PREP NEWSLETTER
Term 3, 2016

WELCOME
English
During Term 3, students will be learning different comprehension strategies that will help them to understand texts better in Reading. These will include summarising, predicting, finding the main ideas and cross checking. Students will continue to focus on one letter a week as well as applying their reading skills and knowledge through a variety of learning tasks. They will participate in small focus groups that provide guidance and will support them in achieving their reading goals.

In Writing, students will continue to focus on writing complete sentences with capital letters and full stops. They will explore the elements of a story, preparing them to write their own imaginative story in a logical sequence. Students will learn how to choose and expand their vocabulary to include interesting and descriptive words. They will be exposed to a range of text types, such as reports, recounts, narratives and persuasive texts and taught how to structure their writing to suit the audience.

In Speaking and Listening, the students will continue to share their learning through class reflections and discuss their weekly Home Learning Tasks as a whole class and small groups. Students will be involved in preparing a script relating to our Inquiry Topic of ‘What Changes Over Time?’ They will work closely with Mr Roland Lewis, the Multimedia teacher, who will support them in becoming budding actors!
Mathematics
In keeping with Glen Waverley Primary School’s whole school approach to Mathematics, students will explore each concept using concrete materials, ‘hands-on’ learning tasks, pictorial examples and abstract representations. Students will begin the term by revising and extending their knowledge of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes using a variety of ‘hands on’ learning tasks. For example, they will create shapes using play dough while identifying their properties.

Students will have the opportunity to create their own clocks to help them in understanding the features of clocks, learning to tell the time to the half hour on both analogue and digital clocks.

They will learn about the different Australian coins and notes and will be able to recognise, describe and order them according to their value. Students will be working with hands on concrete objects such as Lego and Unifix blocks to create a conceptual understanding of place value. With this knowledge, students will then be able to represent and solve simple addition and subtraction problems using a range of strategies including counting on, partitioning and rearranging parts.

The Prep students will be experimenting with mass and volume, using their hefting and estimation skills to compare capacities of objects using both formal and informal units.

REMININDERS

Brain Food
The school encourages students to bring Brain Food to school. This should consist of only fruits or vegetables. Brain Food has shown to help students by:

◊ Providing students with a mid morning energy burst.
◊ Developing higher level brain function.
◊ Giving students more energy to learn.
◊ Experiencing more success with learning.
◊ Providing students with lifelong skills around healthy eating.

Hats
During Term 3, students are not expected to wear hats outside until the 1st of September.

Labelled Clothing
Please make sure that your child’s belongings are labelled with their name and class so that if misplaced, their belongings will be returned to them. We have a container full of lost property in the ELC building so please have a look if your child is missing an item.

Curriculum
Curriculum

**Inquiry**
This term’s inquiry unit will focus on History - What Changes Over Time? Students will engage in learning tasks that explore the past, present and future. To support their understanding, students will create a timeline and describe how people, objects and experiences in the past were different and/or similar to today. The students will develop mini projects where they can build on their prior knowledge through experiences provided in class.

The students are also working with Mr Lewis to create a documentary about how the way we live has changed over time. The students will investigate three different time periods; before 1900, between 1900 and 2000, and between 2000 and now. The Prep students will also visit Melbourne Museum as a whole level excursion in the coming weeks. This will provide the students with a unique opportunity to develop their historical understanding in a rich learning environment. More information about the excursion will be provided soon.

**You Can Do It!**
This term in the student wellbeing program, “You Can Do It!”, we will be focusing on being more organised. We will be exploring ways in which children can become well organised to assist with their learning, such as planning to do their best work, listening carefully to the teacher and using their time wisely.

**Melbourne Museum**
As part of our History unit ‘What Changes Over Time?’, the students will be going on an excursion to the Melbourne Museum on the 2nd and 4th of August. If you are able to come along with us and help supervise a small group of children on the day, please see your classroom teacher. Just a reminder that a Working with Children check is required. More details will be sent home soon.

**Fire Fighter Visit**
Students will have a visit from the Melbourne Fire Brigade on 27th of July. They will be educating the students about good and bad fires as well as what to do when a fire might happen. During their second visit on 3rd of August, the students will have the opportunity to look around a fire truck and use a firemen’s hose. In the event of a real fire requiring the firemen, the dates for their visit may change.

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**PMP**
PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) will continue in Term 3, beginning the Week 3. It will be every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9.00am until 11.00am. If you would like to volunteer and help out with the PMP program, please contact Miss Matsoukas or Miss Laughlin. You will need a Working With Children Check, which is free to register online.


**Brain Train**
The Prep students will be participating in a program that assists with the development of their physical skills. During a 45 minute session, children work through various activities targeted at improving their gross motor skills and hand eye coordination whilst activating both sides of their brain. This program is presented by Citrus Dance.

**Responsible Pet Ownership**
The children will be given the opportunity to participate in the Responsible Pet Ownership program that will be held in our classrooms on 10th of August. The program provides dog safety and responsible pet ownership messages to children. The program also includes a real dog visiting us at school.