

Welcome back to Term 2. We had a very successful Term 1 with all of the Preps now settled in and used to the school routines. They have been fantastic at settling in to school life. Thank you for your support during Term 1 in helping your child in the transition to school. Below is an outline of what we will be doing during Term 2.

WORKING TOGETHER

You can continue to help and support your child in the following ways:

- Ensure your child has a clearly named bottle of water each day.
- Reading/Sharing take home books daily, and caring for these.
- Teaching your child to tie shoelaces.
- Ensuring belongings and clothing are **clearly named** (please check regularly).
- Checking your child's bag for notices/letters (found in front pocket of bag).
- Carefully monitoring your child's health especially once colds, etc become prevalent.
- Writing a note to explain absences unless you have spoken to the teacher.

ENGLISH

ORAL LANGUAGE

Learning in this area will focus on:

- The Oral language Play program will begin this term and will focus on a range of Oral language skills.
- Continuing to speak in complete and grammatically correct sentences. *For example, 'Can I please play in the home corner?'*
- Continuing sharing circles – encouraging them to talk about what they played with, a favourite toy / food / holiday etc
- Discussing feeling and thoughts
- Recognising the sounds in words. Eg ball and bat both start with the same first sound
- Weekly Show and Tell
- Extending knowledge of personal pronouns such as he, she, his and hers, him and her
- Continuing community circles and role playing situations to solve problems that arise
- Sharing rhymes, poems and songs
- Asking simple questions
- Retelling stories and recounting personal experiences sequentially
- Speaking at an appropriate volume and pace

READING

Learning in this area will focus on:

Modelled/Shared reading and Guided reading small groups sessions working on the following:

- Continuing to learn the difference between letters, words and sentences
- Continuing to learn reading strategies such as 'Getting your mouth ready' for word and looking at the picture for clues
- Making sure what is read makes sense. 'Does it make sense?'
- Getting knowledge ready before reading by using the title, looking at the pictures and predicting vocabulary.
- Recognising and learning sight words
- Continuing to learn letters and their corresponding sounds
- Recognising the difference between upper and lower case letters
- Using punctuation when reading. Eg pausing at full stops
- Retelling the story
- Discussing characters and events. Retelling an event
- Continuing 'Read to Self' and building reading stamina
- Continuing daily take home readers

WRITING

Learning in this area will focus on:

- Recording their thoughts in drawings and writing.
- Revisit concepts about print such as starting point, directionality, return sweep.
- Recording initial sound of words
- Stretching out sounds in words and recording them
- Leaving spaces between words
- Using full stop at the end of a sentence
- Using words we know/ high frequency words
- Using class charts and word charts as a resource for personal writing.
- Spelling high frequency words correctly such as is, to, my, the
- Begin using upper and lower case letters correctly
- Rereading writing to make sure it makes sense
- Continuing to use correct pencil grip
- Writing questions
- Fact writing

MATHEMATICS

NUMBER

Learning in this area will focus on:

- One to one matching when counting a collection
- Instantly recognizing the number of objects in a small group, without counting
- Counting forwards and backwards from 10 and then extending to 20
- Sequencing numbers to 10 and beyond
- Matching numbers with a collection

- Using number lines and tens frames
- Ordinal number (first, second, third, last and extending to tenth)
- More than or less than a given number
- Estimating and counting collections
- Smallest and largest
- Patterns - Body patterns, music pattern, sound patterns, shape patterns, colour patterns, number patterns
- Playing a variety of dice games

MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY

Learning in this area will focus on:

- Position: Give and follow instructions using positional language such as next to, beside, in front of, under, through and behind
- Shapes: naming simple 2 dimensional shapes such as square, circle, triangle. Identifying edges and corners of 2D shapes
- Mass: Hefting objects (Test the weight of something by holding it in your hand) to identify lighter/heavier object. Using balance pans to check.
- Capacity: using rice/sand to decide which container holds more/less.
- Length: Ordering objects from shortest to longest, smallest to largest,
- Practising reciting the days of the week in order.

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY

Learning in this area will focus on:

- Asking a friend a yes/no question and recording.
- Graphing information in a pictograph

INQUIRY

In Term 2 we will begin our first inquiry on 'Living Things'.

The skills students will be developing are:

- Questioning
- Predicting
- Observing

The understandings developed through the inquiry will be:

- There is a difference between living and non-living things.
- Living things have basic needs such as air, water, food and shelter if they are to survive.
- Living things have a life cycle.

iPAD APPS

These are the main iPad apps that we will be using in the classroom during Term 2.

Literacy Apps:

- *Continuing to use Term 1 apps: rED, Touch and Write Australia Victorian Unjoined Cursive, Eggy Alphabet, School writing, Starfall ABC, ABC ninja*
- Skyfish Phonics
- Beginning sounds interactive game - Sound sorting

- Jolly phonics letter sounds
- Spellosaur
- Photo Touch Sight words
- Felt board

Mathematics Apps:

- *Continuing to use Term 1 apps: Eggy numbers, Bugs and numbers, Friends of Ten, Targeting maths K*
- Teaching Number lines
- Counting and Skip counting

CLASS BLOGS

We will continue to use our class blogs. Students will access the blog at school and we encourage you to help your child access it at home. There will be links to online activities for students to play at home related to classroom topics, and questions to answer at home.

Our class blogs are as follows:

- J15 Miss Matters: <http://kidblog.org/PrepJ15/>
- J16 Ms Browne: <http://kidblog.org/PrepJ16 2015/>
- J17 Miss Lewis: <http://kidblog.org/PrepJ172015/>
- J18 Miss Hanley: <http://kidblog.org/misshanley/>

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Special events for Term 2 are:

- PMP begins every Thursday 1:55pm – approximately 3:00pm
- Melbourne Zoo excursion on Tuesday 2 June
- Book week and Book dress up day on Monday 4 May
- Education Week beginning Monday 18 May
 - Open morning
 - Open Prep Assembly session
 - Special performance
 - Teddy bears picnic
- Reports

This term there are many opportunities for parents to be involved at school. We are looking for daily helpers to change take home readers. Parents can sign up to change readers outside your child's classroom door. We also need help every Thursday afternoon running the PMP program. The sign-up sheet for PMP is located in the Prep courtyard.

Please remember when volunteering, we would like you to have a Working with Children's check. If you have any questions about a Working with Children's check, please see your child's teacher or speak to the Office.

Thanking you,

Ali Browne, Bonnie Lewis, Chloe Hanley and Jacqui Matters 😊