

Principal: Jennifer Hall

**Preschool Term Three 2018
Robots, Stars, Rockets & Comets**

July 2018

At Macgregor Preschool we view children as unique, creative, capable and competent learners. We recognise that children learn through play, can make decisions to inform their own learning and have differing needs, interests, backgrounds and abilities.

From Little Things, Big Things Grow

This term we will be supporting the children in becoming socially responsible and in demonstrating respect for the environment around them. We will achieve this by offering experiences that support the children in exploring and discovering their preschool environment, their home environment and the natural environment around them. The children will be using literature, play, hands on investigations and provocations to examine and initiate discussion about the elements that make up our different environments.

We will be focusing on the following questions:

How do my actions change the environment?

What do living things need to survive?

What elements make up different environments?

What do I observe around me?

We will be exploring our local environment with an Indigenous lens through our *Walk on Country* Program. This involves spending time in the natural environment and making connections to the land and its flora and fauna. We begin the walk with an Acknowledgement of Country for the traditional custodians of the land we walk and learn upon.

Our fortnightly program is on display for families to read and add their comments to. As a preschool community we appreciate feedback and encourage families to share their thoughts and ideas with us.

Each child has a personal portfolio that the teachers and children add to throughout the year; providing learning stories, art pieces, reflections and photographs that represent your child's journey at preschool. The portfolios are always available for you to share with your child.

Library

Throughout the year the children visit the library on a weekly basis. During this time they will be immersed in a range of literature with the intention of fostering a love for reading. Library times are: **Tuesdays** for the Robots and Stars and **Thursdays** for the Comets and Rockets. Don't forget your library bag!

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Sun safety

Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child each morning. Sunscreen will be reapplied as needed. If your child has sunscreen sensitivity, consider providing a sunscreen to leave at school or in your child's bag.

It is 'Hats On' time at the beginning of August. Thank you to the families who took our preschool hats home to be washed.

Warm Coats, Wet Weather Gear and Spare Clothes

We have an 'all weather' outdoor program at Macgregor Preschool and we ask that each child has a **warm winter coat** every day. We also ask that families provide a raincoat and gumboots to keep here at school for rainy days. Additionally, please ensure your child has a change of weather appropriate spare clothes in their school bag every day.

Healthy Eating and Allergies

Macgregor Primary School encourages healthy eating and we are a *Fresh Tastes* school. At preschool we ask all children to bring at least one piece of fresh fruit (or some vegetables) to eat at fruit break. Each child must bring a water bottle each day, filled with water only. Please leave chocolate, lollies and juice for home.

Macgregor Primary School is a *Nut Aware* school. This year we have several students and staff with severe allergies to honey, nuts and nut products. To assist with creating a safe and healthy environment for all we ask that children do not bring any honey, nuts or nut products to school.

Note Pockets

Please check your child's note pocket each day for important notes and artwork.

Volunteering in Preschool

At Preschool we value the wonderful contribution that families make to our program. In line with current legislation those wanting to help out on a regular basis are asked to complete a *Working with Vulnerable Peoples* form and hand this in to the front office. Your help is always appreciated.

Sharing Your Knowledge

If you have expertise, time, materials or knowledge to support our teaching, learning and community, please let us know. We love to have families share their celebrations, ideas and expertise with our classes. Donations of recycled materials, toys, craft supplies and books are always welcome.

Duty of Care and Playground Supervision

At preschool we have duty of care for your children from 8:45am to 2:45pm. Please make sure you stay with your child before class starts and make sure you have handed your child over to our care before leaving. Please collect your child promptly at 2:45pm. If you are playing with your child in our playground before or after school hours, please make sure you are supervising their play and take care of our playground and play equipment.



Working Bee

We will be having a Working Bee this term to get our playground ready for spring and summer. We will notify families of the time and date shortly. Perhaps you would like to donate some plants or materials for our garden?

Excursions

Each term we aim to have at least one excursion or incursion. As part of our focus on environments and habitats, this term's incursion is the Hatching Chicks program. The children will get to experience the beginning of the lifecycle for chickens.

School Calendar

Coming up this term will be the Macgregor Primary School Fete, Father's Day Stall and the Whole School Art Show. Don't forget to check the school calendar for all the times and dates! Come and visit the Preschool Succulent Stall at the fete.

Wellbeing @Macgregor: W@M

Your children may have been talking about school superheroes at home, this comes from our focus on the Wellbeing @ Macgregor mascots. We have different superheroes for each of our four school values; Safe, Responsible, Respectful and Learner. We want all our children to aspire to having all these values. Ask your child to show you the posters in our classrooms.

Kind regards,

Samantha Grant, Glennis Weatherstone, Bek Stevenson, Heather Watt, Tracey Liddle, Brenda Frew, Cecilia Wong and Jo Pearce.

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