

PREP CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

29th July	100 Days of school
19th–23rd August	Book Week
16th September	Inquiry Showcase



English

Reading

This term in Reading, students will begin the term by focusing on learning individual letter names and the sounds they make. After this students will begin to work on their processing strategies to help them solve unknown words more effectively. They will practice strategies such as using the pictures, matching the picture to the initial letter sound, re-reading, reading on and reading high frequency words in their books. After this students will begin learning how to start 'inferring' and 'questioning' during their reading to help them understand and comprehend the stories they read.



Writing

During this term in writing, prep students will be learning to retell familiar stories. They will do this by becoming the characters, using the illustrations, creating their own illustrations and writing the main parts of the story. Students will also be learning about how to write a procedural text. They will have the opportunity to participate in a range of experiences and then write instructions to match. Students will continue to participate in shared experiences with their buddies and then write about these experiences.

Mathematics

In numeracy this term the Preps will be learning about Addition and subtraction, and counting with a focus on skip counting. In addition and subtraction we will be working on joining and partitioning a collection in practical situations. In our unit on counting we will be working to skip count by, 2s, 5s and 10s. Using number charts and games to help in their learning.



Inquiry

This term in Inquiry, students will be exploring two key questions; what is my history/story and how do I know and what Dreamtime stories describe the creation of the land, animals and people? Students will look at their personal history, who they are and significant events they have experienced, such as their kindergarten to school transition. Through this exploration, students will learn about Aboriginal culture and Dreamtime stories and how they are used to share history and culture. By the end of the term, the Prep students will have developed their knowledge, skills and understanding of culture, exploring similarities and differences of cultural practices and identity.



Attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day –missing school puts them behind. We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.



The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference. It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.



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Art

Welcome to Prep Art, Term 3, Semester 2! This term Grade Prep Students will work on recognising and creating patterns in Art. This term's topic is cross-curricular as students will have gained prior knowledge of patterns in Mathematics and they will continue to build this understanding through expression and creativity. Students will be able to explore patterns and showcase their own artistic flare! They will create abstract art with patterns using lines, colour and shape. Students will create patterns using a minimum of two elements and understand how patterns are formed by repetition. For example: red, blue, red, blue. They will use different mediums to create patterns which include magic modelling clay, strings and beads. Students will look at various artworks from different artists and increase their skills in identifying these patterns and how they can replicate these in their own art masterpieces.

Chinese

This term in LOTE, Grade Prep students will be focusing on the different countries, cities, Chinese songs, four seasons and weather. Students in Prep will be exploring major countries in the world and major cities in Australia. They will also learn about the difference between Chinese music and western music is. They will be aware of what Chinese music instruments are. Students will start to write Chinese characters through tracing and copying. They will learn how to responds to basic Chinese greetings to the teacher and their peers. Students will participate in class routines, structured conversations and activities using teacher-modelled tones and rhythms.

PE

The Grade Preps have made a wonderful start to semester 2 in Physical Education. The students are working hard to master the fundamental motor skills of catching, kicking, running and dodging. They are continually learning about playing fair and co-operating with one another. They are participating in lots of new games such as scarecrow tiggly and red, orange, green lights and they are continuing to practice rotating through stations of different activities.

Science

During term three students will commence their understanding of Earth Science. Students will however continue to explore changes in the world around them, and this term that will include changes that impact on them, such as the weather. Students will link the changes in the daily weather to the way we modify our behaviour and dress for different conditions, including examples from different cultures. They will investigate how changes in the weather might affect animals such as pets, animals that hibernate, or migratory animals.