

Principal: Belinda Andrews

Macgregor Preschool

Term 2 Overview

Dear families,

Welcome back to preschool! We hope that you have had a wonderful holiday and are excited for another term in Preschool. It has been wonderful to see the children again and hear all their exciting holiday stories.

Over the remainder of the year, there will be a focus on implementing essential literacy practices into our preschool programs. Teachers will have continuing professional development on these practices, including school visits from Chris Topfer throughout the term. We have described these practices below for you:

- Essential Practice 1 Deliberate efforts to foster motivation and engagement within and across lessons
- Essential Practice 2 Read-alouds of age appropriate books and other materials, print or digital
- Essential Practice 3 Flexible groups targeted to student need in specific aspects of literacy development
- Essential Practice 4 Activities that build phonological awareness
- Essential Practice 5 Explicit instruction in letter-sound relationships (phonics)
- Essential Practice 6 Research-informed writing instruction
- Essential Practice 7 Intentional and ambitious efforts to build vocabulary and content knowledge
- Essential Practice 8 Abundant reading material and reading opportunities in the classroom
- Essential Practice 9 Ongoing observation and assessment of children's language and literacy development that informs their education
- Essential Practice 10 Collaboration with families in promoting literacy

In Guginya and Buru, we have begun following an interest in ice-creams and baking cakes. We have set up an ice-cream shop in the classroom and children have been busy creating their own sundaes, cones and hot drinks. We have been hearing lots of counting, size comparisons and vocabulary extension. Later in the term we will be investigating space, which ties in with this year's National Simultaneous Storytime book 'I need some Space'.

In Gudamang and Walga, following an interest in animals, we have begun the term investigating animals. The initial focus books are 'Wombat Stew' and 'Possum in the House.' The children are learning about Australian animals and produce a class book titled, 'Possum in the Preschool.' The dramatic play space has been set up as a Vet Clinic and Wildlife Rescue Centre. A 'Wombat Stew' storybook table, with the props and animal figures from the story, offer the children opportunities to develop and extend language and communication skills. Dramatic play encourages social connections, communication, taking turns and transferring knowledge from the real world. Literacy and numeracy are always woven into our dramatic play centres.

Seesaw

Seesaw is our main communication tool so please ensure you check in on this App on the days your child attends preschool. Detailed class programs providing information about the planned investigations and experiences are regularly posted onto Seesaw.



Winter is coming

Please ensure your child brings a warm coat to preschool each day. Outside investigations happen every day in all weather conditions. As a Sunsmart accredited school, on 1 June we take our hats off during outdoor activities. Your child's hat will be washed by the preschool staff and stored until 1 August, when the whole school community again wears their hat for the remainder of the year.

Library Borrowing

The children are invited to borrow a book from our Macgregor Primary School library every Tuesday (Gudamang and Guginya) and Thursday (Buru and Walga). Please ensure your child brings their library bag on their library day.

Student Reports and Parent-Teacher Interviews

Families will receive a student report outlining their child's progress in week 9. There will also be an opportunity to book an interview to discuss your child in weeks 9 and 10.

We are looking forward to another exciting term of learning together. If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see us at the end of the preschool day, message via Seesaw or email.

Regards,

Kylie Macdonald., Kirstin Brown, Kylie Robertson and Jess Simpkins

kirstin.brown@ed.act.edu.au

Jessica.simpkins@ed.act.edu.au

kylie.mcdonald@ed.act.edu.au

kylie.robertson@ed.act.edu.au



ACT
Government
Education

MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

Principal: Belinda Andrews

