

# PREP NEWSLETTER

~ Term 4, 2015 ~



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Term 4! We can't believe how quickly the year has gone. Miss Lamont (Prep A) will be absent for the first two weeks of term on Long Service Leave. She will be replaced by Mrs Colleen MacLeod.

## INQUIRY UNIT

Our Inquiry unit this term will focus on Science and Humanities. We will specifically look at living things and what they need in order to survive and the lifecycles of living things. We will explore how and why natural factors (change in weather) and human activities (closing of a park) affect our lives. As well as discovering ways we can change our behaviours at home and school to help care for our environment.

This term students will be researching and presenting a project on a living thing. During literacy sessions we will be asking for parent helpers to assist students with their research. A note will follow with further details.

As part of our Inquiry unit we will be going on a day excursion to the Melbourne Zoo on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November**. Further information will be sent out.



## TRANSITION

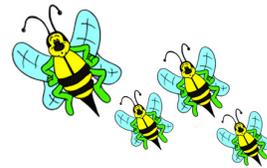
Transition sessions to help prepare students for Grade 1 will be held this term on the following dates:

1 <sup>st</sup> Session	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> November
2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November
3 <sup>rd</sup> Session	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December
4 <sup>th</sup> Session	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December

Kindergarten students who are enrolled at Bellbridge Primary School for 2016 will be attending the sessions. 2015 preps will visit Grade 1 rooms to experience what life will be like next year.

## AUSLAN

This semester we have also been learning Auslan as a LOTE subject. Australian Sign Language (Auslan) is the language used by deaf and hearing impaired people in Australia. The prep students have already learnt about using their hands, body and facial expressions to communicate and have had loads of fun learning the signs for farm animals, colours, feelings, toys, describing words, greetings and numbers. This term we will be looking at learning the signs for living things including plants, animals and habitats.



### **MATHEMATICS FOCUS**

During Term 4, Prep students will focus on the following areas of the Mathematics curriculum:

- Reading, modelling, ordering and counting numbers to 20 and beyond
- Adding and subtracting to 20 (and beyond)
- Using ordinal numbers (1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>)
- Sharing items evenly
- Exploring two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects
- Collecting and sorting data
- Describing position and movement
- Recognise, describe and order Australian coins

### **ENGLISH FOCUS**

During Term 4, Prep students will focus on the following areas of the English curriculum:

- The difference between fiction and non-fiction texts
- Summarising a variety of texts
- Making connections to texts
- Reading and writing reports and poems
- Writing recounts
- Learning about basic rhyming words, nouns, verbs and adjectives
- Focusing on consistently using text features such as full stops, capital letters, finger spaces and using correct letter/sound relationships
- Presenting projects
- Being respectful listeners and sharing their ideas with the group in an appropriate manner

### **NO HAT NO PLAY**

Term 4 is a SunSmart term. All students are required to wear a navy blue sunsmart hat. Please ensure all hats as well as other clothing are clearly labelled.

### **ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL**

- It's not OK to be Away!

If your child is going to be absent from school, please ring the school in the morning to inform us and on your child's return please provide a written explanation of the absence to the classroom teacher.

We look forward to a fun filled last term with you all.

Regards,

Michelle Lamont, Alanah Smith, Susan Andrews, Patricia Di Natale, Samantha Dean and Vanessa Ciappara