Welcome back everyone! We hope you all enjoyed the holiday break. We have many exciting things planned for our Foundation students during term 2. 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 Foundation Parent Storytime session every Thursday morning from 8:50am. 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</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>16 May</td>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>Report Writing Day (Pupil Free Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Jump Rope for Heart/Open Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 May - 4 June</td>
<td>Life Ed Van at Lalor East PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 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. Foundation students 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 **Ii, Cc, Oo, Dd, Ff, Ll, Uu, Bb, Rr, Ww**

Words we will focus on this term are:
**here, up, look, looking, and, can, went, come, you, go, going**

Children are involved in writing activities daily at school. These will 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
It is great to see the majority of students 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. We have many children who have reached 25 nights reading and have been awarded their special 25 nights reading sticker to place in their record book. Thank you for all the excellent comments you have taken the time to write in the record books. It is wonderful to read them!

We would also like to thank the parents who have helped us in the classrooms during term 1 listening to students read. The children love having you in the classroom and we are eager to see you again during term 2.

TAKE HOME WRITING
We are very happy with the amount of words the children are practising writing at home. Please continue with this. Some extension activities can involve putting the words they know how to write into sentences. This term we will also have some new words to practise. But don’t forget to keep writing term 1 words as well.

PREP PARENT STORYTIME
Every Thursday morning during term 2 we invite parents and their child to our Foundation Parent Storytime session. The session will start at 8:50 and continue until 9:05. 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 of up to 10
· 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 supermarket 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.
- Keep practising number formation in the take home writing book.

INTEGRATED STUDIES
In Term 2 Foundation students learn 2 units of information connected 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.

LALOR LIBRARY VISIT
We are in the process of organising our first big excursion out of the school to the Lalor Library. This will be held on Tuesday 27 May. We will be given a tour of the Library, meet the librarian and listen to some stories and songs. We will also be making something special to bring back to school with us. This will be very exciting for the Foundation students and we would like all students to attend. We will be sending home more information soon.

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.
BRINGING MONEY TO SCHOOL
If you do decide to send money to school for your child to spend at the canteen, please place it in a small plastic zip lock bag with your child’s name on it. This can be kept in your child’s lunch box. Please be aware that children do not need to be spending money at the canteen every day but should be kept as a special treat.

iPad Apps
We are now using iPads in the classroom as a valuable addition to our learning. Some parents have requested some suggestions for iPad apps to use at home. Here are some we use at school:

Red Writing (if you decide to download this at home it is best searched through Google)
Shiny Party
Tens Frame
ABC Magic
Play Time for Kids
Shapes
Endless Reader
Space Numbers

HARMONY DAY
During Harmony Day the Foundation students made quilts with pictures and words that showed their understandings of what it means to live and learn with people from all over the world. We were thrilled with the results and have included these photographs for you to enjoy. If you would like to see the real thing, please come and visit our classrooms.
SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

ART - KARREN MONCUR
The Foundation students will play with clay this term. They will manipulate the clay to make 3D sculptures. They will create clay from bread and glue; they can then make an item to keep.

The children will also make puppets in term two. Using skewers, polystyrene balls and material they will create animals and people. During the last few weeks of the term, the children will be in a painting unit. Please provide your child with a smock, if you have not already done so.

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

In preparation for Lalor East’s annual Jump Rope for Heart Day on Thursday 22 May, the Foundation students will be completing a skipping unit, where they will learn to skip with skipping ropes.

To complete the Term, the students will be participating in a Gymnastics unit, focussing on basic gymnastics skills, body movements and balance skills.

MUSIC – LUIS RIOS GONZALEZ
In term 2, students will continue developing a sense of pitch and rhythm through learning songs that involve actions and movement. Such songs will usually be related to other areas of the curriculum, such as Literacy and Science, in order to provide a holistic learning experience. Students will start exploring different percussion instruments in order to experience performing in a group setting.

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.

Thankyou
The Foundation Team
Karen, Francesca and Brad