



## ***Prep Newsletter Term 1, 2016***

*Dear parents of students in Prep,*

*We would like to extend a big welcome to our 2016 Prep students and their families! What an amazing start to the year we have had. We are so proud of how well the students have settled into the school routine and how quickly they have adapted to the school environment. It is so wonderful to see friendships form in the classroom and in the playground.*

*The students have had a busy schedule in their first week of school as they attended Art, Sport, Spanish, Science and Drumming. It is quite normal for them to be coming home tired as they adapt to the life of a Prep student!*

*Here's what the teachers said about their class on the First Day of School:*

*Miss Jenna is very impressed with how excited her students are about starting school. They have already made friends and are enjoying settling into the school routine.*

*Miss Fowler and Ms Kylie noticed Prep B are listening beautifully to Big Books and have already begun to read along when there is a pattern. Well done Prep B!*

*Miss Cami and Ms Vicky are so proud of how well all the students get along. They are already looking out for each other.*

*Miss Langer is super impressed with the way students have formed new friendships and settled into school life. They did a great job using different materials to make numbers. Well done Prep D!*

***What we expect students to learn in Reading:***

*Next week, students will select 5 'Just Right' books on a weekly basis. These books are read at school and at home with you. This is an important routine and your praise and encouragement as your child's reading begins to develop, is really important. A friendly reminder to sign the log book nightly to show that you value their efforts as young readers. This term, students will practise the skill of looking at each page in their book (by going on a picture walk) and think about what is happening on each page. They will make predictions about what will happen in the story before they commence to read (by looking at the front cover and title), during and after they have read the book and ask questions to deepen their understanding of what they read.*

***Library starts next week!*** Students will bring home a colourful backpack with a few items inside. These are for you to keep. ***Empty the backpack and return it to school.*** They'll need this bag to borrow a book from our school library. Please refer to the timetable for your child's library time.

*Please note, Miss Langer's grade will be receiving their library bags in the next couple of weeks. Different library bags will be provided in the meantime.*

**What we expect students to learn in Writing:**

Students will be given daily opportunities to write about things they know a lot about and build on their belief that “they are great young writers with fantastic ideas to share”. They will be encouraged to sketch their message, add labels and have a go saying the words they want to write, listen to the sounds they hear and write the letters that make those sounds. We encourage our students to be “Brave Writers” and have a go writing, even if this means writing strings of letters. It’s important to think about what they are going to write, rehearse it and then have a go writing it. We celebrate all efforts and attempts!

**What we expect students to learn in Mathematics:**

Students will be given daily opportunities to explore and solve mathematical problems. They will develop a deep understanding of numbers to 10 including their relation to other numbers using concrete materials. They will compare and order the duration of events using everyday language of time, recognise and sequence days of the week and connect them with familiar events. They will describe position and movement using everyday language and interpret simple data displays like birthday picture graphs.

This term our Unit of Work is ‘School Days’. Students will develop the understanding that we can adapt to new and changing environments and that there are things that we can do to build new relationships and friendships. Students will be assigned a Grade 5 or 6 Buddy who will support them both in the classroom as well as in the playground.

Students will also be learning about ‘Growth Mindset’ and that it’s ok to make a mistake, it’s the process that brave learners do when they are learning. You can support their learning at home by reinforcing the message that it’s ok if you don’t get it right the first time, good learners are ‘brave’ and have another go!

**Things to remember:**

- Prep students do not attend school on Wednesdays in February
- There will be a session provided and facilitated by our Maths and Literacy coaches to provide parents with more ideas on how to assist their child with their learning.
- A school nurse form will be sent home soon. Please sign and return this as soon as you can.

**Specialist Timetable:**

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

Thank you for your support and partnership and we look forward to chatting with you on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February when we have the parent/teacher meeting.

Prep Teachers,

Ashlee (Prep D), Jenna (Prep C), Sally (Prep B) and Jenny (Prep A)