

# PREP CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

## Important Dates

Wednesday, February 20th	Meet the Teacher Interviews
Friday, March 15th	Circus of Life Performance
Monday, March 25th—Friday, March 29th	Prep Swimming Program
Friday, April 5th	End of Term 1



### English

#### *Reading*

At the beginning of the term, Prep students will be focusing on the first twenty days of reading. During the first twenty days of reading, students will discuss and learn how good readers choose and care for books, foster and develop a motivation and passion for reading, collaboratively develop a classroom library based on their interests and categorise books into sections. Students will learn about the expectations of take home reading and what to expect during our reading blocks engaging in shared reading, read alouds, conferencing and buddy reading.

Later on in the term students will focus on the comprehension strategies of previewing and predicting, activating prior knowledge and combining it with information they gain from previewing the text by looking at its features to form predictions and retelling and sequencing.

#### *Writing*

During the first twenty days of writing, students will engage in language and shared writing experiences, developing their oral language and understanding that writing is a method to communicate a message. Students will explore what good writers do, learn about the structure of our writing lessons, writing expectations and the writing process think, talk, sketch and write. Students will also learn about our writing centre and the different materials available, which they can use after completing literacy tasks and during developmental play.

### Mathematics

In Numeracy, prep students will be engaged in the 100 days of school routine. This will include keeping track of each school day until students have been at school for 100 days. Some ways of tracking the days include, using a 100 chart, counting icy pole sticks, marking a blank 100s frame and marking a calendar.

Students will explore what good mathematicians do, understand the structure of the numeracy lesson and explore the materials on the maths trolley and how to use them to help them learn.

Throughout the term, students will learn about three topics which include pattern, shape and counting. With pattern, students will explore how to sort objects by different elements such as shape, colour or size. Students will learn how to make, copy, continue and explain which part of the pattern is repeated. With shape, students will identify simple shapes and sort them. With counting, students will learn how to count each object once, know that numbers are said in a particular order and practice counting forwards and backwards to and from 10.

Finally, prep students will be introduced to the concept of graphing and using data. This will include looking at how many people have birthdays in particular months and graphing things like favourite colour, ice cream or if someone has a pet and what type. It will be a fun number packed term of learning.

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### Inquiry

During Inquiry this term, students will explore two different units of work.

The first unit is titled 'Learning to Learn.' Students will have the opportunity to explore the School Wide Positive Behaviour expectations of Melton West Primary School and practice these behaviour in and outside the classroom. As a class we will be creating a classroom agreement based around these expectations and classroom routines.

The second unit is titled, 'Squeaky Clean'. Students will learn about how to keep their body healthy and clean. Students will also explore what their daily hygiene routine should be, things they can do to keep clean and why some people's health needs are different.



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## PE

A big welcome to all the Prep students! I am looking forward to meeting all of our new students in our weekly Science session. This term Prep students will be focusing on the Biological Science strand. Students will be looking at the needs of humans and identifying that we need food, water, shelter (warmth), and sleep to survive. Students will identify that the basic needs of animals are food, water, shelter, and sleep in order to survive. Students will learn about, and use, the five senses – see, smell, hear, taste, touch – to explore familiar objects. Throughout the term, students will be involved in many interesting activities, along with some hands-on experiments, which will provide them with a great introduction to biological science. This is an exciting term in Prep Science!

## ART

Welcome to Prep Art! This term is exciting for our Prep students as they will be settling into new art routines, understanding how to use our tools and materials correctly and enjoying growing into their artistic selves. In term 1, we will be focussing on colour theory where prep students will learn about primary colours and how these colours can mix to make secondary colours. Our focus will include looking at the artworks of Pierre Mondrian and Vincent Van Gogh as they included primary and secondary colours in their masterpieces. Prep students will have the opportunity to do hands on mixing with paints and create artworks with their primary and secondary colours. Looking forward to a wonderful term of watching our little artists grow!

## SCIENCE

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## CHINESE

This term in Chinese, Grade Prep students will be focusing on the Chinese traditional culture and basic greeting words. Students in Prep will be exploring what is the difference between Chinese and other languages. They will also investigate the importance of Chinese on the world language and why we need to learn Chinese. They will be aware of Chinese as a separate language to English and that other languages exist within their own classroom. They will start to recognise what are the Chinese characters. They will interact with simple written texts in familiar contexts to contribute to class discussions.

During this term, students will be continuing to develop the following skills:

Questioning, analysing, writing, speaking, collaboration skill and communicating their ideas.