Prep Overview 2025

Prep SC

Sandra Stanton (Monday, Thursday and Friday) sstanton@tcs.catholic.edu.au Caitlin Markessinis (Tuesday and Wednesday) cmarkessinis@tcs.catholic.edu.au

Prep KD

Kat Rodriguez (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) krodriguez@tcs.catholic.edu.au Denise Kolokotronis (Wednesday) dkolokotronis@tcs.catholic.edu.au

Religion and Inquiry -

In Term Four, our Prep students will explore the connections between animals and their environment, sustainability, and how these relate to Church and community. Students will research animals and their environments and consider the importance of water and habitat preservation. Students will understand and practise their roles as Stewards of Creation: working together in community to show their responsibility to respect and care for all living creatures as part of God's creation.

They will also connect concepts of building and strengthening community to the Christmas Advent story, and the different ways we can find and express joy, peace, hope, and love in and beyond our school community.

This term, our Prep students will participate in an exciting incursion where they will investigate how animals' adaptations help them to survive in their given environments. Students will have a chance to see, touch, and learn about these wonderful animals!

Literacy -

In Term Four, our Prep students will explore different types of writing, including informative and persuasive texts, as well as letter writing. They will learn how to share facts, express opinions, and communicate their ideas clearly. Through engaging activities, your child will practise writing with purpose and confidence, building strong foundations for effective communication.

- <u>Comprehension Strategies:</u> Using comprehension strategies, students will discuss texts that they listen to and read.
- <u>Exposure to Literature:</u> Students will be exposed to a range of non-fiction texts. Fiction texts will focus on persuasive techniques and epistolary.
- <u>Literacy Development</u>: As part of the Little Learners Love Literacy Program, students will continue developing their knowledge of letters and sounds. They will also be challenged to include more complex punctuation such as exclamation marks and question marks, and digraphs and trigraphs (such as: tch, ng, ph, wh).

Maths -

In Term 4 Maths, we will explore important concepts like data, location, and counting, along with understanding place value. Your child will also learn about measurement, including length, mass, capacity, and time, through hands-on activities that make these concepts fun and engaging.

Wellbeing -

This term, we will continue focusing on our Positive Behaviours for Learning, helping students understand what positive behaviour looks like in the classroom. We will also begin preparing your child for the transition to Grade I, building confidence and readiness for the next step in their school journey.

Digital Technology -

Students will use a variety of different technology tools to supplement classroom learning. Students will:

- Publish their narrative writing using word processing software
- Be exposed to creative apps such as PicCollage and Popplet to creatively share their ideas
- Use the Osmo programs to build on their literacy skills
- Be introduced to the coding program Scratch Jr.

Outdoor Education Program -

As part of our outdoor education program this Term, our Prep students will be participating in a Bike Education session at Kew Traffic School. This session will provide a safe, supervised environment for students to learn and practise essential bike riding and road safety skills. It will be a great opportunity for hands-on learning in a realistic traffic setting.

Our Outdoor Education Program will also include a short after school experience at the school. This will include games, fun activities, and a snack for approximately one hour after school ends. This serves as a starting point for later years when students will extend their after school experiences through camp.

Library -

Students will continue to visit the library and will be able to borrow books on a weekly basis. They will be required to bring in their library bag each week in order to borrow a book. Prep KD will be borrowing books on <u>Tuesdays.</u> Prep SC will be borrowing books on <u>Thursdays.</u>

Home Learning -

Home learning will continue to be sent out via SeeSaw each <u>Monday</u>. The activities are a great opportunity for your family to become involved in the learning process and are an extension of the learning that has taken place in the classroom.

In Term Four, the children will be changing their own reading books from those provided, in preparation for how readers are exchanged in Year I. Each week, students will bring in satchels and gather two reading books on the following days:

-Prep SC: Thursday -Prep KD: Friday

These books are to be kept for the week. The books which are sent home are at a level which is considered 'easy' for your child. We want the home reading experience to be a positive one for your family. The books that your child is reading in the classroom are targeted to challenge and extend their reading skills.

Health and Physical Education with Mrs McLeary

This term students will work on the fundamental motor skills of forehand strike and two-hand strike using a variety of balls and bats. These skills will gradually be incorporated into various small sided striking and fielding games where the importance of teamwork and good sporting behaviours are emphasised. Finally, during term 4, all Yr Prep-2 students will be taking part in the school Swim program at Richmond Rec during class time in weeks 8 and 9. Swimming is a compulsory part of the primary school curriculum and is essential for child development. Not only does it teach essential skills related to water safety it also helps our students develop many other skills such as independence, ability to self-manage, resilience, organisation and time management skills.

Performing Arts with Ms Stanton

In term four of Performing Arts, Prep students will continue to engage in drama and dance-based activities and games that are geared towards teamwork and strengthening the skills needed to successfully work as an ensemble. They will begin to extend "everyday movements" into creative movements that demonstrate safe dance practices.

Mandarin with Mr Su

In Term 4, students will be engaged in play-based language learning to explore the topic of animals and review the expressions of body parts. They will also continue with their speaking practice of functional language from daily greetings to basic conversations. Students will deepen their understanding of the importance of tones in Chinese speech and observe that the sounds of Chinese can be encoded in Pinyin using familiar English letters.

Science with Ms Jai

In our science lessons this term, students will be introduced to the basics of Digital Technologies through fun, hands-on activities. They will begin to understand how everyday devices like tablets and computers help us work, play, and share information.

What We're Learning:

- Digital Systems: Students explore how devices collect, show, and share information using pictures, numbers, sounds, and words.
- Creating Solutions: They follow simple steps to solve problems using digital tools and block-based coding (e.g. giving instructions to make something move or play a sound).
- Thinking Like Data Decoders: Students learn to spot patterns and solve problems using basic algorithms—step-by-step instructions to get things done.
- Working Together: They practise sharing ideas, working in teams, and using technology safely and respectfully.

By the end of the unit, students will be thinking like little problem-solvers—breaking down tasks, understanding data, and improving their digital creations.

Visual Arts with Ms Denise

In Term 4, Prep students will complete artwork related to this term's inquiry unit on Australian animals. A series of animal constructions will be created by students including a kangaroo, wombat, cockatoo and koala using a selection of paper, paints and collage materials. During the latter part of the term, Prep class will complete a variety of Christmas crafts using a range of art materials including pipe cleaners, cones and boxes.

Key Dates:

Monday Morning Assembly: 8:45am (Soccer Oval)

Friday Afternoon Assembly: 2.35pm (Multi Purpose Room)

Wednesday 15th October: Grandparents and Special Friends Morning + Mass

Monday 20th October: Prep SC Assembly Leaders (also Friday 24th)

Tuesday 21st October: Prep Animal Incursion Thursday 23rd October: Twilight Sports

Friday 31st October: Day for Daniel (wear red and gold)

Monday 3rd November: School closure day

Tuesday 4th November: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Monday 10th November: Prep KD Assembly Leaders (also Friday 14th)

Friday 14th November: Prep SC Sharing at assembly

Thursday 20th November: Prep Outdoor Ed Afternoon (students will be picked up at 5pm)

Monday 24th November - Thursday 4 December: Swimming Program

Wednesday 26th November: Start of Advent Mass

Monday 15th December: Christmas Carols

Tuesday 16th December: Students last day of Prep! Finish at 1:45pm

While we have endeavored to include all Key Dates, please keep an eye out for newsletter items, Seesaw messages, and other reminders.