

Foundation Term 4 Newsletter 2017

Welcome back to Term 4

In Term 4, we reach the final term of the school year. As the new Foundation students for 2018 begin to visit our school, we look back on the year and celebrate how much the children have grown and developed into independent learners.

This term, we will continue to focus on our reading and writing skills. We encourage each child to read every night and practise their sight words and blending word lists. If your child/children can now recognise the sight words we encourage them to begin writing them independently. It is your child's/children's responsibility to bring their reader to school every day along with their blue communication folder.

In Term 4, children need to wear their hat to and from school. Children who do not have a hat will need to play in the shade.



Important Dates for this Term:

- School Closure Day- Monday 6th November 2017
- PUBLIC HOLIDAY- MELBOURNE CUP DAY- Tuesday 7th November 2017
- Foundation/ Grade 5&6 Community Mass- Friday 10th November 9:15am
- Market Night- Friday 17th November- 5:30pm-9pm
- Foundation/ Grade 1&2 Swimming Program- Monday 27th November- Friday 1st December 2017
- Whole school Gift Giving Mass- Thursday 30th November 9:15am
- Thank you brunch for Parents/ Volunteers- Tuesday 12th December 9am-10am
- WHOLE SCHOOL- CAROLS NIGHT- Tuesday 12th December 6:30pm
- End of year Mass- Thursday 14th December 9:15am
- Last Day of Term 4- Wednesday 20th December 2017- 3:15pm finish

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All of our Religious Education learning for the term will be integrated across all areas of the Foundation Curriculum.

This term we are focussing on learning about Jesus and how he loved, cared and respected all of those around him. We will explore how we too can be like Jesus through our thoughts and actions towards others in our world. Later in the term our focus will change to 'awaiting and celebrating the season of Advent and Christmas. Students will explore the concepts of waiting and the joyful anticipation that is expressed through Advent symbols and stories.



INVESTIGATION TIME

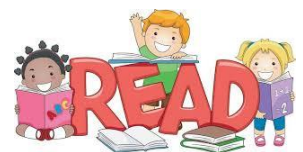
In Term 4, the children will continue to explore new and exciting investigation areas. These are based on the children's interests and the Foundation curriculum. The children will learn the skills of communicating, decision making and problem solving as they interact with their peers in a natural way. We have new areas such as a school, family day care, winter area and a new box construction for the children to explore and enjoy new experiences.

COMMUNICATION BOARD

We have a parent communication board on the wall as you walk into the classrooms via the office. It informs you about the learning intentions we are focusing on for the fortnight and will give ideas of concepts to work with your child at home, if you wish to do so.

LITERACY

This term, the Foundation community will continue to focus on the Jolly Phonics program. Last term the students completed the single sounds of the letters of the alphabet and moved onto the long vowel sounds of ai, ie, ou, ee and ue. Students have begun learning of alternative spelling patterns for each of the vowel sounds. Keep an eye out for examples of these in their sound books! We will continue to focus on using pictures to help us read while using the strategy of blending the sounds in words. Blending is a highly important skill to have to ensure that the students are successful when reading short texts independently. Please continue to practise your child's sound book, word lists and keep talking about the books they are bringing home.



MATHEMATICS

This term we will be continuing our focus on Structuring Number.

- Counting forwards and backwards
- Identifying numbers before and after
- Writing numerals correctly
- Using the counting on strategy to add 2 groups of objects together
- Identifying partitions of 5 (2 and 3=5) (4 and 1=5)
- Doubles
- Counting collections and making numbers using objects
- Ordinal numbers- 1st-10th

Students will also be learning about:

- Full and empty- comparing objects.
- Time- Reading and making time to the hour (o'clock)
- Data Representation- Responding to Yes and No questions and collecting data (information) from peers.
- Money- identifying coins and notes used.

Term 4 Swimming Program



In Term 4, we will take part in swimming lessons at Doug Ellis Swimming Pool, Monash.

Swimming lessons begin on Monday 27th November – Friday 1st December 2017.

More information about Swimming will be available closer to the dates so please keep an eye out for notices in the blue communication folder and on FlexiBuzz.

Ideas for things you can continue to do at home!

Here are some suggestions on what you can do to support your child this Term at school:

- Encourage your child to dress themselves in the morning.
- Begin to develop independence by encouraging your child to hold their own school bag.
- Encourage your child to unpack their own bag in the morning.
- When your child wants something, encourage them to ask in a sentence and use their words to express their wants and needs.
- Read a bed time story and talk with your child about the pictures and help them to notice letters and words in the text.
- Talk about the stories you read together and ask questions such as, "What might happen next?" "What did you like about the story?" "What happened on that page?"
- Encourage your child to notice numbers and practise counting forwards and backwards from 0-20.
- Practise blending word lists.
- Access literacy Planet and Mathletics to complete some online tasks.
- YouTube- type in the word 'Jolly Phonics' and the songs that accompany each sound will appear.



If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to come and talk to us or contact us via email.

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