Welcome back everyone. Can you believe we are in term 4? This year seems to have gone so quickly and especially when we look at how far the children have come in their learning. Each day we are amazed at the new learning that occurs both academically and socially. We have an interesting term planned, one that will involve our first big excursion. This term, your child will also be involved in a short transition to grade 1 program. Let’s make term 4 the best yet!

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 4**

- **Friday 12th October:** Swimming begins
- **Thursday 18th October:** FARM EXCURSION
- **Thursday 8th November:** Sports Day
- **Monday 12th November:** Chicken Hatching program begins
- **Wednesday 14th November:** Responsible Pet Ownership Program

**PREP PARENT STORYTIME**

Thank you so much to all the parents, grandparents and siblings that came to join us and shared the joy of reading during our Prep Parent storytime sessions. After the success of this program, we will continue the program during term 4. We will be holding the sessions before school at 8.45am, on a **THURSDAY** morning. We continue to add new books to our collection and we will also have some books in other languages coming soon.
The Prep children are improving daily with their reading skills. Thank you for continuing to return the Take Home Book to school daily. Sharing books with your child fosters their love of reading. Remember to discuss the pictures and ask your child questions about the book. This improves speaking and listening skills and increases their understanding of the book.

**LITERACY**

During terms 1-3, children have been involved in learning all the letters and sounds of the alphabet. In term 4, children will be learning about *sh, ch, th*, adding ‘s’ and word endings ‘ed’ and ‘ing’. We will also be revising our letters, sounds, letter formations and providing lots of extension activities for children.

We will be learning these words:
*here, little, with, go, going, one, you, of, be, by, they.*

Your child will be involved in daily writing activities. Make sure you look in their schoolbags, for some fantastic writing that they are completing at school.

Children are involved with daily reading and writing activities. In the classroom, children will be reading and writing throughout the day. We read and write during Literacy time, Maths time and during our learning in Integrated Studies.

**Speaking and Listening**

We have been practising how to ask a question and how to answer a question. This term, we will continue to learn some poems and rhymes. Ask your child to recite them to you.

We are so proud of the Prep students and their writing. Please come and have a look at some of the writing displayed outside the classroom.

**NUMERACY**

This term we will be looking at subtraction and informal multiplication and division. We will be revising shapes and location of objects. We will also be learning about capacity and area. You can help at home in many ways.

Subtraction: Ask your child to count out some objects. Now take away some. Ask how many are left?
**Multiplication**: Put the socks into pairs. How many groups or pairs do you have?

**Division**: Share things between children.

**Capacity**: Provide different sized containers in the bath. Talk about containers being full or empty. Ask them to half fill a container.

**Maths is fun!**

Thank you for participating in our Maths Share activities. This term, we will be focussing on Literacy and sending home some literacy activities.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES**

This term, we will begin our unit on The Farm. This unit introduces children to common animals found on a farm. We will also learn about food that is produced and grown on a farm. Children will learn about living and non-living things. We are excited to learn about the life cycle of chickens during our chicken hatching program. We will be visiting Bundoora Farm as an integral part of our learning.

**LET’S READ PROGRAM**

We are excited to be able to introduce the LET’S READ program to Lalor East Primary School. Last term, Sharyn Anderson and Karen O’Neill were trained to deliver this program. After attending a short training session on reading to pre-schoolers, participants in the program are entitled to a free book pack. Parents in our Prep grades who have younger children are the first to be offered this opportunity. Please contact the office if you would like to be involved.

**Please ensure your child is at school on time.** The teaching and learning in the Prep room starts at 9.00. It is important that your child is at the line up area on time to be ready to begin the day. Arriving late to class unsettles children and they are missing out on valuable learning time.
SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
In Term 4, the Prep children will be assessed on the Fundamental Motor Skills that they have been taught this semester. They will also continue to develop their skills by practising the kick, overhand throw and catch during P.E. lessons. To finish the term, the children will participate in a Minor Games unit, where they will play games such as Kickball and Rapid Fire.

Prep-2 Swimming will run from **Friday 12th October- Friday 30th November**, at Thomastown Recreation & Aquatic Centre (TRAC). The Prep children will also participate in the Annual House Sports day, on Thursday 8th November.

ART
The children will begin with paper construction, making 3D shapes from paper and using various joining methods. They will then create constructions using cardboard boxes and masking tape. They will be encouraged to make an interesting item with detail. The children will be involved in a thread and textile unit, they will thread a needle and sew on buttons. The children will end the year with some special lessons to celebrate the holiday season.

MUSIC
In Music this term, the Prep students will be furthering their knowledge of musical concepts, especially tempo and texture. The students will discuss how varying the speed of music can change the mood of a song and students will participate in a variety of activities to reinforce this concept. The students will also be introduced to a wider range of songs and will be introduced to basic music notation.

We are available to talk to parents about any concerns you may have. **Please arrange a time to come and see us, as we often have meetings before and after school.** We are looking forward to working with your child in term 4.

Daniela, Francesca, Lauren and Karen
The Prep Team