Welcome back to Term 2!

Welcome back to Term Two! We hope the children (and their families!) have had a fantastic holiday and are ready for an exciting Term Two. It has been wonderful to see how quickly the children have settled back into classroom routines after their well-deserved break.

Term One was a busy one for the Preps. A real highlight was a visit from Responsible Pet Care. The children were able to discuss the needs of pets and how to care for them, as well as safety. We also had lots of laughs during the ‘Marvellous Me’ production about what makes us all special. Another highlight of the Term was an incursion from Colgate, where we spoke about looking after our teeth and received a goodie bag with a new toothbrush, toothpaste and stickers.

During Term Two there will be many opportunities to assist with our classroom programs. On Tuesday 21st April, we will be holding a Classroom Helper and PMP Session to inform you on how you will be able to help in your child’s classroom and during PMP. Once the session is complete, a Classroom Helper and PMP roster will be put up on the Prep Noticeboard. We ask you to sign up to one session initially to allow everyone an opportunity. For PMP we require 8 helpers. PMP sessions which will take place every Wednesday from 2.40–3.30pm. Siblings are welcome during this time.

Looking ahead to Term Two and the Dates to Remember, we have a lot to look forward to in Prep at GIPS. Our first exciting event will be a visit to Collingwood Children’s Farm for our first excursion. We also have Education Week where we will be holding a Family Learning Night. We hope you can come along and join in some fun ICT activities. Later in the term we will be having an Alphabet Dress Up day, where we will all have the chance to dress up and play lots of alphabet games.

We are looking forward to a fantastic Term Two.

Timetable

Monday: Performing Arts Buddies (fortnightly)
Tuesday:
Wednesday: Art, French, PMP
Thursday: Library, Sport
Friday: Icy-poles, Assembly (fortnightly)

Grade 6 Buddies:
During Term One, the children also enjoyed getting to know their Grade 6 buddies. We look forward to more fun events this term.

School Hats
At GIPS we are a sunsmart school, therefore children are required to wear their hat at school until Friday 1st May.

Mother’s Day Stall
Next month there will be a Mother’s Day Stall for children to surprise a special loved one with a little gift. Gifts range from $1–$10. We ask all Prep children who wish to buy something to bring their money in a purse or wallet and to bring a plastic bag to put their purchases in.
PREP CURRICULUM

The Prep classrooms are very busy in Term Two. The children are now settled into classroom routines and have been building on their ‘team work’ skills. This paves the way for some exciting classroom activities. Here is a little of what we are up to during this term.

Literacy

Children will be working in ‘Literacy Groups’ during the morning session. During this time, children will complete a range of alphabet, word and reading tasks. These tasks help the children explore letter/sound relationships and build on their ‘bank’ of most used words. In writing, the focus remains on correct letter formation, with an emphasis on correct starting points for individual letters. Children will continue to ‘have-a-go’ with their writing, recording ideas about their own and class experiences. We will be focusing on poems and this term we will begin sending home a Poetry Folder each Friday. We will be reading the poem during the week in class and it is for reading together for enjoyment over the weekend. As a celebration of our hard work this term, we will be holding a special dress up day based on the alphabet. More information will be given nearer the time.

Numeracy

We will be looking at number concepts with a particular focus on reading and recording numbers to ten and beyond. Children will explore shape and look at different forms of measurement. Numeracy activities are very hands-on with children encouraged to use a range of different materials to build on their understandings.

Integrated Studies

This term the children will be learning about weather and how it affects living things. As part of this unit we will go on an excursion to Collingwood Children’s Farm on Thursday 30th April, to learn about the changes that occur at the farm in each season. Please take this opportunity to dig out any picture books you have about the weather and the season to read with your child.

Library

Children will attend weekly Library sessions with their class teacher. They will have the opportunity to borrow from the Library each week. Please empty the contents of the library bag then return to school. Each week, help your child remember to pack their Library Bag in their school bag and return it to school on, or prior to, their Library day, Thursday.

IMPORTANT DATES:

April
- 21st - Prep Classroom Helper session
- 24th - ANZAC Day Assembly
- 30th - Collingwood Children’s Farm

May
- 18th - Family Education Night 6-7pm

June
- 2nd - Alphabet Dress Up Day
- 8th - Queen’s Birthday Holiday
- 9th - Prep Fireman Visit 1
- 16th - Prep Fireman Visit 2
- 26th - End of Term 2. 2.30pm dismissal

Don’t forget our classroom helper session on Wednesday 21st April 9.15-10.15am.

Looking forward to a terrific term,

The Prep Team -
Brodee Goldman Barb Maclarn and Claire Sutherland

Specialists Program:

Physical Education

Children will attend weekly PE sessions with Mr Gilliland. Children will need to wear shoes suitable for physical activity and remember their drink bottles. Hats will not be required from 1st May.

Performing Arts

This term the Prep children will continue their introduction to Performing Arts with Mrs Walton. They will participate in song, dance and performances.

Visual Arts

Children will be getting very creative in Art with Mrs Freeland-Small.

French

In Term Two students will continue learning simple greetings. They will play counting games in French up to ten. There will be repetition during each lesson based around vocabulary involving their families and home.

Show and Tell

We encourage children to ‘rehearse’ their Show and Tell presentations with someone from their family to assist with organising ideas, recalling information and speaking confidently.