

Welcome back to Term 4. It's hard to believe we are in the final term of your child's first year of school! This term we will be reflecting on the year and celebrating students' achievements. Your child will receive their school report at the end of the term. Also our focus this term will be working on preparing the students' for their transition to Year 1. Transition session with the Year 1 students and teachers will be held over Weeks 3 – 7.

Below is an outline of the many things that we will be doing during Term 4.

WORKING TOGETHER

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

- Prompt arrival to school ensuring a smooth morning transition.
- 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.
- Practising sight words from your child's reading folder with your child.
- Assisting your child to practise their learning improvement plan goal.
- Logging on to your class blog and completing any activities.

ENGLISH

ORAL LANGUAGE

Learning in this area will focus on:

- The Oral Language Play Program will focus on a range of oral language skills:
 - Telling stories using puppets.
 - Retelling a story in sequence.
 - Discussing who, what and where using a story read.
 - Identifying and naming rhyming words.
 - Explaining their feelings eg I like Because ...
 - Speaking at an appropriate volume and pace for the listeners needs.
 - Speaking to an audience.
 - Questioning and reporting information to an audience.
- Using who, what, when, where as prompts during brief spoken texts.
Continuing Show and Tell using SCUMPS. Remember to practise once at home to have the answers to the questions ready.

READING

Learning in this area will focus on:

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

- Continue building on skills developed in Term 1, 2 and 3.
- Segment words into syllables (*hand under chin, each syllable – chin down, one vowel sound in each part of syllable*).
- Blending sounds together to make words.
- Continuing 'Read to Self', 'Read to Someone' and building reading stamina.
- Continuing daily take home readers.
- Continuing to get their knowledge ready for reading by looking at and discussing illustrations, predicting words.
- Reading fiction texts focusing on Narratives.
- Identifying the characters, setting, problem, solution.
- Learning about speech marks.
- Using character voices when reading aloud.
- Introduction to clauses and phrases of consequence eg *In the morning; All of a sudden; After that; Finally.*
- Inferring about character feelings.
- Identifying other words for 'said'.
- Retelling story in order.
- Ensuring comprehension of texts by discussing the text and answering questions about the text.
- Reading non-fiction texts, in particular procedural texts.
- Looking at features of a procedural text.

WRITING

Learning in this area will focus on:

- Continuing to build on skills developed in Term 1, 2 and 3.
- Narrative writing focusing on:
 - Writing description bubbles on characters before writing narrative.
 - A story has a beginning, middle and end.
 - Writing a narrative with 2 or 3 characters.
 - Stories include a problem and a solution.
 - Using clauses and phrases of consequence for each event in the story. *Eg Early in the morning; Later on; After that.*
 - Including one character's direct speech.
- Procedural texts focusing on:
 - Beginning each step with a doing word (verb).
 - Steps are numbered and ordered in sequence.
 - Not using personal pronouns (eg I, we)
- Continuing to develop fluent handwriting. Letter formations will be modelled and practised on the dotted thirds lines.
- Word study focus on: digraphs, long vowel sounds, blending sounds
- Spelling high frequency words.

MATHEMATICS

NUMBER

Learning in this area will focus on:

- Place value of numbers. '10 of these makes 1 of those' (10 ones is 1 ten). Make, name and record numbers.
- Ordinal number to tenth.
- Counting forwards and backwards, by 2s, 5s, 10s to 100.
- Addition and Subtraction
 - Using number line to solve addition and subtraction problems, Combining and separating sets of material, recording addition and subtraction sums.
- Patterns - variety of types of patterns such as colour, shape, object, number, clapping, sound, counting patterns.
- Sharing.
- Calculators.

MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY

Learning in this area will focus on:

- Shapes: Revisiting 2 dimensional shapes. Naming simple 3 dimensional shapes such as cube, sphere, cylinder, cone, pyramid. Identifying edges, faces and corners of 3D shapes.
- Position: Give and follow instructions using positional language such as next to, beside, in front of, under, through and behind.
- 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. Discuss language of empty and full.
- Length: Ordering objects from shortest to longest, smallest to largest. Informally measuring objects using string, unifix blocks and hands.
- Time: Naming days of the week and months of the year in order. Place familiar events in time order. Learning about the difference between analogue and digital clocks.

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY

Learning in this area will focus on:

Data: Collect data using yes/no questions eg Do you have a dog? Identify categories and sort data collected into categories. Displaying data collected. Interpret data from display. Which was the most? Least? Same amount? Answer yes/no questions and true/false statements.

INQUIRY

In Term 3 we will be continuing our Design inquiry.

The skills students will be developing are:

- Problem solving:
 - Identify the problem;
 - Consider possible alternatives;
- Observe and describe.

The understandings developed through the inquiry will be:

- There is a design process (plan, make, test, change).
- There are a range of materials – they can be used in different ways.
- Materials can be recycled and reused.

We will also be investigating toys and look at how force is needed to make things move.

iPAD APPS

These are the main iPad apps that we will be using in the classroom during Term 4.

Literacy Apps:

- *Continuing to use Term 1, 2 and 3 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, Phonics vowels, Word families, Alphabet sounds Word study, ABC Phonics long vowel words, ABC Phonics short vowel words, Phonics consonants, Fitzroy readers books, Little learners love literacy books, Vowel stories for beginning readers.*
- Learn to Read NOK – Syllables.
- Class Spelling.
- Puppet pals 2.
- Collins big cat books.

Mathematics Apps:

- *Continuing to use Term 1, 2 and 3 apps: Eggy numbers, Bugs and numbers, Friends of Ten, Targeting maths K, Teaching Number lines, Counting and Skip counting, Tens frame snap, Ladybug Addition, Dominoes Addition, Friends of ten, Hands on Maths Number balance, Place value MAB, Counting board, Skip Count.*
- 100s Chart.
- Chalk school Skip count.

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/>

StudyLadder – We have been continuing to use a website called StudyLadder. Activities are set by your child's teacher to rehearse classroom material. Your child can access StudyLadder at home. A link to your class' StudyLadder can be found on your class blog.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Special events for Term 4 are:

- Gymnastics beginning week 4 for 7 weeks.
- Year 1 transition sessions.
- Buddy activities.
- Prep – Year 2 Tabloid sports morning – Tuesday 20 October.
- End of year excursion – last week of term.
- Prep Concert - Tuesday 1 December.

INDIVIDUAL LEARNING IMPROVEMENT PLANS (ILIP)

At the beginning of term, your child's first ILIP will be assessed. Teachers will work with students to identify a new ILIP. Activities and ideas will be sent home to support their new ILIP.

We thank all of the parents that have offered their time to support the Prep programs such as PMP and take home readers. We continue to need your support to be able to provide the best programs for your children. Your class' take home reader sign-up sheets are still located outside your child's classroom.

We encourage all families to download the **Tiqbiz app** on their phone to keep up to date with any notifications related to Prep. *Download the app from your app store and search Watsonia North Primary School. Make sure you select 'Whole School' as well as 'Prep' to receive all relevant school information.*

Thanking you

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