

## INFORMATION ON SRE

### **What is SRE?**

Special Religious Education (SRE) is time allowed under the NSW Education Act of 1990, for volunteers to come to the school to teach about the different faiths. SRE is commonly known as Scripture.

### **Who are the SRE teachers?**

The SRE teachers are volunteers who are authorised by their own churches to teach Scripture. Scripture can only be provided by a church or religious group which is approved by the NSW Department of Education. At Jerrabomberra, the following scripture groups are offered:

**Ecumenical Scripture** is taught as a combined arrangement with volunteers drawn from a range of authorised churches (e.g. Anglican, Uniting). The volunteer's work co-operatively using team teaching approaches.

**Catholic Scripture** is taught by the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Therese's Sisters) as well as volunteers from the Catholic Church.

**Baha'i Scripture** is taught by representatives from that group.

### **Curriculum**

The Ecumenical team uses curriculum called *Godspace* which has been developed by the Baptist Churches in NSW and Christian Education Publications (CEP) and is published by the Anglican Church of Australia.

For more information on these curricula see

[www.Godspace.org.au](http://www.Godspace.org.au) & [www.whysre.com.au/taught/cep\\_curriculum\\_overview](http://www.whysre.com.au/taught/cep_curriculum_overview)

Material developed by the Catholic Church is used in the Catholic Scripture classes. More information on Catholic Scripture can be found on [http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/faith\\_education/](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/faith_education/)

The Scripture lessons seek to inform children about the nature and content of the Christian faith, including the meaning and significance of the Christmas and Easter festivals. Emphasis is placed on teaching values, such as caring for others, making good choices and other general life skills.

### **IMPORTANT TO NOTE:**

**Our SRE classes run for three lessons at the end of each term. Lessons are 40 minutes long and teachers remain to supervise. If you do not wish your child to attend Scripture classes, please notify the school in writing. Children withdrawn from lessons will be sent to a buddy class with work during this time.**

Thank you.

### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

At the end of Term 1, an **Easter Assembly** is held and at the end of Term 4, a **Christmas Assembly** is held. These are multi-faith services, with local SRE groups participating and presenting and **there is some religious content**.

The P&C Easter Raffle, one of their major fundraisers, is drawn at the end of the Easter assembly. It is a community event with visiting charities attending to receive donations from our students. It is well-regarded in our community as an act of kindness and caring.

Please inform us if you want your child, who is withdrawn from Scripture, to attend these assemblies and make it known to the teacher.

Thanks in anticipation.

