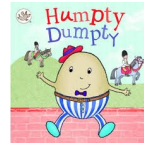


## WELCOME BACK TO TERM 2!

Dear Prep Parents,



We hope the children have had a fantastic holiday with their families 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 as they participated in many new experiences that the first year of school at GIPS has to offer. The children have enjoyed getting to know their Year 6 buddies during our 'Buddy Lunches' and fortnightly Friday afternoon sessions. It has been wonderful to see our 'big buddies' looking out for the 'little buddies' as they have ventured out beyond the Prep playground during playtimes.

A real highlight was the 'Proud to Be Me' production about what makes us all special. It was a fun and entertaining show with lots of audience participation. Another highlight was sharing the children's 'When I Was One' books that you helped them to create at home. We have loved seeing how the children have changed as they have grown into big five and six year olds and enjoyed reading the children's personal innovation on A. A. Milne's poem. Thank you so much for helping your child to complete their books. They are truly wonderful.

We have a lot to look forward to in Prep 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 ahead. Our inquiry topic this term is 'Me and My World'. We will be inviting special people in our community who are important in helping us to lead safe and healthy lives to come and work with the children. We are also having a literature focus on nursery rhymes. Later in the term we will be having a Nursery Rhyme Day, where we will all have the chance to dress up and participate in some fun activities related to different nursery rhymes. Education Week will also be celebrated. Parents will be invited to find out more about our Writing Program in Prep and see how teachers and children explore and engage in the writing process together.

During Term Two there will be many opportunities for you to assist with our classroom programs. Many thanks to those parents who were able to attend our information session on being a Classroom Helper and the PMP program. The Classroom Helper and PMP rosters are now up on the Prep Noticeboard and outside Prep G's classroom ready for you to sign up for Literacy time and PMP every Wednesday afternoon 1.50 - 3.30pm. For PMP, we require six helpers. Younger siblings are welcome during PMP time.

More about our curriculum program and important dates on the next page. We are looking forward to a fantastic Term Two.

### The Prep Team

Lily Collins, Hayley Greeves, Christine Hiland, and Barb Maclarn



## Timetable

Art, French, Sport, Performing Arts are on the same day as for Term One.

Please remember to return library bags and books by Thursday.

PMP - Wednesday 1.50 - 3.30 pm (Beginning 3rd May)

## Show and Tell

The children are enjoying sharing their special items each week. We appreciate the time parents are putting in to help the children prepare and rehearse what information they are going to share about their item. Remember to check the Show and Tell sheet for this term's weekly focus.

## School Hats

At GIPS, we are a Sunsmart school, therefore children are required to wear their hat outside at school until Tuesday 1st May.

## Mother's Day Stall and Breakfast

On Thursday 3rd May there will be a Mother's Day Stall for children to buy a little gift to surprise a special loved. Gifts will 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 shopping bag to put their purchases in. On the following morning, Friday 4th May, mums and their children are invited to a special Mother's Day breakfast host by our dads. Many thanks to the Parents' Association for organizing these special events for our families.



## TERM 2 CURRICULUM PROGRAM

### Literacy

This term the 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.

This term we will have a focus on nursery rhymes. Each week we will be reading a range of nursery rhymes exploring the rhymes and rhythm of the English language and completing related reading and writing activities. As a celebration of our hard work this term, we will be holding a special dress up day centered around favourite nursery rhymes. More information will be given nearer to the time.

The **Premiers' Reading Challenge** begins this term. Participating in the challenge is a great way to foster a love of books and reading and highlights the importance of reading to and with our children each day to build their knowledge of English and the world. We would love for all Prep children to sign up for the challenge. Each week in our Library session the Prep teachers will be reading a book from the Premier's Reading Challenge booklist that we can add to your child's list.

### Numeracy

We will be looking at deepening their understanding of number concepts, working with numbers to ten and beyond. Recording numbers to 10 and then 20 accurately will also be practised. Children will explore pattern and shape and look at different forms of measurement - length, time, capacity. Numeracy activities are very hands-on with children using a range of different materials, number games and participating in investigations and problem solving tasks related to every day life to build on their understandings.

### Integrated Studies

Our inquiry topic this term is 'Me and My World'. We will be investigating the people in the children's world who are important in helping them to lead safe and healthy lives. A range of community workers will be coming to work with the Preps to help us explore the service they provide and how they help us.

## IMPORTANT DATES

<b>April</b>	20th - ANZAC Day Assembly
<b>May</b>	3rd Mothers' Day Stall 4th Mother's Day Breakfast from 7.30am Prep Fireman Visit 1 - Date TBA Prep Fireman Visit 2 - Date TBA 21st - 25th Education Week
<b>June</b>	6th - Pupil Free Curriculum Day 7th - Responsible Pet Care visit 11th - Queen's Birthday Holiday Nursery Rhyme Dress Up Day - Date TBA 20th - Resilience Project Parents' Evening 29th - End of Term 2. 2.30pm dismissal



### 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.



#### Visual Arts

Children will be getting very creative in Art with Mrs Niki Scwarzbard.



#### Performing Arts

This term the Prep children will continue their introduction to Performing Arts with Mr Danniell Smith. They will participate in song, dance and performances and begin to prepare for the school concert being held in late Term 3.

#### French

In Term Two students will continue learning simple greetings with Madame Barre. 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.

