

Prep Newsletter

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

Literacy Time

Prep students have been very busy learning new sight words, practising letter formation and developing their letter and sound knowledge.

During Literacy time, Prep students have been practising their writing skills by creating sentences with pictures to match. We call this 'visualisation' and the students are free to choose the topic of their sentence writing. They begin by visualising a character, a scene and a scenario. By visualising and then drawing an image, the students have a topic to write about and writing becomes more natural. They are encouraged to have a go at unknown words by sounding them out and using their knowledge of letters and sounds. The students are willing to edit their work by making small adjustments to improve their writing skills.

During Letters and Sounds, which is our spelling focus, the students are learning blends, digraphs and trigraphs with daily warm ups using flashcards. The students make words work by creating word families. We also discuss the meanings of certain words and how some words can have more than one meaning. This helps the students to increase their oral language, particularly their vocabulary.

The students have been continuing to practise their Magic Words and really enjoy the thrill of achieving knowledge of new words and gaining certificates. We have been learning to sound out unfamiliar words and use the text and pictures for clues. Using word cards to create and read sentences has really helped to improve student confidence and reading ability. The students like to make silly sentences using common sight words and enjoy sharing them with others.

Prep students have been learning comprehensions strategies to help them to read. They are learning the strategy 'Eagle Eye' where the strategy involves looking at the pictures and connecting them with the beginning sounds of words. 'Careful Caterpillar,' involves looking at the whole word and all its parts to see what makes sense.

The Prep students have been so lucky to be able to spend some Friday afternoon Library time with their Grade 5 Buddies. The older students help the Preps to select books and then read to them. It is so lovely to see them all enjoying the stories, characters and pictures together. Thanks Grade 5!



Australian Curriculum Alphabet & Phonic Knowledge

Recognise and name all upper and lower case letters (graphemes) and know the most common sound that each letter represents.

Write consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words by representing some sounds with the appropriate letters, and blend sounds associated with letters when reading CVC words.

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. 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.

Numeracy Time

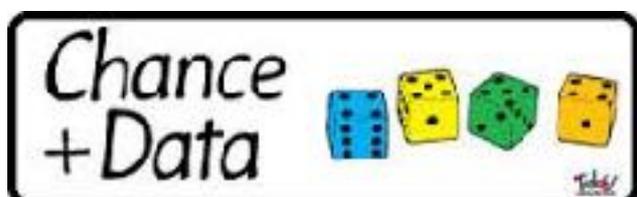
Prep students have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes and have been exploring the concepts of Chance and Data.

During Numeracy times, Prep students practise daily warm ups that help them revise and remember mathematical concepts. The students are learning what it is to be a mathematician and the different actions in which the students can engage when learning and using maths content. They need to be able to understand, be fluent, problem solve and reason.

In Prep, we have been learning to use an iPad App called 'Book Creator'. The students have been taking photographs of 2D and 3D shapes and have made a book. They have used the voice recording tool to explain the features of these shapes. Listening back to their descriptions has helped the students use more technical mathematical language and improve their mathematical vocabulary.

The students have been introduced to the concept of chance and how events can be certain, likely, unlikely or impossible. It has been fun coming up with scenarios and making predictions. We have also been playing games that involve chance and discussing the likely outcomes of these games.

Prep students have learned that the word data means information and they have been collecting data on their peers' favourite colours and shapes. They have practised using tally marks to record their findings and to find out the most and least favourite preferences.



Australian Curriculum

What should the students be learning?

Shape

Sort, describe and name familiar two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects in the environment.

Data Representation and Interpretation.

Answer yes/no questions to collect information and make

RELIGION

During religion lessons, Prep students have been learning about God's love for them. They have been exploring the notion that God is love. The students have been given opportunities to explore images and names for God. The students are learning that God's love is revealed through the love that is shown by people, in the world, in the Word of God and in prayer and Liturgy.

PUPPET TIME

We have several new additions in the Prep classroom. Eric, Jasmine, Grandpa and Turbo Chook are our class puppets that help us to learn. Eric (below) loves to read and 'eats books for breakfast,' Grandpa loves to spell, Jasmine is a keen writer and Turbo Chook enjoys counting. The Prep students love the puppets and treat them like members of the class, showing respect and enthusiasm towards their learning.

PLAY-BASED LEARNING

The Prep students are enjoying the Cosy Camping Corner within our classroom. They have been pretending to fish, they read books in the tent and cook delicious meals on the BBQ. We are learning about caring for our natural environments and our native wildlife by keeping our camp site clean and free of rubbish. This ties in nicely to our integrated unit 'Caring For Our World,' which is our Science and HASS focus for Terms 1 and 2.

