

# Kindergarten Term 1 Overview 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back for 2020! We are so eager to get stuck into investigating and exploring with our new little learners and have an amazing term in store! We are looking forward to getting to know each child as an individual and developing a classroom culture that promotes excitement for learning and a sense of belonging. We are also inspired to nurture an inquiry mindset using our learner asset toolkit - communicators, thinkers, self-managers, 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 (purposeful 'read alouds' with a focus on letters and sounds and vocabulary building, shared and guided reading, learning reading strategies as well as looking at book orientation and conventions).
- Writing (modelled, shared and independent writing focussed on using an idea and understanding the structure of a sentence). Other writing components will also include fine motor skills, letter formation, handwriting, letter-sound patterns and relationships.
- Listening and Viewing (interactive whiteboard and storytelling, reflect and think about stimulus presented).
- Oral Language (yarning circle, class pet, sharing family photographs and artefacts, reflection and sharing - focussing on speaking clearly and confidently in front of the group).

## **Mathematics**

Students will have the opportunity to use hands-on equipment to develop and reflect upon their mathematical understandings. We will use an inquiry approach through posing problems to encourage students to use a diverse range of thinking and create their own solutions, making mathematics more meaningful and authentic. Concepts we will be exploring include:

- Number – exploring the numbers 1-10 in detail with a focus on multiple representations, counting and number identification; creating groups and sharing.
- Algebra – exploring classification of objects and investigating patterns.
- Measurement – exploring days of the week and events that occur during the day and night. They will also be looking at duration of different types of events.

## **Science**

This term we will be investigating the science unit 'Weather in My World'. This unit looks at exploring how weather affects our decision making in what we wear and the activities we do through exciting experiments and observations of the world round us. Whilst we engage in our weather topic, we will also have opportunities to connect our learning to the 'real world' using current events to help us understand how weather has a direct impact on our everyday lives.



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## **History**

This term we will begin our history unit by discovering all about ourselves, our families, our celebrations and where we live. We will be exploring what it means to belong and be proud of our culture, with a focus on understanding connection to place and what our school acknowledgment of country means. We will also have opportunities to share and document parts of our history by creating drawings and bringing in photographs and artefacts to help us create a timeline of our life.

## **Social and Emotional Learning**

We will be unpacking the school values and creating a classroom charter with our ideas to show what this means to us. We will be talking about the types of emotions we experience, what to do when we have a worry or a problem and identifying our network of people that we can talk to.

## **The Arts with Amanda**

For the Performing Arts this term the students will be learning about drama. The lessons will be aimed at exploring and developing their awareness of voice, movement and situation through acting in different roles for dramatic play, improvisation and games.

## **Physical Education with Syed**

It is a very busy term for physical education with the focus on skill development and preparing for sporting events. This term, Kindergarten students will work on developing their fundamental motor skills of rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping and landing, hopping, skipping, galloping, leaping and dodging skills through fun cooperative games and activities. The students will learn skills to enable safe play and understand class expectations. In the second half of this term, students will begin preparing for our annual athletics carnival scheduled for late Term 2. They will learn sprinting, hurdles, relay and throwing skills with school-approved equipment. If weather and environmental conditions permit, students will engage in endurance running to prepare for the cross-country carnival event in week 9. This term, we also have the school swimming carnival event in week 6. It is requested that parents ensure that students are wearing appropriate footwear, have a Sun Smart hat and a drink bottle for every physical education session.

## **Japanese with Louise**

Welcome to 2020 - the 'Year of the Rat' (ねずみ どり nezumi doshi)! Kindergarten will begin their Japanese language learning with Louise by developing their communication skills in using simple phrases to say hello and goodbye at different times of the day, as well as present information about themselves in a simple *jikoshoukai* じこしょうかい (self-introductions) to tell others their name and age. Students will also be learning about the Japanese dolls festival that is on 3 March every year.

## **Library**

Students are encouraged to borrow books from the library to enjoy in both classroom and reading at home. We will be visiting the library as a class group **every Friday**. Please ensure your child brings a library bag from Week 2.

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## Homework for 2020

Please see the table below for suggested activities that could be done with your child to assist with consolidating learning at school.

Literacy	Gross Motor	Maths	Fine Motor
<p>Read with your child. Talk about the words and images. Ask questions about what they are seeing and hearing. Find words, letters or sounds they know as you read.</p> <p>Sing Nursery Rhymes</p> <p>Play Alphabet Games e.g. I Spy</p> <p>Word Noticing – Find words in the environment e.g. signs, mail, shopping etc.</p>	<p>Running</p> <p>Balancing</p> <p>Throwing, Catching and Kicking (Ball Games)</p> <p>Skipping</p>	<p>Count using 1-1 correspondence (pointing to each item) in the 'real world' context e.g. How many cars can you see? Can you count how many stairs we just went up?</p>	<p>Puzzles</p> <p>Cutting</p> <p>Lego</p> <p>Gluing/Craft</p> <p>Threading</p> <p>Helping you cook!</p>

Later on in the term 'sight words' (high frequency words) and home reading will start. We will provide further information on this process once we begin.

If you have any concerns or questions do not hesitate to make an appointment with us. Keep an eye out for our communication whiteboards outside our classrooms for updates and important information.

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