Welcome back to all parents and students. We hope you all enjoyed the holiday break. It was fantastic to see and talk to parents at the 3 way conferences last term. We are looking forward to another great term of discovering and learning in the Foundation rooms. The students have learnt so much since the beginning of the year and we look forward to seeing this growth continuing during term 3.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 3**

- 30 July - Marketfresh Program
- 12 August - Leigh Hobbs Author visit
- 19-25 August Book Fair
- 20 August - Family Maths Night
- 27 August - Multicultural Day
- 4 September - ACMA Cyber Presentation

**LITERACY**

Your child will continue to be involved in developing reading skills daily. This will include activities such as shared reading of fiction and non-fiction books, guided reading, word recognition of commonly used words, letter and sound recognition and cued articulation.

Letters we will concentrate on this term are:
- Ww, Gg, Nn, Hh, Vv, Kk, Yy, Zz and Jj.

Words we will focus on this term are:
- my, he, she, are, not, all, like, see, for, little.

Foundation students continue to be involved in writing experiences through modelled, interactive and independent writing. Students learn correct letter formation by tracing and copying letters. We are also learning how to write using dotted thirds paper.
Take Home Writing Book
Some of our Foundation students have completed their Take Home Writing Books. They have done a great job practising letters, words and numbers in this book. You can buy any kind of scrapbook or notepad for your child to continue to practise these skills at home. These books can be purchased at the supermarket or newsagent.

Speaking & Listening
Speaking and listening is an important part of our literacy sessions. We listen to stories, songs, poems chants & rhymes. We listen and share our learning during share time.

Oral Language Centre (OLC)
New activities in the OLC this term are the box construction area and the science table. When your child brings something home from the OLC this is a great opportunity to ask your child questions about what they have made. The OLC combines speaking and listening activities with reading and writing. We also use problem solving skills and curiosity to explore and foster learning.

iPad Apps
Here are some good Literacy apps that you may like to purchase for use on an iPad. Some of these apps are free and others you will need to purchase:
- Word Magic
- Sight Words Learn to Read Flash Cards and Games
- Little Speller
- Reading Eggs Spelling App
- Phonics Tic Tac Toe Interactive Game.

NUMERACY
During term 3 in our Numeracy sessions we will be:
- revising numbers 0 –10
- focusing on numbers 11-20
- making numbers in different ways and learning number facts
- completing simple addition
- continuing oral counting to 100 and above
- learning about 3D shapes: sphere, cylinder and cube
- revising location vocabulary
- learning about mass

We will continue to explore these ideas by solving mathematical problems, asking questions and thinking about numbers.
INTEGRATED STUDIES
This term we are learning about Fire Safety. The children will learn about safe and unsafe fires, what to do if clothing catches fire and how to evacuate in case of fire. Epping firefighters will visit us to talk about fire safety. We will also discuss how the police and ambulance officers help us and when and how to call 000.

We will be sending home an information sheet about the program. Please check in your child’s schoolbag as we will also be sending home information regarding safe meeting places at home in case of fire and a home evacuation plan. These will help you to discuss fire safety at home.

HOW TO HELP AT HOME
There are many ways you can help your child with their learning. Here are a few ideas:
- ensure your child borrows books daily and share the reading with them at home each night. Allow children to look at the pictures to help them when reading
- borrow & return library books weekly
- model reading in front of your child and tell them stories
- use positional language as children play in the garden or at the park, such as under, over and across the monkey bars
- play dice games at home - This encourages children to recognise numbers quickly. Taking turns and discussing the game improves cooperation and encourages speaking and listening
- being involved in an activity after school has many potential benefits. It can help your child with their learning in school. It can give your child another group of friends. It can help build their confidence. There are many different types of activities. Some suggestions include, swimming lessons or learning a sport.

Just4Kids
The Lalor Library has a Just4 Kids activity session after school, which might be worth a try!

Where: Lalor Library
When: Wednesdays 3.30pm–4.30pm
- July - 23, 30
- August - 6, 13, 20, 27
- September - 3, 10, 17
- October - 8, 15, 22, 29
- November - 5, 12, 19, 26
- December - 3, 10, 17

Who: children 5 - 12 years
What: Sessions include activities, games, book chats and new fiction.
PMP
We continue to enjoy our PMP session on Thursday afternoons in the Multipurpose Centre. We have some wonderful grade 5/6 activity leaders who work very well with the Foundation students.

Foundation Parent Story time
The Foundation story time session is held each Thursday morning during the term. The session begins at 8:50 and continues until 9:05. Thank you to the parents who have attended the sessions. Sharing the reading of picture story books with your child contributes to the development of their reading skills. We have selected some beautiful picture story books for you to share that are perfect for reading aloud. It is great to see younger and older siblings enjoying the story time together. We do have books available in other languages. It is a great way to begin the day!

ICT
The Foundation children will attend our computer lab weekly. They will work on extending their literacy, numeracy and integrated studies work using technology. Each Foundation grade has a Smartboard and children use this daily. The Foundation students are using the iPad in the classroom and have discovered some fun apps!
ART
The children will learn to thread a needle and sew a button onto a piece of material in a textile unit. They will change the colour of material and decorate material with beads and scraps of felt. They will make bread clay and make a small item to keep. The children will be involved in a construction unit. They will join boxes and card to create marvellous art work.

MUSIC
In term 3, students will explore some forms of basic music notation and how they can be applied to create new music. They will continue to develop a sense of pitch and rhythm through learning songs that involve actions and movement. Students will start exploring tuned percussion instruments in order to develop a pitch/rhythm relationship.

P.E.
In Term 3, the Foundation children will continue to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills by practising leaping, kicking and bouncing. They will begin to participate in more complex activities and will play small, modified games. To finish the term, the children will participate in a ‘Movement to Music’ unit that will explore a variety of dance styles.

Term 4 Excursion
In term 4 the Foundation children will be studying a unit called Living and Non Living Things. An integral part of this unit will be an excursion to Coopers Settlement (Bundoora Children’s Farm). We would love to have all children come to the farm with us so we would like to let you know that we expect the excursion to cost approximately $25.00.

If you have any concerns about your child’s progress, please come and talk to your child’s teacher. It’s usually a good idea to call or send a note to arrange a specific time as we often have meetings before and after school and may not be able to meet with you on a particular day.

We are looking forward to another fabulous term of learning!

The Foundation Team: Karen, Francesca and Brad