



PREP AREA NEWSLETTER

2019 - TERM 3

Welcome back to all parents and students. We hope you enjoyed the holiday break as much as we have. We would like to remind all our parents that our **3-way Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will take place on Thursday 25 July. As this is not a regular school day, you will be provided with your interview time slip prior to this date.**

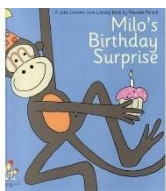
We had so much fun last term with many highlights including Grandparent's Day and our Thursday morning Story Time, where we shared and listened to stories with our families and friends! We are looking forward to another great term of discovering and learning in the Prep rooms. The students have learnt 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

25 July	3-way Parent/Teacher/Student Conference
14 August	Milo's Birthday Party
30 August	Life Education Van (Ms Ds Grade 2.30-3.30pm)
3 September	Life Education Van (Mrs Natalie's Grade 2.30 -3.30pm)
21 & 29 August	Epping Fire Fighters school visit
20 September	Term 3 ends (early finish 1.30pm)



Literacy



The children have enjoyed our new Literacy program, 'Little Learner's Love Literacy' and in particular the preps have loved learning all the letter/sounds of the characters that have been invited to Milo the Monkey's Birthday. To mark the completion of learning all the letters and sounds of the alphabet, we will be having a party in **week 5** to celebrate Milo's Birthday.

All our students will continue to be involved in developing their reading skills on a daily basis. This will include completing activities such as shared reading of fiction and informational texts, guided reading, word recognition of new **heart words**, letter and sound recognition of blends

Letters we will concentrate on this term are:

Jj, Uu, Kk, Xx and Ww (Revision of vowel sounds A, E, I, O and U)



We will also be learning:

Adding 's' i.e. cats, dogs, double consonants ll, i.e. hill, fill, **ss**, i.e. fuss, hiss, mess, **ff**, i.e. puff, huff, final adjacent consonants i.e. cat changes to cap, hog changes to hot, 'ck' words i.e. duck, truck, stuck,

Words we will focus on this term are:

Was, he, she, are, not, see, like all, for, little,



Prep students will continue to be involved in writing experiences through modelled, interactive and independent writing. Students will learn correct letter formation by tracing and copying letters. We will also be learning to use dotted thirds paper to improve our letter formation and size.

Take Home Writing Book

Some of our prep students have completed their Take Home Writing Books. They have done a great job practising letters, words and numbers in this book. We have sent this semesters' **heart words** to practise at home along with a new Take Home Writing Book if your child has completed the first one. Remember to practise writing numerals and counting patterns. Some children are ready to write some sentences.



Speaking & Listening

Speaking and listening is an important part of our literacy sessions. We listen to stories, songs, poems and rhymes. We listen and share our learning during our reflection time. We learn how to ask questions to find out further information and to be good listeners. We will continue to develop our understanding of how to use colourful semantics to form correctly structured sentences.



Numeracy

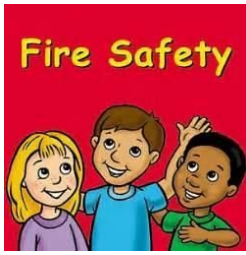
During term 3 our numeracy sessions will include:

- revising numbers 0 –10
- learning numbers 11-20
- skip counting by 2s and 10s
- making numbers in different ways including number facts
- learning strategies for simple addition and subtraction
- sharing objects into fair groups
- continuing oral counting to 100 and above
- revising 2D shapes: square, triangle, circle and rectangle
- 3D objects: sphere, cylinder and cube
- revising location vocabulary
- learning about mass
- revising the days of the week
- interpreting simple graphs.

We will continue to explore these ideas by solving mathematical problems, asking questions and thinking about numbers in everyday situations



Integrated Studies



It will be a very busy term in Integrated Studies. We will begin the term with a focus on safety and learn about fire education. The Epping fire fighters will visit the prep grades to talk about fire safety. We will learn about road safety, school safety and community helpers.

The Life Education van will visit Lalor East Primary during term 3. All students will be visiting the van for a lesson and we will continue our learning in the classroom.



Digital Technologies

The prep students visit our computer lab weekly. This term we will work on extending our literacy, numeracy and integrated studies work using technology. We will continue our learning with Microsoft Publisher. Each grade has a Smartboard and children use this daily. We use our iPads in the classrooms during reading and numeracy sessions and we are learning how to use some new apps.

Perceptual Motor Program (PMP)

Our PMP sessions will run on Tuesday afternoons in the Multipurpose Centre. We have some wonderful grade 3/4 and grade 5/6 activity leaders who will work very well with the Prep students to help them with their motor skills.

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
- Do you play dice or board games at home? This encourages children to recognise numbers quickly. Taking turns and discussing the game improves cooperation and encourages speaking and listening skills in young children
- 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 and can help build their confidence. There are many different types of activities. Some suggestions include swimming lessons or learning a sport.

TERM 4 EXCURSION

In **term 4**, the prep students will be completing an Integrated Studies unit which involves studying the external features of living things and classifying them accordingly. An important part of this visit 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 \$26.00

The CSEF is available to use for those students eligible.

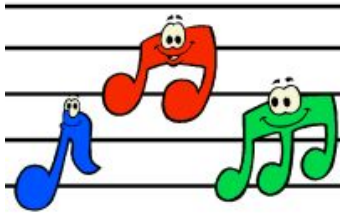


THE SPECIALISTS

ART – Karren Moncur

The children will be completing their painting unit by learning how to make the colours lighter and darker adding black and white paint. The children will learn to thread a needle and sew stitches in material. They will use large needles and thick cotton to sew buttons onto hessian. They will also use food dye to change the colour of material. Finally, the children will play with clay and start to model it into shapes.

MUSIC and Spanish– Luis Rios Gonzalez



In term 3, students will continue learning basic forms of music notation, and how these can be used to write music. They will learn songs which involve actions and movement. Students will start experimenting with sound using the ukuleles and guitars. They will also learn the correct way to hold and strum these instruments. In Spanish our focus will be the weather. They will also learn simple sentences to introduce themselves, their families and say their own names.

P.E. – Dean Sharples

In term 3, the prep students will participate in a 'Movement to Music' unit where they will explore a variety of locomotor and rhythm based activities.

They will continue to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills by practising kicking and bouncing. The students will begin to participate in more complex activities and will play small, modified games introducing them to the concept of teamwork and sportsmanship.



If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please make an appointment to 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 Prep Team: Daniela and Natalie