



Dear parents and carers,

We hope you had a great break over the summer. Welcome to Kindergarten! We are looking forward to a great year full of lots of fun learning opportunities. Our classes are the Bear Hunters with Becky Pain and the Croc Hunters with Trudy Grant, and we are looking forward to exploring and adventuring through our learning. Below is an outline of what we will be covering **this term**:

## **English**

Students will participate in a wide variety of activities to develop their skills in reading, writing, listening, viewing and oral language. Students will have the opportunity to work in a whole class setting, small groups as well as individually.

- Reading (e.g. modelled, shared, guided and independent reading, looking at book orientation and conventions)
- Writing (e.g. fine motor skills, letter formation, handwriting, letter-sound patterns & relationships)
- Listening & Viewing (e.g. interactive whiteboard, iPads, and storytelling)
- Oral Language (e.g. Circle time, class pet, question of the day, history box, reflection and sharing – focusing on eye contact, confidence and speaking clearly)

## **Mathematics**

Students will have the opportunity to use hands-on equipment to develop and reflect upon their mathematical understandings. Wherever possible, we encourage students to make connections to real life experiences to make mathematics more meaningful to them. Concepts we will be exploring include:

- Number – counting, ordering, making collections; recognising numerals and writing them; making numbers with a variety of combinations
- Measurement – days of the week, ordering events, months of the year
- Geometry – exploring, identifying and using 2D shapes.



## **HASS Unit**

Our HASS unit this semester is 'All about me?' Specifically this term we will be focusing on who we are, our families and family celebrations. We will also incorporate inquiry learning assets through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), by focusing on building towers, houses and cities.

## **Social and Emotional Learning**

This term in Kindergarten we will be unpacking the school values and creating a classroom charter to show what it means to us. We will also using the 'Mind Up' program to focus on understanding our emotions and strategies used to manage emotions.

## **The Arts with Amanda**



This term the students will be learning about drama. The lessons will be aimed at exploring and developing their awareness of character, voice, facial expression and movement through acting in different roles for dramatic play, improvisation, games and process drama. They will also be learning about where and why people make drama.

**Visual Arts** – During class sessions students will explore the use of line, colour, texture and different mediums creatively across literacy, HASS and Mathematics lessons



## **Physical Education with Sally**

On Fridays, Kindergarten will develop their fundamental motor skills, such as running, jumping, skipping and hopping through cooperative games and activities that provide plenty of opportunity for practice and enjoyment. We will also focus on playing fairly, understanding boundaries and rule expectations. In the later part of the term we will have AFL lessons run in conjunction with ACT AFL development coaches. We will also do preparation for the cross country in week 10.

On Thursday afternoons students will also participate in gross motor rotations with their classroom teachers. Please wear sports shoes on both Thursdays and Fridays

## **Japanese with Sharee**

Kindergarten will work on greetings including konnichi wa (hello), sayonara (goodbye) and some other greetings to signify different times of the day. We will be learning about the country of Japan and some of its national symbols and what they mean. We will be singing lots of songs to work on the rhythm and speech patterns of the Japanese language, as well as practising understanding of beginning classroom directions. Students will explore the names of colours through matching and using colour words to identify and describe objects.



## **Library**

Students are encouraged to borrow books from the library to enjoy in both classroom and home reading. We will be visiting the library as a class on Fridays but borrowing can always be done during lunch breaks as well.

## **Homework for 2018**

In 2017 the School Board ratified a new Homework Policy that comes into full effect as of the beginning of 2018. The new policy states that reading is an essential skill that is to be practised by all as regularly as possible. At the beginning of the school year a list of possible activities or suggested websites you might like to pursue with your child will be sent home by the teacher. This will detail activities that can be used to practise skills other than reading. Teachers may identify that individual students require additional support in their learning. After a conversation with the parents an agreement will be made and other activities assigned. Additional to this, parents may request other activities for their child to complete. More information about the policy is available on the school website at

[http://www.lathamps.act.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/409592/Latham\\_PS\\_Homework\\_Policy\\_2017\\_2.pdf](http://www.lathamps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/409592/Latham_PS_Homework_Policy_2017_2.pdf)

Please see the list attached for activities that could be done with your child.

If you have any concerns or questions do not hesitate to make an appointment with us. We are looking forward to working with you and your child.

*Becky Pain, Trudy Grant and executive Melissa Mongan*

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