

Partners in Learning Newsletter

WELCOME – Start the school year with a reading routine

A very warm welcome to the 2019 school year and the very first edition of our Partners In Learning newsletter for the year!

It is hard to believe that we are already well into our second week of school! It has been truly wonderful to see all our beautiful children back at school smiling, learning and playing. In particular, we have found great pleasure in seeing our new prep students join our learning community smiling, eager and ready to take on board whatever comes their way. At the other end of the scale our year six students have taken on board their leadership responsibilities with dedication and enthusiasm.

Congratulations to all our amazing parents and carers who have braved the journey with their children to school each morning, weaving through the traffic and heat. Your efforts are very much appreciated by your children, I'm sure but also by us, the staff. Well done on setting those alarms and getting your children safely and on time to school this past week as starting strongly and on the right foot will surely set us up for an amazing 2019 school year!!

This year reading continues to remain our key focus, across the school in every classroom. Making time to read regularly with your children is an important part of literacy development. The key is to have a regular routine for reading together at a time that suits you and your family. Children often take their cues from their parents and for this reason, it's so important for us as the adults to show a positive attitude towards reading. All children should have received their Reading Diaries/Logs and brought home books to read. We encourage you, as your child's first teacher, to share in the joys of getting to know the books your child/children are reading simply by talking to them about the book, the main character and the main ideas in the story.

Please find below some useful tips for settling preps into the routine of school.

- * Check start and finish times where to drop off and collect your child
- * Be on time to pick your child up from school
- * Talk about and show your child any after school arrangements
- * Arrange play dates with families from our school
- * Encourage independence. Skills like dressing, packing and carrying a bag, applying sunscreen, going to the toilet.
- * Label all belongings
- * Be positive, get your child excited, and talk about any worries they may have
- * Visit a library and read with your child
- * Start using the name of your child's teacher repeatedly to help build familiarity
- * Establish predictable routines including dinner, bath and bed time

Enjoy this special time, the beginning of a brand new year with your children and take in all the wonders of the world through their beautiful eyes.

'All kids need is a little help, a little hope, and someone who believes in them.' – Magic Johnson

Warmest Regards,
Kathy Cvitkovic
Assistant Principal 3-6 Learning Community

IMPORTANT DATES



**NO SCHOOL FOR PREPS-
Wednesday 13th, 20th,
27th February**

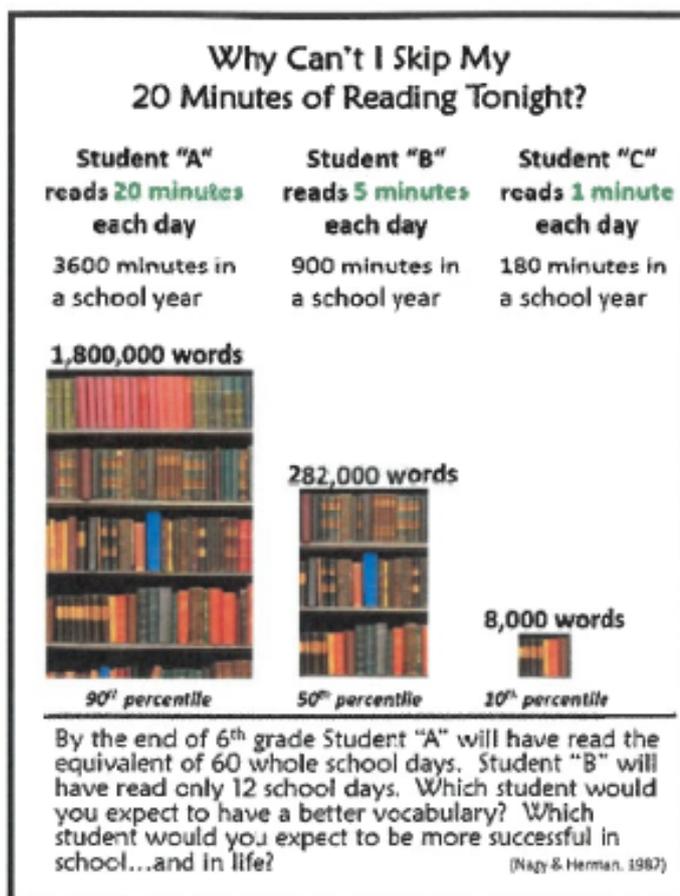
Getting it right in Reading!

The importance of regular home reading

You were your child's first teacher and taught them many important skills, including how to speak. As partners in learning, your child will experience the most success in reading when school and home work together. Children learn about the importance of reading as they watch family members use reading and writing for everyday purposes. Reading for pleasure, sharing a story with your child, using a recipe or reading street signs teaches them that reading is a useful skill in today's world.

Reading with your child at home will help your child in all areas of school. Skills in reading extend across all curriculum areas and is a vital skill.

Research shows the importance of reading on a daily basis in developing their use and understanding of vocabulary.



Students from Grades Prep to 6 will have been sent home with a take home reading folder and books this week. With this, a letter will have been sent home outlining the requirements for home reading for your child's grade level. If you are unsure of the process and requirements for your child, please speak with their class teacher.

It is really important to provide opportunity for your child to read to or be read to by you, another adult or sibling. Discuss and share books you enjoy reading now and as a child and encourage a love of reading.

Rad Readers is open every morning for students from 8:30am. This is another great opportunity for your child to read to/with an adult or older student.

Sarah Marshall
Leading Teacher- Literacy

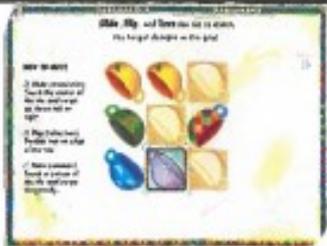
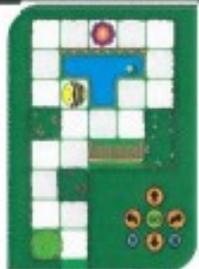


Marvellous Maths

Great Maths Apps for Kids

These days more and more kids are using tablets and smart devices. This is providing a great opportunity for parents to use mobile applications (apps) that link Maths to real life experiences as a way of drilling, practicing problem solving and teaching concepts.

These are some of the apps and websites we use in the school. If you are after any more, have a chat to your child's teacher who will be able to make some recommendations.

 <p>Bugs and Buttons This app teaches children skills such as sorting, counting and recognising patterns Age group: 5-7</p>	 <p>Symmetry Shuffle This app focuses on shape and transformations Age group: 8-12</p>	 <p>Little Monkey Maths A variety of apps include: Subitising, Friends of 10, Number Lines, Reading Numbers Age group: 5-7</p>
 <p>Beebot This helps children practice the language of position. Age group: 5-7</p>	 <p>Targeting Maths There are individual apps focusing on all areas of numeracy, base don grade level. Age group: all ages</p>	 <p>Mathsterious Mansion This app is based on whole number understandings, addition, subtraction and the 100s chart, it supports the development of mental computation. Age group: 7-10</p>
 <p>Eggy Maths Apps There are several Eggy app for Numeracy. Search on the app store. Age group: all ages</p>	 <p>Mathletics Mathletics is available as an iPad app. All students in our school have a login and password access to this resource and can use this at home. Age group: all ages</p>	 <p>Nanja Factor Free This app builds fluency around multiplication facts. Age group: 8-12</p>



Has Your Child Been Diagnosed With a Medical Condition?

As part of Melton West Primary School's commitment to the care of your Child and legislative requirements we require you to provide us with an updated Medical Care Plan every twelve months for your child's medical condition. If your child has been diagnosed with Anaphylaxis, Allergy, Asthma or Hayfever, a form can be collected from the First Aid Room at the school. A Medical Practitioner will need to complete, sign and stamp this form.

Please ask your Medical Practitioner to complete a Medical Care Plan on practice letterhead for all other medical conditions.

Please return your child's Medical Care Plan as soon as possible to ensure we can identify the care your child requires so that the highest level of care can be provided for them whilst at school. Please return your child's Medical Care Plan with medication and any other device aid your child may require as specified on their Medical Care Plan.

If your Child's Medical Practitioner has informed you that your child has outgrown a medical condition previously disclosed to the school, the Medical Practitioner will need to provide a letter on practice letterhead notifying the school of any changes to your child's health.

***** M W P PLAYGROUP *****

We warmly welcome all families to our 2019 Playgroup.

We will be commencing in the GP room from Wednesday 13 February from 8:50am – 11.00am.

Our playgroup is open to families and friends of our school and is a FREE experience with morning tea provided.

As a significant note, and given the huge success of our 2018 year, we are planning to run a second group to be held each Tuesday, and this is likely to commence from 5th March.



Any immediate inquiries, please contact:

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