



Deer Park North Primary School

Learning for Life

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Foundation Newsletter Term 2

Message to parents

What a fabulous Term 1 the Foundation children had! All the teachers are so very proud of how the children have settled into school. We have been encouraging the children to be independent with their belongings and look after all of their and the school's property. The children are very familiar now with the daily routines and expectations and respond well to the consistency.

We need to remind all families that our Let's Read school-wide reading initiative begins at 8:50am. All children are expected to be in class by this time. Families are welcome to stay. Sharing reading together is a very special thing to do. At 9:00am we begin our day's learning and it is really important that children are settled down and ready to start their learning. Late arrivals are disruptive and mean that children miss out on some learning. Even arriving 5 minutes late will have an impact over time, so we need to stress the importance of being at school on time please.



Hats are only required in Terms 1 and 4. Your child's teacher has stored all hats until Term 4.

Finally, a big thank you to all families for all your support to date. A strong home/school partnership is necessary for successful learning. Just a reminder to help your child be ready to do their best learning, they need to come to school well rested. Please ensure your child is in bed early every night.

Please remember to see your child's teacher if you have any questions about your child or our planned learning for this term.

Miss McMahon, Miss Avdyl, Miss Marina, Ms AC & Mrs Pane

<i>Specialist Timetable</i>	ART	PMP	LIBRARY	AUSLAN
FSM	Monday	Thursday	Wednesday	Thursday
FMP	Monday	Thursday	Wednesday	Friday
FLA	Monday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday

Reading

The children are very excited and enthusiastic about their reading. We are teaching children this term to look more closely at books and to begin looking at familiar words on a page or words that repeat. Noticing the pattern in early reading books will be an element of our reading program this term. Noticing details in the pictures and talking about these will help children to understand what the story is about and to anticipate words in print. Learning how to retell and talk about what has been read will be further developed and children will use familiar books to do this work. The most exciting thing about our reading work will be the use of 'Super Powers'! Children will be introduced to a range of super powers to help them learn the fundamentals of reading. Some of these powers include: Pointer Power, Rereading Power, Book Talk Power. During the term, there will be a celebration for the children learning all their super powers and we are planning a special presentation at a whole school assembly. Stay tuned for details about this!!



Writing

The children have been very proud and excited about their writing so far! This term the students will be starting to write words more conventionally and continue to use drawing as a form of planning. There is a strong focus on storytelling and using real stories from our own lives to write about. We will be encouraging children to reread their writing and to make changes. Children will be taught how to revise using a strip of paper to add more information. Editing is an important part of the writing process and children will be taught how to use a writing checklist to help them know what to fix up in their writing. Something new for this term, will be the introduction of including a big feeling at the end of the story. As always, we will complete our writing unit with a Writing Celebration. This will provide the children with an audience for their writing and an opportunity to share their wonderful work and talk about what they did as a writer.



Maths

We are continuing to work on understanding numbers to 20. We are starting to count forwards and backwards from any starting point and not always from zero. We will be matching the number name, numeral and collection of objects. Writing the numerals 0-9 with the correct formation is something we will continue to practise this term.

Using a range of different objects, we will learn how to sort the objects and explain the attribute used. We will spend time exploring what a pattern is. Children will copy, continue and create patterns using hands-on materials and drawings, sound or movement. Identifying the repeating part of the pattern will be an important feature of this work.

Children will also be learning:

- The sequence of the days of the week, from any starting point.
- To sort and describe 2D shapes (squares, circles, triangles, rectangles) and 3D objects (spheres and cubes).
- Follow and give simple directions using location words such as 'between', 'near', 'next to', 'forwards', 'towards'.



Inquiry

The children have been developing their skills as inquirers! They have been practising asking questions and discovering the different ways that we can find out information. In Term 2, we will be inquiring into the different groups within our community. We will begin this Inquiry by tapping into the different clubs that the children already belong to or know about. From this, we will work together to generate some questions to drive the Inquiry. This will be an action-led Inquiry and the children will have an opportunity to create their own clubs of interest at school. We have already spoken to the children about this and some of their ideas include: Barbie club, Pokemon club, art and craft club, singing and dancing club. The children are already very excited!

Our key understandings for this Inquiry will be for the children to understand that:

- *People have different rights, responsibilities and roles when they work together
- *We belong to many groups/clubs
- *People have different interests and strengths

Through this Inquiry, the children will also be developing skills to allow them to work collaboratively with others. This will involve such things as turn taking, listening to others, sharing ideas and equipment.

As always, we value the expertise and experiences of families to deepen our Inquiry work. If you have any ideas or resources that you think you could offer to support our work, please see your child's teacher.



Tips for Home Learning:

Here are some ideas of how to support your child's learning at home:

Reading:

Your child has been bringing home a selection of books to read. It is important that someone reads every night with your child. Sometimes your child will be able to read the book independently because it is very well known. Sometimes, they will listen to you read to them and sometimes, you will read a book together. The key of this take home reading program is that it is enjoyable, consistent and also that the books are discussed to help support a deeper understanding of what was read as well as supporting oral language development.

Some questions to support your conversations could be:

*What has happened in the story so far?

*What do you think will happen next?

*Who is your favourite character? Why?

Continue to visit the local library and provide a range of interesting and engaging books to your child. Reading to your child regularly also provides a great role model for what readers do.

Remember that the children, at this time of the year, are concentrating on looking for information in the pictures and looking for an exact word to match something in the picture. Throughout this term we will introduce the children to matching every word so please do not expect your child to read all the words in the book.

Please do not worry that your child will bring home the same book again and again. It is important that students are practising their new reading skills on familiar books and can feel successful.

Writing:

At school, we have been using booklets and children have been planning by touching each page and saying what they want to write on that page. Pictures need to have detail and some things labelled in the picture. We have been practising saying the word we want to write very slowly and listening to the sounds. At home, you could support your child's learning by:

- Having available paper and pencils to be used
- Talk to your child about what they want to write and listening to them read back their writing to you
- Help your child to learn all the letter names of the alphabet and to recognise each letter as upper or lower case
- Talking about stories that happen in your own family's life. Telling stories orally helps to support knowing the structure of stories in written form.

Maths:

Including your child in any everyday Maths situation would be really beneficial. For example, counting the objects in a shopping bag, getting the right number of cutlery to set the table. Playing games with your child that involve reading numbers and counting would support their early number development as well.

It would be helpful if you talk about the days of the week and also the months of the year. Talking about events that you have on particular days or times of the year will help your child to begin to understand the concept of time.

Identifying shapes around your home and the environment is useful to reinforce the learning of 2D shapes and 3D objects for your child.



Important Reminders

- *All lunch orders: need to be written on a brown paper bag at home. Price lists are available office and are also available on the school website.
- *Hats: We are a Sunsmart school. In Term One and Four students MUST wear a school hat when playing outside. All hats have been kept at school and stored by the teachers until Term Four.
- *Tissues: With winter almost upon us, it would be appreciated if families send a box of tissues along to school with their child. These may be handed into classroom teachers.
- *Red Library Bags: Please remind your child of their library day and to return their library bag with the book inside.
- *Labelling clothes: There have been a few clothing items found in the Foundation classrooms which do not have names on them. Items with no names are sent to lost property. It would be appreciated if you could please label all school uniform items.
- *Clothing: A reminder that students are to be in full school uniform every day. As the colder weather approaches, please ensure your child has enough clothing to keep them warm at school. It is a good idea to start wearing coats.
- *Fire Brigade: The local fire brigade will be visiting the children in Foundation on Friday June 2nd. The children will learn about fire safety. Please have a discussion with them following the visit to reinforce the messages taught.

PMP



Throughout term one; foundation students have been participating in a range of physical activities to promote our need to lead healthy, safe and active lives.

Our focus has been following instructions and responding to the whistle being blown, directional movement, using equipment safely and appropriately and working in small group rotations, with particular focus on our balance.

Term two we have consolidated our term one understandings and our focus is on the skills of underarm and overarm throwing. Students have been practicing keeping their eyes on the target, feet shoulder width apart and holding the object with correct arm grip.

It has been wonderful to see all students having a go and maintaining a positive and can do attitude!

Art

Throughout the Foundation Art program in Term 2, students will continue to build upon their colour knowledge. They will investigate primary and complimentary colours with different mediums including paint and pencil.

Students will continue to master simple techniques involving cutting and colouring within lines. Students will be exposed to different 'groups' of artists and the techniques they used, including 'Pop' artists, to link to our new Inquiry unit.