**Year One Newsletter**

**Term 2: Week 4: Tuesday, 5th May, 2015**

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**What’s Coming Up**

- **14th-21st May** - Book Fair!
- **14th May** – Stomp the Beat Disco (4.30-5.15pm)
- **18-21st May** - Education Week
- **21st May** - Open Morning 9.30-11.30am

Keep the 1st June free for a Parent Information session regarding new reporting format

- **8th June** - Queen’s Public Birthday

**Saturday 20th June** - Belgrave Lantern Festival (a community event 😊)

Last day of school **Friday 26th June**. Pickup 2.30pm

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**What we are learning in Literacy:** In Literacy we have been concentrating on asking questions before, during and after we read. Questions help us to make sense of what we are reading. We are using and sharing sticky notes to reflect upon thinking and learning.

In our writer’s workshops we are focussing on narratives. In recent weeks we have talked about what makes a good beginning in a story? This week we will begin to look at our favourite book characters. Please enjoy sharing some of your favourite stories with your children.

The children are given time every day to change their readers. Please ensure you are hearing your children read every night. During our Reader’s Workshops, we are revisiting our reading strategies (for example, Skippy Frog, Lips the Fish & Chunky Monkey). These fun and engaging characters help the children to understand how to use each of the reading strategies. The strategies are designed to assist the children to decode and read new and unfamiliar words.

A copy of these strategies will be sent home with every child, so that these strategies can be practised and used at home.

**What we are learning in Numeracy:** In Numeracy we are focussing on counting and pattern. Children have been working on identifying and locating patterns in various number sequences. We continue to work on our skip counting, forwards and backwards by 2’s, 5’s and 10’s from zero and other starting points. The children have also been exploring basic place value concepts, learning that when they see the number 16, for example, that this symbolises 1 ten and 6 units (ones). The same digits are used to write the number 61, but now the 6 has the value of 6 tens.
In recent weeks, we have been exploring counting strategies to work out the total of two collections. We will begin looking at the difference of two collections (subtraction) in coming weeks.

3 WORDS AT A TIME

and we will call for testing of a colour every few weeks. If your child has not learnt all the words they do not need to do a test ..... only when they are ready. They will have time at school to practise their spelling words and we hope that you will help them at home alongside their reading homework.

Spelling: We are working through the coloured spelling lists. Testing and practice is happening on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and spelling lists are coming home in your diaries. We will send you an entire list of words in the levelled colour for your child. Work through this list.

Donations

- Any donations for the prize boxes from parents are gratefully accepted. Anything from the $2 shop gives the greatest pleasure to the recipients.
  - Beads & buttons (with holes) (Art).
  - Glass jars and washed cans (all sizes & washed) (Art)
Just a note to remind everyone that you need to be on time for school.

We understand that some mornings go wrong and we don’t want anyone to feel awkward coming to school late on the odd occasion. If you are consistently or regularly late please reconsider your morning routines to be at school on time. The children do not like walking in late and they miss out on organisation and daily information. Thank-you 😊

Regards from the Grade One Team.