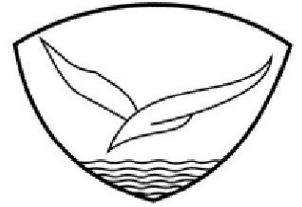


Term Two 2024

Grade Prep Newsletter



"Consider Others"

Term 2

Welcome to our Term 2 newsletter.

The Prep children have now completed their first, busy term of school and have become familiar with the routines of their class and the school. Our Preps have been involved in many Literacy, Numeracy and Specialists' programs. As a whole school our students have been involved in activities such as Harmony Day, Jump rope for heart and Books for homes. We also had the successful Prep Picnic, it was great to meet everyone and have joyful discussions.

INQUIRY

"Our Family, Our School, Our Community"

The Major Topic Understanding is

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

FOCUS QUESTIONS:

- Where do we live?
- Who lived here before us?
- What is a Community?
- 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.

This term the Preps will be participating in an excursion which involves them having to go for a walk around the school neighbourhood. They will identify a range of community areas such as the local shops, park, houses, our school and community members such as the crossing guard, bus drivers, shop keepers and tradesmen. This experience allows our students to have an experience outside the classroom where they can put their knowledge into practise and allow them to feel part of the community.

Important Dates

50 Days of school celebration - Tuesday 7th May

Swimming - Wednesday 1st May—Wednesday 12th June

Mother's Day Stall—8th May

Neighbourhood walk - Thursday 6th June

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 an extended period of time while they practise a range of purposeful 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 week 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, picture, special item memorabilia) to include in their book to encourage them to write. Classroom teachers also have a Writer's Notebook in which they model writing. This provides the students with good examples which they are able to learn from and use in their own Writer's Notebook.

TAKE HOME BOOKS:

Please continue to practise reading the Oxford 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 Tuesday. 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 take home readers to school every Tuesday.

NUMERACY

The Preps have continued to count down the days to day 100. At the end of term 1 we had been at school for 36 days. Counting to 100 provides a variety of opportunities to explore number in a real life situation, recognise patterns and learn about place value. Your child will continue to be involved in a vari-

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 uniform is labelled with their name so it can be returned if misplaced.
- Please check your child's bag for work samples, school notes or newsletters. Newsletters go out on Thursday's with the eldest or only child from your family at the school.
- Your child's teacher is always happy to speak with you at an appropriate time that can be arranged.
- Thank you to the parents that have provided support so far this term. It is very much appreciated.

The Prep Team thanks you for your ongoing support.

Teachers: Jenny Gaitanis, Katie Simeon & Irichell Cajés

ES Staff: Anj & Effie