

Welcome to Term 4! We have well and truly started the countdown to the end of the 2015 school year. However before we get there we still have lots of great learning opportunities and experiences to work through.

We have a number of special events this term, including a visit from Responsible Pet Owners and the always fun Prep-Year 2 Tabloid Sports morning. We will be finishing up the term with an end of year excursion to Epping Leisure Centre for a day filled with great activities.

Our Reading Program continues to steadily move along and build on the knowledge and understandings that have been introduced so far. We will begin the term looking at Non-Fiction texts, their features and the language that they use. We will then follow that up with an Author Study focusing on Julia Donaldson and the fabulous books she has written. We will use this as an opportunity to discuss spoken text and how it is represented in writing. Our Guided Reading groups will continue to run each week in order to cater for the reading and comprehension skills for individuals and small groups. The Home Reading program is still a priority and we encourage all parents to read with their children every night.

During Term 4 we will continue to explore different writing types, including recounts, narratives and persuasive writing. We will plan, write, edit and publish our written pieces. We will also use our writing lessons to incorporate authentic, directed spelling lessons. These lessons will be aimed at improving our use and understandings of both long and short vowel sounds and how these can help us to correctly spell unfamiliar words. In addition we will mixing groups throughout the whole Year One area in order to deliver focused spelling lessons that cater to the needs of the children. Your child may find that they are working in a different classroom for this one session each week. Correct recording of all upper and lower case letters remains an important part of our writing program. In Maths we will cover lots of topics, some for revision and some for the first time. We are continually reinforcing things like counting patterns, both forward and backward and place value of two and three digit numbers. Addition and subtraction are still a high priority as we explore different strategies we can use make using these processes more efficient. We have begun using our knowledge of addition and subtraction to solve word problems, that sometimes have more than one step. We will be measuring and comparing length, capacity and mass of various objects, using lots of different units to find the measurements. We will also continue to use both digital and analogue clocks to tell the time.

Our Inquiry topic the term is 'Community'. We will be working towards the understandings that:

- Everyone is unique which creates a community that is diverse and ever changing.
- Communities rely on the active participation of individuals.
- Communities are made up of people from different backgrounds.
- There are traditions and celebrations that are part of the community.

We will be undertaking lots of different tasks in order to explore these further.

A new Share Time list was sent home outlining the topic for each week. Please remember to help your child prepare for their presentation each week.

All of the Year 1 children are currently working towards their Individual Learning Goal. We will be working on this at school and would appreciate your continued support at home.

An important part of Term 4 is our Transition program. All of the Year One classes will be spending time throughout the term with the Year 2 children. This enables the children to get to know the routines, children and staff in the Year 2 area in order for them to make a smooth and worry free transition into 2016.

2015 has been a fantastic year in the Year 1 area. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for the support that they have provided both in the classroom and at home.

Please continue to check in on our classroom blogs-

J12- <http://kidblog.org/MrsGreatrexsclass/>

J13- <http://kidblog.org/J13MrsPearson/>

J14- <http://kidblog.org/J14/>

### Dates to remember in Term 4

- Prep – Year 2 Tabloid Sports Morning – Tuesday 20 October
- Responsible Pet Owners visit – Monday 26 October
- Melbourne Cup Day (no school) – Tuesday 3 November
- WNPS Carols Night – Thursday 10 December
- End of year Excursion to Epping Leisure Centre – Wednesday 16 December

Thanks

Melissa, Mark and Sue