

Prep Teaching and Learning – Term 2

Welcome back to Term 2

It's hard to believe that Term 1 of Prep came and went and now we are talking about Term 2! The Preps have had a great start to school and have picked up class routines well.

In Prep, we love to have volunteers in the classrooms to listen to students read or help with other activities/jobs. Our classroom volunteers are usually parents, however aunts, uncles and grandparents or other family members are also welcome. Classroom volunteers started at the end of Term 1 and your help has been very much appreciated. If you would still like to help and you didn't put your name on the roster, please speak to your child's teacher. We also understand that you may not be able to help during class time, but might want to help in other ways. If you think you can help in another way or you would like to be given jobs to do at home, again please speak to your child's teacher. Remember that to be a volunteer in class, you will need a WWCC and have signed and returned the 'Parent-Helper Guidelines'.

We are looking forward to the Prep swimming program starting in Week 7 of this Term. Please help your child by encouraging them be independent in the morning when getting dressed. They will need to be able to do this at the pool, by themselves, within a short amount of time. Closer to the swimming program starting, we will be asking for parent volunteers to come with us to the pool and also meet us at the pool to assist the students, where necessary. A great idea is to encourage your child to practise packing bathers, towel and goggles into a cloth bag or a very strong plastic bag

Student expectations

During Term 2 we expect all students to:

- Be at school on time – school starts at 9:00am
- Read every night
- Practise the Little Learners Love Literacy 'Heart Words'
- Be responsible for their belongings

How you can help your child at home

- Maintain a consistent before and after school routine to help your child with organisation – it teaches them to be organised and to be responsible for their own belongings
- Read to and with your child everyday
- Be informed of school events - read the newsletter, Tiqbiz and notices put on display at the classroom door.

Prep Teaching Team,

Ellie, Kenji, Terri, Winter and Stacey

Prep Diary Dates

17 April	Easter Monday (Public Holiday)
18 April	Term 2 starts – 9:00am
25 April	ANZAC Day (Public Holiday)
22 May – 26 May	Education Week
30 May	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
31 May	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
1 June	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
5 June	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
6 June	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
7 June	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
8 June	Curriculum Day (no students at school – OSHC available)
12 June	Queen’s Birthday (Public Holiday)
13 June	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
14 June	🏊 Prep Swimming 🏊
23 June	Reports go home
29 June	Parent Teacher Interviews (11:00am start time)
30 June	Last day of Term 2 – 2:30pm finish
17 July	Term 3 starts – 9:00am

What we are learning this term in the classroom

ENGLISH

Reading and Viewing

We had a great start to our Little Learners Love Literacy program in Term 1 and we are looking forward to meeting new characters this Term. We start to learn two sounds per week, compared to the one sound per week in term one. You will start to notice your child being able to read more and more words. This week, students will receive a ring with their ‘heart words’ and sounds to practise at home. Take-home reading books will start at the end of the week and parents will receive a note explaining the process.



Writing

Prep students continue to ‘have a go’ during writing sessions. Writing also includes spelling, which is a key component of the Little Learners Love Literacy Program. Now that students have their ‘heart words’ students will begin to write simple sentences independently. It will include things like writing the sound of the week from Little Learners Love Literacy. Part of this process will be the development of correct pencil grip to assist students with the writing process.

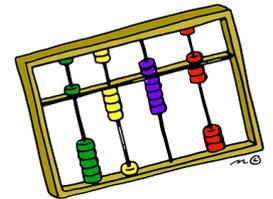
Speaking and Listening

There are daily opportunities for students to practise speaking and listening through class discussions and share time. There will also be another daily news share time – based on the topic provided. A note about this will come home shortly. Please make sure your child is sharing something to do with the topic.

MATHEMATICS

Number and Algebra

We will continue to do a lot of counting of numbers from 1 to 10 and beyond as revision, but this term we start looking more at 2-digit numbers. Starting with numbers in the 40s, 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s then moving to 30s, 50s and then to 20 and 'teen' numbers. You may be thinking it is an odd order to teach numbers, but this sequence is based on research and has proven to be to best order to teach numbers, so that students have a sound understanding of the value and place value of the numbers. We will also continue our daily '100 days' of school count.



Measurement and Geometry

At the beginning of term two we will be looking at the concept of length and learning about the vocabulary of length. We will also look again at the concept of time, which includes ordering events, duration of events and learning about the days of the week. Towards the end of term, we look at the concepts of volume and capacity.

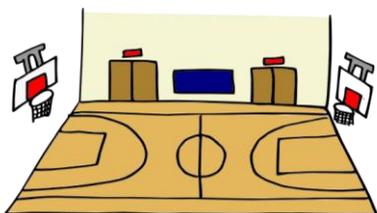
INQUIRY

Our inquiry topic this term is 'Healthy Habits'. This unit focuses on three areas in which we can keep ourselves healthy: bodies, mind and social relationships/awareness as well as looking at how to keep ourselves safe. We will be looking at how we keep our minds healthy, through relaxation and meditation as well as keeping our bodies healthy through food, exercise and hygiene. We will also be looking at how emotional intelligence (being aware of your and people's feelings) and resilience are important to building healthy social relationships. We also look at ways we can be safe.

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

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

Physical education – Term overview



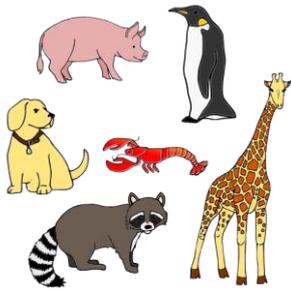
This term, students will continue getting active in an inclusive, safe and fun environment. We will be dodging, bouncing, hitting, kicking and throwing. The focus will continue to be developing fundamental motor skills and, through specific skill development, building up to playing modified games like soccer, hockey, tee ball and skittles. There will be a clear focus on being a part of a team and working on developing the resilience to handle winning and losing in game situations.

Music – Term overview



In music lessons this term the prep students will be exploring various types of un-tuned percussion instruments including djembes, bongos, clave, cowbells and castanets. The students will have opportunities to develop correct technique when using instruments and create simple rhythm patterns. This will lead to basic notation of simple rhythms such as: Ta (crotchet), Ti-Ti (pair of quavers) and Sah (one beat rest). Students will attempt to notate some of the rhythms that they have created. Singing, dancing, listening to and discussing different styles of music will also happen on a regular basis.



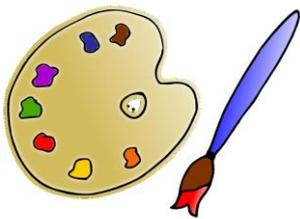


Spanish/Science – Term overview

This term, Prep students will learn about animals and their characteristics. They will explore different animals and describe their features. They will also recognise where animals live and how their basic needs are met. While exploring these areas, students will develop their vocabulary on animals and animal body parts and construct short sentences in Spanish to describe them.



Spanish/Visual Arts – Term overview



This term students in prep are going to create artworks to respond to the Spanish picture books “Colores”, “Familiario” and “Querido Zoo”. They are going to continue experimenting with line, colour, shape, pattern and repetition through drawing and painting. Throughout the term students will continue learning the Spanish vocabulary for the materials and actions in the art room, colours and shapes, family and animals. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.

