



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER Term 1

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Introduction

Welcome to Term 1 in Foundation! We wish to thank you for your support in providing the students with a smooth and positive start to school. Thank you for attending the first parent session, we hope to see you at the same time next week for our second session on reading. As you would be aware our environment and approach to teaching and learning is inspired by the philosophies of Reggio Emilia. We have also provide and engaging and developmentally appropriate curriculum through use of the Walker Learning Approach. If you wish to learn more about this approach, please see; <http://walkerlearning.com.au/info/>
We are looking forward to an exciting year as we work together to create a strong foundation and instil a love of learning and disposition for joy and enthusiasm in all students.

Maths

Students will develop their Mathematical knowledge through hands on and integrated experiences that provide context to their learning.

In semester one we will be focusing on;

- forwards and backwards counting
- knowledge of the relative position of number
- subitising (automatically recognising an amount without having to count)
- understanding the terms more, less and the same
- sorting and classifying objects
- to demonstrate knowledge of pattern
- identifying 2D and some 3D shapes
- describing position and movement.

English

Inspired by the Lisa Burman 'Book Making' pedagogy Foundations students are being exposed to beginning writing skills. Mentor texts by the author Pamela Alan are used to teach children concepts including; directionality of books, using pictures to portray a story, experimenting with organizational features (title, page numbers). Through guided reading students will work at their current level of development being taught explicit skills and strategies. Developing the concepts about print and phonological awareness is a major focus this term. Correct letter formation will be explicitly taught during weekly handwriting lessons. Using the Jolly Phonics program and a multi-sensory approach students are being taught the sounds letters make in the English language.

Science

During our Earth and Space sciences unit this term we will be discussing and observing daily and seasonal changes in the environment. Students will identify how the weather affects daily life by comparing the clothes they wear, activities they do and foods they eat. Students will explore the difference between day and night and what we do in each.

HASS – Humanities and Social Sciences

This term students will discuss places that are special to them and how they can be looked after. Students will describe features of places and recognise that places can be represented on maps and models. They will share and compare observations in a range of texts to use everyday language to describe direction and location. This will link to the Connected Curriculum topic; "How can sustainable environments impact the future"?

Specialist Areas

Japanese: 1 x 45 minute lessons per week Belinda Sensei
PE: 1 x 45 minute lesson with Jodie Molitor
PEARL: 1 x 45 minute lesson with Desy Pantelos
STEM: 1 x 45 minute lesson with Sandra Clarke
Library 1x 45 minute with Louis Burrow

Morning routines

Morning routine: Students hang up their own bag and come and sit on the mat to join in with songs. Star of the day/roll/ schedules
Modelled reading: Class big book, 1 teacher small targeted group work, parent volunteers reading to and with children.
Tuning in for Investigation: This is done in small groups.
Fruit time: Please pack a whole piece or small container so students can access easily
Recess and lunch: Please note we are a nut aware school. Be mindful of this when packing lunches. Allergies. Students are supervised during eating time at recess and lunch.

Special events We prefer to not hand out invitations, cards and food.
*Birthdays are celebrated in the same way for every child so children do not feel left out.

Parent Helpers

- Shared reading- If you would like to come along and read to and with children please put your name on the timetable which will be up soon
- Investigation- If you would like to come in and work with a small group perhaps doing some cooking or gardening or if you have any specific skill or interest you may have please come and let us know. Or simply come along to converse with , question and extend the thinking of our students.