Special Religious Instruction

Religious Education classes will commence this term on Friday February 10th for students in years 3-6. Information about these sessions is attached. Participation is optional.

Parents have the choice for their child/children to attend either:-
1. Religious Education classes that support Christian Values Education;
2. Baha'i classes; or
3. Neither of the above.

One option is selected and will be maintained for the semester. Students not attending SRE will be supervised.

Please return the slip to the class teacher by Monday February 6 so that timetables can be finalised.

Thank you for your support.

Tamara Doig
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
2nd February 2017

---------------------------------------------

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION SELECTION 2017

My child __________________________ in year ______ room _____ will participate in:

☐ Christian Values Education,
☐ Baha'i
☐ None of the above.

Signature of parent/guardian __________________________
The YouthCARE Christian Religious Education (CRE) program is offered at Dalkeith Primary School in accordance with Western Australian State Legislation which allows a thirty minute lesson per week throughout Primary school. All children are welcome, regardless of religious or cultural background.

The Department of Education has approved the curriculum and recognises YouthCARE as the provider and trainer of CRE volunteers. YouthCARE CRE volunteers are trained to be respectful of the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds of the children they teach.

The YouthCARE CRE Curriculum

Using stories from the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, the YouthCARE CRE curriculum supports the Australian Curriculum and teaches students about the Christian beliefs and values which have profoundly shaped Australian culture.

Colourful and contemporary activity books use the literature of the Bible, games, drama, puzzles, discussion, art, film and music to teach the key beliefs, values and practices of the Christian faith – based on the teachings of Jesus.

Children develop the ability to express and discuss their thoughts and ideas as they explore behaviours and attitudes in line with the nine values for Australian schooling which include ... care, compassion, doing your best, honesty and trustworthiness, fair go, freedom, integrity, respect, responsibility, understanding, tolerance and inclusion.

The YouthCARE CRE curriculum is specifically designed to be implemented within the public education system, aiming to nurture and educate, not convert.

The YouthCARE CRE Curriculum and the Australian Curriculum

The YouthCARE CRE curriculum links directly with the core values and General Capabilities of the Australian Curriculum. These are ...

- Self-awareness  
- Social awareness  
- Understanding ethical concepts and issues

- Self-management  
- Social management

The YouthCARE CRE Volunteers

CRE volunteers are trained and accredited by qualified educators. They are also registered with the Department of Education and work separately to chaplains. Through YouthCARE CRE, students get the best possible opportunity to explore their own values, beliefs and ideas.

Further enquiries

More information about YouthCARE can be found on the website www.youthcare.org.au. A sample copy of the material can be viewed in the School Office if required. Please complete the attached participation slip for your child and return to the School Office.
Bahá'í Special Religious Education Classes

The Peace Pack
Bahá'í SRE Classes are being offered at Dalkeith Primary School to run concurrently with Christian SRE. All students, regardless of religious or cultural background are welcome to attend.

The Curriculum
The curriculum, called The Peace Pack, is based on the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Bahá'í Faith. Bahá'u'lláh's teachings centre on unity and the building blocks for world peace. The teachers, who are trained volunteers registered with the Department of Education, use 'hands-on' activities like craft, drama and music to teach the curriculum.

The Development of Character
One of the main purposes of Bahá'í education is to help students grow spiritually. This largely means the development of good qualities or virtues. Virtues such as kindness, honesty, love and courtesy, which are the building blocks of character, are explored in depth. Bahá'ís believe that every child is a storehouse of virtues waiting to be developed. By noticing when a child is practising a virtue, and by encouraging a child to practise the virtue, we support the child in his or her spiritual development. The development of spiritual qualities, or virtues, in individuals is the foundation of a peaceful world.

The Unity of Faiths
Another purpose of Bahá'í religious education is to foster in students the understanding of the unity of the different faiths. The students learn that the world's faiths are like chapters of one book – the title is different but the story continues. The other major faiths of the world, such as indigenous spirituality, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism and Islam are briefly covered and students learn about them from a Bahá'í perspective. The teaching of virtues is like a golden thread of commonality that runs through them all.

A Peaceful World
In addition, the students explore universal principles that lay the foundation for a peaceful world as taught by Bahá'u'lláh. Some of these are: that we are all one human family, no matter our colour, race, education, or nationality; promoting unity and valuing diversity; the equality of women and men; the need for the elimination of all forms of prejudice; caring for our environment and the skills of peaceful problem solving through consultation.

Inner Peace
The students learn that peace in the world begins with inner peace and that prayer, meditation and service to humanity will help them along this path.

Independent Thinking
One of the fundamental principles of Bahá'í education is to facilitate the development of children's capacity to think, independently and objectively, and actively seek truth by this means. Thus, Bahá'í education does not seek to convert or indoctrinate. Students are encouraged to question and explore.

Further Information
An information folder about Bahá'í SRE Classes is available at the school office. For further information, please contact Agnete Mavaddat on 9330 3058. For further information on the Bahá'í Faith, please visit www.bahai.org.au

Dalkeith PS CRE Permission Form

Christian Values Education is offered at Dalkeith PS in accordance with Western Australian State legislation which allows a thirty minute lesson per week throughout Primary school.

The Department of Education has approved the curriculum and recognises YouthCARE as the provider and trainer of the voluntary teachers. CRE teachers are trained to be respectful of the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds of the children they teach.

Using Bible stories and contemporary examples, CRE explores values in a way that helps children understand their own and others' beliefs. The values taught through the program include the 9 Values for Australian Schooling.

Please fill in and return the attached permission slip for your child to participate in CRE in 2017.
More information about YouthCARE can be found on the website www.youthcare.org.au. A sample copy of the material can be viewed in the School Office.

All students need written permission from their parents or guardian to attend SRE classes. Permission slips need to be returned by Monday 6th February 2017.