

Prep & 1 Term 4 Newsletter



Message from the teachers:

Welcome back to all of our students and families. It is wonderful to see how much the students have grown and how enthusiastically they have returned to school. We have had a fantastic start to Term 4, with students settling into routines nicely. This term is filled with new and exciting learning adventures as well as opportunities for your child to build deeper friendships and gain stronger problem-solving skills.

To ensure your child does not miss any of this, it is important that they are here every day and arrive on time. Our school gates open at 8:40 am, classroom doors at 8:50 am, and our first lesson begins at 9:00 am.

Thank you for your ongoing support, we are so excited about all of the amazing things we will learn and achieve together this term!

Italian:

Students will listen to the story 'Il Mio Fratellino' (My Little Brother) and learn new vocabulary. They will read and role play the story as a class focusing on the various expressions used in Italian. Students will also learn about the Italian culture at Christmas time and share the story 'La Befana.'

STEM:

In term 4, students are exploring the world of puppets to see that movement can be created by combining materials with forces. We will be looking at a range of different types of puppets (finger puppets, hand/sock puppets, marionettes) before students create their own puppets.

PE: In Term 4, students will learn hand positioning to hit a ball off a Tee using a Rounders bat. They will focus on how to stand and how to be safe while striking. Students will practice hitting large balls over a tennis net. Students will enjoy a visit from St John's Ambulance to experience basics in First Aid. Students will learn basic dance movements.

Reminders:

- Please ensure your child has a SunSmart hat for Term 4! .
- Please check Compass regularly for important information.
- If you have a future Prep student for 2026, please get an enrolment pack from the office.

Important Dates:

- Crazy Sock Day - Wed 29th October
- Student Free Day - Mon 3rd November
- Melbourne Cup Public Holiday - Tues 4th November
- End Of Year Celebration - Wed 17th December
- Last Day of Term 4 - Fri 19th December (1:30pm finish)

Visual Arts:

Students will be creating a wall hanging of the first initial of their name. They will use a mixture of materials to create a painted background and fineliner to add patterns. Students will create a yarn stick by wrapping colourful wool around a stick and attach this to create a wall hanging.

Later in the term, students will be exploring the illustrations from the 'Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle and creating a model of a caterpillar using clay.

Classroom Curriculum



Reading:

This term, students will review the consonant digraphs (ck, sh, ch, tch, th, ng, ph, wh) through the Little Learners Love Literacy program. They will continue learning more advanced spelling patterns, such as the multiple ways to spell long vowel sounds (e.g. /ee/ spelt as ee, ea, e-e, e, and y). Students will practise blending longer words in the context of decodable texts containing learned sounds.

Students will also listen to and discuss stories to explore narrative text structure. They will discuss characters, settings, problems, feelings, actions, endings, and end feelings. Students will also build vocabulary and topic knowledge through listening to and discussing information texts.

Writing:

This term, students will continue using the Hartley Knows Handwriting program to develop their ability to form all upper- and lowercase letters with the correct starting and finishing points. They will participate in regular dictation sessions to write words and sentences containing the focus grapheme(s) of the week. When writing independently, students will work on phonetic spelling, spacing, heart words, basic punctuation, and neat handwriting.

In Grammar lessons, students will continue to practise distinguishing between full sentences and fragments, identifying nouns and verbs, and expanding simple sentences.

Maths:

This term, we will be learning about division through sharing. Students will also be exposed to Australian money, both coins and notes, and their values. We will revise previous concepts such as addition and subtraction.

Later in the term students will be investigating the measurement concepts of mass and capacity. We will explore these concepts using hands-on materials.

Students will also learning about patterns and ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd etc).

SEL (Social and Emotional Learning):

Students will be participating in lessons constructed using the Berry Street Education Model (BSEM) to help them build skills in self-regulation. Feelings can be complicated – they vary in size, intensity, and energy, and each person experiences them differently. To help make them easier to talk about, understand and manage: Students will learn how to 'Get Ready to Learn' and explore strategies they can use when they are not ready. Each student will develop their own bank of strategies to add to their personal "Ready to Learn" plan, giving them tools to better regulate and engage in learning.

Inquiry:

Preps will be learning all about the weather! They will explore different weather types, seasons, and how weather affects our daily choices. We will also compare how European seasons differ from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander seasonal calendars.

Grade 1s will be exploring the question "Where are we in the world?", learning about their identity and the world around them. Students will discover what communities are, identify personal details, identify Australia and its states, and how First Nations people use symbols to communicate.