**Getting to Know You**

We are excited about the opportunity this year to get to know you all early on in the year. We all know that school works better when our whole community works together – kids, parents, extended families and teachers. Sharing your knowledge of your children gives us a head start and we want to know what works at home so we can adapt it to school. If you haven’t booked to see us yet, there are still times available.

Thanks to those parents who have filled out their questionnaire. If you haven’t yet done it we’d be grateful if you could – again, it tells us something of what you know about your child.

You should find the parent information booklet attached to the newsletter email. We’re living sustainability ... no printed copy. If you are not receiving emails please let us know – it’s going to be a big part of how we stay in touch this year.

Kellie, Hayley and Jess

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**Important Dates**

- **Getting to Know You interviews**
  16 – 18 February
- **Labour Day**
  Monday 14th March
- **Autumn Festival**
  Saturday 19 March
- **End of Term One**
  24 March

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In Enviro we are learning about the wetlands. Our Enviro teacher is Nina. Nina is teaching us about ponding. Ponding is like fishing except you don’t eat the things you catch. The things you use to catch the animals are buckets to fill the water and put the animals in. You also need nets, one big net and lots of little nets. The big net is used to get the stuff in the pond. The animals you may find in the pond include fish, yabbies, tadpoles, frogs and water bugs. There are tiny bugs in the pond. I feel excited when we go to Enviro.” By Finn 3B
We’ve started our regular curriculum and it’s busy! A copy of the timetable is on our classroom noticeboards.

Maths is all about place value – that concept of the value of a digit depending on its place in the number. The concept is fundamental to understanding number.

Good readers are constantly predicting and using their prior knowledge as they read. Prediction helps them make connections between new information and what they already know and to anticipate both in fiction and non-fiction. We are looking at prediction as more than just guessing. It involves good evidence.

Our writing is about ourselves. We are trying to build detail as well as look at reviewing and editing.

Kellie has started science – it’s all about heat. What causes it? What is its effects? How is it useful to us? How does heat transfer from one object to another?

Jess is looking at civics and citizenship. We are asking about how decisions are made in Australia and whether it is the same everywhere.

And we’re rotating on Wednesdays. Don’t forget footwear suitable for PE please.

On Thursday we talked about our values. We made circles of responsibility. We had to write inside the circles our responsibilities for ourselves, home, school and community.”

Josh 3A and Jack 3A

HOMEWORK

Again thanks so much for encouraging your children to read frequently at home. (Jarrah [3A] and Elise [3B] are stars having read every single day since the start of the year!!) The best way to improve reading is to actually do it, and to think and talk about what we have read.

In addition to reading, we are adding 5 spelling words a week – mostly from your child’s own writing, although there may be a few words from our weekly spelling focus. These will be tested by a spelling buddy on a Monday.

Finally, mathletics will start again in the next week or two. We’ve found that 20-30 minutes a week can really improve maths confidence.

Let us know if there are any problems. Every family has those stressful times when homework goes out the window. We’ll all cope with that.

PLEASE HELP!! Autumn Festival Bush Art

Can you help us with some interesting bush materials for our bush art activity? These might include unusual rocks, nuts, grasses, twigs, feathers and seeds.