

Principal: Jennifer Hall

Term 4 Overview 2018 Kindergarten

Dear Families,

Welcome to an exciting Term 4. Below is an outline of our curriculum for this term.

English

Writing

Literacy lessons have a focus on using quality literature to develop the skills of retelling the story using a sequence of events, characters and setting. This is building on our previous work of exploring the beginning, middle and end of texts. We are continuing to express our ideas through writing complete sentences. We are consolidating these skills through our free choice writing, where students choose a topic they are passionate about. Kindergarten will continue our exploration of factual writing through the integrated inquiry unit 'Fantastic Forces'.

Reading

Every day at Macgregor the whole school starts the day by reading for fifteen minutes. This is a time for all students to practice the technical skills of reading such as particular reading comprehension strategies. Teachers will be conferencing with individual students during this time, working on ways to advance their comprehension skills. Please ensure your child is at school by 9:00 so that they do not miss this valuable reading instruction and practise time.

In our rich literacy program children will take part in a range of reading activities related to all areas of the curriculum. We will be developing reading strategies such as sounding out, chunking, rereading, reading on and predicting. We are continuing with our nightly reading program, which includes a 'learn to read' book (formally called a reader) as well as a quality picture book. Your child is expected to swap their books daily. Reading every night will help reinforce reading strategies learnt at school and develop fluency in their reading. All children should record their reading practices in their Macgregor Home Reading Log. Please take a few moments each day to talk to your child about what they are reading and how they are making connections to other texts or their own lives.

Speaking and Listening

This term, speaking and listening learning is focused on presentation skills. Kindergarten will no longer be doing daily news. Rather than presenting existing toys they will have opportunities to invent toys of their own. They will present their invention to their class by the end of term.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra

This term, daily mathematics sessions will continue to focus on number awareness where we will explore the names, quantities, numerals of numbers to 30 and beyond. We will use this knowledge to identify numbers before and after given numbers.

Measurement and Geometry

In measurement this term, we will be consolidating our knowledge of capacity by identifying and explaining their mathematical thinking about which objects hold less or more and why. Students will continue to explore position and movement using the everyday language of location and direction, such as 'between', 'near', 'next to', 'forward' and 'towards.'

Statistics and Probability

Students will strengthen their knowledge of statistics and probability by collecting simple data across key learning areas. Responses to questions will be represented using various forms of data displays.

W@M Wednesdays

This term on a Wednesday after lunch we will participate in explicit social emotional learning (SEL) lessons in what is known as W@M Wednesdays. This is not an isolated lesson and W@M principles and the BRICK values will continue to be integrated into all aspects of our culture and learning. During term 3, we have had a successful focus on anti-bullying workshops and using 'Respectful Language' to all. Our data and reports from our students indicate that these workshops have had a positive effect and the incidents of negative behaviour has reduced. This term we will focus on specific areas of need for our students as the focus for the W@M Wednesday sessions. We will continue to work hard to ensure that Macgregor Primary School is a happy and safe place to be!

Other KLAs

Science

In science, we are inquiring into the different types of forces in our unit 'Fantastic Forces'. We have begun this with toy provocation boxes; water play, technology, push and pull, and sound and light. Students will have opportunities to explore toys and discuss their findings around what forces are involved to make them move.

We are enhancing our knowledge of living things and their survival needs through the Frogwatch Project that we have been provided by the Ginninderra Catchment Group. Each class has a tadpole kit, where we get to observe the metamorphosis of these tadpoles into frogs. Students will have the opportunity to record what they notice through drawing and writing. Everyone is welcome to come and visit our new class pets.

Geography

In geography, we are exploring maps and signs in our community. We are identifying ways to represent the location of places and landmarks by exploring the ways Indigenous Australians represent traditional locations and landmarks. Kindergarten will be identifying places they consider to be special.

Other Happenings

- **Preschool Transitions** – Are happening from week 2 to week 10. Kindergarten students will be spending learning time on Wednesday afternoons from 2:05-2:40 pm in the preschool outdoor playground.
- **Kindergarten Fire & Rescue Fire Education Program** - This programme includes a pumper crew attending the school to deliver a PowerPoint presentation on fire safety and conduct some practical activities with the class. The children will then look over the pumper (fire truck) and equipment.

Housekeeping

- The weather is variable. Please make sure your child has appropriate clothes, and a sun smart hat to wear.
- Please label your child's possessions e.g. hats, jumpers, stationery, lunch containers to avoid the loss of belongings.
- Learning starts at 9.00am. If your child is late arriving to school, please ensure that they are signed in at the front office. Also, just a friendly reminder that in the event of your child being absent, please send in a written note to your child's teacher, or send a notification through the Macgregor Primary School App.
- When students arrive at school they are required to congregate in the COLA and the immediate surrounding areas where supervision is available. The junior and senior playgrounds are out of bounds before 9am.
- We welcome and value assistance from parents and carers. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like to volunteer in some way. All volunteers working in the school need to fill in a form at the front office. Regular volunteers (more than seven times a year or four times in any one month) need to apply for a Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. The process is easy and the front office staff are here to help.
- Please see the school calendar which is attached to the school newsletter for important dates.

Kind Regards,

Brooke Estreich, Meagan Gordon, Lynsey Orchard and Gaye Yates,
The Kindergarten Team

25 October 2018