

PREP CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Important Dates Coming Up

Term 2 Begins	15th April
Athletics Day	23rd April
Queens Birthday (Public Holiday)	8th June
Last Day of Term 2	26th June



English



Reading- At the start of this term, students engaged in the 20 first days of reading, setting up their classroom libraries and learning different aspects of a reading lesson and the expectations. Throughout the term students have engaged in class discussions, read alouds, turn and talk and oral language experiences to support and extend their beginning reading behaviours. During this term, students learnt the reading comprehension strategy of previewing and predicting. Students learnt how to make a prediction before and during reading a text, using their prior knowledge to make connections.

Writing- At the start of this term, the prep students focused on the systems and routines that will build lifelong writers. Students were introduced to language and shared writing experiences, with a focus on developing students' oral language and understanding that writing is a method to communicate a message. Students were also introduced to the writing centres within their own classrooms which promote active inquiry into how letters and words work. After the first 20 days of writing students then focused on providing a retell/recount of an event. During this time students learnt how to share a recount of an experience or story they had encountered.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, this term prep students have engaged in the 100 days of school routine. This has included keeping track of each school day until students reach 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. We can't wait until we reach 100 days of school! Students have learnt the structure of a mathematics lesson and have had the chance to explore the materials on the maths trolley and how to use them to help them learn and solve mathematical problems.



Throughout the term, students have learnt about three topics which included pattern, shape and counting. During the pattern topic students explored how to sort objects by different elements such as shape, colour or size. Students learnt how to make, copy, continue and explain which part of the pattern is repeated. During the shape unit, students identified simple shapes and how to sort them. During the counting unit, students learnt how to count each object once, know that numbers are said in a particular order and how to count forwards and backward to and from 10.

Inquiry

During Inquiry this term, students explored two different units of work. First students looked at the unit 'Learning to Learn.' Students had the opportunity to explore the School Wide Positive Behaviour expectations of Melton West Primary School and practice these behaviour in and outside the classroom. Classroom agreements were created based around the set expectations and classroom routines.

Later in the term students moved onto exploring 'Squeaky Clean'. Students participated in tasks such as a germ experiments and sequencing tasks around their hygiene routine and tasks that demonstrated the importance of cleaning their bodies.

Class Dojo

Class Dojo is a school communication platform where teachers share what's being learned 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



This term in Prep art was an exciting time for our students as they learned about the basics of colour theory. Students learned about primary colours being red, yellow and blue and were engaged in creating primary colour monsters and their own creative sketches using only these colours. From there students learned that primary colours mixed make secondary colours and they were able to experience mixing paints in the new art room space. Grade preps will



continue to explore mixing colours and understanding colour theory including the colour wheel to create their own wonderful art pieces! Well done Grade Preps on a wonderful term of art!

MUSIC

This term in Music was an exciting time for our preps as they got to experience making sounds in the wonderful and new music room! The focus was on sound and students had a great hands on experience exploring percussion instruments such as tambourines, claves, triangles, maracas and also the bongo drums which were a real hit! Included in our learning was understanding the new vocabulary of tempo (fast and slow) and dynamics (soft and loud). Students also practised using symbols for notating sounds that represented pitch (high and low), tempo and dynamics. Grade preps have been learning to sing songs and understand the difference between a speaking and singing voice. It has been fantastic to see students highly engaged and enthusiastic in their participation. Well done Grade Preps on a wonderful term of music!



PE



This term the students have been focused on learning the locomotor skills of skipping, hopping, jumping, running, walking backwards, sliding, galloping and leaping. They have done a great job learning these skills and practicing them in the yard and at home. They have been learning routines and boundaries in the new gym and have also had a focus on taking turns and rotating through lots of different activities. We have also been learning minor games to practice their locomotor skills.



SCIENCE



Throughout Term 1 the Preps have been introduced to the Biological Science strand of Science through learning about living and non-living things. Through scavenger hunts, cut and paste activities, songs and stories, students have been learning how to identify living and non-living things; along with what living things need to survive. With a focus on what plants need to survive, the Preps are currently carrying out an exciting investigation by growing their own seeds; providing them with water, air and sunlight. The Preps will be practicing their observation and recording skills whilst we watch the seeds grow bigger!



As Term 1 is a short term, our Biological Science strand will continue into the start of Term 2 where students will be learning all about our five senses. We will be investigating our five senses through nature walks, cut and paste activities and then an exciting end of unit experiment which uses all five senses..! Well done to a wonderful first term in Science Grade Preps!

