



# Prep Update

Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2017



Dear Prep Parents,

The children have almost completed their first semester at Primary School. The first year of school is so exciting and their learning journey has come so far. We have a busy last week of term coming up and the following are a few reminders about these events:

- ☺ IN THE CLASSROOM: The children have enjoyed learning a variety of number fluency games in Mathematics. These games are played to give children extra confidence with automatic response of number skills. Along with these games we have been focusing on reflecting on our learning experiences using a variety of techniques. The students have completed a Semester 1 reflection to include in their school report. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to celebrate their successes so far this year and also look forward to what new skills they would like to perfect in the second half of the year.
- ☺ PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS: The parent-teacher interviews will take place this afternoon, Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June and tomorrow, Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June. These meetings are 10 minutes long. They are a very important time when you can ask any clarifying questions about the report and discuss focus points for Semester two.
- ☺ ICT IN THE CLASSROOM: We incorporate ICT in the classroom daily in our literacy and maths rotations. We encourage the children to complete Mathletics and Reading Eggs weekly. Log-in details are in the students Green Homework Book.
- ☺ LANGUAGE IN THE CLASSROOM: The students have been learning about rhyming words and varied punctuation including speech marks or “talking marks” as we sometimes call them in Prep. We encourage the children to use stretchy snake when attempting to read unfamiliar words and also spell unknown words in their writing. The children are involved in a variety of learning activities to consolidate and learn new concepts including literacy rotations, CAFÉ, guided reading and Big Write sessions. Please remember that it is most valuable to ask your child questions about their take home reading books. This greatly assists with their speaking and listening skills and develops their level of comprehension.
- ☺ MATHS IN THE CLASSROOM: In Mathematics the students have been connecting number names and numerals up to 10. They have been identifying shapes in the environment such as circles, triangles, squares, rectangles, ovals and have described these shapes. We have been sorting objects into different groups consisting of size, colour or shape. The Preps have been adding small numbers together and looking at the various ways we can make different numbers. The students have learnt about odd and even numbers and have played many Maths board games and iPad games in the classroom.
- ☺ READING OVER THE HOLIDAYS: The children will be bringing home a selection of reading books for the holidays. They will have their book bags and homework book to practise their M100W words, and we encourage any bookworms to head down to the local Library to select ‘interest’ books to share with their family. We know that many of you are busy over the holiday period and would like the children to relax and re-energise for a busy second half of the year. Make the most of the incidental, informal learning opportunities you come across. You will be amazed what your child will learn.
- ☺ THURSDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE: Please remember that tomorrow is a Curriculum Day and students are not required at school.
- ☺ FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE: Our final assembly for Term 2 will begin at 8.45am on Friday in the BER. The children will be dismissed at 2.30pm.

☺ TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY: First day back for students next term.  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July is a Curriculum Day**

Next term we will be trialling sending out Newsletters and the Prep Update via Flexibuzz and emails to keep in line with the school's Sustainability Policy. If you haven't downloaded the Flexibuzz app for your device, please follow the instructions listed below. Please contact your classroom teacher if you have difficulties accessing the internet or Flexibuzz and we will provide you with a copy of the information sent out.

As we are still in cold and flu season, we would greatly appreciate **donations of hand sanitizer** at the beginning of next term. Thanks in advance for helping the Prep's stay healthy!

**Save the Dates:** Early next term a note will go home regarding our Term 3 excursion. We are headed to The Gould League in Cheltenham to learn about **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle**. This will be our topic for the beginning of Term 3.

**Reminder:** Whole School Concert Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September.  
More details to follow next term

We wish you all a very happy, relaxing and safe school holiday. Thank you all for your classroom assistance and continued support.

FRANCES DE VALLE, CARLY FORBES, DONNA WHEATLEY AND SARAH MCGRATH.



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