**Prep Term 1 Overview 2019**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the commencement of Term 1. We hope you all had a safe and fun filled break. Please find below an outline of the learning and teaching programs for Term 1. Due to the wide range of student abilities in each classroom, the teaching and learning program will be structured so that all students are extended.

Teachers and students, in partnership, have been busy establishing many classroom processes. We will use many of the strategies & tools in the classrooms to develop in our students, the values, skills and knowledge required to be lifelong learners - ‘Learning for Life.’

*We are encouraging all students to bring a* ***bottle of water and piece of fruit or vegetable to school daily.*** *This will help in maintaining concentration and water levels in the body. It is essential that students bring a hat to school so they can participate in outdoor play during recess and lunch breaks in accordance with the school’s sun smart policy.*

***HOME READING***

*Home readers will be sent home soon. You can help your child understand the importance of nightly reading by encouraging continuous experiences with books, listening to them read every night, asking questions about the story and reminding them to put their reading pack back into their bag before coming to school.*

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| **English** | **Reading**  Reading sessions will involve a variety of activities related to a range of texts, letters and sounds including the letters of the alphabet and initial sounds (for example s, a, b). Students will be exposed to various forms of texts, such as narratives and nursery rhymes, as well as class-made books. Students will learn about the basic concepts of reading and books such as identifying how books work, where you start reading from and the way to move through the book by turning the pages carefully from front to back. Students will be taught different ways they can read and enjoy a book, including using the pictures to tell the story. |
| **Writing**  Students will write simple recounts of experiences such as investigations during Discovery Learning, language experiences such as making blowing bubbles for letter Bb, as well as other special events such as what they did during the weekend. During Term 1 students will be introduced to writing with a grey lead pencil, using the correct pencil grip and focusing on letter formation. Students will be learning how to write their name in lower case letters with a capital letter at the start of their name. |
| **Speaking & Listening**  During class time students will have many opportunities to speak with others. They will be able to improve their speaking and listening skills and develop their word and social skills. Students will be provided opportunities to enhance these skills when participating in oral language activities and Discovery Learning sessions. |
| **Maths** | This term, during Mathematics sessions, students will be learning about the following: |
| **Number and Algebra:**   * Orally counting forwards by 1s to 20 and beyond * Counting groups of objects using 1 to 1 correspondence (touching each object and saying the number) * Correctly reading and writing the numbers 1-10 * Learning positive counting behaviours e.g. lining objects up, counting each object once * Counting objects in a tens frame * Subitising small collections of objects (recognising how many are in a collection without counting them) * Sorting and classifying objects by various traits * Exploring early place value concepts such as matching collections to number names and numerals |
| **Measurement and Geometry:**   * Sorting, describing and naming simple 2D shapes e.g. square, circle, triangle * Using language such as *longer and shorter* to compare the lengths of objects |
| **Statistics and Probability:**   * Helping to show data that has been collected as a class on a simple graph and exploring simple concepts as presented in the graph |
| **Discovery Learning** | During Discovery Learning all children are working on investigations relevant to their interests. These investigations encourage creativity, imagination and the opportunity for children to make their own projects. This will include, role playing, creating, building and hands on experiences. The main purpose of this program is to develop children's oral language and social skills.  This term students will be investigating the topic ‘Me and My Family’ and will be involved in a range of activities to learn about themselves and their family. Throughout the term, students will be working towards answering the essential question ‘What is a family?’  During the term students will be building their social and emotional learning through activities such as identifying their feelings, circle time conversations with their peers and building on their conflict resolution skills. |

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