

PREP CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER



English

Reading

This term in reading the students have been learning to retell a story. To be able to retell a story students were required to

identify the main character/s, identify where the story happened, recall at least two key events, use vocabulary in the text to retell and retell the story in order, we focused mainly on common fairy tales.

We then moved on to a very successful unit on making connections when reading. Students were able to identify how the text reminded them of something that had happened in their lives (events, incidents, thoughts, feelings), and connected with the characters (feelings or actions).

At the end of the term we moved on to visualising when reading. Students learned that visualising is creating a picture/movie in their mind about the text, and recorded their visualisation using pictures and words, focusing on using their senses in the description.

Writing

In writing this term the Preps have been focusing on writing Information reports to describe farm animals. The students included a heading, diagram, facts about the chosen animal and ended with a personal comment or a fun fact. During week 9 students went to the Collingwood Children's Farm, where they had the chance to see the farm animals they had been writing about. The Preps ended the term writing their own list poems around familiar topics, such as community helpers and food. The Preps continued to participate in an experience with their grade four buddies each week and then writing about their experience.

Mathematics

This term in maths, students began the term by learning about subitising, which is learning to recognise different patterns instantaneously in a collection. They worked towards identifying regular dot patterns, as well as, random dot patterns instantaneously. This term students were also involved in counting communities where they practised a range of counting sequences such as, matching collections to different numbers, counting up to and back from 20 and counting by ones from various starting points. We are now working on number recognition, where the students are learning to identify, write and match numerals, collections and number words. Number Recognition will be continuing on until the last week of term.

Inquiry

During Inquiry this term, the Prep students have been really busy engaging in our Inquiry topic Helping Hands. At the beginning of the term, students were visited by the CFA and learnt about fire safety and the role of firefighters in the community. During the CFA visit, students were given the opportunity to try out using a fire house to out a pretend fire. Throughout the unit, students learnt about all the different people who can help them at school, in the wider community and at home and how each particular member can help them. Students engaged in discussions about the different people who they can trust and can help them, learning that there can be some differences about who can help them at home, at school and in the wider community. During the unit, students learnt how to recognise the difference between an emergency and an incident, learning about the emergency services and how they can help. Well done Preps on an excellent term of Inquiry!

ART

Term 2 has been exciting for our Grade Prep artists! Students have learned about different lines and how we can create artwork by drawing them. Grade Preps have learned about Vincent Van Gogh and have identified the different types of lines he used to create his famous artworks. Students were able to practise lines that were straight, curved, wavy, curly and jagged. Grade Preps have also created their own masterpieces influenced by Vincent Van Gogh and have worked hard to use the lines and colour to create successful pieces of artwork. Congratulations Grade Prep on a wonderful semester of Art!



CHINESE

This term in Chinese, our Prep students have continued to build their vocabulary. Our Preps learned how to communicate in Chinese different foods, drinks and places. Our Preps are able to proudly introduce themselves in Chinese and ask how their peers are. Students in Prep learnt how to make a Chinese paper dragon, as the dragon is an important figure in Chinese culture. After that, our students learnt about how to say the different family members and demonstrated understanding by labelling those members in a picture they drew of their family. They also investigated the purpose and importance of the Dragon Boat festival. They started to learn what the Chinese characters (symbol) are by tracing the Chinese characters on a worksheet. Finally, our Preps learnt about location. They learnt "my home", "my school" and "Disneyland" in Chinese. They wrote those topics in Chinese and drew the relevant pictures in their workbook.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



What a great semester the Grade Prep students have had in PE. They have learnt the Locomotor skills of running, jumping, skipping, leaping, hopping, galloping, sliding and walking backwards and continue to develop their individual skills each week. They have been learning to catch and throw using coloured scarves, focusing on tracking the scarves with their eyes to catch it as it floats through the air. This gives them confidence to catch different types and size balls. They have been cooperating with others in learning new games and following

instructions given to them to play games safely and participate within a boundary with equipment.



SCIENCE

Throughout Term 2 the Preps have been introduced to the Physical Science strand of Science and have been learning about movement. Students have practised different movements using their own bodies, such as jumping, hopping, rolling and crawling, and have been investigating how toys and objects move, such as rolling, bouncing, spinning and sliding. Students have demonstrated their learning through various activities which have included dancing, cutting and pasting, carrying out investigations and experiments; students especially enjoyed the "investigating rolling" experiment where they put toys on a ramp to investigate which ones rolled!

