

Prep/1 Term 2 Newsletter



Message from the teachers:

Welcome back to all of our students and families. It has been lovely to see the children return for Term 2 and quickly settle back into their classroom routines. We are looking forward to a term full of engaging learning experiences, where students will continue to build their skills, strengthen friendships, and practise positive ways to solve problems.

A reminder that arriving on time helps students start the day calmly and ensures they don't miss important learning. School gates open at 8:40am, **classrooms open at 8:50am**, and our first lesson begins promptly at 9:00am. Thank you for your support in helping your child arrive ready for the day ahead.

Italian:

Students will be working on the topic: 'il tempo libero' (leisure/hobbies), focusing on interacting with the teacher and peers to name and describe their favourite hobbies. They will also be exploring various stories about Pinocchio as well as revising the alphabet.

STEM: Students will continue their learning about the design and engineering process. Students will watch different Fairy Tale stories and will use their design skills and engineering capabilities to complete their tasks each week. The main project for this term will be for students to create various solutions to problems through mini STEM challenges.

PE: Students will continue to develop their fundamental motor skills through engaging, play-based activities. They will refine movements such as running, jumping, hopping, throwing, catching and balancing, while being introduced to new skills involving the use of their feet for balance and kicking, as well as basic gymnastics skills. A strong focus will be placed on skill improvement, confidence building and safe participation in a range of games and activities.

Visual Arts:

Students will begin the term looking at the importance of lines and how they can be used in art. Students will experiment with creating different types of lines and describing them. Later in the term we will read the story 'Lines That Wiggle' and create a line monster based on ideas from the story. Continuing to explore 'lines', students will learn about the Artist Piet Mondrian and create their own drawing and collage in the style of his work. Throughout the term, students will learn to describe and talk about how they feel about artworks they see and practise their drawing, collaging and cutting skills.

Reminders:

- Colder weather! Please dress your child in warmer clothes (jackets, jumpers, pants) and ensure that these are clearly named so lost items can be located and returned easily.
- Please ensure that you are reading nightly with your child.
- Hats are not required for Term 2 and 3.
- Don't forget to pack your child's water bottle and brain food/fruit snack.
- Please check Compass/website regularly for important information.
- Remember to activate your Seesaw account to share in your child's learning.

Important Dates:

- Tuesday May 5th - Mother's Day Stall (GB)
- Wednesday May 6th - School photos
- Thursday May 7th - Mother's Day Stall (HS)
- Tuesday May 26th - Curriculum Day (no students at school)
- Monday June 8th - King's Birthday (no school)
- Friday June 16th - Last day of Term 2 (2:30pm finish)

Classroom Curriculum



Literacy

This term, Prep students will learn the sounds y r e qu z (Little Learners Stage 3) and j u k x and w (Little Learners Stage 4). They will also be introduced to the concept that two letters can represent one sound when they learn about ff, ll and ss (Stage 4+).

Grade 1 students will be learning new digraphs and trigraphs ar or aw ir ur er air (Little Learners Stage 7.2) and oo le ow ou (Little Learners Stage 7.3)

A big focus in both Prep and Grade One is ensuring that students do not guess unknown words but take time to say the sounds and blend them together to enable accurate reading.

Another big focus is on helping students develop accurate letter formation and a functional pencil grip. Once students are able to write letters accurately and fluently, they will be able to focus on the more demanding parts of writing such as spelling and structure.

In Grammar lessons, students will learn to differentiate between sentences and fragments, identify nouns and verbs and expand sentences.

Students will be able reading and writing information reports. They will be labelling diagrams, using topic specific vocabulary and organising information into the correct order.

Maths

The main focus this term is on developing addition skills. Prep students will learn to 'count all' to find out the answer to 'How many altogether?' The Year 1s will use the more advanced strategy of 'Count On'. Both Preps and Year 1s will be working on learning all the ways to make the numbers to 10. For example, 5 can be made with 5 and 0, 4 and 1 and 3 and 2. Once they have memorised these pairs, the students will be able to use this knowledge to solve addition problems.. Students will continue to work on sequencing days and months and using time vocabulary such as hours and days.

SEL (Social and Emotional Learning):

This term, students will take part in the Protective Behaviours program, led by our School Counsellor, Diana Makarian. Throughout the program, children will learn about their right to feel safe in all situations. They will explore how their bodies can give them clues when something doesn't feel right and create a list of trusted adults they can go to for help if needed.

With guidance from their teachers, students will also continue developing important social and emotional skills, including recognising and managing their feelings, and building positive relationships through play and teamwork.

Inquiry:

Prep students will explore the unit 'Toys Over Time', where they investigate toys from the past and present. They will discuss their own favourite toys and compare how toys have changed over time, including the materials they are made from and how they work. Grade 1 students will explore the question "How has technology changed over time?" by looking at changes in transport, household items, games, clothing and schools. To demonstrate their understanding, students created a diorama or a poster and shared their learning with the class.