



MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

Principal: Jennifer Hall



Term Three Overview 2019 Guginya, Gudamang, Walga and Buru

2 August 2019

Dear Families

Welcome to Term 3! We are looking forward to another successful term of learning. Our fortnightly program is on display at the entrance to each room for families to view and make comments. Families may also like to make suggestions to assist us with planning for all the children. We certainly appreciate this feedback and encourage all of our families to share their thoughts and ideas with us.

Each fortnight we plan investigations that follow the interests of the children as well as activities to develop foundation skills. This term we will be focusing on balancing play based learning with intentional teaching. We will focus on group time, concentration and fine motor skills. We will continue to work with the children to develop their social skills. We have been very impressed so far this year with the friendships and positive relationships that have developed across all the classes. It is wonderful to see the children playing with children from the other class during outside play.

Portfolios

Please send your child's portfolio back to school for us to add more of their learning samples. You are welcome to come in and view your child's portfolio anytime.

Home Reading

It is important for a child's reading development that they hear an adult modelling reading. At Preschool we have baskets of quality picture books for the reading pleasure of our families and have enough books in these baskets for the children to be able to borrow a new one every day. Please remind your child to swap their *Home Reading books* every day. If English is not your first language, please remember that it is also important for your child to hear you read in your first language. We have a selection of bilingual books at Preschool for families to borrow, share, enjoy and return.

Early Learning Languages Australia (ELLA) program

This term we will be continuing our ELLA program with the children on I pads.

Clothing for Various Weather Conditions

We recommend that your child dresses with layers of clothing at this time of the year. So that your child can feel comfortable when playing in the warm winter sun and when there is a cool breeze. We also ask that children bring in a warm jacket for our very cold Canberra days. We appreciate you labelling all clothing.

'Hats on' in August!

Wearing sunsmart hats will be reintroduced on the 1 August 2019 as recommended by Cancer Council ACT. Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child each morning before leaving home. We have school stock sunscreen provided to reapply during the day as needed. If your child has a sunscreen sensitivity, please purchase a suitable sunscreen to leave at school for your child to access.



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Healthy Eating and Allergies

Macgregor Primary School is a *Fresh Tastes* school. At preschool we ask all the children to bring at least one piece of fresh fruit or some raw vegetables to eat at fruit break. Your child will drink water from their drink bottle throughout each day. We check and refill these drink bottles during the day as needed. We ask that you save treats such as chocolate, lollies and juice for home. Macgregor Primary School is also an *Allergy Aware* school.

We have several students and staff members with severe allergic reactions or anaphylaxis to nuts, nut products and honey. To assist with creating a safe and healthy environment for all, we ask that children and families **do not bring any nuts, nut products or honey** to preschool. Please remember to assist your child to wash their hands with soap and water upon entering their preschool room each morning, to help stop the spread of germs and potential allergens.

Volunteering in Preschool

At Preschool we value the wonderful contribution of families to our program. Those parents wanting to help us on a regular basis are asked to complete a *Working with Vulnerable Peoples* form and hand this into the front office. Your help is always appreciated. We have placed a roster on the parent noticeboard if you have time to come along and help for a while.

Excursions and Incursions

This term the children our children will be involved with some cultural dancing and music provided by parents from the primary school. Emma Laverty has recently been teaching us a 'Yidbung' and 'Animal Jam Circle' as part of our NAIDOC Week activities. We will also have an excursion to the National Gallery of Australia – 'Art and Play'. This will be on the 3 September (Gudamang and Guginya) and 5 September (Buru and Walga). We kindly ask for volunteers to assist us during our excursions – so please do let us know if you can assist.

Feedback Board

During the term we will be asking you to participate in a survey about preschool on our feedback board. This is part of our ongoing school improvement strategy. We use best practice strategies as identified within the National Quality Framework (NQF). This framework provides a national approach to the regulation, assessment and quality improvement for early childhood education and care across Australia. We hope you are able to help us by responding to the question located on this board which is located outside the classrooms.

If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to email us at the addresses below.

Kind regards

Catherine Dillon, Glennis Weatherstone, Bek Stevenson, Kirstin Brown, Danielle Jackson, Debbie Connors, Tracey Liddle, Heather Watt, Brenda Frew and Cecilia Wong.

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