

Prep Newsletter - Term Four, 2026

Welcome back to Term 4! It is hard to believe this is our fourth and final term in Prep!

We are so proud of the children and can't wait for another fun term ahead. This term our learning in the classroom will be centred around our whole school concept of Chemical Science and the value of Cooperation.

IMPORTANT EVENTS - more information to come!

Tuesday October 13th - Friday October 16th Scholastic Book Fair		Monday November 2nd School Closure Day Tuesday November 3rd Melbourne Cup		Thursday November 12th <i>1-4pm at Bill Sewart Athletics Track</i> Twilight Sports	
Friday November 13th 9am Community Centre Prep Level Mass with Fr Dispin		November 16th-27th Swimming Program		Friday November 20th School Closure Day	
Saturday November 21st Parish Fete		Friday December 4th 9am Community Centre Thanksgiving Mass		Sunday December 6th 9:45am St John's Mitcham Prep Parish Mass	
Monday December 7th School Closure Day	Friday December 11th 2:20pm Community Centre Nativity Prayer Service		Monday December 14th 2pm Community Centre Year 6 Final Day & Moving on Assembly		Tuesday December 15th Last Day of School

Timetable	PD	PB
Auslan	Tuesday	
STEM	Tuesday	
VISUAL ARTS	Thursday	Tuesday
PE	Thursday	
Library	Monday	Friday

LITERACY

This term, the children will continue to develop their confidence as readers and writers.

Building on their existing phonics knowledge, they will consolidate previously taught sounds and letter patterns while learning new digraphs and their corresponding sounds. Phonological awareness will continue to be strengthened through identifying, blending, segmenting and manipulating sounds in spoken words, including adding, deleting and changing sounds to make new words.

As readers, the children will develop fluency, accuracy and automaticity, using punctuation to support phrasing and expression. They will also strengthen their comprehension skills, developing their ability to understand and gain meaning from what they read through answering literal and inferential questions, sequencing events and identifying key words and important information.

In writing, the children will have opportunities to draft, edit and publish their work, learning to reread their writing, make improvements and check that it makes sense. Handwriting will remain a focus, with particular attention to the correct formation, sizing and placement of letters on the line.

Through regular practice, games and reading and writing activities, the children will continue to strengthen their skills and grow as confident, capable readers and writers.

MATHS

In our Term Four **Data Unit**, students will collect, sort, and learn how to represent and describe data with two outcomes, such as yes/no or apples/oranges.. They will answer questions about simple data sets and begin to interpret information in meaningful ways, such as identifying which group has more or less.

In our **Counting and Place Value Unit**, students will continue to count forwards and backwards within 100. They will recognise numbers in the teens and beyond by partitioning them into tens and ones, using materials such as icy pole sticks and Base Ten blocks to visualise the value of each digit. Through role play, students will also use toy money to make simple transactions, helping to connect their mathematical learning to real-life experiences.

In our **Location Unit**, students will explore how to describe where things are using everyday words like *next to*, *between*, *behind*, and *in front of*. They will also give and follow simple directions through games and classroom activities.

WEEKLY PHONICS FOCUS

Blending common sounds associated with letters when reading
CVCC, CCVC & CCVCC e.g. nest, drum, plant

Week 1 ~ digraphs ph & wh	Week 2 ~ Long 'A' Vowel Sound - ai, ay	Week 3 ~ Long 'E' Vowel Sound - ee, ea
Week 4 ~ Long 'E' Vowel - y (happy)	Week 5 ~ Long 'I' Vowel Sound - igh, ie	Week 6 ~ Long 'I' Vowel Sound - y (cry)
Week 7 ~ Long 'O' Vowel Sound - oa	Week 8 ~ Suffix - ing	Week 9 & 10 ~ Revision



Term 4 Concept: Chemical Science
Term 4 Value: Cooperation

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)	CHEMICAL SCIENCE
During Term Four, the children will focus on the school value of cooperation. They will learn about teamwork skills and participate in hands-on team building tasks to put their learning about cooperation into action. The children will continue to develop their awareness of others and consider how their actions impact their classmates and peers. When engaging with the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships program, students will explore positive gender relations, learning the importance of treating others with respect and fairness, while developing positive and supportive relationships with their peers through age-appropriate discussions and activities. We will revisit our learning about the brain, exploring how it grows stronger when we learn, helps us understand our feelings and solve problems. The children will also learn how deep breathing can help calm the brain when experiencing big emotions.	In our Chemical Science Unit, the children will explore the different materials that make up everyday objects and investigate their observable properties. They will sort, classify and compare materials, considering why particular materials are chosen for different purposes. The children will discover how materials can be combined and changed for different purposes, exploring how actions such as bending, stretching, breaking, mixing, heating and cooling can change materials. Students will also consider how First Nations Australians have used natural materials in creative and practical ways, including tools, clothing, jewellery and weaving. Throughout the unit, students will apply their understanding through a range of hands-on investigations and experiments, observing and discussing how materials respond to different actions and changes.
RELIGION	
During Term Four, the children will explore forgiveness through prayer and Scripture. They will connect this learning to the children in our school community who will be making the Sacrament of Reconciliation, considering what forgiveness means in our own lives and relationships. The children will discover that prayer can take many forms, including song, meditation, sharing special intentions, formal prayers and saying Grace before meals. They will create a prayer book containing prayers of thanks, forgiveness and petition for themselves and others. The children will learn about the season of Advent and explore the meaning of the four Advent candles. They will learn how Advent helps us prepare for and look forward to the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas, exploring the Nativity Story as they prepare to host our Christmas Prayer Service.	

HOME LEARNING	
Home Reading Continues... It is expected that all students read for a minimum of 10 mins per night, four times a week. Students are required to record their reading in their Log Books each night. Please ensure these Logbooks are kept in mailbags and brought to school, as they contain log in details children use at school. Please continue to ensure the focus remains on reading for enjoyment, as it is our priority to foster a love of reading!	Home learning will always be meaningful and may be given at various times throughout the term for the following reasons: • To reinforce skills and knowledge that your child is acquiring at school (Needs Based) • To research, prepare for presentations, collect materials, administer surveys etc. to support classroom topics of study (Topic Based) • To engage families in learning (Family Based)
Show and Tell Please see the Term 4 Show and Tell Roster to find the theme/topic for each week. <u>Some ways you can help your child prepare:</u> • As a family, listen to your child present their Show and Tell at home, before their rostered day. • Remind your child to speak with a loud, clear voice and to look at the audience.	M100W Heart Words Continue to practise reading & writing these commonly used words. <i>If you need any word lists, please let us know.</i>
	Letter & Number Formation Continue to practise and correctly form letters and numbers.



Our newsletter provides a brief overview of our learning across all areas in the classroom. We will also be in contact via email as events and needs arise. Please don't forget to check the School Newsletter weekly for important information and the most recent dates for upcoming events.

Please continue to contact us should the need arise. Looking forward to sharing another term of partnership and learning!