Welcome to Term 3. There’s lots of fun to be had -- it’s amazing to think that half of this year has already gone. We have learned so much but still have plenty to do!

**Literacy**

As our Preps can now recognize most or all letters of the alphabet we will continue to focus on the different sounds each letter and combination of letters can make. This will help with their reading and their independent writing skills. Each week new sight words will be introduced. These words are important to know as they appear frequently in written texts. Please help your child to practise these regularly to help them become confident readers. It is great to see the enthusiasm with which all Preps read their take home books. Thank you to everyone who listens to their child read each night, and particularly to the volunteer mums and others who turn up each week to listen to and help change the children’s books.

**Maths**

This term we will be extending our knowledge of numbers and counting skills to 20 and exploring mass, capacity and shapes. Take the time to show your children how you use maths in everyday activities, eg. measuring ingredients, timing how long things take to cook, preparing shopping lists, using calibrated containers, using kitchen scales, tendering money, playing card and board games, telling the time, looking for patterns in the environment, reading house numbers and reading number plates. Some materials to have on hand could be: dice, dominoes, number cards 0 – 20, 100 chart, games such as UNO and Snakes and Ladders. Please continue to use the homework activities regularly as these reinforce the concepts we have covered at school.

**Important Dates**

- **Friday 29th July**
  100 Days of School Celebration
- **Tuesday 9th August**
  St John’s First Aid Incursion
- **Friday 12th August**
  Disco
- **Tuesday 16th August**
  Life Education (Prep B)
- **Thursday 18th August**
  Life Education (Prep A)
- **Monday 22nd August – Friday 26th August**
  Book Fair (book character dress up day on Monday 22nd)
- **Thursday 1st September**
  Father’s Day Stall
- **Friday 16th September**
  Footy Day – dress up in your team colours!
  Last day of Term 3 – 2:30pm dismissal.
- **Monday 3rd October**
  First Day of Term 4

Please remember to bring your blue homework folder to school each Friday so you can receive the weekly newsletter and keep up to date with special events throughout the term. The weekly newsletter also includes homework tasks and our new words to learn.
**Integrated Studies**

This term we will be looking at traditional nursery rhymes. As well as reciting them we will sing them, read them, sequence them, role play them to an audience and even re-write and illustrate them! They are a great way to reinforce the sight vocabulary we learn at school and lend themselves to word patterns and rhyming words. Near the end of the term we anticipate a dress up day, so you might like to start thinking of a simple, suitable costume together. More information about this will come home closer to the time. Meanwhile have some fun with your child remembering your old favourites!

**Information and Communications Technology**

This term in Information and Communications Technology students will continue to familiarise themselves with the basic features of Microsoft Word. They will develop their basic formatting skills by changing the size, colour and style of font in a range of documents and inserting pictures using Clip Art. Students will continue to use educational software such as TuxPaint, Maths Circus and TuxTyping. We will continue to use the iPads to reinforce literacy and numeracy skills in the classroom.

**Incursions and Excursions**

Last term we had many visits and exciting activities to complement our unit on Safety. We met Nicky from the RACV and learned all about road safety. Sandra and her King Charles Cavalier Miller from the Responsible Pet Organization spoke to us about being safe around our pets. We practised using our school crossing with help from Leanne, our crossing supervisor. We then put our learning into practise when we walked to Seaford Heights Pre-School and Belvedere Park Pre-School. Along the way we had to cross the road many times. We practised being safe when doing this by using our STOP, LOOK, LISTEN & THINK strategies before we crossed the road. At the Pre-Schools the Preps sang about Gabby Get Along. We had several firefighters from the Frankston CFA come to SPPS to talk about fire safety. They also brought their fire engine, which was a highlight. We have been very busy!
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Visual Arts

In Art the continuing focus this term will be colour, pattern and texture. The students will use a variety of materials such as paint, crayon, pastels, paper and fabric. Students will practise fine motor control and hand-eye coordination as they create art pieces using weaving. Each student will produce an individual and group art piece to exhibit at the Arts Appreciation Night.

Music

Prep students will continue to participate in the Quaver Music program this Term. They thoroughly enjoy taking part in lessons where the interactive whiteboard is used to present activities in an exciting and engaging way. Students will be focussing on pitch, meter and melody. They will also continue to explore sound, instruments, maintaining a steady beat, body percussion and dance. Students will learn some special songs and dances that they will perform in the Arts Appreciation Concert later in the term. It will be exciting for them to showcase their skills for family members and friends. A date will be announced shortly for this exciting performance.

Physical Education

During term 2 the prep students will continue to develop the Fundamental Motor Skills of kicking, throwing and bouncing a ball. They will practise these skills through a variety of activities and games that use balls, balloons and bean bags. Students are always encouraged to have fun whilst developing their skills and fitness. They will continue to develop their understanding and awareness of personal space, listening to and following instructions and cooperative play. Kilometre club will be held every Wednesday during the first half of lunchtime (weather permitting). Please encourage your child to wear their runners and join in with their friends.

Science

This term in Science we will be discovering what STEM stands for: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS. As the national topic for Science week this year is Drones, Droids and Robots we will be learning about what robots are and what they can do. We will continue with our sustainability journey by looking at what happens next to the soft plastics we have been collecting. Prep A and B have been watching their carrot and lettuce seeds grow that we planted last term and are waiting patiently until they are ready to be picked, hopefully at the end of this term! I wonder what we will cook and create with them?