



ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE, YEAR 5/6, TERM 4 2025

Curriculum Overview



SPECIAL EVENTS/MESSAGES

Mon 13 Oct– Pupil free day
Wed 15 Oct– Fri 17 Oct– 5/6 School Camp
Mon 20 Oct – SCC Open Meeting @6pm
Wed 22 Oct – Sports and Cultural Photos
Fri 24 Oct – Boorowa Netball & Touch Carnival
Sat 25 Oct – Confirmation Mass @6pm
Thurs 30 Oct – League Tag Carnival
Fri 31 Oct – Fete Muffi Day
Sat 1 Nov – All Saints Day
Sat 1 Nov – Jubilee Mass + Multicultural Night\
Mon 3 Nov – SCC Open Meeting @6pm
Tues 4 Nov – My Body, My Life program
Sun 2 Nov – All Souls Day
Sat 8 Nov – St Thomas School and Parish Fete
Thurs 20 Nov – Kinder Orientation Day 1
Fri 28 Nov – Kinder Orientation Day 2
1 – 3 Dec – Parent Teacher Interviews
Thurs 11 Dec – Carols Night
Fri 12 Dec – Reports sent home
Mon 15 Dec – Colour Run
Tues 16 Dec – Year 6 Graduation
Wed 17 Dec – Year 5/6 Big Day Out
Thurs 18 Dec – Meet the teacher for 2026
Thurs 18 Dec – Candle Ceremony
Thurs 18 Dec – Last day of school for students

RELIGION

This term will be a busy term. Confirmation will be a focus for the first few weeks as many students will be preparing for this special sacrament. The overarching theme this year is the Year of Hope, this will continue for term 4. Two religion units will be completed this term. The first is about Australian Catholic history and the challenges that were faced. Students will be exploring how the catholic faith shaped various communities in Australia. The second unit will be about Mother Mary. This will lead onto Christmas and the importance of Mary in Jesus' life.

ENGLISH

Throughout Term 4, Year 5/6 students will be exploring the novel *Rivet Boy* by Barbara Henderson as a mentor text. This engaging work of historical fiction is set in Victorian-era Scotland and follows twelve-year-old John Nicol, who takes a dangerous job on the construction of the iconic Forth Bridge to support his struggling family.

Blending real historical events with a compelling coming-of-age narrative, the novel explores themes of resilience, courage, and the power of education. As John faces physical and emotional challenges on the bridge site, he also finds solace in books, a local library, and the support of unexpected friendships.

Rivet Boy provides rich opportunities for students to explore character development, historical context, and author intent. While the novel itself is a narrative text, it will be used as a springboard for developing persuasive writing skills. Students will examine how language can influence opinion and emotion, drawing on themes and issues from the story to construct well-reasoned arguments and persuasive texts. They will learn to use persuasive devices, structure arguments effectively, and write with clarity and conviction.

To strengthen overall literacy skills, students will participate in handwriting sessions twice a week, focusing on improving letter formation, legibility, and writing fluency. They will also take part in regular typing practice to enhance their speed and accuracy when using digital tools. In addition, oral reading fluency activities will be conducted three times a week to build students' confidence, expression, and reading pace—further supporting their comprehension and language development.

MATHEMATICS

Year 5/6 will be teaching explicit lessons using the Ochre Education resource as a base. Students will be divided into year level groups to develop proficiency and fluency of concepts across all curriculum strands.

SCIENCE

This term, Students are working through two science units. The first unit focuses on extending their understanding of solids, liquids, and gases by investigating solutions and mixtures. The second explores how processes such as weathering, erosion, transportation, and deposition contribute to changes in the Earth's surface over time.

HEALTH

Students are learning about strategies to manage changes and transitions, including those related to puberty. They are continuing to build respectful relationships through the BE KIND circles program, and are practising ways to express empathy, manage emotions, and understand how emotional responses can affect interactions through the Resilience Project.

HASS

This term, students will be exploring how environments can be cared for and managed responsibly. Through

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engaging lessons and hands-on activities, they will learn what it means to be sustainable, including how to conserve resources and protect natural habitats. Students will also investigate natural disasters such as floods, cyclones, bushfires, and droughts, and discover how communities can prepare for and respond to these events. By developing their understanding of environmental challenges and solutions, students will build important skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, and responsible citizenship.

THE ARTS

The Arts (Visual Arts)/Dance – Bianca Breen
Music/Drama – Mr Ryan
Media Arts/STEM – Mrs Rootes in Library

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Sport Days

- ☐ **Weeks 1–4:** Mondays and Wednesdays
- ☐ **Weeks 5–10:** Wednesdays and Fridays

Students will participate in a bike riding program and a cricket unit, while also leading Active Australia groups. As part of this, they will explore fair play and inclusive participation by devising and testing alternative rules and game modifications. They will also practise working positively in teams by contributing to group activities and negotiating roles and responsibilities.

LIBRARY

Students attend library lessons each week on a **Wednesday (5/6T Thurs)**. We will be borrowing on even weeks (weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10).

Please provide a library bag for this lesson each week.



UNIFORM

Please ensure your child attends school each day in the correct uniform. See <https://www.sttap.act.edu.au/school-uniform> for clarification. Notes will go home as a reminder if your child attends school in the incorrect uniform.

Hats are compulsory during outdoor activities, including recess and lunch. The only exception to this rule is during June and July when hats are optional.

HOMEWORK

Students will continue using MathsOnline. Please ensure that students log on regularly and complete activities throughout the week. Lessons chosen are linked with lessons that have been completed within the class.

CANTEEN

Please be aware of how much food is ordered from the canteen as some students cannot finish all the food in the required time and are eating in class.

Snack items included in lunch orders should be collected by students at **recess** to give them the chance to eat all items for the day.

The canteen is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and orders can be placed via the Flexischools App (please download). Cash orders will only be accepted at recess. Lunch is for pick up of orders only.

NEED TO KNOW INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE:

If your child arrives after the bell in the morning, please sign them in at the Front Office.

Please log any absences through the online Compass App at your earliest convenience.

LUNCH BOXES:

Please include only recess and lunch in your child's lunchbox with a **separate container, or a piece of fruit (e.g banana or apple) for their fruit break**. This allows easy access during learning time which is when fruit break occurs.

Please ensure your child has a full, labelled drink bottle daily.

LABELLING:

Please label all your child's uniform items, containers, and belongings.

CONTACTS

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