



Preschool Term Two 2017 Robots, Stars, Rockets & Comets

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.

This term we will be supporting the children in becoming socially responsible and showing 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 environment around them. The children will be exploring literature and hands on activities that look at and provoke discussion about differing environments and the elements that make up an environment.

Part of our environmental learning is our **Walk on Country** programme. This programme enables the children to explore the natural, local environment around them and make concrete connections with their classroom learning. When we Walk on Country we are able to see, hear, smell and touch the natural world around us and appreciate and reflect upon the wonderful flora, fauna and weather it contains. We acknowledge the Indigenous peoples as the traditional custodians of the land and we begin our Walk on Country by thanking the Indigenous peoples for allowing us to walk on and enjoy their land.

To enhance learning we will be exploring the following questions:

- How do my actions change the environment?
- What do living things need to survive?
- What elements (parts) make up different environments?
- What do I observe around me?

A daily diary will be on display for families to read our fortnightly plan. We appreciate feedback and encourage families to share special celebrations with us. Children have a personalised portfolio that the teachers and the children add to throughout the year providing documentation, learning stories, art pieces and photographs that reflect your child's journey at preschool.



Spanish

We will be continuing our Spanish lessons this term. We use games, songs, vocabulary comparisons and stories to introduce the children to el español!

Library

Throughout the year, we will visit the library on a weekly basis. During this time we will immerse the children in a wide range of literature with the intention of fostering a love for reading.

Children need to bring a library bag and return the books they have borrowed to be able to borrow books from our library each week.

Sun Safety and Wet Weather

Even with the start of the cold weather, all the children need a sun safe hat clearly labelled with their name. We suggest leaving a hat at preschool to ensure they aren't forgotten. Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child each morning if needed.

As the winter beckons, please make sure your child has a warm coat for playing outside! Please provide a raincoat and wellies for those wet weather days (you can bring them every day during Term 2 or leave them at preschool in our wet weather tubs)

End of May is **Hats Off Day!** In June and July we do not need to wear a sun smart hat. If you would like to pack a warm hat instead – please do so.

Healthy Eating and Allergies

We have three meal breaks at Preschool: Fruit break, Morning Tea and Lunch.

Macgregor Preschool encourages healthy eating. At preschool we ask all the children to bring some fresh fruit or veggies to eat at fruit break. The children need to bring a water bottle each day filled with **water only**, please keep juice and cordial for home. We also ask that the children do not bring chocolate or lollies as part of their lunches.

We are an allergy aware school and therefore request that no nut products are brought into the premises as it is essential for the safety of a number of children and staff across the school.

Washing

We ask for your support in weekly washing. There are often a few smocks, tea towels and the odd table cloth. If you are happy to take the washing home, we will ask you to tick your child's name off the washing roster (on wall in parent communication area) so we know who has it. Thanks for your support!



Volunteering in Preschool

At preschool we value the contribution of families to our program. In line with 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 much appreciated.

Congratulations and Welcome

Samantha has successfully won the position for Term 2 in the Arts specialist role at the primary school and we welcome Glennis Weatherstone to the Robots and Comets preschool classes. Glennis is a familiar face at Preschool as she is currently one of our release teachers.

Dates for the Calendar

Week 2

Wednesday 3rd May

Constable Kenny Koala visit- Rockets and Comets

Week3

Wednesday 10th May

Constable Kenny Koala visit- Robots and Stars

Week 8

Tuesday 13th June – Robots and Stars

Thursday 15th June- Rockets and Comets

National Museum of Australia Excursion

Kind regards,

Mandy Wheelahan, Samantha Grant, Bek Stevenson, Glennis Weatherstone, Tracey Liddle, Heather Watt, & Cecilia Wong.

Rebecca.Stevenson@ed.act.edu.au

Amanda.Thorpe@ed.act.edu.au

Glennis.Weatherstone@ed.act.edu.au

Samantha.Grant@ed.act.edu.au