



*Prep Newsletter
Term 2, 2017*

Dear Parents and Guardians of students in Prep,

Welcome back to Term 2! The students have started the term with enthusiasm and are happy to be back with their friends. We are so proud of our students' achievement so far as they are developing into confident and independent learners who are brave and take risks with their learning!

This term our Unit of Work is 'Exploring my Family History'. Throughout the unit, the Preps will explore their family, their background, past experiences, memories and important people in their lives. Throughout the term we will be asking children to share special memories and it is a great opportunity for parents and grandparents to share their own special memories of growing up with your Prep student. To support us with this unit, we would love to see some baby photos, a family photo and a shoebox. These can be given to your child's teacher who will photocopy the photo and send it back.

Students will create work that will be displayed at a Learning Exhibition which will take place at the end of the term.

If you are interested in being a parent helper, we would love to have you! Please see your child's teacher to organise a time for you to help out in the classroom.

What we expect students to learn in Reading:

Students will continue to develop letter/sound relationships and build on word knowledge. Students will begin to use a variety of strategies to help them understand new texts and read 'tricky words'. These include:

- making predictions before, during and after reading*
- make connections with personal experiences*
- knowing how to read high frequency words and reading them automatically*
- getting their mouth ready by looking at the initial sound in words*

We also will be exploring:

- Reading narratives and learning that narratives have a beginning, middle and an end.*
- Retelling what happened in narratives or recalling a few facts from non-fiction texts.*
- Exploring authors and their books.*

This Term, Students will be involved in Reading Conferences with the teacher. They will read and discuss their book with the teacher and receive a Reading Goal they are required to practise at school and at home with you. Over the term, you can ask them what their reading goal is and what they need to practise to become a better reader.

In the next couple of weeks, teachers will be conducting the Fountas and Pinell Reading Assessment. This will give us another picture of where your child is at with their reading and comprehension.

Our new High Frequency Words for this term are 'we, in, he, they, went, of, said, on, so, then'.

Students are encouraged to find these in their 'Just Right' books and other print around them and practise reading and writing them automatically.

What we expect students to learn in Writing:

Students will continue to write about things they care about and know about. They will explore a range of authors and understand that good writers can be their mentors and show them all kinds of new possibilities for their own writing. As we are exploring narratives in Reading, children will be having a go at writing their own stories that have characters, a setting and a problem.

To help them spell words, students will build on a range of strategies such as:

- say the word slowly to hear a sound and write a letter that represents it
- use the word wall and words around the room
- use the High Frequency Words they know

What we expect students to learn in Mathematics:

Students will continue to develop their understanding of numbers to 10. They will read, write and use words and numerals for numbers 0-9 and match names/numerals to collections less than 10. Later in the term, we will be exploring numbers 11-20 in depth. Students will identify, classify, continue and create patterns with objects and drawings. They will also explore pattern in number, counting on and counting back, ordering numbers and finding numbers that come before or after a given number. Students will explore and learn to sort, describe and name 2D and 3D objects in the environment.

Important Dates:

- Friday 12th May, Mother's Day Breakfast
- Thursday 18th May, Twilight School 1pm-7.00pm
- Monday 2nd June, Public Holiday
- Friday 23rd June, Student Reports sent home
- Wednesday 28th June, Parent/Teacher meeting
- Friday 30th June, End of Term 2 - 2.30pm dismissal (Casual Dress Day)

Specialist Timetable:

Year Level	Visual Arts	Physical Education	Information/Communication Technology	Library	Performing Arts	Spanish	Science
Prep A	Tuesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	Friday	Monday
Prep B	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday	Wednesday	Monday	Tuesday	Monday
Prep C	Monday	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday	Monday	Friday	Tuesday

Thank you for your continued support and partnership!

Prep Teachers,
Ashlee (Prep C), Sally (Prep B) and Jenny (Prep A)