

# PREP CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

## Important Dates

Meet the Teacher	19th February
Labour Day—no school	9th March
Prep Swimming	23rd—27th March
Inquiry Showcase	23rd March



### English

**Reading-** Prep students will be focusing on the first twenty days of reading to begin with. During this time, students will discuss and learn how good readers choose and care for books, to help build and strengthen a motivation and passion for reading. Students will 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 aloud, conferencing and buddy reading. Throughout the first term students will focus on the comprehension strategies of activating prior knowledge, previewing and predicting 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, and learn about the structure of our writing lessons, writing expectations and the writing process through 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.

Once the first twenty days are completed and the Prep students are familiar with the writing routine and expectations, we will engage in a retell/recount unit of work. During this unit, students will learn how to share a recount of an experience or story they have been read.

### 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 100s chart, counting icy pole sticks, marking a blank 100s frame, marking a calendar and counting unifix blocks.

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 pattern, shape and counting. With pattern, students will explore how to sort objects by different elements such as shape, colour or size, as well as 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.

### Inquiry

During Inquiry this term, students will explore two different units of work. First students will be looking at the unit '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. Students will then be looking at the unit, 'Squeaky Clean'. Students will learn how to keep their body healthy and clean, through the exploration of what their daily hygiene routine should be.

### 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.

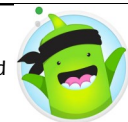
The main reasons for absence are:

**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.



### Class Dojo

Class Dojo is a school communication platform where teachers share what's being learnt in the classroom through photos, videos, and messages. Please see the relevant classroom teacher to get your unique code to gain access to Class Dojo.





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## ART

Welcome to Prep Art, 2020! This is an exciting time for our foundation students as they will work on developing their artistic skills. In term 1, we will be focussing on colour theory where students will learn about primary colours (red, blue and yellow) and how these colours can mix to make secondary colours (purple, green and orange). Our focus will include looking at the artworks of Piet Mondrian and as he included primary colours in his 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!

## Music

Welcome to Prep Music, 2020! This is an exciting time for Melton West Primary School as our foundation students are the first to experience the music curriculum in our newly built music room facility. In term 1, the music topic that we will be focussing on is sound. Students will learn about how sounds can include tempo, (long and short), dynamics (soft and loud), and tempo (fast and slow). They will work on understanding how the voice can make high and low sounds and they will identify this as pitch and the difference between speaking and singing. Students will explore singing with their voices to support their learning of music elements and play percussion instruments. They will use symbols to begin to notate sounds they compose and make. Looking forward to watching our young musicians engage in their music development!

## Physical Education

This term in PE, Prep students will be focusing on getting to know one another and building relationships through being active. Students will learn how to play safely in the new gym and follow the expectations to become great learners. They will be following instructions to play minor games, learning the boundaries of the games and how to follow the rules. Students will have opportunities to develop skills in taking turns and encouraging others when playing games and learning new skills. We will be moving our bodies in many ways, learning new games and understanding movement when learning new skills.

## Science

Welcome to all the Prep students! I am looking forward to seeing all the Preps 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 and sleep to survive. Students will learn about the basic needs of animals and identify that their basic needs are food, water, shelter, and sleep in order to survive. Students will learn about their five senses – see, smell, hear, taste, touch – and will use them 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!