



# Term 4 Newsletter

## Foundation



### Term Four, 2019

Welcome to our final newsletter for the year! We can't believe how quickly this year has gone, it feels like yesterday we began our 2019 Transition Program and now we are in our last term of Foundation. This year has been very busy, it has been such a pleasure watching all of the Foundation students grow and learn so much in their first year of school. Thank you to all our Foundation parents and guardians for supporting our Foundation program this year, it has been a pleasure getting to know all our 2019 families. We wish our students all the best as we head into this final term.

As part of our Discovery Learning focus this term, the Foundation students will be exploring the concept of 'Forces'. We will be investigating how objects move through pushing and/or pulling and comparing factors that may affect the speed or ability of something to move. The students will be participating in a Billy Cart Incursion on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November as part of our Term 4 topic. They will join in and create their own vehicles/objects using real tools and materials. The students then experiment with calculating length, weight and shape and test them against different criteria. Finally, they will get to drive a variety of different Billy Carts. The incursion will take place in our school gym.

#### Compass

Please ensure that you regularly log on and check Compass notifications. All correspondence, school information and reminders will be sent via Compass.

#### Sun Smart

Just a reminder that every child is expected to wear a hat during lunch and recess outdoor play every day!

**NO HAT, NO PLAY!**

#### Term 4 Important Dates:

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October:

First Day of Term 4.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October:

Hilltop Aged-Care residents visiting to watch mini-concert.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November:

Report Writing Day – Student Free.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November:

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday – Student Free.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November:

Foundation Serendip Sanctuary Excursion.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November:

Foundation Billy Cart Incursion.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November:

Foundation Pyjama Breakfast.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December:

Family Christmas Carols Night.

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December:

Parent Helpers Afternoon Tea.

## Term 4 Curriculum Focus

### Literacy - Reading/Phonological Awareness

This term students will revise their knowledge of the alphabet (letters and sounds), similar sounding letters, letter blends and high frequency words. We will continue to explore common word families each week, which will further increase the students' ability to quickly recognise and decode unfamiliar words when reading.

### Literacy- Writing

The students have had a great start to writing on dotted thirds lined paper last term. This term, we will continue to practise letter formation with a strong focus on letter sizing and placement on dotted thirds. Throughout the next eleven weeks, students will continue to explore writing simple informative and procedural texts. We will build further upon students' ability to use and apply a variety of conjunctions within their writing such as 'but', 'or' and 'because' to improve their ability to write more detailed sentences. Spelling this term will consist of the students continuing to stretch out words to record the obvious sounds within and referring back to common word families to assist them when spelling new words.



Week 1- 7<sup>th</sup> Oct

Letters: **'Short/Long Vowel Revision'**  
Words: 'could', 'would', 'should'

Week 2 - 14<sup>th</sup> Oct

Letters: **'b' and 'd'**      Word: 'know'  
(revision)

Week 3 - 21<sup>st</sup> Oct

Letters: **'f' and 'th'**  
Words: 'there', 'their' and 'they're'

Week 4 - 28<sup>th</sup> Oct

Letter Blend: **'Tr'**  
Words: 'night', 'right', 'sight'

Week 5 - 4<sup>th</sup> Nov

Letter Blend: **'Dr'**  
Words: 'walk', 'talk', 'chalk'

Week 6 - 11<sup>th</sup> Nov

Letter Blend: **'Gr'**  
Words: 'found' 'ground'

Week 7 - 18<sup>th</sup> Nov

Letter Blend: **'St'**  
Words: words that end in 'er' and 'ar'

Week 8 - 25<sup>th</sup> Nov

Letter Blend: <b>'Sl'</b> Words: 'our' and 'out'
Week 9 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec  Letter Blend: <b>'Sp'</b> Word: 'which' and 'witch'
Week 10 – 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec  Letter: Revision    Word: Revision
Week 11 – 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec  Letter: Revision    Word: Revision

## Home Reading and M100W Program

The Home Reading and M100W Word Book Program will continue this term as per Term 3. We expect all students to read with an adult **every night** to ensure they practise the reading strategies they have learned at school. Over the course of the term, we suggest that parents ask children questions about the book after reading such as:

- What was the book about?
- Who were the characters in the story?
- Why do you think....?
- How did the character feel when...?
- What are some new things you learned from this book? (Non Fiction Texts)

It is important to talk about books after reading as it helps your child better understand and comprehend the concepts within them. Reading is about understanding the messages conveyed in text therefore by discussing books, you are ensuring that your child has the skills to develop into a fantastic reader. Below is a prompt that we use at school to assist students when retelling a story:

## 5 Finger Retell



## Mathematics

This term, students will continue to develop their understanding of mathematical concepts such as:

- Counting: Forwards and backwards from different starting points, skip counting by 2s and 5s.
- Number: Place value of two digit numbers, sequencing larger numbers according to value, and writing two digit numerals.
- Addition: Revise using different strategies to solve addition problems and number facts to ten and beyond.
- Subtraction: Investigate different strategies to solve subtraction problems.
- Length: Use informal measurements to measure, compare objects and describe length.
- Mass: Investigate and develop an understanding of informal weight comparisons.
- Capacity: Measure and compare the capacity of various containers.

- Data: Collect data and represent information in various forms such as a pictograph, tally chart

## Discovery Learning

As mentioned, our Discovery Learning focus this term will be centered on exploring the concept of 'Forces'. We will be investigating how objects move through pushing and/or pulling and comparing factors that may affect the speed or ability for something to move. New 'Discovery Learning Stations' were set up over the school holidays to support our program. Some of these stations include 'Ramps and Cars', where students will design their own ramp and evaluate how its height, length and surface texture can affect a car's speed, 'Lego Mazes'; where students will design their own vertical maze and use a marble to test its effectiveness in getting an object to travel in different directions (just to name a few). We kindly ask that parents please ensure that younger siblings do not play or touch our Discovery Learning Stations during morning drop offs, these stations have been carefully set up for learning during the day.

## Foundation Specialist Programs

### Japanese:

This term, students in Foundation will learn another folk tale – *Bunbuku Chagama* (The Dancing Tea Kettle). The main focus for the term will be for students to learn about zoo and farm animals and some of their sounds in Japanese. By the end of the term the students will be able to describe animals they like in Japanese.

### Physical Education:

During this term, the Foundation students will be introduced to the Fundamental Motor Skill of the Kick as well as revisiting previous topics including throwing, catching, gymnastics and various locomotor skills. Students will also experiment with multimedia platforms for exercise as alternatives to traditional physical activity.

### Sustainability:

In Term 4, Foundation students will be looking at gardens and how we can grow them without using poisons etc. We will also be looking at how we can benefit from eating healthy foods we grow in our gardens. We will be taking part in observing Sustainability-based special events such as National Recycling Week and National Water Week and looking at the importance of these. At some point in the term I hope we will be able to do some blind taste testing, using senses to describe the feel, smell and taste of foods from our garden. Also, I'm hoping to do some cooking and work in the garden to help produce our crops. I hope the students are enjoying their work in Sustainability and are developing an interest in the natural world around them. **An excursion to Serendip Sanctuary has also been organised for our Foundation students on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November, more information about our excursion will be provided soon.**

### Visual Arts:

During Term 4, Foundation students will continue to build upon techniques learnt in previous painting and drawing lessons. The focus of the painting lessons will be pointillism based (a technique of painting in which small,

distinct dots of colour are applied in patterns to form an image). Special occasions on the Australian calendar such as the Melbourne Cup and Christmas will also be a focus.

Kind Regards,

**Kira Hannah** hannah.kira.k@edumail.vic.gov.au

**Kathy Seator** seator.katherine.k@edumail.vic.gov.au

**Alex Macias** macias.alexandra.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

