

# Prep Newsletter

What have we been up to??????

## Literacy Time

Prep students have been very busy practising their Magic Words, learning new sounds and reading imaginative texts.

During Literacy time Prep students have been exploring the short listed books for Book Week which is in Week 6. We have looked at the book called "The Cow Tripped Over the Moon," which was proven to be a very funny version of the Nursery Rhyme, "Hey Diddle Diddle". The students and I had lots of laughs and we read the book THREE TIMES!!! The students made character puppets and really enjoyed acting out the story. They sequenced the original rhyme using words and pictures, a lot of them singing along and making up their own rhymes as they worked.



The students have also viewed and listened to the book called "My Dog Bigsy" and have learned a new word..... Onomatopoeia, one form is the sounds that animals and things can make in written and spoken speech. For example, the pig's squeak and oink and the cockatoos squawk and screech. The students chose their own animals and made up noises to match. They then shared their learning with the class and we discussed alternative sounds.

During 'Letters and Sounds', which is our spelling focus, the students are continuing to learn blends, digraphs and trigraphs with a daily practise using flashcards. We have begun learning Phase 3 letters and sounds and revising Phase 2 sounds daily. They are learning about sound buttons and that some sounds are made by two or three letters. The students have been using mini whiteboards to practise writing words that contain particular sounds and love to share their learning.

## Australian Curriculum

### Phonological & Phonemic Awareness

Recognise and generate rhyming words, alliteration patterns, syllables and sounds (phonemes) in spoken words.

Segment sentences into individual words and orally blend and segment onset and rime in single syllable spoken words, and isolate, blend and manipulate phonemes in single syllable words.

### Spelling

Understand how to use knowledge of letters and sounds including onset and rime to spell words. Know how to read and write some high-frequency words and other familiar words.

Understand that words are units of meaning and can be made of more than one meaningful part

### Creating Literary Texts

Retell familiar literary texts through performance, use of illustrations and images

## GEOGRAPHY

We are continuing to enjoy our journey of exploring the world around us. During Term 3 we have been learning about Africa and discovering information and interesting facts about the animals, people and land.

The students have drawn pictures, looked at maps and discussed how they are different and the same to the people of Africa.

Prep students are really enjoying learning about other cultures and family structures. They know that some places are very special to certain people, groups, tribes and cultures, and that they should be preserved throughout the generations for all to enjoy.

## Australian Curriculum

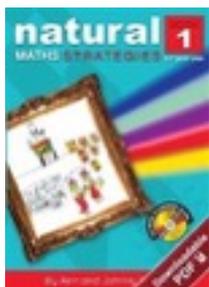
### Geography

The representation of the location of places and their features on simple maps and models. The places people live in and belong to, their familiar features and why they are important to people.

The Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Country/Place on which the school is located and why Country/Place is important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. The reasons why some places are special to people, and how they can be looked after.

## Numeracy Time

Number sense, fluency with mathematical and strategic thinking and estimation skills are the foundational building blocks of all Mathematics. The Preps are exposed to daily reflective thinking and opportunities to seek out efficient strategies that will develop automaticity in number facts based on a deep understanding. Using mental strategies and informal representations of addition and subtraction has been a major focus this term.



Prep students have been learning how to use natural maths strategies to solve problems and think mathematically.

We have been practising daily to heighten our mathematical thinking. The students love to use their mini whiteboards to explore early number sense and strategies.

Prep students have been representing, comparing and ordering numbers to 20 and are developing their skills to use varied, yet effective counting strategies.

They use concrete materials as tools to help them count and solve problems. We also play act scenarios so the students can see the problems being solved and be a part of the process.

## RELIGION

During religion lessons Prep students have been learning that the Church is a celebrating community that shares God's love. They are beginning to understand that to be in the Christian Community is to be in God. Prep students have been engaging in learning about families and special groups that they are a part of, how these groups are similar and different and what makes them so special.

The Prep students love to visit the Church and are learning about the building itself and what the items are called and are used for during Mass.



## FIRE EDUCATION

The Prep students attended Fire Education lessons in Week 4. They were also lucky enough to see and sit in a Fire Engine on Monday 8th August, which was very exciting.



Firefighter Craig taught the students about fire safety in the home and what to do in an emergency. He gave them practical advice about standing too close to heaters and the oven.

It was such a great experience and the Preps were rewarded with interesting items to take home.

