



Prep Teaching and Learning – Term 1

Welcome to 2018

Welcome to term 1, 2018. For some families, it is a welcome back to Westgarth after the summer holidays, while for other families, it is a welcome to Westgarth Primary School. Term 1 in Prep is all about the students settling into school and learning the routines and what is expected of them at school. It is also about meeting new people and starting to learn to be independent. So far, they seem to have settled in very well.

For the first six weeks, Preps have Wednesdays at home. On Wednesday, the Prep teachers complete one on one testing for all Prep students. Parents selected a time at Prep Transition in December last year and it is important that you attend the chosen time. Prep testing timetables are posted near the door of your child's classroom. Please see your child's class teacher to book a time, if you have not yet booked one. Once all the Prep testing is complete, we will use the information to inform our teaching and learning.

In Prep, we love to have parent helpers in the classrooms. Parent helpers may listen to students read, help with small group activities during literacy or maths as well as helping out with odd jobs around the classroom, such as laminating or pencil sharpening (there is an electric pencil sharpener!). To be a parent helper, you will need a 'Working with Children Check' (WWCC). Keep an eye on the newsletter or Flexibuzz for information on when parent helpers will be starting in the classroom! We hope you and your child have a fantastic term in Prep!

Prep Teaching Team,
Kenji, Terri, Ellie, Stacey and Siobhan

Important Dates /Upcoming Events

7 February	Prep Testing
7 February	Parent Information Evening
9 February	Welcome Picnic
14 February	Prep Testing
21 February	Prep Testing
28 February	Prep Testing
1 March	School Photos
7 March	Prep Testing
12 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
13 March	Preps start fulltime
29 March	Last day of term – 2.30pm finish

What we are learning this term in the classroom

LITERACY

Reading and Viewing

The Preps have started to be involved in various daily reading-related activities. We will be using the Little Learner's Love Literacy program, that will teach phonics in a specific order to enable students to begin to decode (read) simple books towards the end of term. Take-home readers will start at the beginning of Term 2. Each week, there is a letter sent home, which accompanies the letter/sound of the week. This letter has ideas of activities you can do at home with your child, as well as explaining what they will be learning at school that week.



Writing

Writing in Term 1 of Prep is all about students having a go. It will include things like writing the sound of the week from the Little Learners Love Literacy program to making sure students have the correct pencil grip.



Speaking and Listening

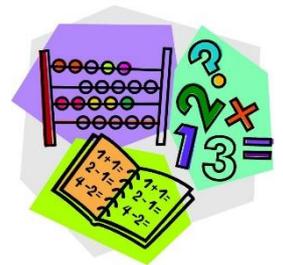
There are daily opportunities for students to practise speaking and listening through class discussions and share time. This term's speaking and listening topic is 'Belonging'. Students will be encouraged to share 'belonging' related items with the class when it is their designated day for sharing. A timetable will be sent home shortly. Some of the things that can be shared or talked about might include:

- photos or drawings of your family
- your favourite game or toy
- a special family memory (from a holiday or special occasion)
- something interesting about yourself that you would like the class to know

MATHEMATICS

Number and Algebra

Most of term 1 will be focused on number. We will be doing a lot of counting and representing numbers from 0 to 10, but also extending those students who can already count to 10. We will be explicitly teaching the formation of the numbers 0 to 10 to ensure the students are writing them correctly.



Measurement and Geometry

Later in the term, we will be looking at the days of the week as well as sorting and describing two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects.

Statistics and Probability

We will begin to look at data towards the end of term. Our inquiry topic, 'My Family and I' will provide opportunities for students to gather data, such as comparing the number of people in families to who belongs to other community groups.

INQUIRY

Our inquiry topic is 'My Family and I'. We are looking forward to learning about each other's families, how they have changed and what is the same and different about our families. Please bring in a small, framed family photo for class display.

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist Timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Physical Education		PREP TERRI PREP ELLIE PREP SIOBHAN PREP STACEY		PREP KENJI	
Spanish Music	PREP SIOBHAN PREP STACEY		PREP KENJI	PREP TERRI PREP ELLIE	
Spanish Discovery		PREP KENJI		PREP SIOBHAN	PREP TERRI PREP ELLIE PREP STACEY
Spanish Art		PREP KENJI PREP STACEY		PREP TERRI PREP SIOBHAN	PREP ELLIE
Computer Lab	PREP TERRI PREP SIOBHAN	PREP ELLIE PREP KENJI		PREP STACEY	
Library	PREP ELLIE	PREP TERRI		PREP KENJI PREP STACEY	PREP SIOBHAN

*MUSIC sessions for Prep Terri and Prep Stacey will change to **Wednesday** once Preps are fulltime.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education program helps students develop a broad range of motor skills and movement patterns, using different sporting equipment in a range of environments. We will be encouraging fair play, good sportsmanship and participation throughout the program. This term's focus will be on skipping, catching, throwing and passing. We will then be putting these skills into modified game situations. We will be having lots of fun while keeping fit and active!

SPANISH MUSIC

This term Prep students will learn about three families of musical instruments (familias de instrumentos), primarily focusing on Percussion instruments (*Instrumentos de percusión*). Through this, students will begin to develop Spanish music vocabulary. Students will also learn new songs for greeting others and introducing themselves in Spanish.

To see work students do in class, you can check the Spanish website! <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>

SPANISH DISCOVERY

By exploring the world around them, Prep students will learn how to greet and introduce themselves in Spanish as well as some phrases to communicate in the classroom. They will also explore the weather and how it affects living things by doing hands on activities and experiments.

To see the great work students do in class, you can check the Spanish website!

<http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>

SPANISH ARTS

In term one students in prep are going to create an artwork to communicate their responses to the books "The Dot" and "Ish" by Peter H. Reynolds, great books to reinforce the values of creativity and resilience. Students are going to explore how primary colours mix to make secondary colours while learning the names for the colours in Spanish. They are going to start experimenting with line, colour, shape, pattern and repetition through drawing and painting. Throughout the term students are going to learn basic Spanish sentences to greet, introduce themselves and to be able to function in the Spanish/art classroom.

To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.