

Special Class Term 3 Newsletter 2017

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope you have had a relaxing and fun filled holidays.

We are happy to see everyone back smiling, enthusiastic and ready to start the new term. We can't believe how quickly the year is passing us by!

Literacy/English:

Our theme for this term is 'Elmer the patchwork elephant'. Throughout this theme it is a great opportunity to focus on wild animals from the stories and explore adjectives – describing words. Handwriting, alphabet/jolly phonics, sight words, vocabulary, grammar and oral language, are also ongoing areas of development in our literacy block.

Reading and comprehension: Students listen to stories being read aloud in the class. Fortunately there are many wonderful stories about Elmer. The students are excited and enthusiastic about getting to know these stories. Students read with an adult as part of their morning routine. They are responsible for swapping their readers and taking these home each day. Please read with your child every day/night. Discussing the books with your child during or after reading is a great opportunity to strengthen their comprehension. Focusing on the 5Ws and 1H (*Who, What, When, Where, Why, How*) is a great strategy to help students understand the meaning of stories and texts.

Library borrowing is on Thursdays.

Term 3 brings with it **Book Week**. We are lucky to have a special guest, children's story Author and Premier's Reading Challenge Ambassador, **Phil Cummings** coming for a visit in week 3. He will be telling stories to the students and hosting interactive sessions with each class. These visits will occur on **Thursday 10th August** and **Friday 11th August**. There will be a special **Book Week Parade** in week 5 on **Friday 25th August**. Students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite character from a book. Parents are welcome to come and watch the parade.

Mathematics:

The focus for Mathematics this term is number, time, positioning/location and fractions. Problem solving, using Ann Baker Natural Maths strategies is also a focus. Some of these strategies include subitising and rainbow facts. Subitising is looking at groups and knowing the amount/how many with automaticity. Rainbow facts involve knowing number bonds that add up to make 10. We will also continue to incorporate and strengthen our numeracy skills using learning technologies and the 'Rainforest Maths' programs.

Health and Physical Education:

In Health we will be learning about having a **healthy body and healthy food/eating**. In Physical Education we are focusing on **movement, coordination, balance and core strength**.



History:

Our History focus this semester will be on '**Families**'. We will be creating 'Family Trees' and learning about our families.

Child Protection:

Our focus is '**Relationships - Trust and networks**'. This topic fits nicely and goes hand in hand with our History subject.



Swimming continues to be on **Thursdays**.

Cooking in Family Zone: We are cooking with students from Endeavour College on **Tuesday** afternoons. Towards the end of the sessions we also engage and interact by playing familiarisation, listening and cooperation games.

Wednesdays with Therese Meyers

Science

Students have opportunities to investigate the needs for survival of animals, including humans, and to investigate how our senses help us stay alive. Students' understanding of basic needs and their importance in our lives will be developed through hands-on activities. Through investigations, students will explore the needs of animals and compare them to their own needs. The students will make and record observations and identify patterns in graphs.

Digital Technology

Students will improve skills to design PowerPoint presentations, using the range of features, such as inserting slides, text boxes, text and images, creating transitions between slides, adding animations to slides and presenting slide shows.

The Arts

Students will collaborate to plan and make artworks related to animals, such as a moving fish.

Other important dates and information:

Book Week Parade

Week 5—Friday 25th August

School photos:

Week 9 - Wednesday 20th September

Pupil Free Days:

Week 2 – Friday 4th August and

Week 7 - Monday 4th September

Ingle Farm Primary School Community Expo:

