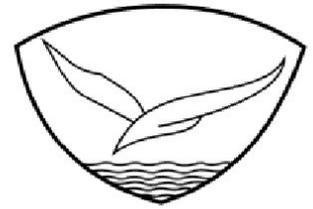


Term Two 2018

Grade Prep Newsletter



"Consider Others"

Term 2

Welcome to our term 2 newsletter.

The Prep children have now completed their first, very busy, term of school and have become familiar with the routines of their class and the school as a whole. They have been involved in many Literacy and Numeracy activities and Specialists' programs. Whole school activities such as Harmony Day and the Easter hat parade were also highlights of the term. An enjoyable time was also had at the Prep picnic.

Inquiry

"Our Family, Our School, Our Community"

The Major Topic Understanding

Our connections with our family, school and community shapes our identity and gives us a sense of belonging.

FOCUS QUESTIONS: (Lines of Inquiry)

- Where do we live?
- What is a Community? (family, school, neighborhood)
- What are the important places in our community?
- How do we belong and participate in our family, school and community?
- How do we care for our community?

"How The World Works" (Chemical Science)

There are differences between the natural and material world.

Our **Focus Questions** are:

- What is part of our natural world and material world?
- How are materials made?
- How are the natural and material worlds connected?

Important Dates

Prep Swimming every Tuesday this Term

Community Walk May 2nd

Science Incursion May 28th

ENGLISH

Independent Reading:

Children are continuing to be involved in Independent Reading sessions that focus on developing their ability to use a variety of strategies to help them to become good readers. As part of this learning we have been focusing on different comprehension strategies such as Prediction and Text Structures & Features. We also have been focussing on developing the understandings centred on: What is a letter? What is a word? What is a sentence? Children are also improving their ability to sit quietly for a longer period of time while they practise the introduced reading strategies. Small guided reading focus groups have been introduced as part of the Independent Reading session. During this time children have the opportunity to discuss unknown words, be introduced to strategies to help improve their reading and be involved in discussions about the books they read.

Writers Notebook:

Children will continue to use the Writer's Notebook. Each Monday all children will write an entry into this special book. We encourage you to assist your child to bring things along to school (tickets, photos, mementos) to include in their book to encourage them to write. Classroom teachers also have a Writer's Notebook in which they model writing, with the inclusion of mementos such as a photo, picture, ticket stub, feather or other special things. This provides the children with good examples that they are able to learn from and use in their own Writer's Notebook.

Take Home Books:

Last Term your child will have brought home the Oxford Word List in their reader bag. Please continue to practise reading these words with your child. These common words will assist your child in their reading and writing. Your child will again bring home five take home books once a week on a Monday. Your child should read through these books many times as it develops confidence and word recognition. Please encourage your child to read throughout the week and return the book packs on Mondays.

Numeracy

The Preps have continued to count down the days to day 100. At the end of term 1 we had

What you can do at home:

Please involve your child in everyday situations that involve mathematics e.g.

- Counting one to twenty and beyond.
- Finding basic geometric shapes e.g. square, circle, rectangle and triangle
- Noticing numbers in the home and local environment
- Noticing patterns around them
- Using mathematical language e.g. behind, beside, in front of, under, over, next to etc.
- Simple measuring - long short; longer shorter; longest shortest
- Provide drawing and writing opportunities for your child at home and please encourage and demonstrate correct pencil grip at all times.

Reminders:

- Arriving at school on time is vital to your child's learning. Learning time begins at 8:45 am. Being on time develops good life habits.
- Please check that your child's clothing is labelled with their name so it can be returned if lost.
- Hats will be sent home at the end of April so that they can be washed in readiness for when the sun smart policy starts again.
- Please check your child's bag for work samples, school notes or newsletters. Newsletters go out on Thursday's with the oldest or only child from your family at the school.
- To foster your child's independence and for the safety of all, could you please be on time and wait outside at the end of the day to pick up your child.
- Your child's teacher is always happy to speak with you at an appropriate time that can be arranged.
- Remember that photos, tickets, drawings and other special things are needed for

