

Term 1 Newsletter

Prep

General Information

Welcome to 2025 and the first year of your child's schooling. We have a busy and exciting year planned for our students. The Preps are doing amazingly well settling into their new routines and getting to know all their classmates and teachers.

Thank you to everyone for bringing your child's booklist items in and for ensuring that all school items are named. Please check hats, lunchboxes and water bottles regularly to ensure your child's name is still visible.

As it is still very hot at the moment, please ensure that your child is coming to school every day with a hat and water bottle. It is also recommended that students have an ice brick in their lunchbox to keep their lunch cool as lunchboxes are stored in their backpacks during the day. Each day students will have a fruit/veg snack during first session. Please ensure that it is in named container and that it is a small snack that your student can finish in 5-10 minutes, e.g. 5 strawberries, a small banana, half a large apple, 3 medium pieces of watermelon, half a carrot.

In Prep our teaching and learning is guided by the Age-Appropriate Pedagogies Framework. This means that the children and teachers will be engaged in learning activities that are active, agentic, language rich, playful, scaffolded, creative, collaborative and learner focused. We love that this Framework helps us to ensure that learning in Prep is responsive to the needs and interests of our young students and caters to their different learning styles. It helps to ensure that all students are engaged in a variety of learning experience and having fun while they learn.

We are also very much looking forward to our first excursion. As part of our English unit this term we will be attending a performance of The Very Hungry Caterpillar at the MECC in Week 6 of this term. More details to follow.

English



This term we will be focusing on oral language, exploring letters and the sounds they make.

Learning to read is a process that needs step-by-step teaching and plenty of practise at school and at home. Everyone needs to be taught how to read.

This term students will learn how to:

- decode (reading) the words on the page
- making meaning from the words and sentences that are read.

For children to learn how to decode words, they need to understand how sounds and letters link together.

We are learning:

- words can be broken up into sounds (the word 'cat' is made up of 3 sounds: c-a-t)
- sounds can be blended to form words (the sounds c-a-t blended, forms the word 'cat')
- sounds in words can be represented by letters or groups of letters.

Name Writing

A big focus in Term 1 is learning how to recognise our names and write them correctly. Correct pencil grip and mastering correct letter formation.

Maths

Maths is more than just numbers. It includes classifying objects, making patterns, exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and solving problems. Maths in Prep is always fun. We will be using manipulatives and making sure we get up and move our bodies as much as possible. We even love to take our maths lessons outside of the classroom whenever possible. Each term, students will investigate all areas of Mathematics and will build on their previous learning.

This term we will be:

- oral counting to 5, 10 and continuing to 20.
- connecting numbers to a group of objects.
- representing numbers in different ways.

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- subitising to 5 - looking at a number of objects and knowing how many without counting.
- comparing groups of items and using the words more/less/same as/not the same as.
- exploring positional language – following simple instructions using positional language.
- naming basic 2D shapes - eg square, circle, rectangle.
- sorting and classifying objects by 1 attribute - eg colour, shape, size, number.
- copying and continuing patterns – using sounds or concrete objects.

Science

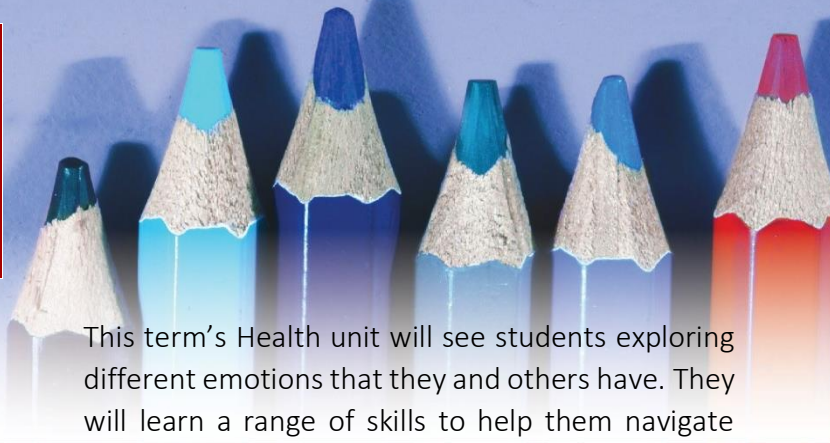
This term students will be exploring movement. In this unit, they will use their senses to observe different familiar items and the way they move. Students will also explore how the different properties of items, such as size, weight, surfaces etc, affect the way they move. Students will engage in a range of hands-on tasks and discuss their findings with others.

Humanities & Social Sciences

In HASS we will be learning about our families and how they are similar and different to other families. We would love every student to send in a photo of their family that we will be using in several activities in class. Students will create a family portrait and orally present their family portrait to the class and share who their family is.

Health and Physical Education

In Term 1, Prep students will focus on developing their fundamental movement skills through fun and exciting activities. They'll explore an obstacle course designed to improve their coordination, balance, and agility. As they navigate through crawling, jumping, balancing, and climbing, students will strengthen their motor skills.



This term's Health unit will see students exploring different emotions that they and others have. They will learn a range of skills to help them navigate friendships and be respectful and successful members of our school community

Performing Arts

This term students will explore a range of music, dance and drama activities including recreating rhymes they know, performing rhymes to the class using puppets, working on following instructions and working as a team. In the Music room students are expected to stay safe by using inside voices and using equipment for the purpose of the activity. They are expected to be respectful by taking turns and listening and they are expected to have a go at learning. These expectations will be modelled and explicitly taught throughout this term.

Visual Arts

This Term, students explore a range of techniques and materials to create a number of artworks. We will be viewing and creating a range of artworks using different drawing and collage techniques.