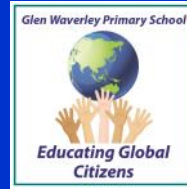




Glen Waverley Primary School



Miss Matsoukas

Miss Curro

Ms Teoh

Mr Lewis

Miss Tippet

Ms Smyth

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Term 1, 2016

WELCOME

Welcome

FOUNDATION STAFF

Mr Roland Lewis (Prep A)

Miss Samantha Matsoukas (Prep B)

Ms Jess Smyth (Prep C)

Miss Melinda Tippet (Prep D)

Miss Alana Curro (Prep E)

TERM DATES 2017

Term One

1st February to 31st March

Term Two

18th April to 30th June

Term Three

17th July to 22nd September

Term Four

9th October to 22nd December

Welcome to our Term 1 Newsletter!

We have been so impressed with how quickly the Prep students have settled into their first couple of weeks. Thank you for supporting and preparing your children for this extremely successful beginning to school.

Morning Bell

Every morning, teachers are busy setting up their classrooms and organising their day. To ensure we can provide an optimal learning environment for your child, you will need to supervise your child with their belongings each morning until the 8.50am bell rings.

Hats and Water Bottles

As we are a SunSmart school, students have been reminded to bring their hats this term to protect them from the sun when outside. Students should also be provided with a water bottle every day to be placed in their classroom tubs, especially this term so that they can keep hydrated and cool during the warmer weather.

Brain Food

Each morning, students are given the opportunity to eat brain food, i.e. fresh fruits and vegetables, around 9:30-10am. Research has found that this gives students more energy to learn, to be more engaged in their learning and to develop lifelong skills around healthy eating and lifestyles. We encourage all students to enjoy brain food with their class. If you are unsure of what 'brain food' to include in your child's lunchbox, please speak to their classroom teacher.

Eating Times

Students are given eating times throughout the day to ensure they have enough time to finish their food. Students eat their food inside their classrooms before going outside to play.

9.30-10am - Brain Food

10:45 - 11am - Snack

1.15 - 1:40pm - Lunch as of Monday 27th February for full school days.

Curriculum

English

This term we are developing our learning routines. There are some key things you can do to support these routines.

If you hear your child talking about a CAFÉ, don't worry, they're talking about our whole school approach to the learning of reading.

C is for Comprehension

A is for Accuracy

F is for Fluency

E is for Expanding Vocabulary

Reader Bags and Diaries

Students should bring their reader bag to school each day. They will read a new book every day, and their reader bag will play an important role in developing this important routine. This will also allow teachers to place important notices, letters or other school information for your child to take home. Please check their reader bag every day after school to ensure you are receiving updates regularly.

Your child has been provided with a diary to record their daily take home reader book and for you to communicate with your child's teacher.

Take Home Readers

Our aim in Prep is to foster a lifelong love of reading. Home reading is an opportunity to practise skills learnt at school. Home reading should build fluency and be enjoyable. Encourage your child to relate to the text through discussion about the book and its topic. Depending on your child's skills, you may start by looking at the pictures and reading the text to them. Ask your child to have a go at reading the text to you and identify words starting with letters they are familiar with. Always remember to praise your child's efforts.

Children need to change their reader every day and record the title of the book in their diary. All readers and diaries should be kept in reader bags to avoid damage or loss.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 23rd February

Prep Family BBQ

Friday 24th February

Preps Last Day finishing at 1pm

Ms Teoh's last day

Monday 27th February (onwards)

Preps finish at 3.30pm

Thursday 2nd March

Chess Club begins

Monday 13th March

Labour Day - no school

Tuesday 21st March

Harmony Day

Wednesday 29th March

School Photos

Friday 31st March

Last day of school - students dismissed at 2.30pm

Curriculum

Writing

At GPWS our students learn writing using the VOICES approach;

V is for Voice

O is for Organisation

I is for Ideas

C is for Conventions

E is for Excellent word choice

S is for Sentence Fluency

This term we will be looking into the development of ideas, organising these in to our writing and choosing excellent words to use in our writing. We are also learning about being writers, with learning foci on how writers sit, hold their pencils and other habits of good writers.

Handwriting

Students will be learning to write Victorian Modern Cursive script at school. Various activities can support the development of fine motor control for hand writing, such as play-dough, threading, colouring in and tracing. Teachers will support students' handwriting based on individual needs. Many students have demonstrated very well developed hand writing skills and will continue to be extended in new ways throughout the year.

Mathematics

Our wonderful students will be learning a number of different mathematical concepts, starting with and inquiry into number and why we need them. They will be working to improve their counting, one-to-one correspondence and understanding why numbers are important.

Following that, we will be learning about patterns and shapes and challenging our students to think critically about how patterns are formed and continued and what makes a pattern.



Curriculum

Flutophones

As part of the music program, each child will need to purchase a flutophone from the office for \$10. Students will learn how to play the flutophone during their music lessons every fortnight.

Art Smocks

As part of the art program, each child will need a smock that they can fit over their clothes, to avoid getting the new uniforms dirty. These can be purchased, or can be a recycled piece of clothing (like one of Dad's old shirts). If it covers their clothes and can get dirty, it's perfect.

Get To Know Your Teacher

Roland Lewis

- ◇ Has been teaching at GWPS for 10 years
- ◇ Has a 1 year old son called Henry
- ◇ Has an 8 year old cat called Harry
- ◇ Loves improvisation and performs with the group "Impromptunes."
- ◇ Has 2 brothers and 1 sister.
- ◇ Loves chillies!

Melinda Tippet

- ◇ Has two dogs called Mercury and Jupiter
- ◇ Loves going to the movies
- ◇ Favourite colour is purple
- ◇ Enjoys travelling and going water skiing
- ◇ Has two older brothers
- ◇ Grew up in a small town in country Victoria

Lee-ean Teoh

- ◇ Has been a teacher for 9 years
- ◇ Is a mum of a 2 year old boy named Oliver and expecting her second in March.
- ◇ Lived and taught in London for 3 years
- ◇ Enjoys baking and cooking
- ◇ Favourite colour is blue
- ◇ Born in Australia but parents are from Malaysia

Samantha Matsoukas

- ◇ Samantha Matsoukas
- ◇ Enjoy cooking and baking
- ◇ Can speak fluent Greek
- ◇ Favourite colour is blue
- ◇ Loves going to the beach
- ◇ Thoroughly enjoy reading books, singing and dancing
- ◇ Is qualified to teach both in a primary and secondary school

Alana Curro

- ◇ Loves baking
- ◇ Loves going to the beach
- ◇ Loves to travel around the world
- ◇ Has worked in a kindergarten
- ◇ Favourite colour is Green
- ◇ Has an older brother and a younger sister

Jess Smyth

- ◇ Has been a teacher for 13 years
- ◇ Loves to play football
- ◇ Has a dog called Dash and a cat named Squeaky
- ◇ Enjoys gardening
- ◇ Has an older brother and a younger sister
- ◇ Has a nephew who started Prep this year