

# 2017 Year 4 Class Handbook



**IMMANUEL**  
*Gawler*

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A primary school of the Lutheran Church

Miss Anthea Lytwyn

Mr Howard Davies

## 1) The Year 4 Team

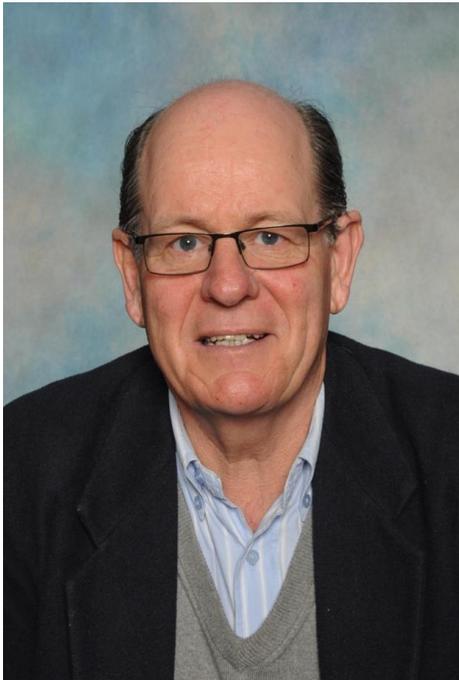


Hello, my name is Anthea Lytwyn and I am one of the Year 4 teachers this year.

I have been teaching for eleven years. I was in Portland, Victoria for 5 years where I taught Year 1 for the two years and then Year 3/4 for three years. This is my seventh year at Immanuel where I have taught either Year 4 or 5 classes. Art and computing were my two minor subjects at university so I'm very passionate about these two areas of the curriculum. I am a creative person and I love the creative arts, I also love photography.

I live in Gawler with my ten year old chocolate Labrador and my one year old Golden Labrador. I love them both dearly and spoil them rotten even though my one year old puppy destroys everything in my yard. They both truly believe that they are humans.

I look forward to the year and working with you and your child.



Greetings to you all from Howard Davies. I am a classroom Teacher, a husband, a father and in recent years a smitten grandfather.

There is an old saying that no one can put their foot in the same river twice, because you have changed and the river has changed. Accordingly, I have taught children for a long time in many schools but prior experience has not taught me what I will need to learn, in order to teach your child well in 2017. That learning journey is about to happen.

I earnestly desire to learn who your child is and what interests and motivates them. With that trust and knowledge we can grow skills, understandings and learning possibilities together.

One consistent request I make each year is to let me know what I need to know. By nature I like roaming, chatting and connecting with people. I enjoy teaching and anticipate the privilege of being trusted with your child this year.

## 2) How can you support your child at home and school?

Becoming a competent reader is a huge step in education. There is an excitement about it, a challenge and it is wonderful to see confidence blooming! To help develop this good life time habit, here are some ideas to help children turn into avid readers!!!

- a) Find a quiet place to sit comfortably together away from distractions and share in your child's reading every day. This might be in listening to them or in reading to them. It can also be in reading aloud at the same time. These shared activities are the best way to develop a love of reading. Read every day yourself and let the children see you enjoying it. (Easier said than done, with busy lives these days.)
- b) Talk with your children every day. Good talkers usually become good readers and writers.
- c) Praise your child's reading efforts and let them share with other willing listeners such as Grandparents, and make it a 50/50 split with your partner. Children need to model themselves on both parents. Fathers play an important role in encouraging sons to read.
- d) Discuss the story afterwards, using: When? Why? What? And What if? Discuss the favourite and least favourite parts. This helps to develop comprehension.

It is also important children have a good night's sleep. This is "brain" time and a well rested child will perform better at school and at home.

Helping your child prepare for their school day is important. Making sure they have everything they will require: recess, lunch, brain food (optional), drink bottle, stationary and their hat. If there is any stress around preparing for school it should help to do the preparation the previous evening.

Every day your child requires the best start possible. This begins with arriving to school on time. Ensuring your child is punctual to school will enable them to be prepared for the day ahead. Many children feel anxious and worried if they arrive late.

## 3) Weekly Overview

- **Banking day** is Tuesday.
- **Library borrowing** 4L – Monday  
4D – Monday

The library is also available before school from 8:30-8:55am.

- **Sport and fitness** Year 4 has sport on **Friday**, so students will need to wear their sports uniform on this day plus two additional days – **Monday and Wednesday**.
- **Assembly time:** In weeks 4 and 8 on Monday at 2.45pm, we will have a whole school assembly under the shelter. During assembly we will sing the National Anthem and have a year level sharing time. Parents are most welcome and encouraged to attend.
- **Worship and Praise** Beginning on Friday mornings at 9:00 am. These are led by classes, parish pastors, special guests and teachers. Parents are most welcome and encouraged to attend.

#### 4) Daily Routines

- In year 4 students are encouraged to show **responsibility, organisation** and **independence**. To help students achieve these goals we encourage each student to independently make their way up to their room and be responsible for getting themselves organised
- Students are expected to reach the classroom promptly for the 8:55 am bell ready for learning activities to commence at 9:00 am
- If your child is late for school they need to be signed in at the office by the person dropping them off before making their way to the classroom
- If your child is being picked up early from school they need to be signed out at the office and picked up from the classroom
- If students arrive early and we are in the classroom they are allowed to get themselves organised for the first subjects of the day and then read, draw quietly or complete another quiet activity
- Students can hang their bags outside the classroom
- Independent, class or guided reading activities will take place each day
- Brain food: Your child is allowed to bring a small container of fresh or dried fruit pieces or vegetable pieces (No nuts are allowed)
- Students need to bring their own labelled drink bottle to keep in a designated area within the classroom. Water only, thanks
- As the toilets are quite some distance from the classroom it is important that students always use the toilets during each break. This will avoid significant loss of classroom time

#### 5) Homework

Homework will be set from Monday to Thursday each week but is only required to be completed on two nights each week. This is due to various other commitments that students have after school. Students are most welcome to complete more than two nights' Homework. It is expected that students will spend at least 70 minutes each week completing homework (including reading). This is determined by: 4 nights of reading 10 minutes (40), 1 night of Spelling 15 minutes and 1 night of Mathematics 15 minutes (30).

- **Reading** – it is an expectation that students are reading every night for at least 10 minutes.
- **Spelling** – Students will have new words to learn each day from Monday to Thursday with a spelling test on Friday. Those students who don't practise their words perform at a lower level than those who do. A quick revision is all that is needed to ensure that students are learning their spelling list
- **Maths** - this will include small amounts of revision from material learnt at school, including numeracy skills – addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- **Unfinished work** – there will be times when work is sent home when not completed during lesson time
- As education is a collaborative effort between school and family we encourage family to engage and support the children in homework. If there is tension around this, please talk to us.

## 6) Communication

- General notices will come home with your child in their communication folder. Please support your child by reminding them to pass notes on to you promptly
- Communication regarding student behaviour will come home via a note in their diary or a brief email. If something more serious needs to be discussed you may receive a phone call and, when required, make a time to meet
- Notification of absence is a legal requirement. If your child is away for any reason please put it in writing in their diary, on a separate dated note or send your child's teacher a quick email so it can be printed
- If you are going to be away for an extended period of time during the term, for example a family holiday, this also needs to be sent in writing prior to their departure

## 7) Making an Appointment

Morning catch-ups with teachers are difficult as the teacher's priorities are the morning meeting / devotion and getting ready for the day. To make an appointment with your teacher, please write a note in your child's diary or call the front office. We want concerns addressed sooner rather than later and so an appointment time enables the teacher to give your concern their full attention.

## 8) Behaviour Education

- Our school has a '**Managing Student Behaviour**' Policy & Procedure document, which is located on our website, which we follow for behaviour management

## 9) Who else is involved in your child's learning?

- **Japanese** : Sensei Mayumi Wong
- **Sport**: Mr. Simon Wundersitz
- **Music** : Mr. Dwayne Hueppauff
- **Learning Support**: Mrs Gail Darby
- **Personal Learning Plans** will be negotiated if and when they become necessary. A meeting will be arranged for PLPs to be explained and signed by the parent in order for support to take place.

## 10) Significant Curriculum Information

- **International Baccalaureate** - Primary Years Programme

Immanuel Lutheran School is an IB World School using the Primary Years Programme. Each teacher is currently planning, teaching and assessing within these guidelines. The Australian Curriculum sits alongside the Primary Years Programme.

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) is a non-profit educational foundation, motivated by its mission, focused on the student.

The IB does not own or manage any schools. Instead, it works with schools around the world (both state and privately funded) that share their commitment to international education.

Authorisation to become an IB World School is an intensive process that typically takes two or more years and includes site visits by an IB team.

A regular process of evaluation is undertaken by schools that have been authorised. For information please visit <http://www.ibo.org/pyp/>

The curriculum is organised under six broad themes and teachers plan and teach one unit under each theme each year.

- **Spelling:** Year 4 use THRASS (Teaching Handwriting, Reading and Spelling Skills) to build students' spelling and Literacy strength.
- **Reading:** Students will not be given readers this year but are expected to choose material of an appropriate nature.
- Students are encouraged to read a variety of genres.
- Students will have the opportunity to read aloud with teachers or other adults on a regular basis.

### 11) Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

ILSG is continuing the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program this year. It is a nation-wide sustainability program designed to encourage students to explore growing and cooking their own food. It is hugely successful with some 93 000 students attending garden and kitchen lessons in 2014.

At this stage the Program will be provided for Years 4 and 5 with others participating from time to time. Years 4 and 5 students will experience 16 garden lessons and 16 kitchen lessons this year. Semester One will be for Year 5s and Semester Two for Year 4s.

We are looking for volunteers to assist in garden and kitchen lessons in order to have a ratio of around one adult to every four children. Volunteers may assist with as few or as many lessons as they wish.

### 12) Other bits and pieces

- **Book work and stationery:** At this stage all students are expected to be using pencil for all written work. As the year continues students will be eligible to use pen. Gel pens are not welcome in the classroom
- Please return all medical forms by the end of week 1
- **Class Carer:** As we grow as a community, it is important that we are vigilant in maintaining a welcoming, inclusive and supportive school environment. Further information regarding this role can be obtained from the 'Carer's Handbook'. Please let your child's class teacher know if you are interested in supporting our school through the class carer program

### 13) Special Events

- **Parent teacher interviews** are at the end of term 1.
- **Student led conferences** are at the end of term 3
- **Family night** will be held in term 1

- **Camp** will be held in term 2 week 2 (Wed 10<sup>th</sup> – Fri 12<sup>th</sup> May)
- **Swimming:** Swimming is held in term 4 week 7
- Please regularly check the Bulletin and website for updates and changes