Welcome back to Term Two!

We are very pleased with how settled the children have returned to school! We have lots of exciting things coming up this term, including Stomp the Beat, the Drum Theatre Excursion to see ‘Mr McGee and the Biting Flea’, Education Week and the Book Fair.

What’s Coming Up

- Drum Theatre Excursion money DUE - TOMORROW!
- Stomp the Beat - Thursdays at 10am
- Education Week 19th - 23rd May
- Book Fair - 15th May - 21st May
- Drum Theatre Excursion - Tuesday 20th May
- Open Morning - Wednesday 21st May (time to be confirmed)
- Stomp the Beat Disco - Thursday 22nd May at 4:30pm

Welcome back to Term Two!

What we are learning in Literacy and Numeracy

- In writing we are now focusing on Narratives and the 3 important things that need to be included: orientation, complication and resolution. We are starting with reading and retelling narratives.
- During our Independent Reading we have been making lists of the characters in our books and looking at the setting in which the story occurs.
- We have added a new activity to our Reading Rotations called ‘Reading Circle’. 6 children will be selected to participate in this activity each week and there will be an extra activity for the children to complete at home once they have finished reading the book.
- In Maths we are focusing on Addition and are exploring lots of different strategies for helping to solve addition problems, using 1, 2 and 3 digits.
- We are starting to investigate length and are using informal units to estimate and measure various objects in the classroom.
Spelling

We have started our spelling program and the children are all doing a great job. Each week, on a Friday your child will come home with 6 words in their diary. These words are to be practiced at home and will then be tested each Friday. Those words your child gets correct come off their list and those that they spell incorrectly will be sent to practice again. We had a big discussion about some of the ways your child can practise their words as a class and here some ideas of what can be done at home:

- Spell words out loud to a parent
- Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check
- Write words in alphabetical order
- Type words on computer using Word
- Play Bingo
- Write words in a sentence
- Write words in coloured pencils/textas

Drum Theatre Excursion

The Grade one and two students are very excited about the upcoming excursion to the Drum Theatre in Dandenong to see ‘Mr McGee and the Biting Flea’. The money for this excursion is due tomorrow (6th May). We will be attending the 1pm session for any parents who are interested in meeting us there. You can purchase a ticket by visiting the website: www.drumtheatre.com.au

Cold Weather

As the weather is getting colder and our school has a ‘shoes off’ policy in Term Two and Three we have explained to the children they are most welcome to bring a pair of slippers to leave at school to keep their feet warm. Please don’t feel you need to go out and buy a pair just for school, just if they have an old pair at home that they would like to bring. It is also a good idea to put a raincoat in your child’s bag for pick-up and for walking to and from specialists.

Exciting News!

One of our lovely mums, Cath Russell is offering to come and use her music expertise with the junior school students. Below is the proposed program.

Junior School singing ensemble
- Exciting opportunity for students from Prep to Grade 2 to work and play musically together
- Promoting and supporting teamwork, active listening and confident, creative self-expression

Program offers a 6 week series of lunchtime workshops which will include
- Warm ups (music team games and rounds)
- Simple breath and articulation exercises for early primary children
- Fun repertoire
- Opportunity to rehearse and perform with the ensemble at The Patch School performance showcase in September

Approximate cost: $8 per session for 6 sessions = $48 per child
Family: $12.00 per session for family with 2 children = $72 per family

About Cath Russell
Cath has worked in music for primary aged kids and early childhood development for over 10 years. She has worked as a commissioned songwriter in primary schools for Environment Victoria’s Smogbusters and Carry Better Bags campaign. She provided the Music Matters in Schools program at Monbulk Primary in 2012 and currently offers song writing, podcast recording and music therapy at Monbulk Primary. She runs a singing ensemble for primary aged children from Rowville Community Centre and is the director of Sing Rattle and Groove, a music program for 0-5 year olds.