

Prep Newsletter Term 2

Dear Prep Families,

Welcome to a brand new term – it is hard to believe that the Prep children have already completed a whole term of school. We look forward to another busy, fun-filled term and watching the children grow and develop further. We have outlined below some of the exciting things we are planning in all areas of the curriculum for this term.



Friday 20th April - Hands on Science Incursion

Wednesday 25th April - ANZAC Day (school closed)

Friday 27th April - Bunnings Incursion

Wednesday 2nd May - Prep Prayer Night 6.30pm in school (Children to wear pyjamas)

Sunday 6th May - Prep Family Mass 5pm in Church

Friday 11th May - Mother's Day Breakfast and Stall

Monday 14th May - School Photos. All children to wear full winter uniform

Tuesday 22nd May - Thursday 31st May - Swimming Program

Monday 11th June - School Closure Day (Queen's Birthday)

Tuesday 26th June - Mass & Open Morning

Tuesday 26th & Thursday 28th June - Parent & teacher interviews - students dismissed at 1.50pm

Friday 29th June - End of Term 2 - students dismissed at 1.50pm

Prep Timetable for Term 2



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>PMP (Sports Uniform)</p> <p>Assembly at 2.50pm (Finish at 3:30pm)</p>	<p>PG – Performing Arts Mrs Bouras</p> <p>PZ – Visual Art with Mrs Poulter</p>	<p>PZ – Performing Arts Mrs Bouras</p> <p>PG – Visual Art with Mrs Poulter</p>	<p>Italian with Mrs Sirianni</p> <p>P.E with Mrs Allen (Sports Uniform)</p>	<p>Library FG + FI</p>

LIBRARY- Please bring back your library bag and books to change each Friday.

Faith Life

We aim to develop the children's 'life-long' learning skills through our Faith Life topic.

This term our topic is "Exploring the World around Us" and we will be exploring our five senses through investigations and experiments. We will be making links between the senses we can see and use and the senses that come from within, including love, compassion, a sense of awe and wonder and a zest for life.

We will be looking at how we can develop our values of faith, care, respect and compassion for ourselves and others, through Christian Faith Stories.

We will continue to develop our respect and concern for others, through the use of manners, kind words and actions.



Literacy

In Prep, we have a daily literacy block and during this time we focus on oral language, phonics, reading and writing knowledge and skills.

Phonics – Our main focus in Term 2 will be the continued development and consolidation of letters and sounds. The children will take part in daily activities to support their understanding of how to use phonetics in their reading, writing and spelling. We will be focusing on developing effective problem solving strategies when reading, in order to decode words and gain meaning from the text. Children will be learning to write texts and correctly form letters and words. They will be encouraged to use their knowledge of letters and sounds and words to convey ideas in their writing.

Reading at home is a very important way to consolidate and practise literacy learning that has occurred at school and is important for effective reading habits. Favourite stories from home, home readers and library books from school are encouraged to be regularly read together. Discuss the book and encourage your child to develop their ideas and opinions from the text. Most of all, enjoy this time together. You are your child's first and best model for reading practice, and sharing a love of reading is a great gift you can give your child.

We will also be working on basic communication conventions, such as good listening, facing the speaker, taking turns, listening without interrupting and asking questions when appropriate. Please support your child by practising this at home.

HOME READERS

The children are now bringing home small texts that are suited to their reading ability for practising fluency and comprehension. Your help with this at home will continue to be very important.

Useful prompts for supporting comprehension can be:

Tell me about the main character in the story

What happened in the beginning, middle and end?

What do you think might happen next?

Can the pictures help you work out what is happening in the story?

Each session should only last 10–15 minutes and be as relaxed as possible– if your child is tired or reluctant, read the story to them as this often sparks new interest.

Each child is reminded to be responsible to bring their Reading Folder to school **EVERY DAY**. Their Reading Journals will be checked on their assigned day (please see the front cover of your child's reading diary).

Home reading is for practice and consolidation of strategies learnt at school. Please support your child by helping to make reading fun and enjoyable.

Numeracy

This term we will be exploring many concepts related to number and counting.



Number activities will include:

Number facts to 10 (automatic recall and use of number facts)

Simple addition and subtraction facts using concrete materials and recording their findings

Partitioning a collection of objects in two or three different ways and recording

Subitising a collection of objects by identifying the quantity as quickly and accurately as possible.

Counting- forwards and backwards from any given number by 1's, 2's, 5's & 10's up to 100

Place Value - work on the correct formation of numbers and reading and recording a 2 digit number.

Measurement & Geometry

2D shape - sorting, describing and naming a variety of 2D shapes

Length - Awareness of the attributes of length and the language to describe length

Capacity- Volume

Social and Emotional Learning:

This term the children in Prep will be introduced to a resilience program called 'Bounce Back'. This program is taught throughout the school. We will be focusing on strategies that the children can use to 'Bounce Back' from any difficulties. We will be introducing the following acronym:

Bad times don't last. Things always get better. Stay optimistic.

Other people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.

Unhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset.

Nobody is perfect - not you and not others.

Concentrate on the positives (no matter how small) and use laughter.

Everybody experiences sadness, hurt, failure, rejection and setbacks sometimes. They are a normal part of life. Try not to personalise them.



KidsMatter Primary is a flexible, whole-school approach to children's mental health and wellbeing for primary schools. It works both on its own and as an umbrella under which our existing programs can comfortably fit. KidsMatter Primary provides the proven methods, tools and support to help schools, parents and carers, health services and the wider community nurture happy and balanced kids.

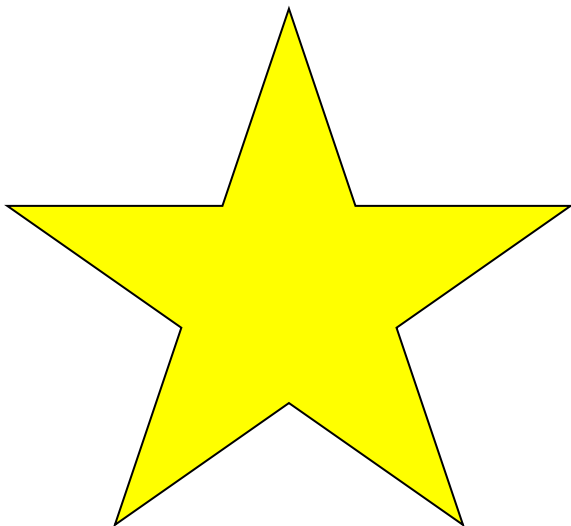
Routines and Punctuality

Routines:

- We welcome your support and assistance at both home and school. Please continue to establish and develop a routine at home, which will help your child settle into school life, such as, going to bed at the appropriate time and packing their own school bag in the morning.
- Encourage your child to put their bag on the line when they arrive at school. Please remind your child to bring their reading pouch each day and to hand in their reading diary on their allocated morning.
- **Lunches:** As there are children who have specific food allergies in our classrooms, it is necessary to note that we aspire for our classrooms to be Nut, Nut Product, Seafood and Fish Free.
- **DRINKS AND BRAIN FOOD:** We recommend your child bring a drink bottle to school everyday for frequent hydration. This is most important on Sport Days, and we ask that water is provided in drink bottles. We encourage all children to have a **small named container** of 'Brain Food' (cut up fruit or vegetables ONLY) to help them focus during class time.
- **Tuckshop orders** – If your child is ordering a lunch from the tuck shop please encourage them to place their order in the tub (which will be at the front of the line) before the bell rings to come in to class.

Punctuality

- It is imperative that your child arrives at school by 8:45am. Meditation begins at 8.50am and if your child is late please go to the office to receive a late slip.
- If your child is absent from school, an email or phone call to the office and the classroom teacher is required that day
- Our school policy is that students who arrive prior to 8:30am are to be booked into OSHC.
- If for any reason you need to collect your child early from school, please sign out an 'early leave pass' at the office.



Star of the Week

Each week a child from the class will be chosen as our class "Star of the Week". Their name will be published in the newsletter the week before. Your child will be acknowledged at assembly on Monday afternoon. Please join us to celebrate this achievement.

Things to remember...



SCHOOL UNIFORM – Full correct school uniform to be worn each day, except on days when they are required to wear sports uniform.

Clothing/Belongings

- Please **label** hats, jumpers and all clothing clearly with your child's name. All lunch boxes/water bottles are to be labelled (**including** the very small boxes and their lids that go inside the lunch boxes).
- In case of an accident, please have a spare pair of underwear in a labelled zip-lock bag in your child's school bag,

SUNSCREEN – Each child needs to apply their own daily if required.

HAIR – Please ensure long hair is tied back each day using navy clip and hair ties.

Please continue to check your child's hair frequently for nits/lice.

BIRTHDAYS – If your child is celebrating a birthday and you would like to provide treats for the children in your child's class, we suggest lemonade icy poles or a fruit platter. Birthday invitations should be emailed or handed directly to parents to avoid disappointment.

PARENT HELPERS: As of Term 2 we will be starting PMP on Monday mornings and would love as many helpers as possible. A roster will be sent home shortly.

Classroom helpers will begin towards the end of Term 2 – more information to follow.

Please ensure that you have given your valid Working with Children information to Yvette at the School Office.

Please feel free to contact us either via email or by making an appointment to meet with us if you have any questions or queries.

Please note that we will be unavailable to meet on a Tuesday afternoon due to staff meeting.

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We look forward to working with you and your child throughout this term.

Laura and Irene

