This Issue

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English
Our Prep students have made huge progress in their English during their first year at school. In Term Four, the Preps will continue to explore a range of text types. Students will look at information texts about animals linked to our Inquiry topic ‘What do we need to stay alive?’ as well as narratives, recounts and poetry. They will build on their understanding of texts through making connections to their own lives, other books and the world around them. Students will also explore how strategies such as visualizing and inferring can help them become better readers. They will investigate how to write better questions and expand their vocabulary. Students will be encouraged to continue building fluency reading and writing high frequency words such as Magic 100 and 200 Words.

Mathematics
This term for Maths, the children will be developing and consolidating mathematical skills through a project based learning task. The children will explore different units, including number, money, time, measurement and graphing that will focus around our inquiry topic ‘What do we need to stay alive?’. The children will create ‘a pet’ using different 2D shapes, build a shelter for it, calculate how much food and water it needs, organise a timetable for its daily events and much more! Children will be given the opportunity to apply their skills and knowledge to showcase their understanding of mathematical concepts learnt in class.

Inquiry
Our topic this term is ‘What do we need to stay alive?’ where students will learn about the importance of basic needs, including water, food, space and air. They will explore the different between ‘needs’ and ‘wants’ and how this may affect their lives. Students will be given the opportunity to investigate the five senses and how these senses may help animals and humans to survive in their environment. As part of the unit, they will be involved in an incursion ‘Responsible Pet Ownership’ where they will learn about safe ways to approach strange dogs and ways to look after a pet. They will also be lucky enough to experience looking after pet chickens as they hatch in class!
Swimming
Weeks 1 and 2 will be when Prep children will be attending swimming lessons at Syndal Swimming Centre (554 High Street Road Mt Waverley). The bus will depart from the school around 12:00pm and return to school approximately at 1:35pm. Items that children will need to have are: bathers, towel, hair tie for girls, goggles, a plastic bag to put all their wet clothes in. Swimming caps will be provided. Please ensure that all items are labelled. Two teachers will be supervising the children to and from the swimming pool and we will need one parent to join us on the bus and several to assist children in the change rooms. Please see your child’s class teacher if you can help. Parents are welcome to make their own way there to watch the swimming lessons. Students who are not involved in the swimming program will remain with the other two teachers and participate in water safety learning tasks.

Living Eggs Program
As part of the Inquiry unit ‘What do we need to stay alive?’ each class will be hatching their own chickens. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to experience first and the wonders of nature. Not only do they experience life cycles and growth and development but students learn about responsible caring and nurturing skills for their pets. Students will hone their scientific skills, making predictions, observations and explaining what they see.

Tony Bones
The Preps, Grade 1’s and 2’s will be participating in an incursion by Tony Bones Entertainment. Tony Bones Entertainment are a national touring theatre company, owned and operated by qualified teachers who present fairy tales and other stories in a fun and engaging manner. The performance the students will view is called ‘Fractured Fairy Tales’. Three traditional fairy tales, including The Three Little Pigs, Billy Goats Gruff and Goldilocks and the Three Bears, are acted out on stage using audience participation, puppetry, song, dance and pantomime.

Science Incursion
In Term 4, we are very excited to provide our Prep students with an incursion that allows them to become independent inquirers whilst participating in engaging ‘hands-on’ Science topics. We have organised a Science Incursion from Professor Bunsen, a renowned Science presenter who is known for the way he delivers and presents Science topics to students in a fun and interesting manner. They will be exposed to general science, as well as a variety of interactive experiments.

Prep Prom
As we come closer to the end of the year, we are very proud to see how much the Preps have grown and what they have accomplished. To celebrate their achievements, a Prep Prom has been organised for Week 5. It will be held at Glen Waverley Secondary College in the Treseder Hall. The theme this year will be ‘Celebrations’ where the children will be encouraged to dress up in different cultural costumes.

RSPCA visit
As part of our unit this term, ‘What do we need to stay alive?’ the children will explore the basic needs and wants of humans and animals. Children will have the opportunity to visit the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) which helps promote the care and protection of animals, to build on their understanding. Students will be encouraged to develop a basic understanding of the needs of animals and will learn more about the responsibilities involved in owning and caring for an animal.
You Can Do It!

The whole school social emotional learning program at Glen Waverley Primary School is YOU CAN DO IT!

So far we have explored the following areas:
- Getting Along
- Confidence
- Organisation

In Term 4 we will be exploring the topic: Persistence.

In this unit, the lessons will promote children’s tolerance of frustration and their ability to maintain their focus and involvement in learning tasks. They will be encouraged to keep on trying when things seem difficult and not very exciting.

Examples of persistent behaviour are:
- Tidying up after playing with the school equipment even if they do not want to.
- Keep trying to finish a new puzzle.
- Learning to tie their own shoe laces.
- Keep trying when learning to write new words.

Three positive Habits of the Mind that will enable them to persist when attempting learning tasks are:

- Working Tough which means thinking that to do my best, I sometimes have to do things that may not be fun.
- Giving Effort which means thinking that trying very hard helps me to do my best.
- I Can Do It which means thinking that if I try, I can do it.

Through daily reminders the children will be given the opportunity to recall what they have learned about persistence. For example, The more I try, the better I get. If you keep trying, you will get better, too!

Also regular reflections of what they have learned for the day about being persistent will be examined.

Pete the persistent puppet will be used to educate children on ways they can be persistent with their learning. They will sing along to the words of persistence as they learn more about the importance of being persistent.

Children will be able to demonstrate persistent behaviour in different areas of the classroom and the outside environment.
Important Dates

PMP
There will be no PMP during Term 4. Thank you to everyone who has helped us make this program a success.

Incursion/Excursions
- Swimming (week 1)  Wed - Fri, 8th - 10th October
- Swimming (week 2)  Mon - Fri 13th - 17th October
- Living Eggs Program  Mon - Fri, 13th - 24th October
- Tony Bones Entertainment  Thurs 23rd October
- Science Incursion  Wed 29th October
- Prep Prom  Thurs 6th November
- Pet Responsibility Incursion  Thurs 13th November
- RSPCA Visit  Thurs 27th November
- End of Year Reports Distributed  Friday 12th December
- 2015 Day  Wed 17th December
- Last Day of School (1:30pm dismissal)  Friday 19th December

More information will be forwarded to you all as we get closer to these special events.

REMINDERS

Assemblies
Our assemblies for this term will be on 24th October, 21st November and 12th December. Please feel free to join us in this celebration of our students’ learning.

Icy Pole Day
The children have enjoyed purchasing cheese toasties and hot Milos every Wednesday in Term 3. This term, with the weather becoming warmer, the children will now be able to buy icy poles for 50 cents.

Hats
As we are a Sunsmart school, children have been reminded to bring their hats this term to protect them from the sun when outside.

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.