Welcome back everyone! We hope you all enjoyed the holiday break. In term 2 we have many exciting things planned for our Prep students. We will be working to ensure that we are providing a supportive and caring classroom environment, one that offers rich and meaningful learning opportunities for every child. We are introducing our Prep Parent Storytime session every Thursday morning from 8:45am. Please read the information in this newsletter and join us on Thursday mornings.

### Important dates in term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event (Term 2)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23rd April</td>
<td>Buddies 2 Cyber Safety Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th April</td>
<td>Anzac Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>9th May</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th May</td>
<td>Art Show Opening at 3:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th May</td>
<td>Report Writing Day (no school for students)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st May</td>
<td>Jump Rope for Heart</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th May</td>
<td>Lalor Library excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th June</td>
<td>Aboriginal Cultural Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th June</td>
<td>Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th June</td>
<td>End of term 2, students finish at 1:30pm</td>
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### LITERACY

Literacy sessions are held each morning before recess. Please ensure your child is at school on time so they do not miss out on valuable introductory activities. The children will be involved in reading and writing activities and visits to the Oral Language Centre are continuing.

Letters we will concentrate on this term are: **li, Cc, Oo, Dd, Ff, Ll, Uu, Bb, Rr** and **Ww**.

Words we will focus on this term are:

- **and, up, that, my, on, we, said, can, had and have**.

Children are involved in writing activities daily at school. Activities include learning correct letter formation and writing sentences. You can help by allowing your child to have access to pens, pencils and paper at home.

Each day at school students are involved in developing their oral language. They are learning new songs and rhymes and how to ask and answer a question. The children are enjoying the activities in the Oral Language Centre. They will be listening to modelled stories and composing their own oral stories about something they have made. Your child may also bring home a story they have written together with the teacher or a special letter for you! How clever!
HOME READING
Students are enjoying borrowing books each day. This is an essential element of becoming a successful reader. Please ensure you spend the time at home sharing books with your child. The Take Home Bag and book should be returned daily.

PREP PARENT STORYTIME
Every Thursday morning during term 2 we invite parents and their child to our Prep Parent Storytime session. The session will start at 8:45am and continue until 9:00am. We have purchased some beautiful picture story books for you to read to your child. We would love you to join us to share in developing the love of reading with your child. What a great way to begin the day!

NUMERACY
This term we are focusing on:
- Revising numbers 1-5
- Recognition of numbers 6-10
- Counting collections up to 20
- Ordinal number to tenth
- Pattern—colour, shape, size
- Sorting
- Mass and capacity—heavier/lighter, full/empty
- Time—sequencing daily events
- Location vocabulary (under, over, above, beside).

Try these counting ideas at home:
- Count the food items as they are placed in the trolley or unpacked at home.
- Count each toss of the ball as you play a game.
- Count the steps to the letterbox, front door, clothes line.

INTEGRATED STUDIES
In term 2, Prep students will complete two units of work related to The 5 Senses and Healthy Food.

The 5 Senses
This term we will be focusing on our five senses (seeing, hearing, tasting, touching & smelling). In this unit the children will identify the 5 senses and learn how they work within our body. They begin to understand the link between the 5 senses and their body. They learn how our senses help us.

Healthy Food
The second part of our integrated studies this term involves the study of healthy food. Children will be investigating how healthy food makes their bodies grow and learn how to identify healthy and unhealthy food. The Life Education Van will visit during term 2

We will continue learning about the computer and how to be cyber safe.
How to Help At Home

Here are some tips on things you can try at home. These have been taken from the “Prep For Parents” section of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website.

- Find problems they can help solve, like a jigsaw puzzle or helping you sort the laundry (especially the socks!). These are great ways to tap into their natural problem solving abilities.
- Enjoying spontaneous activities in response to your child’s questions can go a long way to encouraging their curiosity.
- When talking to your child, ask reflective questions like 'how' 'why' or 'what if...' as this helps them to think deeply about their responses.
- Repeat things. Most of us can’t do something perfectly the first time we try them. We get better with practice, and understand what we’re doing the more we do it. Children are exactly the same.
- Remember, your child needs some downtime just like you do. Giving them time to just be themselves is as important as giving them good food and lots of love.

Lalor Library Visit

On Wednesday 29th of May Prep students will be visiting the Lalor Library. This will involve a bus trip to the Library at 11.30am for our session at 12.00am. During our visit the children will be given a tour of the library. We will listen to a story and complete an activity. The children will also have the opportunity to join the Lalor Library after the visit. We will need some parent helpers on this day. More information will be sent home.

Teachers are available to speak to parents about any concerns. We often have meetings before and after school so please make an appointment. We would like to thank parents for a successful term 1 and we are looking forward to working together to ensure some great educational outcomes during term 2.

Thank you
The Prep Team
Karen, Daniela and Lauren
SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

ART – KARREN MONCUR
The children will start the term making puppets. As they are learning about Fairytales we will make characters from these stories. They will create three different puppets, two rod puppets and a string puppet. The children will then be painting. Please provide your child with a smock. I buy paint that should wash out but you never know with some colours. They will practise keeping their brush clean and mixing colours. Other skills covered will be making colours lighter, darker and over painting to make new colours.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – LARA ARSANA
In term 2, the Prep students will be evaluated on the Fundamental Motor Skills they have learnt in class during terms 1 and 2. These skills include: Run, Vertical Jump and Overhand Throw.

In preparation for Lalor East’s annual Jump Rope for Heart Day, on Tuesday 21st May, the Prep students will be completing a skipping unit where they will learn to skip with skipping ropes.

To complete the Term, the Preps will be completing a Ball Bounce unit.

MUSIC – BRAD JONES
The emphasis for the Prep students in term 2 will be pitch. The students will discuss which sounds have a high pitch and which have a low pitch. The students will be introduced to new instruments and will sing along to an increasing range of songs. Students will be involved in a variety of activities and games that will reinforce these musical concepts.