



Prep Newsletter

2nd May 2017

sangster.alesha.a@edumail.vic.gov.au neely.lesley.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

Important Dates Term 2

Thursday 4th May

School Photos.

Wednesday 10th May

Parent evening with Tom Brunzell

Thursday 11th May

Book Fair starts

Friday 12th May

Parent coffee morning 9.30am

Thursday 18th May

Book Fair ends

Tuesday 23rd May

Whole school open morning
11.05-12.50pm (sausage sizzle lunch)

Wednesday 24th May

2018 Prep tours 9.30-10.30am

Friday 2nd June

Parents coffee morning 9.30am

Monday 12th June

Queen's birthday -No student required
at school

Thursday 15th June

Music Viva incursion

Friday 23rd June

Reports sent home

28th/29th June

3 way conferences

Thursday 29th June

End of term concert

Friday 30th June

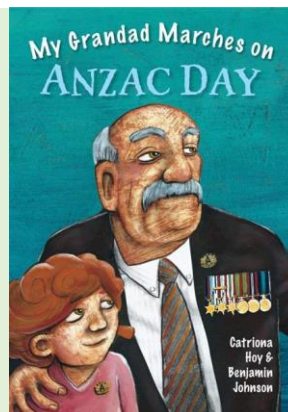
Last day of term pick up 2.30pm

A wonderful start!

We have had a great start to Term 2! The children have settled back into the routines of school with ease, it is amazing how much they learn and grow in one term. This week will be exhausting for them as they head into their first full week of school. It is normal for them to be exhausted and teary at home, our days are full at school and they use the space of their own home to 'let it all out'. Sorry (although I have one too). 😊 While we have a very detailed curriculum plan for our week, we also gauge where the children are at and how they are coping and adjust our week accordingly. Lesley will be back on board next Monday from her honeymoon in Europe, so the children are looking forward to seeing her again! I would like to thank Elke for keeping the ball rolling in Prep B and ensuring the children had the same routines as always.

ANZAC Day

As you know last week was ANZAC day. We had a special assembly on the Friday to acknowledge this. In the Prep room we also acknowledged the day by reading My Grandad Marches on ANZAC day. We did omit one page that we felt was a bit beyond the Preps. The message for the children was that the day was to acknowledge those people that help to keep Australia safe and a symbol of that is the poppy. We did some lovely poppy paintings using balloons and paint brushes. (see end of newsletter for photos).



Numeracy-Term Two

- ❖ 100 days of school- during this time we explore numbers to 100 and place value.
- ❖ Pattern- children are exploring pattern from simple patterns to more complicated patterns. This will then link to number patterns.
- ❖ Numbers to 20- Children are practicing one-to-one correspondence and counting skills. We explore everything to do with our number of the day, from adding ten or 100 to our number, what comes before and after, number facts, tallying, tens frames, number lines and correctly forming the written number and exploring the word and the sounds within it. This week. Our next number of the day is 16.

Literacy

Writing

- ❖ Writing
- ❖ Children are at varying stages of their writing development, as such we teach to the point of need of each stage. Some children are practising the 'mechanics' of writing. Writing in the correct direction, using the correct pencil grip, what lines to write on etc..
- ❖ Some children are practising sounding out any letters they can hear in the word they are writing.
- ❖ Some children use 'clues' to help them write some of our sight words such as the Golden words in the room.
- ❖ Some children are focusing on th, sh, ch ing etc and commonly used words.
- ❖ We are focusing on adding a full stop to the end of our sentences, exclamation marks and capital letters.
- ❖ Children are all practising the correct formation of letters also.

Levelled Books

We change our levelled books on a Monday, please have them in your child's **BLUE folder**. Unfortunately, we don't have enough levelled books to keep sending home if the previous ones are not returned. We also change our library books on a Monday. This week we let children borrow regardless of if they had returned their book or not as we have missed library these past few weeks. Next Monday however children must have returned their books to be able to borrow another one.

A bit more about Literacy...

Name of the Day- We use the children's names to learn the letters and sounds. We find this approach works much better than learning one sound/letter a week. Children compare and look at similarities in their own names to the 'name of the day'. We do a letter dance identifying the position the letter sits on the line when writing and we do a chant to help remember the names of the letters. We also get other members of the grade to say nice things about that person that we record and add to their memory box and 'friend' book.

Letter of the Day- While focusing on letter/sounds in EVERYTHING we do throughout the day we also focus on one letter of the day (usually 2 a week). We are currently up to Hh. We practise writing and forming the letter using many different forms such as playdough, white boards, rice, chalk and paper and pencil. We usually link this to a craft activity to help develop fine motor skills, such as using scissors etc.. We brainstorm words we know that start with the letter and look at different words and how the letter is used.

Small Group work – While children are working on different tasks we also run focused teacher lead groups. This may be to consolidate work already covered or to extend those that need to be challenged more. This way we can help children learn from their point of need.

What can you do at home to help with literacy?

At home there are many things you can be doing to help your child on their learning journey.

Letter/sound practice – help your child learn their letter sounds by asking them the initial sound they can hear in a word. Show them what the letter looks like and get them to draw a picture related to the sound.

M100W Look for the words in books or when you are out on signs etc. Have them placed around the house on sticky notes so children see them often and you can ask them what they are (you could do this for letters and numbers too).

Writing Get children to write cards or letters to friends or family. Encourage them to write down any sounds they can hear in a word. Let them help with the shopping list!

Don't forget you have Reading Eggs and Mathletics to help your child learn also!

*Next newsletter we will discuss our numeracy program more deeply.

What we are learning continued.....

Reading

- ❖ We are focusing on decoding strategies. So far children have used Eagle Eye and Lips the fish. to help them decode the text they are trying to read.
- ❖ Some children are still working on letter/sounds.
- ❖ Some are focusing on sight words and recognizing them in text.

STEM

- ❖ What are mini-beasts?
- ❖ What mini-beasts can we find in our school grounds?
- ❖ How can we interact with them safely?
- ❖ Why do they live in different environments (habitats)?

PE

- ❖ Due To our limited time at school last term, we will be continuing with ball skills/games this term.

Philosophy

- ❖ Our philosophy sessions this term will be focus on how to participate in our sessions.
- ❖ We will introduce the talking stick/ball.
- ❖ Discuss what to do if you don't agree with someone and how to have a respectful discussion.
- ❖ Why it is important to always have your own opinion and not be influenced by others.
- ❖ The sessions usually run with a book as it's theme. We choose books weekly on a needs basis.
- ❖ This week we are looking at The Huge Bag of Worries- what to do with worries and who are the people that can help you.



ANZAC DAY POPPY PAINTINGS



ART SMOCKS

Speaking of paint, does your child have an art smock? There are still many children with a smock. It can just be an old shirt or t-shirt, anything to try and protect their uniforms a little bit!



We are here to help!

Please remember if you have a worry, problem, concern or confusion PLEASE talk to us. We are here to help and make your school journey as easy and stress free as possible. Just email us and we can organise a time talk.



2018 PREPS

Do you or your friends or family have any Preps starting next year? We would like to invite them to our Open morning on Wednesday 24th May at 9.30am. They can tour the school and speak to us. Please feel free to give out our email addresses if they would like to ask any questions prior to this time.

Thank you for sending shoes your children can do up independently - we really appreciate it!

Teacher Tip.

Is your child putting their shoes on the wrong feet? Use a label to write their name on, cut it in half and put the start of their name in the left shoe and the end of their name in the right shoe. That way they know when their name is spelt correctly the shoes are in the right position! 😊

We are very grateful to our reading helpers.

Many thanks to those of you that have been able to come in and hear the children read. Many of you have commented how it is nice to get to know other kids in the grade and make connections with other mums. Reading happens every Monday, Thursday and Friday at 2.30pm on the deck. Just grab the purple folder from the book shelf and away you go! 😊

TPPS MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE

May 2017

Enter for your chance to win:

A Bespoke Anti-Aging Facial @ Essential Indulgence

Your mum will be treated to 75 minutes of pure indulgence and restored to her younger self with this luxurious facial treatment at Essential Indulgence in Olinda.
Kindly donated by Sue Kidd. Valued at \$135

High Tea for Two @ Coonara Springs Restaurant

Your mum will be truly spoilt with this decadent high tea experience in the beautiful surrounds of Coonara Springs in Olinda.
Held on the first Thursday of each month. 12pm-6pm.
Kindly donated by Sally & Adam Whitford. Valued at \$130

Bottle of wine and voucher for Kallista General Store

Packaged in an environmentally-friendly Kallista General Store bag, this prize includes a handpicked bottle of wine and a \$20 voucher to use in-store.
Kindly donated by Josephine & Liz. Valued at \$50

4 x Kallista Biodynamic Market Vouchers

Four lucky mums will have \$40 each to spend at Kallista Biodynamic Market which offers a wide selection of fresh organic and biodynamic produce.
Kindly donated by Jess & Caillin. Valued at \$40 per voucher

Close-Up Encounter @ Healesville Sanctuary

A unique opportunity for your mum to experience a close-up encounter with Dingoes at Healesville. They might even give her a kiss!
Kindly donated by Anna and Glyn Francis. Valued at \$24

Tickets \$2 each or 6 for \$10
available on QKR

Berry Street Model and Behaviour Management Survey

Please click on the link to fill in the survey, it is vital for you to have you say in such important issues at our school. Please note, Lesley and I felt that implementing resilience plans (our whole day runs like a resilience plan) and the behaviour management process for starting Preps was not necessary and perhaps a bit overwhelming for such young children just entering school. We will however introduce this in Term 3 or 4. Please fill in the survey regardless, and perhaps comment on whether you think that is a good idea or you feel it should be implemented immediately in Preps.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RLBVYLD>