



TERM 1 NEWSLETTER— GRADE 1



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!

COMMUNICATION FOLDER AND HOMEWORK

Please check your child's bag every night for any notices sent home. The children put all notices into their blue 'Communication Folder' and need to return the folder on the following day.

Each Friday the children bring home 'Prep/ 1 News'. This includes information about what we have been learning at school and provides an opportunity for you to reinforce these concepts at home. You will also find important resources in the Communication Folder that will enable you to complete the maths activities.

Please take care of the laminated resource cards and **return them at the end of the year**. These cards will be re-used next year.

Prep/ 1 News also includes a list of spelling words for your child to practise. These words have been selected from the Oxford Wordlist. The list is research based, and includes the words that are used most frequently in children's writing from Prep to Grade 2. There are now 3 separate lists for different abilities within the grade. I highlight the list I would like your child to practise. You may notice that your child has had the same words for several weeks. Children will not be given new words to learn until they have mastered their current list. Please use the activity booklet to choose spelling activities that will help your child learn the words. Our spelling tests occur each Thursday and results are written at the top of our weekly newsletter.

LITERACY

This term we will continue to learn and revise the sounds in words through the Sound Waves Program and revise correct handwriting techniques. Children will continue to learn CAFÉ reading strategies and are encouraged to apply these skills when reading at home. Writing will be an emphasis through our integrated topics. Throughout this unit we will be primarily focusing on Recount and Information texts. It is very important to read with your child **every** night. You will be asked to sign your child's take home reading diary each night. If the diary is not signed the book will not be changed. We recommend that your child reads a variety of other literature at home as well. Going to the library together is a great way to engage with your child and expose them to a variety of texts.

NUMERACY

This term we will be focussing on time, half, 3D shapes, mass and chance. There will continue to be a strong focus on place value and understanding 2 digit numbers. Involving your child when cooking and telling the time will be particularly beneficial this term. Playing games with your child that involve problem solving and using numbers and strategies will help them to develop these skills and grow in confidence. Continue to reinforce the work we do at school by using the activities provided in the blue communication folder. Please ensure this folder is returned to school each Friday.

TIMETABLE

Our current specialist timetable is as follows:

WEDNESDAY: Performing Arts, Indonesian, Visual Arts

THURSDAY: P.E. (please ensure your child is wearing appropriate footwear on this day).

FRIDAY: Friday Fitness (please ensure your child is wearing appropriate footwear on this day).

INTEGRATED STUDIES

This term we will have 2 areas of Integrated Study. The first is a Geography unit that focuses on landscapes and common features of local environments. We will identify man made and natural features and compare beach, city, rural and country landscapes. The second area of study will focus on Families Around the World. Students will discuss the structure and roles of people in their own family. We will look at families around the world and build our understanding of how culture impacts different families. Both Integrated topics will provide opportunities for children to engage in different writing genres.

PMP

PMP is a highly beneficial program that gives children the opportunity to develop their gross motor skills, balance, co-ordination and body awareness. The children have really enjoyed the modified program so far. They particularly like to mix with the children in Prep A and look forward to our PMP sessions each week. The current program includes yoga for children, brain gym and activity stations within the classroom. We do not require helpers for this. If you would like to assist in the classroom please see Mrs Perotti for information about becoming involved in our Take Home Reading program as we rely on parent helpers to change the books each day.

VISUAL ARTS

In Visual Arts the activities will be based on three dimensional art works. A continuing focus this term will be on pattern and texture. Students will learn the art of weaving, repurposing materials such as cardboard off cuts and fabric. In this activity, students will continue to practice fine motor control and eye hand coordination. Students will also learn the technique of print making using a variety of found objects.

PERFORMING ARTS

This term in Performing Arts, students will focus on Music, Dance and Drama. Students will concentrate on the musical areas of pitch, meter and melody. They will also continue to explore sound, instruments, maintaining a steady beat and body percussion. Students will learn to follow dance moves related to songs they are learning and have the opportunity to create their own dances moves when listening to music. They will take part in short skits where they can act out familiar stories and nursery rhymes. It will be a lot of fun! Students will learn how to sing and create a dance for the 2017 Music: Count Us In song titled 'Shine Together'. This will be a major focus in preparation for a whole school singing event on November the 2nd.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This term, Physical Education sessions will focus on continuing to develop Fundamental Motor Skills of running, jumping, throwing, catching and kicking a ball. The students will be introduced to the winter sports of netball, football and tee-ball, by participating in drills and team games that relate to these sports. We will continue to focus on enjoying physical activity and participating in co-operative play. Students will also have discussions about fitness and how to take their pulse.

INDONESIAN

In Term 3 during Indonesian, we are continuing to focus on numbers and colours. We are going to play more Indonesian games and listen to more Indonesian songs relating to numbers and colours. We will also talk in Indonesian about our family and friends. The class will learn and spend time talking about days of the week. As a part of our cultural studies, we will cook some Indonesian food (nasi goreng – fried rice).

We are looking forward to another busy term!

Jane Perotti

Term 3 Events:

Tree Planting Day: Friday 28th July

Book Week– 28th August– 1st September

Footy Day: Friday 22nd September

Last day of term: Friday 22nd September– 2:30 Dismissal



TERM 1 NEWSLETTER— PREP



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!

COMMUNICATION FOLDER AND HOMEWORK

Please check your child's bag every night for any notices sent home. The children put all notices into their blue 'Communication Folder' and need to return the folder on the following day.

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Please take care of the laminated resource cards and **return them at the end of the year**. These cards will be re-used next year.

Prep/ 1 News will also include a list of reading words for your child to practise. This year we will be working through the 100 Most Used Words. If your child is confident when reading the words, you may like to challenge them to spell the words, say them as part of a sentence or even write them in a sentence! Please make an effort to practise these words throughout the week as this knowledge will be applied when reading their Take Home Books.

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. Children will continue to learn CAFÉ reading strategies and are encouraged to apply these skills when reading at home.

NUMERACY

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.

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Jane Perotti