New Year Credo

Your tomorrows are as bright
As you want to make them.
There is no reason to carry the darkness
Of the past with you into today.
Today is a wonderful new experience,
Full of every possibility to make
Your life exactly what you want it to be.
Today is the beginning of new happiness,
New directions, and new relationships.
Today is the day to remind yourself
That you possess the power
And the strength you need
To bring contentment, love and joy into your life.
Today is the day to be understanding of yourself
And give yourself the love and patience that you need.
Today is the day to move forward
Towards your bright tomorrow.

Author Unknown

We do this with God’s grace.
**Homework**

Yr 3 are using the homework grid which incorporates school based work in the form of a Maths homework book, spelling and reading with the requirements and responsibilities of home life. Together this helps to build a well-rounded person. The grid covers a two week period and must be handed in on the second Friday. Please ensure that you sign the boxes that relate to the activities your child completes. Home tasks must be completed to your satisfaction, before you sign. Homework should be done daily, taking not more than 30 minutes. The Spelling Homework book, Maths Plus 3 and the reading diary should be handed in for marking each Friday. Also, there may be speaking tasks to prepare, research or mini projects relating to units of work, from time to time.

**Behaviour**

At the beginning of each year, all classes formulate a list of rules for their class, which are clearly displayed. All children agree to these rules and are expected to follow them. In 3L, our rules are:

- ✔ Follow instructions/directions straight away.
- ✔ Listen when the teacher is talking.
- ✔ Use good manners.
- ✔ Care for your self and your belongings.
- ✔ Care for others and their belongings.
- ✔ Be a good team member.
- ✔ Have a go! Keep at it! Do the best you can.

*Classtime is learning time, playtime is for playing and chatting.*

The consequences for following the rules include:

- Smile, pat on the shoulder or encouraging words from the teacher,
- Sticker,
- Group points,
- Occasional sweet treat,
- Pick from the Homework Prize Box.

The consequences for not following the rules are:

- Step 1: rule reminder
- Step 2: warning and moved to Thinking Place for reflection on how the behaviour affects self and others
Step 3: sent to Principal/APRE (for repeated poor behavioural choices). Missed work is to be completed in the child’s own time.

We encourage positive and friendly behaviour in our class and there are reward/award schemes operating to support such behaviour. If there is a recurrence of unfriendly or inappropriate behaviour, you will be contacted. If your child is the victim of such behaviour, please discuss this matter with me as soon as you are aware of it.

Children in Yr 3 are now the ‘seniors’ of the Junior School, and are expected and encouraged to be more independent. Children are expected to look after their belongings, bring what they need to and from school and remember to do their homework. Going to the toilet during class time is discouraged, as it takes away valuable learning from both that child and the child who must accompany them.

Library
Yr 3 borrow from the Library on Friday. Please ensure your child has a library bag that will protect books from any spillages or other ‘nasties’ in his/her schoolbag. The children may borrow three books each week.

Speaking Tasks
Each child does an oral presentation (1-2 minutes duration) once per fortnight. Prior preparation and practice is expected. Students should concentrate on using a loud clear voice, correct stance, eye contact with the audience, expression and correct use of palm cards and resources; as well as appropriate content.

Parental Involvement
Parents are encouraged to be involved with their child’s education. This can be achieved by:

- showing children that you value their education and support the school,
- engaging in constructive communication,
- ensuring homework is completed,
- supporting the classroom behavioural expectations and if possible,
- attending class events.

Parent help in the classroom is welcomed and encouraged for particular activities.
Key Learning Areas

Children in Year 3 are working towards achieving the standards set by the Australian Curriculum by the end of this year. Our integrated curriculum for Term 1 is entitled ‘Australia: its Animals and Symbols’.

**English**

In Yr 3 we consolidate and extend the work covered in previous years. Spelling strategies, phonological awareness, grammar, punctuation, handwriting, reading comprehension and speaking skills are the focus. The written text-types covered this year include persuasive texts, information reports, instructions, poetry and story writing; where students learn about text structure and the language features of the particular genre.

**Mathematics**

We will be following the Stepping Stones program which is aligned with the Australian Curriculum.

**Religion**

Term 1: We look at ‘Peaceful Relationships’ and the personal and social consequences of just and unjust actions.

Term 2- 4 units are ‘The Sacraments’, ‘Stories from the Bible’ and ‘People of the Church’.

**Science**

Term 1: Students will be studying animal classifications, habitats and threats. Future units include Space, Heat and Solids and Liquids.

**SOSE (Geography)**: Term 1: The main feature is mapping Australia – its states, capital cities, some features and where the country is positioned in the world.

**History**

Term 1: Symbols of Australia and Australian Celebration/Commemorative Days.

**Technology**

Computer skills are the focus. We will be working on typing ability and inserting and manipulating pictures, using programs such as Word and PowerPoint. Term 1: Creating a road sign.

**Other**

NAPLAN testing is in May. Practice begins in Term 1 and you will be informed of your child’s progress. We will complete past tests to practise how to answer the questions, manage time, become familiar with the type of content tested, behave during formal testing situations, ease anxiety during tests, etc. Whilst we understand and respect the importance of NAPLAN testing to the government, school systems and some secondary schools, and prepare thoroughly; we also strive to keep it in appropriate perspective.
### Year 3 Specialist Lessons

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<td>Italian (Senora</td>
<td>Art (Mrs Neilson)</td>
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<td>Connie)</td>
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<td>borrowing</td>
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<td>Music (Ms Murray)</td>
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**Interviews**

I am happy to see you about your child’s progress. It is appreciated if you could make an appointment (after school is preferable) for a meeting. I am not available on Monday mornings or Wednesdays due to staff commitments. A Record of Interview will be completed and a copy given to you.

For parents of children in 3 White, please contact Mr Bennie via email (abennie@bne.catholic.edu.au) or by phoning the school office (33711904) to arrange an interview time.

**Contact**

I may be contacted by email (sluxford@bne.catholic.edu.au), by note via your child, or by phoning the school.