



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to a brand new and exciting term for Kindergarten! We are looking forward to the students continuing their learning of inquiry through the learning assets of communicators, thinkers, self-manager, collaborators and researchers. 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, developing fluency and reading strategies as well as looking at book orientation and conventions)
- Writing (modelled, shared, patterned and independent writing to develop sentence structure. Other writing components will be fine motor skills, letter formation, handwriting, letter-sound patterns & relationships)
- Listening & Viewing (e.g. interactive whiteboard, iPads, and storytelling, comparing similarities and differences when viewing multimodal text.)
- Oral Language (e.g. Circle time, class pet, question of the day, observation table, 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 – Students will be exposed to the numbers 0-20. They will be involved with the skills of counting forwards and backwards and introduced to pattern counting, ordering, making collections; recognising numerals and writing them; making numbers with a variety of combinations.
- Measurement – Students will be exposed to the language of length, using informal measurements and everyday objects. Students will discuss duration and sequencing of events.
- Geometry – exploring, identifying and using 3D shapes.
- Patterns and Algebra – Students will identify, repeat and explore number patterns and identify missing numbers in a pattern.



Science Units

This term the students will be involved in two science units. The first unit 'What's it made of?' will have the students involved through hands-on investigations to help them explore what things are made of in the school environment and the properties of the materials used to make them. They will develop skills, such as observing, describing, comparing and communicating.

The second unit 'Weather in my world' will have the students involved with discussions about how each day the weather affects our work and leisure activities and how the weather influences our decisions about what to wear and the things we do.

Social and Emotional Learning

We will continue using the 'Mind Up' program to focus on understanding our emotions and strategies used to manage emotions. The students will also learn about healthy foods and be involved in hands-on cooking experiences.



The Arts with Amanda

This term in the Arts, the students will be studying dance - primarily focusing on the style of folk dancing. They will explore the different elements of dance (i.e. body, action, space, time and energy) through learning set sequences as well as creating their own dance sequences and improvisation. They will also learn about where and why people dance and how dance communicates ideas to an audience.



Visual Arts – Visual arts will be linked with literacy, students will be inspired by the artworks of Eric Carle and other authors/ illustrators. They will explore primary and secondary colours as well as light and dark shades, texture, shapes and lines.

Physical Education with Sally

This Term in Physical Education, we will begin preparing for the athletic carnival events, which will take place on Thursday, week 6. Class activities will include mini hurdles, sprints, jumps, shot put, discus throw and javelin with modified equipment for safety. In the second part of the term, students will be introduced to modified lacrosse activities, a popular north American game, played with a long stick with a scoop, a ball and enclosed goals. In the final two weeks, students from across the school will learn and play Buroinjin, a traditional Aboriginal game. This will also be played in our final enrichment session in week 9, school wide.

Japanese with Sharee

Kindergarten will explore some special dates over the term, like Children's Day and Tanabata (the Star Festival), as well as learning about how birthdays are celebrated in Japan. Children will learn how to respond when asked their name (onamae wa nan desu ka) and make a simple jikoshoukai (introduction card) for themselves. We will learn some new songs to help us practise the names of animals (doubutsu). Students will also learn what we say when giving and receiving with others (douzo and arigato).



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

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.

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