

Prep Term 3 2017 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back!

Term 3 brings its own package of learning tasks and fun activities. Swimming begins towards the end of this term (last two weeks of the term) and we will soon be celebrating 100 days of school on Tuesday 1st August!

Below is an overview of this term's curriculum.

Specialist Timetable

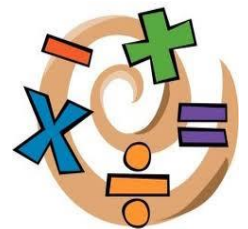
MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
All Preps VISUAL ARTS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION	All Preps STEM/ARTS		All Preps LIBRARY	

Mathematics:

Mathematics sessions throughout the week will have a whole group focus followed by small group activities that relate to a targeted learning outcome. Students will also be involved in mathematical problem solving learning tasks as well as various Maths games.

Number & Algebra

- Solve simple addition and subtraction problems using materials
- Develop awareness that 'one more' or 'one less' means the same as 'after' or 'before'. E.g. $16+1=17$, what comes after 16? $10-1=9$. What comes before 9?
- Investigate simple patterns
- Represent simple, everyday financial situations involving money

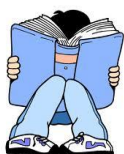


Measurement & Geometry

- Informal units to measure the capacity of various containers
- Describe movement, follow and give simple directions
- Identify common 3D shapes such as cubes, cones and spheres
- Revise sequencing of daily events and name days of the week in order

Statistics & Probability

- Sort objects into categories on diagrams and create visual records
- Describe outcomes of simple familiar events using the terms 'will happen', 'won't happen' or 'might happen'



English:

English involves reading, writing, speaking and listening. This will be done as a whole class and in small focus groups where explicit teaching will occur.

Reading:

- Explicit teaching of reading strategies such as picture cues, looking at beginning and ending sounds, reading on
- Reading aloud with expression and awareness of punctuation
- Continue to build their knowledge of 'Commonly Used Words'

Writing:

- Recount writing with a focus on title, capital, full stop, spacing between the words and inclusion of at least two ideas
- Introduction to Procedural Text
- Editing their writing- reading it back and recognising errors
- Handwriting practice with a focus on size and slope



Speaking and Listening:

Students will develop their speaking skills by actively participating in learning tasks such as 'Role Play', 'Show and Tell', 'Listen and Draw' or 'Weekend Share'. Please make sure that your child brings topic appropriate object for 'Show and Tell' on their assigned day. This term, students will also be asked to participate in a semi-formal oral presentation on 100 days of School.

Berry Street Education Model

This Semester our focus will be on 'Relationships'. Specifically, students will be learning about:

- Strategies to build relationships with students. For example, learning how to behaviour and play appropriately with their peers
- Encouraging friendship and teamwork (two of our School Values)
- Building a positive inclusive environment by sharing about their culture and values

Inquiry Unit

This Semester, our topic unit for inquiry will be on "*We Are the Same, We are Different*". Students are introduced to issues of their identity, culture and diversity in Australia.



Science

This term, our topic will be on "Materials". Students will develop the knowledge that objects are made of different materials and that what they are made of is dependent on their use.

Junior School Home Learning Program

Reading continues to be the most important part of the Home Learning Program

- Make sure you listen to your child read on a daily basis and record this in their reading log
- Practise letter names/sounds and word lists regularly

Physical Education with Mr Perez

In Term 3, students will continue to develop Fundamental Motor Skills such as underarm and overarm throwing and catching, bouncing and dribbling, jumping, and kicking. Students will use a range of individual, small group and team activities, focussing on sports such as Basketball and Soccer to explore their skills, teamwork and fair play. Spatial awareness, safety and fun will be at the forefront of all activities.

S.T.E.M. with Mr Perez

'STEM' encompasses a wide range of modern areas of study; Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. This term, students will be introduced to this subject, focussing on the discovery of animals, plants and other 'living things', and how we as humans use the earth's resources to survive. This will involve 'hands-on' activities and the use of technology to enhance learning.

Visual Arts with Mrs Totta

This term, Foundation students will be completing tasks based on paper construction and collage. They will practise using scissors correctly and cutting with accuracy. Using the artist Vincent Van Gogh's famous paintings as inspiration, the students will explore paper shaping methods and experience using paper of differing textures and thickness to create their artwork.

Important Dates

1st August 100 days of school celebration
11th – 21st September Swimming programme
22nd September Term 3 ends @ 1.30pm

Be on Time, School starts at 9:00am! A reminder that, unless it is raining, students are not allowed in the classroom before 8:55am.

Cathy Valkanis and Katherine Pieprzyk
Prep Teachers