Dear Parents,

We hope that your child had a safe and happy holiday. We are looking forward to another engaging and exciting term of learning in Kindergarten.

Semester 1 Reports

Reports were sent home with your child on the last Wednesday of Term 2. A portfolio of work samples was sent alongside the reports for parents to look through and return to school if you are concerned about any aspect of your child’s report please make an appointment to speak to their teacher as soon as is convenient. Teachers will be happy to discuss any aspect of your child’s learning with you and to help you address any concerns.

Class Timetables

All Kindergarten classes will be involved in:

K-2 Sport – Thursday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

KA will be involved in the following programs this term:

Library Borrowing - Friday
P.E - Monday
K-2 Sport - Thursday
Music - Wednesday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

KD will be involved in the following programs this term:

Library Borrowing - Tuesday
P.E - Tuesday
K-2 Sport - Thursday
Music - Wednesday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

Home Reading and Phonemes

Our home learning program will begin in Week 2. Books need to be read every day and returned the following day to be exchanged. Please remember to write the title of each book that your child reads in their home reading log. Practise their reading, spelling and mathematics with the additional activities in their home learning booklets.

Last term a significant amount of new books were purchased to update our home reading scheme. If you are able to help with stamping school logos, labelling book levels or book covering please see Ms Appave in Week 2. All help is appreciated and the children are eager to bring the new literature home.

Term 3 Teaching Overview

Library

Our teacher librarian Mr. Mitchell Stone will be conducting our library lessons this term. Library book borrowing will continue to take place during the assigned library sessions each week. Building on the Term 3 UOI program, children will be involved in researching and identifying local Aboriginal communities and the important roles within these traditional communities.

Unit of Inquiry – Community Helpers

This unit is based on a conceptual planning model and aims to meet all learner needs from high achieving students to those requiring some extra assistance with their learning or English language development. The unit has an HSIE/Geography focus and provides opportunities for students to learn about their local community and explore how communities depend on each other. The focus questions for this unit are:

- What is a community?
- What are the different roles/places in our community?
- What helps our community to function?
- Why are rules and responsibilities important in a community?

We will be asking for parents who are community helpers, and who might be willing to organise a short presentation for students, to speak to the Kindergarten children about their jobs, what
they involve and why they are an important part of the community. If you would be willing to support our unit in this way please speak to your class teacher and we thank you in advance.

**English**

We will be focusing on short and long vowel sounds and beginning to look at digraphs - two letters making one sound - in spelling this term. The children will learn to identify vowels and consonants, listen for the difference between long and short vowel sounds and learn to identify simple spelling of long vowel sounds. They will also learn to identify and spell with ‘th’ ‘ch’ ‘sh’ ‘wh’.

In our integrated literacy unit, Kindergarten children will be focusing on the concept ‘how the setting of a story influences how I feel.’ Through simple picture books they will explore how authors use words, and illustrators use pictures to create mood. Our focus texts this term are: Alexander’s Outing – Pamela Allen
Silly Billy – Anthony Browne
Where the Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak
Children will also learn to identify verbs and verb groups within the focus texts.

As your child’s confidence in reading beings to grow there are many additional texts from our focus authors for you to explore with them. Anthony Browne and Pamela Allen are prolific author/illustrators. They have written many texts targeted at early readers, which would make excellent shared stories. *Children learn to read on the laps of their parents.*

If you are looking for a sunny weekend activity around the middle of term, you might want to take your child to the Botanical Gardens, read Alexander’s Outing with them and walk the setting of the story from the Botanical Gardens to the Hyde Park Fountain.

**Mathematics**

Our concept focus for this term is ‘using concrete materials to visualise.’ This concept is designed to help support children to use mental arithmetic strategies and begin formal recording. In the number and algebra strand, children will learn how to subitise - recognise standard number patterns - and to use number lines and number charts for addition and subtraction, simple multiplication and division.

Children will be learning to identify and describe the attributes of mass and making comparisons of different masses. They will be manipulating and sorting tangible objects and exploring 3D space from different perspectives.

This term we will also be celebrating 100 days of school for Kindergarten children. On this day children will be involved in class based activities focusing around the number 100 to celebrate this wonderful milestone.

**Parent Helpers**

Thank you to all of the parents who support us in the classroom. Your help is greatly appreciated and we value your partnership, your time and commitment to our school.

**Important Dates**

K-2 Athletics Carnival 23/7
Wannabees 27/7
Education week Open Day 28/7
Cyber Smart Week 10 to 14/8
School Photos 17/8-18/8
Father’s Day Breakfast 4/9
Cinderella Incursion 16/9

Thank you for your ongoing support of our teaching and learning programs.

Kind regards,

Gilliane Appave
KA Class Teacher
Ruth Collett
KC Class Teacher
Katherine Dean
KD Class Teacher