Wow! It’s hard to believe we have reached term 4 already! The year seems to have simply passed by. Along with the regular educational program, teachers will be busy assessing students in the areas of literacy and numeracy in preparation for the end of year reports. Term 4 promises to be a very exciting term as we are going on an excursion to the Melbourne Zoo.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 4:**

- P-2 Swimming program – Friday 10 Oct – Friday 28 Nov
- Curriculum Day – Monday 3 November
- Cup Day Holiday – Tuesday 4 November
- Annual House Sports – Thursday 6 November
- Melbourne Zoo Excursion – Wednesday 12 November
- Opening of Writers’ Festival – Monday 17 November
- Lalor East Primary School Mini Fete – Friday 5 December
- End of Year Celebrations – Friday 12 December
- Reports go home – Friday 12 December
- Last day of the school year – Friday 19 December at 1:00pm

Further information about these events will be sent home closer to the date.

**EVERY DAY COUNTS and IT’S NOT GREAT TO BE LATE**

Well done to those students who have tried very hard to achieve an attendance rate of 95% or higher. It was a tough term with some very nasty illnesses but overall most students are making steady progress in trying to achieve the attendance rate. We ask for your continued co-operation in term 4 and ensure all grade 1/2 students attend school every day unless they are really sick. Also, we remind everyone that it is very important to be at school before 9 o’clock.

**NO HAT, NO PLAY**

Our school has a SunSmart Policy and in term 4, students will need to wear a green broad brimmed hat when playing outside during morning and lunch recesses. Students without hats will have to sit in a covered area.

**HELPING AT HOME**

We have been very pleased with the progress most students have made with their reading this year. It is very important for parents to continue to support the reading program by setting aside 15-20 minutes each night for home reading. It is only a small amount of time but it can make a HUGE difference to a child’s ability to read fluently and confidently. Encourage them to discuss the book they have read and retell the story in their own words.
Remember home reading can include newspapers, magazines, comics, chapter books, non-fiction books and computer tasks. Also, please continue to allow your child some time on the Mathletics computer program to consolidate mathematical skills and to further develop their word problem solving skills.

Please assist your child to complete any Homework tasks such as Maths, learning their weekly spelling words and other set tasks. Ensure tasks are completed by the due date.

**UNNAMED CLOTHING**

It is no surprise with the warmer weather students often take their jumpers/jackets off when playing outside or when they are at their specialist class. Most students do the right thing and tie their jumper around their waist until they can put it in their school bag. Sadly, some students leave their top behind and completely forget about it.

Please assist us to reduce the amount of unnamed clothing left at school. To save you money and assist us to return your child’s clothing to them, please write your child’s name clearly on the label of all clothing that comes to school with a permanent marker.

**LITERACY**

During the previous terms the children have been learning to write descriptive texts with the focus on grammar, (adjectives, nouns, similes, alliteration and onomatopoeia) with some further work on factual texts related to the topic of their Integrated Studies units. This year in term 4, all the children will be involved in writing about their ‘Special Place’. Their writing will be displayed at the opening of the Lalor East Primary School Writers’ Festival on the 17 November. More information will be sent home closer to the time but it promises to be a amazing experience as every child in the school will have a written piece and an accompanying art piece.

Our focus for the term is factual texts. We will be reading many different factual books related to our Life Cycles unit. Students will complete a range of reading and writing activities related to these books including: writing their own fact pages related to the creatures we are studying. We will also be reviewing text types such as persuasive writing, procedural writing and poetry.

Students are continuing to make progress with handwriting and are showing greater awareness of the correct placement of letters on the lines. This term we will revise the accurate letter formation for some of the trickier letters: G, Q, F, P, R, K, T, Y and Z and the numerals 0 – 20.
NUMERACY
Our focus for this term will be to:

- revise **place value** - read, write and model numbers
- recognise and represent **fractions** - including ½, ¼ & ⅓
- revising the **4 operations** - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- count beyond 110 by 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s from different starting points
- begin using **ICT** tools to complete various Mathematical functions e.g. children draw shapes on the computer, so they can **flip, slide and turn** them.

Measurement, space, chance and data lessons will cover:

- **transformations** – flipping, sliding and turning 2D shapes to create patterns
- **symmetry** – "Reflection" (or "Mirror") - symmetry is when one shape becomes exactly like another if you flip, slide or turn it
- **time** – reviewing o’clock, ½ past and ¼ past
- **volume and capacity** – estimating and measuring the capacity of a container.

INTEGRATED STUDIES
Our focus for this term is on Life Cycles. Students will study the different stages plants and some animals go through in their life. We will cover several different life cycles including: butterflies, frogs, marsupials (kangaroos) and ladybirds. It is a very exciting topic and one that students of all ages love, including the biggest kids in the rooms – the teachers!

A fantastic excursion has been planned to the Melbourne Zoo for **Wednesday 12 November**. Students will have the opportunity to take part in a classroom lesson and get up close to some special animal friends.

COMPUTERS
Sessions in the computer room will focus on developing students’ skills using:

- **Microsoft Publisher** – to label plant parts and body parts of an animal
- **Microsoft Word** – further develop typing skills and publish their writing.

Cybersafety lessons will focus on why it is important to protect personal information when using the Internet.

Term 4 promises to be a fun term full of lots of exciting events. Remember to see your child’s teacher if you have any concerns about their progress.

The 1/2 Team
Ms D, Mrs Herbert, Stephanie Chan, Kristian Carrocci, and Mrs I’a
TERM 4 SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

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<th>GRADE</th>
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<th>MUSIC</th>
<th>PHYS. ED</th>
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SPECIALISTS

ART - Karren Moncur
All children, Foundation to Grade 6, will create a picture for the Writers’ Festival. The children will revisit painting and make acrylic paintings that are full of colour and movement. They will look at paintings done in the Impressionists style and create works that match them.

MUSIC - Luis Rios-Gonzalez
In term 4, students will continue exploring some basic forms of music notation and the way they are used to create new music. They will continue learning songs that involve actions and movement. Students will continue learning the keyboard and the xylophone and start writing and playing music on them. Additionally, they will learn a few basic chords on the ukulele and the guitar.

PHYS/ED - Lara Arsana
In term 4, the Grade 1/2 children will be assessed on the different skills they have learnt this semester. They will also continue to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills by practising the strike through games such as Cricket and Bat Tennis.

To finish the term, the children will participate in a Minor Games unit where they will play games such as Kickball and Rapid Fire.

Foundation - 2 Swimming will run from **Friday 10 October - Friday 28 November** at Thomastown Recreation & Aquatic Centre (TRAC). The 1/2 children will also participate in the Annual House Sports day on Thursday 6 November.