

YEAR PREP NEWSLETTER  
TERM 4

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Monday, October 18 – Wednesday, October 20

Thursday, October 21 & Friday, October 22

Monday, October 25 – Wednesday, October 27

Thursday, October 28 & Friday, October 29

**Monday, November 1**

**Tuesday, November 2**

Wednesday, November 3

Thursday, November 4

**Friday, November 5**

**Friday, December 17**

Prep students onsite learning

Remote learning

Prep students onsite learning

Remote learning

**Pupil Free Day**

**Melbourne Cup Day, (Public Holiday)**

Prep students onsite learning

Prep students remote learning

**Prep – Year 6 students return to**

**full time onsite learning**

**Last day Term 4 (12:30 p.m. finish)**



Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to Term 4, the last term for the year (we cannot believe it either!). We are extremely proud of the amazing effort and resilience that the students displayed during Term 3 with remote and flexible learning. We want to say a very big **THANK YOU** to all of the family members for supporting their children at home.

The focus for Term 4 will be transitioning back to school and ensuring that our students have a safe and supportive learning environment. We will focus on student attendance, wellbeing, re-establishing routines, and of course, learning.

Term 4 is gearing up to be a busy and exciting term for our Prep students with special events planned and our end of year Christmas concert. Term 4 also marks the beginning of our preparation for the newly enrolled 2022 Preps. Our comprehensive Prep Transition Program plays an invaluable role in assisting children to make a smooth and positive start to their first year of school.

**RETURNING TO ONSITE LEARNING**

As you will have heard from our state Premier, Prep students will begin a staged return to school from **Monday, October 18** for 3 days per week. Prep students will attend Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and continue with remote learning on Thursday and Friday. The structure of remote learning will remain the same with the 9:00am, Google Meet and 11:15am Google Meet. They will have Reading, Writing and Numeracy tasks to complete and submit each day. **Attendance** will continue to be marked through the Google Meets.

Student and staff safety is our top priority. We will maintain airflow and ventilation where possible, have strict hand hygiene practices in place, table cleaning, social distancing between staff and students where possible and masks will be worn. It is also recommended that students over the age of 5 also wear a face mask. We will do everything that we can to ensure everyone's health and safety while at school.

**Week beginning Monday, October 18**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Onsite Learning</b> 8:50am – 3:00pm	<b>Onsite Learning</b> 8:50am – 3:00pm	<b>Onsite Learning</b> 8:50am – 3:00pm	<b>Remote Learning</b> 9:00am Google Meet  11:15am Google Meet	<b>Remote Learning</b> 9:00am Google Meet  11:15am Google Meet

## SUNSMART

Between mid August and the end of April each year all students are required to wear a broad brimmed or legionnaire style hat while outdoors at playtimes or any other activity such as Physical Education. Please note that your child's hat can be any colour. The hat should be labelled with your child's name. Please ensure that your child has a suitable hat for when we return to onsite learning.

Students may also bring their own sunscreen and/or sunglasses. These are optional and should also be labelled with your child's name. It is your child's responsibility to look after these items.

## LITERACY

In **Literacy** this term, we will revise the names of the letters of the alphabet *and* the common sounds that they make in words. It is very important that the children can recognise and name **all** of the letters of the alphabet as well as the sounds that they make and **all** of their Golden Words. Further high frequency words will continue to be introduced every week. Like the letters, these are crucial for your child to learn to assist with his/her reading and writing progress. Another key focus during this term will be asking children to retell what they have read in books, in oral and written form, including as much detail as possible from the story.

During **Reading** sessions, children will continue to learn and practise a range of different strategies to assist with working out unfamiliar words in texts. Some of these important strategies include:

- looking at the pictures for clues
- reading on and then coming back to the tricky word
- rereading all of the words from the start of the sentence
- using prior knowledge about the topic of the book (e.g. when reading a book about a farm you could expect to see words such as: *animals, farmer, cow, sheep, pig, barn*, etc.)
- finding smaller words inside larger words (e.g. *and* in the word **sand**)
- trying again if a word that has been read aloud does not look right or sound right
- **reading for meaning:** *What word would make sense there?*



In addition, the children will work on extending their knowledge of punctuation and reading stories fluently and expressively.

### To assist your child with reading at home you can:

- read the library book borrowed by your child each fortnight with him / her
- encourage reading in the home and make it a positive and enjoyable experience
- take a few minutes to talk about the book *before* reading. Ask questions such as “*What do you think will happen in this story?*” “*Why do you think that?*”
- encourage your child to retell the main events in a story after it has been read. Prompt your child to retell the events in the correct order and to add as much detail as possible (e.g. use of character names).

During classroom **Writing** sessions the children will continue to focus on applying their knowledge of the sounds made by letters when writing unfamiliar words and on spelling high frequency words correctly. This term the children will also be encouraged to leave spaces between words, form letters correctly and use capital letters and full stops appropriately.

### To assist your child with writing at home you can:

- encourage your child to write often. Have him/her write reminders on a calendar (e.g. library day, Specialist classes), make shopping lists, birthday cards, etc
- talk about experiences before writing so that your child has a chance to organise his/her thoughts and include more details
- encourage your child to practise writing the high frequency words and forming letters correctly, these can be their Golden Words or the high frequency words in the back of their yellow reading diary
- help him/her make connections with what he/she already knows when spelling unknown words. If he/she knows how to write **not** then they can also write **hot, dot, pot** etc.



## HOME READING

Although the end of year can be a very busy time for families, it is still important for children to continue to read their take home books each night and to return them each day. Please encourage your child to continue revising the alphabet letters/sounds and the high frequency words **every night**. Your child will be bringing home books that are **easy to read**, so that he/she can put into practise the skills we have been working on at school. These books are **not** the same level as the books that your child is reading at school. At school the children are reading more challenging texts with support from the teacher. They are guided through more lengthy texts and shown how to use various strategies to assist in working out unfamiliar words. At home, children should be reading for fluency, pleasure and to gain meaning.

## NUMERACY

In **Mathematics** this term the children will continue to extend their number and counting knowledge. They will practise solving basic addition and subtraction problems and develop an understanding of 'counting on' and 'counting back', to assist them when working out number problems visually and mentally. There will also be a strong focus on recognising, writing and representing numbers up to 20, particularly the teen numbers. Other key areas which will be explored in greater depth this term include recognising and naming common 2D and 3D shapes.

### To assist your child with mathematics at home you can:

- encourage your child to recognise and write numbers to 20 and count various collections of items up to 20
- ask your child to practise counting by 1s forwards and backwards from different starting points between 1 and 100 (e.g. start counting forwards from 26)
- provide your child with simple addition and subtraction problems to solve using everyday items found around the house. Encourage your child to use the appropriate language for each kind of problem.  
For Example
  - 5 toys and 2 more toys makes 7 toys altogether (**addition problem**)
  - 6 apples take away 2 apples leaves 4 apples (**subtraction problem**)
- practise saying the days of the week and months of the year in order with your child. Each day, ask your child to name what day it is *today*, what day it was *yesterday* and what day it will be *tomorrow*
- use the terms morning, afternoon and night/evening to describe when daily activities will occur
- draw or make paper clocks and ask your child to name the various o'clock and half past times shown on them
- play 'I Spy' games using language associated with shapes (e.g. *I spy with my little eye something that is round* or *I spy with my little eye something that is a circle shape*)
- challenge your child to find different shapes around the home, in the community or within pictures.

## THEMES

In Term 4 students will be studying the themes '**Living and Non-Living Things**' and '**Christmas**'. Throughout the unit '**Living and Non-Living Things**', students will be investigating the characteristics of living and non-living things. This will involve comparing and classifying living and non-living things, identifying the basic conditions living things need for their survival and growth and caring for animals and plants. To engage children's interest in this topic and provide them with first-hand experience in caring for animals, we will be introducing a class pet.

## TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT SCHOOL

It is common for your child to say they did nothing at school or that they didn't learn anything. It is important that your child develops a positive relationship with school. When talking to your child about school, try to focus on the positives and talk through the negatives to help them work through their feelings.

**Below are some questions that you could ask your child about their day.**

- What did you enjoy at school today?
- What did you like learning about? Why?
- What didn't you like learning about? Why not?
- What made you laugh/ smile?
- What did you do when you didn't understand something?
- What do you think would help you?
- What are you most proud of?

## **PREP CHRISTMAS 'CONCERT'**



The Prep students have already begun rehearsing for their end of year concert. The students will be performing Christmas songs for their parents and other family members. The concert will be filmed for you to watch online. Some basic 'costumes' will be needed in preparation for filming.

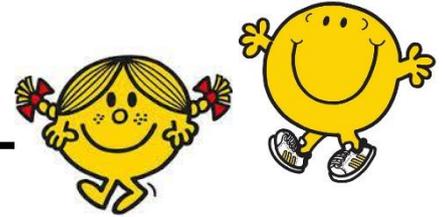
When students return to onsite learning on **Monday, October 18**, can you please send a **plain white t-shirt and a pair of plain black pants or leggings** in a plastic shopping bag with your child's name clearly written on the outside and all clothing items labelled. All other parts of the costumes will be provided.

The song lyrics have been posted on the Performing Arts Google Classroom page for your child to rehearse and practise at home. It is important that your child also learns their lines if they have been given a small part to perform. These are also available on the Performing Arts Google Classroom page.

More information will be sent home about this event closer to the date.

**CHRISTOPHER ARNOLD, AMY JAMES (TEAM LEADER),  
AN NGUYEN & SHARNI TROMP  
PREP TEACHERS**

# STAGGERED RETURN TO SCHOOL REMINDERS



	From Monday, October 4 WEEKS 1 & 2	From Monday, October 18 WEEK 3	From Monday, October 25 WEEK 4
Prep	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
Years 1 & 2	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	Thursday & Friday	Thursday & Friday
Years 3 & 4	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	Tuesday & Wednesday
Years 5 & 6	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	Thursday & Friday

## Week 5 – 01.11.2021 – 05.11.2021

	Monday, November 1	Tuesday, November 2	Wednesday, November 3	Thursday, November 4	Friday, November 5
PREP	PUPIL FREE DAY	MELBOURNE CUP DAY	ONSITE LEARNING	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	ONSITE LEARNING
YEARS 1 & 2	PUPIL FREE DAY	MELBOURNE CUP DAY	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	ONSITE LEARNING	ONSITE LEARNING
YEARS 3 & 4	PUPIL FREE DAY	MELBOURNE CUP DAY	ONSITE LEARNING	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	ONSITE LEARNING
YEARS 5 & 6	PUPIL FREE DAY	MELBOURNE CUP DAY	REMOTE & FLEXIBLE LEARNING	ONSITE LEARNING	ONSITE LEARNING

## Week 6 – 08.11.2021 – 12.11.2021

	Monday, November 8	Tuesday, November 9	Wednesday, November 10	Thursday, November 11	Friday, November 12
P-YEAR 6	😊 WHOLE SCHOOL RETURN TO ONSITE LEARNING 😊				

- ❖ Students will enter and exit allocated gates (see map)

### To help us all remain safe we need to remember:

- ❖ Social distancing 1.5m at all times, where possible.
- ❖ Masks
  - All adults will wear masks indoors and outdoors.
  - Year 3 – 6 students are required to wear masks indoors.
  - Year Prep – 2 students are encouraged to wear masks indoors.

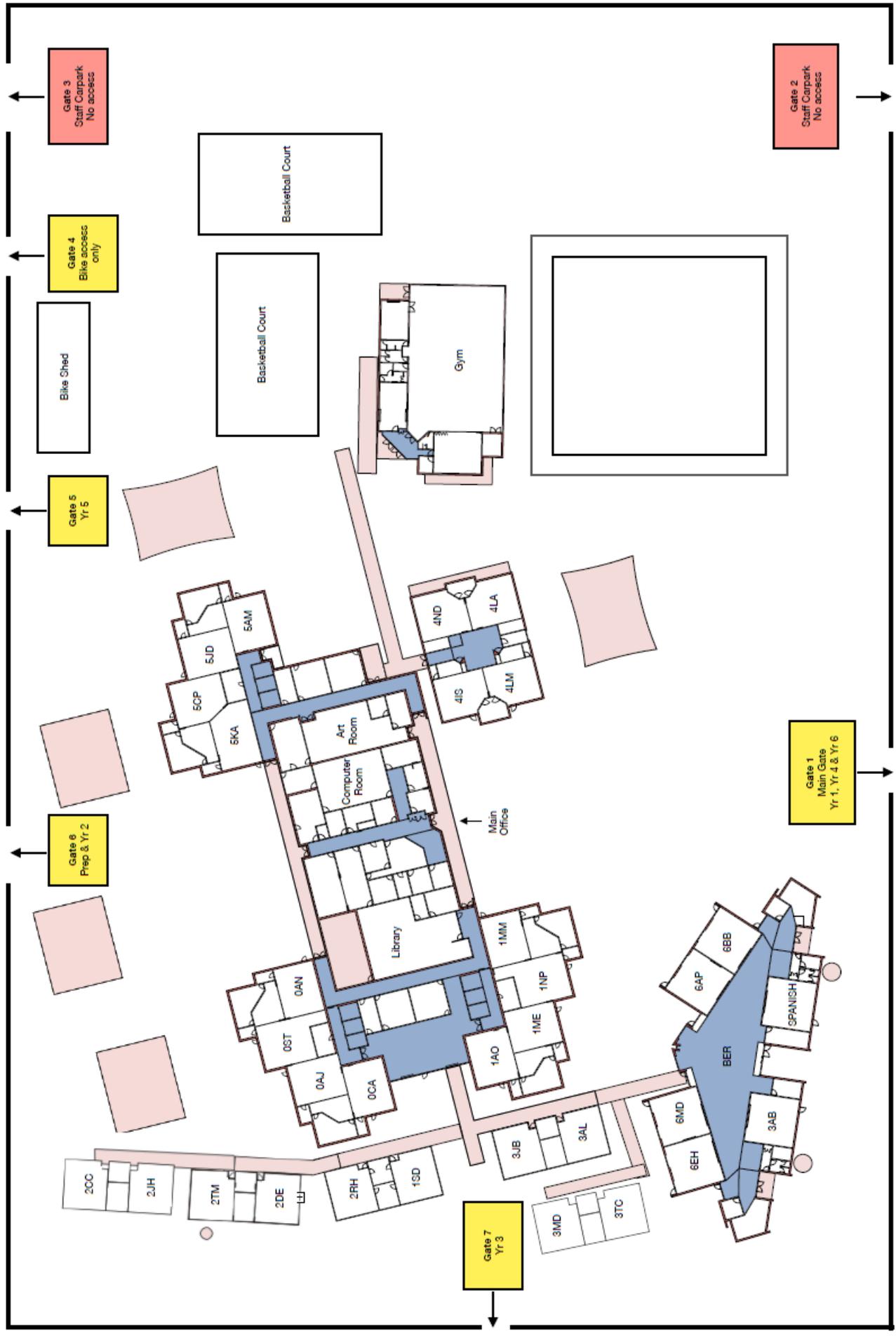


- ❖ Practice good hygiene.
- ❖ Adults requested/required to come onsite must QR code in.
- ❖ If unwell, stay at home and be tested.



Westbourne Drive

McGrath Road



West County Drive

## SOME OF OUR PREP STUDENTS' WORK SAMPLES

### PICTURE OF THE DAY



The dog likes to play music for his friend, the dog.

**Rosie, OAJ**

The dog is listening to music. The pig is playing music. They all love music.

**Jessica, OST**

The pig played the guitar. The dog got annoyed. He got ear muffs.

**Aubree, OST**

'The pig and the dog are singing on the road. The pig has a guitar and the dog has headphones.'

**Dominic, OCA**

#### Things my dog needs to stay alive:

- Food
- Water
- Love
- Air

#### Things you need to do to look after your dog:

- Feed them
- Walk them
- Bath them
- Pick up poo

**Elijah, OAJ**

The dog knows how to drive a car to the park to see his friends.

**Lily, OAN**

'The crocodile went to the shops and bought all the food that starts with the letter p.'

**Maheya, OCA**

**Challenge**  
Can you put the coins in order from the lowest value to the highest value?

A row of six coins: four silver coins and two gold coins.

Maths - Ordering coins from the lowest value to the highest value and identifying money.

Show me some money and tell me how much there is.  
You can write the amount or leave a voice recording.

A stack of three coins.

50 cents plus 20 cents, I have 70 cents

**Jaxon, OAN**