

GRADE ONE

Term I Newsletter

Welcome to our first Grade One newsletter for the year. Thank you again for assisting in the smooth transition from Prep to Grade One, the children have all made the most amazing start to the school year. Thank you also for accessing Educa to view messages, reminders, photos and curriculum achievements of your children as they are learning.

ENGLISH

In English, Grade One children are fostering the enjoyment of reading and writing texts. This is achieved through the 'Daily 5' program, Reading Groups and various word and writing experiences. They have proudly built up their literacy independence and stamina and enjoy selecting a range of 'good fit' texts to explore.

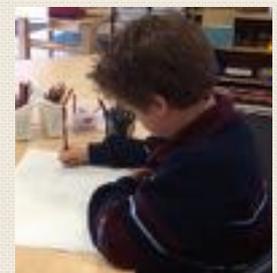
In writing, the children are beginning to use the 5W's, (who, what, where, why and when) to provide structure and detail in their writing. We have been creating Narrative, Recount and Letter Writing.

The children are all making wonderful progress with their knowledge of sight words. The words are individualised and practised for consolidation through Art/Craft creative activities during Literacy time.

The oral language strategy of Think/Pair/Share enable the children to communicate their ideas and provides confidence to transfer these ideas for inclusion in writing activities.

Handwriting lessons explicitly teach correct letter formation which begins with the correct pencil grip and starting point for each letter. This also raises the awareness of transferring correct letter formation to other writing tasks and encourages care and pride in all written work.

Our 'Letters and Sounds' Spelling program is from Mondays to Thursdays each week from 9:05am. This involves children from Prep, Grade One and Grade Two with Mrs Martin, Miss McNamara and myself at the appropriate phase for the individual student.



Grade One

RELIGION

Grade One children have been counting down the 40 days to Lent. We have been learning about ways that we can grow in our prayer and in kindness to others. In our daily prayer time, the children enjoy singing songs of praise and know that they can pray anywhere at any time. We have begun meditation and the children reflect on the calmness and special time that this allows for them to connect with God. Grade One are 'Making Jesus Real' in their own lives each day through helping and encouraging others and by showing kindness to each other. We have begun to experience 'Godly Play' through interacting with characters from the Bible to tell the story of Holy Week and the journey to Easter.



MATHS

In Maths we are extending our knowledge and skills of number to 100. We have been working cooperatively in small groups and individually, using concrete materials such as unifix blocks to explore and demonstrate our understanding of skip counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. We have been exploring place value by bundling sticks in groups of tens and ones and by using ten frames. This enables us to count larger numbers more efficiently. We enjoyed a Birthday Investigation which enabled us to apply our knowledge to a real life situation where we explored the features of a calendar. We sing the months of the year and we have made our own large floor calendar. We have also made a bar graph of our birthdays. We used this data to find which month had the most birthdays in Grade One. We have been reading analogue and digital time to the hour and half hour. We are also beginning to explore informal measurement in the area of length. We enjoy playing dice games to practise and consolidate our number knowledge and skills.

Grade One

SCIENCE

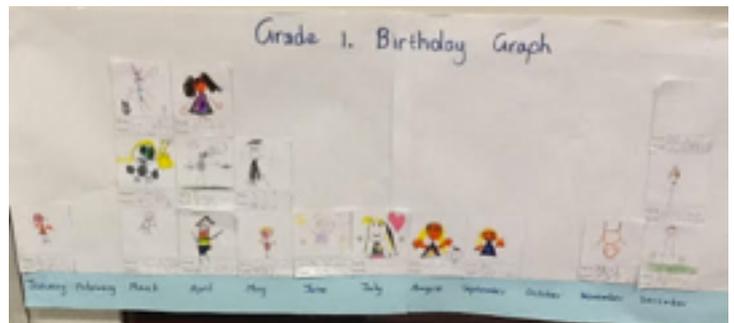
We have been learning about Biological, Earth and Space Sciences. We began by exploring the external features of various animals and then modelled our chosen animal from plasticine. We drew a 2D plan of our animal and transferred this to a painting with a water wash background. We are placing our plasticine animal in a Diorama which is required to contain the appropriate habitat and the elements that the animal needs for survival. We have learnt about three types of clouds, Stratus, Cirrus and Cumulus and the water cycle. We have created these clouds from cotton wool in the appropriate shape and placed them in the correct position in the sky of our Diorama. We have also been learning about the purposes of different parts of plants and we are growing our own plants in the classroom. We loved doing an experiment to see how the plant uses it's stem like a straw to transport water and nutrients to the rest of the plant. We put some food colouring in the water and successfully changed white roses to blue and deep orange/pink colours.



HASS

In History, we have been exploring the language of time, how the present, past and future are signified by terms indicating time and change. The

children have identified and described an event or celebration in the past that has personal significance in their own lives. They have made connections with the calendar, integrating their knowledge of sequencing dates, days of the week and months of the year.



BEFORE

AFTER 1/2 HOUR

AFTER 6 HOURS



Have a wonderful and safe holiday break with your families.
Regards, Maureen Harrison