



# Glen Waverley Primary School



Miss Curro

Mr Lewis

Mrs Kirkright

Mrs Stefanidis

Mrs Caruso

## FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Term 1, 2018

# WELCOME

# Welcome

## FOUNDATION STAFF

Mrs Samantha Stefanidis (Prep A)

Mr Roland Lewis (Prep B)

Mrs Michelle Caruso (Prep C)

Mrs Melinda Kirkright (Prep D)

Miss Alana Curro (Prep E)

## TERM DATES 2018

### Term One

29th January to 29th March

### Term Two

16th April to 29th June

### Term Three

16th July to 21st September

### Term Four

8th October to 21st December

## Prep Family BBQ

The Prep Family Barbecue is a wonderful opportunity to meet staff and other families in a friendly and enjoyable way. Invitations were sent out last week. Please return the RSVP promptly to help us cater appropriately. We look forward to seeing you



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 which can be stored in their classroom tubs.

### Brain Food

Each morning at around 10am, students are given the opportunity to eat brain food. What is 'Brain Food?' Any fresh fruit or vegetables. Research has found that eating fruit or vegetables gives students more energy to learn, increases engagement and develops lifelong healthy eating and lifestyle habits. 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.

10am (approx. 10 mins) - Brain Food

10:45 - 11am - Snack

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

# Curriculum

## Reader Bags and Diaries

Students should bring their reader bag to school each day. This will 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.

## Magic Word Book

Students will also be taking home a Magic Word Book. This includes part of the 100 most commonly occurring words in English and is essential to every child's reading success. It improves their reading, fluency and comprehension and helps your child feel confident with reading. Please encourage your child to practise their Magic Words everyday. At the back of the Magic Word Book you will find fun and engaging learning tasks that you can play with your child.

## Handwriting

Students will be learning to write Victorian Modern Cursive script at school. Various learning tasks 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.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February:

Preps start full days (3.30pm finish)

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March:

Prep BBQ

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March:

Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Curriculum Day

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March:

Prep swimming program starts (each Monday, Wednesday and Friday)

### Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March:

Harmony Day

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March:

Prep swimming program ends.

### Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March:

Last day of Term One – 2.30 pm dismissal

### Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March:

Good Friday Public Holiday

# Curriculum



## Reading

During Term 1, the learners will begin our Whole School Approach to reading using the C.A.F.E. Reading Program. This program emphasises the importance of comprehension alongside accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. This term the students will focus on using the pictures to help them comprehend a text, summarising a text by sequencing the main events, tuning into interesting words and using the beginning and ending sounds. They will participate in reading conferences with their teacher that will provide guidance and will help support them in achieving their personalised reading goals.

### **Some tips for reading with you child at home:**

Allow your child to hold the book and turn the pages.

#### Before reading

What do you think this book will be about?  
Why?

#### During reading

Can you see any letters or words you know?

#### After reading

What do you think about this book?

If students “read” the book incorrectly, but their words do make sense, be sure to tell them that it made sense before you read it correctly for them:

“That made sense to me!  
Now let me read the words.”

### **Real life application of Reading**

- Comprehending digital literacy by questioning your child after viewing, for example what happened in that video? Or Why do you think that happened?
- Identifying known letters and images found during daily outings or in read texts

## Writing

This term, Prep students will look closely at our Whole School Writing Program - VOICES. They will explore VOICES through a variety of strategies including ideas, structure and open choice writing. They will look at letters and identify the different sounds they make. Students have enjoyed searching around the school for different ideas to include in their writing.

## Mathematics

At Glen Waverley Primary school we are implementing our very own Mathematics focus using Victorian Curriculum proficiency strands, under the acronym- SURF.

**S**- Problem solving    **U**- Understanding    **R**- Reasoning    **F**- Fluency

In Foundation, learners will be using hands on materials, Mathematics Talk moves (hand signals) and discussion to build on these skills. Learners will be asked to prove their thinking using language in addition to building on their numeracy skills in the Mathematics Inquiry unit, ‘Why do we need numbers’.

For Home learning, learners will find in their diaries their login and password details for the online Mathletics program. Learners can use this program at their own pace and work on all the curriculum areas within Mathematics.

## Inquiry

This Term our Prep learners will be inquiring about the question ‘Who am I really?’. The learners will be exploring who they are and their identity. They will be exploring where places and things belong. Our Prep learners will be involved in numerous learning experiences in which they will all have an opportunity to share and reflect on themselves as wonderful learners at our school.

# Get To Know Your Teacher

## Roland Lewis

- ◇ Has been teaching at GWPS for 11 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 Kirkright

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

## Michelle Caruso

- ◇ I am married and have two children Ella (12) and Declan (9)
- ◇ I am a voracious reader
- ◇ I love Star Wars and Super hero movies
- ◇ I enjoy bushwalking, swimming, netball and gardening
- ◇ Our family have a cat named Chester and a dog named Jezabell

## Samantha Stefanidis

- ◇ 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
- ◇ I enjoy snorkelling and finding Nemo

## 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