Welcome to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The first week of school is a great milestone for your child and we understand that your child may have met these last few days with excitement or apprehension (or a little bit of both!)

The Kindergarten teachers this year are Mrs Frances Orlando and Mrs Rhonda Sculley. At times, they will be supported in the classroom by Mrs Brackenbury (Learning Support Teacher), Mrs Barbara Aboud (Teacher’s Aide) and/or Mrs Alyson Hanson (Teacher’s Aide). We are all thrilled to be teaching your child as they begin an exciting school year.

Each year our Kindergarten children enter school with a diverse range of experiences, eagerly ready to absorb everything Kindergarten has to offer. Our expectation is for every student to reach his or her educational potential by building a strong academic foundation.

Working in partnership with you, we aim to build your child’s confidence and encourage them to see learning as enjoyable.

The school day begins at 9am, with the children lining up on the front playground. There are 2 half hour food/play breaks during the day. School concludes at 3:10pm, where children can be collected from the front playground.

We want you to know that we will do everything we can to make your child’s start to kindergarten and kindergarten year the best possible. Welcome!

### Library
Library Borrowing is every Tuesday. Don’t forget your library bag.

### Sport
Children come dressed in full sport uniform every Wednesday and Friday.

### Homework
Commencing in Week 5, homework readers will be sent home frequently and therefore need to be returned to school (in their note folder) every day.

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**Days to Remember…**
Subject Overviews

The Subject overview will give you a sense of what your children will be focusing on in class. These could be the things you talk to your child about through the term.

Religious Education

This term in Religion we will be looking at ‘A Community that Celebrates God’s Love’ in combination with ‘From Ashes to Easter’. The children will begin to explore how God loves them and that God wants us to celebrate this love with others by sharing and giving respect and love to each other during Lent.

English

This term the students will focus on how books work and the skills required for reading. They will begin to learn the concepts of print, sounds within words, sights words and prediction skills. This is done through big book exploration and small group reading.

Students will also engage in daily writing, fine motor and oral language activities.

Mathematics

During Mathematics the students will begin counting, ordering, reading and representing numbers to 20 and beyond. They will also begin exploring patterns and learn the language used to describe the position of objects.

Students will be involved in tasks that allow them the opportunity to construct ideas, explain their thinking and focus their attention on mathematical strategies.
**History and Geography**

**Our School**
This term the students will learn the location of our school in our world and in Australia. They will learn how the spaces in our school are organised and how we work in partnerships to achieve our goals. They will also be looking at what school was like for their grandparents and parents and compare these experiences to their own. Through discussions, interviews and data collection they will develop an understanding that things change over time while other things remain the same. They will be appreciating other peoples stories and experiences.

**Creative Arts**
During Creative Arts lessons students will be making pictures and other artworks using the media and materials given. Students will focus on the appreciation of artworks and begin to describe some aspects of individual pieces of art.

The children will have music lessons with Mrs Moore every Wednesday.

**Personal Development, Health**
During Personal Development and Health lessons students will be looking at what makes them special and how to develop good relationships with family, friends and others.

The children will have PE lessons on Wednesdays with Mr Jones. Sport sessions each Friday will focus on Gross Motor activities and catching skills.
In Term One, students will learn about God’s infinite love for them and that they are created in the image of God. They will look at the season of Lent as a time of getting ready for Easter and become familiar with some of the symbols for Lent and Easter.

**General Information**

- Reading to and with your child everyday helps build their confidence with reading, vocabulary and essential concepts about print.
- Playing both imaginative and structured games and sports at home helps with developing your child’s ability to play fairly, take turns, share and cooperate with their classmates. A big part of their day on the school playground!
- Please ensure that your child is dressed in the correct full summer uniform, with all items clearly labeled with their name.
- Please ensure that your child is wearing appropriate sport shoes with white socks on their sports day.
- As of Week 5, reading books will be taken home everyday for the children to practise their reading. It is important to listen to your child read, allowing them to do the problem solving on their own. We request that parents help to ensure that these books are kept safe and returned to school each day for the children’s lessons.
- Please ensure that the note folder is returned to school everyday.

**Some Important Dates**

12/2/16   Opening School Mass  
9/2/16     Kindergarten Information Night  
12/2/16     Welcome BBQ for all Families  
4/3/16     Staff Development Day  
            (no school for students)