 9 the Year 2 children will be leading the community Friday morning Mass in the church.

Literacy

Over the semester the children will develop an understanding of the text structure and language features for recount and procedure writing. Daily writing will help to reinforce grammar and spelling that is explicitly taught in class. Continuing from last year it is expected that the students consistently use capital letters and full stops correctly. The emphasis for reading is developing fluency and comprehension strategies through using metacognition skills, that is, thinking about your thinking. The children will be given ten spelling words on their Learning @ Home grid and will practice these words in class activities. We will be concentrating on accurate letter formation, size and legibility in handwriting lessons.

Mathematics

In Year 2 Maths lessons are a combination of explicitly taught concepts in conjunction with hands on tasks where the children can investigate and problem solve to extend their understanding and deepen their thinking of the taught concepts and skills.

This term, through enquiry activities, the children will be exploring numbers to at least one thousand. We will explore number sequences and tens and units. In Measurement and Geometry the students will learn to interpret simple maps and be exposed to concepts of measuring capacity.

Statistics and Probability lessons will include how to collect, represent and interpret data.
Science

The Primary Connection unit the Year 2 students will be investigating is Earth and Space Science, to learn about water as a valuable resource. They will learn how water can be used wisely at school and at home as well as the water cycle.

History

This term the students will research the history of our school churches, in particular the original church on North Street, which is a significant building in the local area. We are looking at the church and the people to learn about the past.

Geography

The students will discover where they belong in the world, using words such as local, suburb, city, state, country, continent and oceans. They will represent their learning by drawing maps and legends. Correct terminology such as left, right, North, South, East and West will be taught.

Health

Our topic Being Healthy, Safe and Active will involve naming their own strengths and achievements and those of others and identifying how these contribute to personal relationships.
The Arts

This term in the Arts the Year 2 students will be doing Drama. The students will imagine and act out roles and situations participating in dramatic play and role play. They will explore feelings, ideas and stories by working with others to plan and shape a sequence of events in their drama. I look forward to working with the Year 2 students and developing their Drama skills.

Italian

The Year 2 students will be learning about Carnevale and Pasqua. We will be focusing on comprehending texts with familiar vocabulary and supportive illustrations. Students will also be learning about the cultural aspects and meaning of Lent, the history and significance of Carnevale and how it is celebrated. A brief introduction of some of the most popular Carnevale characters (maschere) will also be introduced through the introduction of La Commedia Dell’Arte. Students will be engaged in oral interactions using hand puppets when introducing the Carnevale characters. Students will also be introduced to the Holy Week and the significance of each of the holy days through language specific vocabulary, through the use of flashcards and questioning, demonstrating comprehension by responding verbally and non-verbally. Revision of classroom objects and classroom commands will also be a focus, through action related activities and songs.

Sport

The Year 2 students will spend Term 1 learning and practicing athletics. In the lead up to Sports Day students will have an opportunity to practice both novelty events as well as track events. They will also learn and practice field events in order to develop skills of throwing and jumping. I am looking forward to seeing the athletic abilities of all students in Year 2.