

Principal: Jennifer Hall

Term 4 Overview 2018 **Robots, Stars, Comets and Rockets**

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.

Dear Families,

Welcome to the final term of Preschool! What an exciting term we have ahead of us. We are investigating what it means to express ourselves. The main ideas we will be exploring include the many ways in which humans express themselves and why. We will be discovering the ways we can communicate our thoughts and feelings and why communication is so important. Our essential questions are:

How do I express myself?

Why do we express ourselves?

What can we use to communicate our thoughts, feelings and ideas?

These questions are linked to the Early Years Learning Framework outcomes 1 and 5: *“Children have a strong sense of identity”* and *“Children are effective communicators.”*

Kindergarten Transitions

We begin our kindergarten transition program this term. Every Wednesday, from week 2 to week 9 our preschool children will go to the kindergarten unit where they will explore and familiarise themselves with the environment. Weeks 2 and 3 the children will be with their preschool teachers. Weeks 4-9 the children will be spending time with the kindergarten teachers and will be further supported by Heather, Tracey, Brenda and Cecilia. Pick up time will remain 2:45 pm at preschool.

Wellbeing @ Macgregor (W@M)

This term we will focus on expanding our friendship groups in our W@M learning. We will continue to work hard to ensure that Macgregor Primary School is a happy a safe place to be!

Walk on Country

We will continue to explore and observe 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.

Program

Our Daily Diaries and program are always on display for families to read. Please feel free to add your thoughts and comments to our program, as we greatly value your feedback and reflections. Together, we continue to build the children’s learning portfolios with stories, art pieces and photographs. These reflections of their preschool learning journey will be sent home with reports at the end of the year.

Home Reading at Macgregor

Don’t forget to bring back your home reading books and swap them for some new bedtime or anytime stories. The Home Reading baskets are right near the front door of your child’s classroom.

Note Pockets

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

Library

Our library visits continue on a weekly basis (Tuesdays and Thursdays). During this time, the children are immersed in a wide range of literature with the intention of fostering a love for reading. Children are encouraged to bring their library bag and return the books they have borrowed.

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. Please do not allow your child to wear sleeveless shirts or dresses as they are not SunSmart. Strappy sandals, gumboots and ill-fitting shoes make it difficult for your children to play safely. Supportive shoes are more appropriate for preschool.

Healthy Eating and Allergies

Macgregor Primary School is a *Fresh Tastes* school and encourages healthy eating. 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.**

Sharing Your Knowledge

If you have expertise, time 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 sign your child in, stay with your child before class starts and be 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 directly supervising their play and take care of our playground and play equipment.**

Volunteering in Preschool

At preschool we deeply value the contribution of families to our program. In line with current legislation parents and carers who help out on a regular basis have to apply for a Working with Vulnerable People card – please visit the front office for further information.

Kind Regards,

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

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