

Dear Parents,

At the commencement of each term, each teaching team will distribute an overview of the curriculum that will be covered during that term. I trust that you find this comprehensive information useful.

Regards,

Andrea Federico

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Principal



CLASSROOM OVERVIEWS

ENGLISH

Reading & Viewing

In Reading this term, we introduce the students to the comprehension strategy of Summarising. Through the daily 'think aloud' and 'shared reading' of different fiction texts students will be able to identify the main character in stories, identify the important events and retell these events in order, by using the words, first, next, then and finally.

Writing

Writing this term is a continuation of the 'smart writers' routines children are so involved in. They continue to use the process of planning, drafting editing, publishing and sharing when writing. This term children will be focussing on the genre 'procedures'. Through learning the genre, the children will also focus on the craft and conventions of writing through daily modelled writing by the teacher. We begin the term with 'Reading as a Writer', where mentor texts are used in the classroom to help children understand how real authors write procedural texts. We also introduce the students to Editing. At Foundation level, editing consists of the children being able to re-read their writing, fix any words that are misspelt and checking punctuation (capital letters and full stops).

Speaking & Listening

Share time is an important component of all our lessons in the Prep grade. This is a time where children can reflect on what they have learnt and articulate their learning to others. Speaking clearly and confidently is an integral part of share time and, so too, is the ability to listen to one another without fidgeting, keeping one's body still and looking at the speaker are all facets of our whole school '5 star Listening' and '5 star speaking' routines. This term we will continue acknowledging and encouraging good speakers and listeners in our classrooms.

MATHEMATICS

In Term 4, students will be covering the following mathematical areas: Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics and Probability.

Number & Algebra

We will be revisiting both processes of addition and subtraction. Our student learning activities always include concrete materials and we continue to give support and extension for particular students that need it.

Measurement & Geometry

Our focus will be on sorting, describing, and naming familiar two dimensional shapes and three dimensional shapes in the environment.

Statistics and Probability

Our unit on Data (Chance) involves students posing questions and answering yes/no questions to collect information. Students then learn to interpret and make comparative statements about familiar pictographs.

HISTORY

Our Foundation unit will involve a study on Families. Students will identify family members, look at different family structures and the backgrounds and cultural celebrations their families are involved in.

SCIENCE

Our Science Unit comes from the 'Physical Science' substrand that will look at observing the way different shaped objects, such as balls, blocks and tubes move, comparing the way different sized, but similar shaped, objects, such as tennis balls, golf balls, marbles and basketballs, roll and bounce and observing how the movement of different living things depends on their size and shape. This will be a hands-on activity based unit which will be fun and interactive for all students. An excursion to Scienceworks has also been planned to support the learning that happens in the classroom.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

This term students will continue working on 'Reading Eggs' and 'Mathletics' to further develop and support the Literacy and Numeracy skills taught in the classroom.

SPECIALIST OVERVIEWS

ART

This term students will learn about vocabulary (such as warp and weft), skills and materials around the Art area of Weaving and how these can be applied to create simple artworks, such as paper strip and ribbon weaving.

As an added skill, related to Art and to personal care (tying shoe laces, ribbons, etc.), students will build their skills when tying laces or ribbons into a bow.

Students will build their fine motor skills by learning manipulation techniques such as rolling, pressing, cutting and scoring using tools, such as skewers, and joining to create simple sculpted artwork pieces.

The term will culminate with students increasing their skills in naming the primary colours and using these to mix secondary colours for use when painting their sculpted models.

Students will also increase their ability to verbalise how they created an artwork by naming the type of artwork and listing mediums, techniques and/or skills they applied in the creation of an artwork.

Students will increase their use of the Artist's Palette as an ongoing learning and assessment tool in Visual Arts and increase the overall standard of the Artist's Palette, through planned art activities regularly throughout the term.

PE

This term students will learn a range of minor games that encourage sharing, taking turns and using the equipment safely. We will also explore the feelings and responses around winning a game and losing a game. They will continue to explore and practise the FMS (fundamental motor skills) of Kick, Catch, Bounce and Throw and apply these to minor games. They will continue to explore some elements of body movement and awareness through gymnastics and dance. As part of our comprehensive Physical Education Program they will have the opportunity to attend a 10 day intensive swimming program. This will enable them to embark on the sometimes complex but vital journey of becoming a competent swimmer.

Music

This term students will be singing songs together with keyboard and guitar accompaniment.

Students will be working in their books including instrument diagrams; What are the parts of a drum kit?; and identify various instruments.

Students will be introduced to the music staff, including treble clef, bass clef, and the Grand staff.

They will learn the location of notes on the Keyboard and play simple compositions from 'Music for Little Kids'. Xylophones, Glockenspiels, Marimbas and Keyboards will be played to Backing tracks and guitar or keyboard accompaniment. All students will participate in music games emphasising changes of beat, tempo, style and expression.