

# PREP NEWSLETTER

~ Term 1, 2018 ~



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Prep for 2018! We are very excited to begin the year and have lots of things planned. Please do not hesitate to ask us any questions you may have about this year. We are more than happy to help.

## DROP OFF TIMES

At Bellbridge Primary School, children are expected to enter the classroom at 8:20am as this allows them time to unpack their bags, read to a buddy, change their take home books, place lunch orders in the lunch order crate and hand money, notes and messages to the teachers for them to process.

## PICK UP TIMES

For the next five weeks of term the Preps will not be required to attend school each Wednesday. On this day, each student (and their family) will be allocated a time to attend an interview to determine individual needs. At other times, students need to be picked up at 2:40pm from the classroom.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Students are required to be in full school uniform. We are a sun smart school. Please ensure your child has a **navy blue bucket or broad brim hat**. It is also important that **ALL CLOTHING IS LABELLED** with your child's name.

NO HAT NO PLAY—Term 1 and 4.

## FRUIT BREAKS

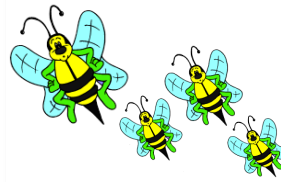
We have fruit breaks in the classroom at 12:00pm daily. It allows children to have a much needed healthy energy boost during their day. Please pack a piece of fruit or vegetable for their lunch box each day.

## DAILY ROUTINES

Each night your child will bring home their **RED READING BAG**. Inside will be their Home Reading Diary and a book. Please take the time to read with them regularly as this is an important part of their day. They will also have letters or words to learn in their M100W book, which will be sent home next week. Students will be tested on their M100W words one day per week. Any notes from school will also be placed in their red reading bag, so please check this each night.

## ABSENCES - EVERY DAY COUNTS!

If your child is sick or unforeseen circumstances prevent them from coming to school, please record the absence on Compass or phone the school office in the morning, and provide a written note to the teacher on their return to school, to explain the absence.



## **MONEY**

When paying for excursions, incursions, camps, levies, etc, money should be sent to your child's classroom in a sealed envelope with the student's FULL NAME, HOMEROOM, MONEY AMOUNT and REASON FOR THE PAYMENT clearly labelled on the front.

## **INVESTIGATIONS**

In Prep, students participate in sessions called Investigations. These are play based learning sessions that encourage children's natural desire to engage in experiences based on their interests, strengths and developing skills. When children initiate play, they are more motivated to learn and develop positive attitudes towards learning and then produce more valuable pieces of work. This term we will be focusing on our identity, families and safety.

## **AUSLAN**

Auslan will be taught to Grade Prep students for 30 minutes each week. Auslan is short for Australian Sign Language. Auslan is a visual language used by the deaf community and is produced by using the hands, face, body and gestures. During Term 1, students will learn how to communicate by signing numbers, colours, farm animals and they will also be taught how to sign feeling words.

Priscilla Patterson - Prep Auslan teacher

## **SPECIAL EVENTS IN TERM 1**

On Friday afternoons at 1.50pm we end the week with a whole school assembly either in the courtyard or in the gym. Our first assembly this year will be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Students also attend the following specialists each week - Performing Arts, Physical Education and Art. On the day that your child has PE, please ensure they wear runners. Prep students will have the opportunity to borrow library books towards the end of Term 1 or start of Term 2.

We will be holding a 'Helping Your Child at Home' information night on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of February at 6:00pm. This session will include information about ways you can assist in your child's learning such as reading at home, creating independence, maths games and classroom routines. It will also give you the opportunity to ask your child's teacher any questions you may have.

On Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, Bellbridge will be hosting a School Carnival, which involves a class stall and other very exciting activities. Families are more than welcome to come along and visit our school. THERE WILL BE MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

We are excited to begin this year with you all.

Regards,

Andrea Hardwick, Rebecca Parker, Janelle Chang, Molly Ashcroft and Vanessa Ciappara