



During 2011, five groups will meet under the banner of our *Grow* Sunday School.

- Sprouts (Ages 3 to 5)
- Grow 1 - 3 (Grades 1 to 3)
- Grow 4 - 6 (Grades 4 to 6)
- Grow 7 - 9 (optional for year 9 to join Digging In)
- Digging In (upper High School)

Curriculum & Format

These groups meet on a Sunday morning, during term time. Each week we commence with the Morning Worship service at 8.30am before moving out to classes. Most weeks the *Grow* classes run from 9am (approx) to 9.40am.

This year we will follow the Gospel Light Curriculum "God's Big Picture". This is a 52-lesson program designed to show how the whole Bible fits together.

The curriculum uses games, bible quizzes, skits, stories, craft and colouring to explore the bible from creation to revelation. This material provides a flexible approach that is adaptable for each year level.

Both Sprouts and Digging In will link into the theme used by the Grow 1 - 9's, but adapted to the specific needs of each of these groups.

Our *Grow* lessons are intentionally linked to the children's lesson in worship. This enables the key message to be communicated in a number of different ways and also allows families to further explore the topic at home.

This lesson is built on in a communal time of music, drama, games and stories. **Kath Ruhle, Fiona Harris, Matt Smith & Kerry Marnane** take it in turn to lead the collective group time.

This large group then splits into the classes for age appropriate activities.



Our youngest class is for children aged 3, 4 & 5. We are intentionally flexible with the children in their prep year as it may be appropriate to move them during the year to the next class.

Miriam Prince leads this group; sharing stories, songs and crafts suitable for our little ones. This group will join in with the bigger kids once a month so they can see what the big kids get up to but will have their own age-appropriate space the other weeks. Also involved with

Sprouts are **Cassie Sommer & Angela Buchanan**. We also like to ask a parent to stay each week to assist with craft & toileting.

Grow 1 to 9

Grow 1 to 3 - Is for children in years 1, 2, & 3; our younger primary group. A number of teachers share in leading this group including **Cathy Orchard & Faye Holmes**.

Grow 4 to 6 - Children in Years 4, 5 & 6, our older primary group, are guided by **Kath Ruhle, Ruth Grieve, Carol Woodrow & Kerry Marnane** in nurturing a growing faith.

Grow 7 to 9 - Youth in years 7, 8 & 9 get together with **Matt Smith** to explore the theme in unique and exciting ways whilst nurturing a growing faith. This age range is intentional to assist with the transition to High School.



Digging In for the older high school students in years 10,11 & 12 and those in year 9 who choose to join this group.

Digging In has a different format to the other *Grow* classes with an emphasis on discussion and exploration. This study group is guided by **Steve Bennett**.

Dear Parents

Our *Grow* Sunday School is an opportunity for our young people to learn about the life and example of Jesus Christ and how they can *Grow* his teachings in their own life.

Forming faith in children and youth involves tending and developing God's garden = planting the seeds, cultivating the soil, fertilizing and weeding. We are blessed by the teachers who support our Sunday School each week and share in the nurture of our seedlings.

"Grow" a place where little sprouts are nurtured and loved by the Gardener and grow into strong, healthy, wise plants.

Our program caters for children aged 3 through to the end of High School and runs from 8.30am (including worship) to 9.40am.

In the event of the service finishing before this time, we ask that parents wait until 9.40am to collect their children. This enables teachers to complete the lesson with all children present.

However, should worship runs later than 9.40am we are happy to supervise the children until parents are able to collect them.

We encourage families to stay for morning tea to enjoy a cuppa and chat with friends, following Sunday School and Worship.

We also recommend our church library which has tremendous resources for children, youth and adults including DVDs, novels, study books, picture books and cd roms.



Minister:

Rev. John Ruhle 3300 2712

Families and Community Coordinator:

Rev. Rich Cassady 3300 2712

Youth Pastor:

Kerry Marnane 3300 2712

Grow Sunday School Coordinator:

Faye Holmes 3300 1169



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