

PREP NEWSLETTER

Haslem Campus Kyabram P-12 College

Term 1 February, 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our 2009 program and an especially to our new parents at Haslem Street. We look forward to working with you during 2009.

Our present teachers are:

Mrs. Robyn Curnow Prep C

Ms. Breanna Hawken Prep B

Mrs. Patti Harrison Prep H

Classroom rules are being established within each class.

They are:

- Listen when others are speaking.
- Follow instructions when they are given.
- Solve problems in a fair way. Ask an adult if you need help.
- Move quietly and safely in the classroom.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Keep hands feet and objects to ourselves.



We are a Sunsafe school. Hats are to be worn outside in Terms One and Four.



Dates to Remember

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
February

Prep Numeracy
Interviews

Prep grades do not attend on these days

26th February
'Hello Night'

2nd-6th March
First full week

5th March
2.30 Welcome afternoon tea for Prep parents outside Prep classrooms.

9th March
Labor Day Holiday

3rd April
Last Day Term 1
2.20pm Finish



Lunches

Lunch is at 1.30 pm. We plan to have fruit breaks in the morning so it is important to send fresh fruit to school daily with your child.

Requisites

Children in grade Prep are requested to bring the following items to school.

- 1 box of tissues
- 1 art smock
- 1 water bottle
- 1 tennis ball

Many thanks to those parents who have already sent these items along.

Thanks

Theme

Preps are studying the theme "Civics" for Term One. This unit will involve the children in learning how to be a good friend, and developing the skills to enable them to co-operate with others, and the rules and the discipline needed to maintain a happy school.

ENGLISH AND MATHS

Prep English

The children will be immersed in a variety of texts, e.g. big books, poems, to develop early reading strategies such as looking at the pictures to gain meaning and pointing to each word. They will be participating in large and small group discussions and activities. Daily opportunities will be created for developing early writing skills e.g. correct letter formation, modelled writing, interest sentences, handwriting and journal writing.

Prep Maths

The children will experience a variety of activities developing such skills in number as oral counting, counting given objects and beginning to write numbers. The children will be participating in play based learning activities to develop such concepts as large/small, tall/short, over/under, sorting and classifying objects and making class graphs.

VISUAL ARTS

This term, students will be doing activities with paper and cardboard to develop their skills in folding, cutting and pasting. The next activity is a Humpty Dumpty collage followed by a variety of simple puppet constructions. They will also be doing some painting and printing.

Please keep the art room in mind before throwing out materials that you might consider to be rubbish. We use boxes, cardboard cylinders, ice cream containers, margarine containers, wire coat hangers, polystyrene meat trays, wool, buttons and a variety of other junk.

We would be grateful for any donations. Thankyou.



Christine Anderson

Performing Arts

During Term 1, Preps will be concentrating on music activities. They will be singing, moving to music and playing percussion instruments to simple rhythms.



Barb Buckell

Physical Education in 2009

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and welcome students, parents and staff back to the school for what promises to be an exciting new year.



Prep PE for this term:

Movement/Locomotion Games and the "Vertical Jump".

Students need to remember to wear their hats in all sessions and wear footwear that is supportive. Please ensure that your child wears sunscreen to school as we are entering a very hot period ahead. Bring a water bottle that has been in the freezer as students tire easily outside and we encourage them to have lots of drinks when necessary.

Matthew Roberts
Physical Education Teacher

Drinking Water is Important

Children need to drink plenty of water.

When we don't water plants they wilt. When we don't provide water for pets they grow tired and complain. When children don't drink enough water it can affect their ability to learn, play and feel well. Drinking water prevents dehydration, which can affect concentration, cause headaches and constipation. Drinking tap water is the best drink for thirst.



Parent Tip: Enable children to help themselves to tap water at home and provide them with a drink bottle to bring to school. Your child may wish to decorate their bottle so they know it belongs to them.

Timetable details

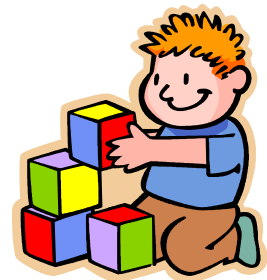
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Prep B	PE @ 2.20	Performing Arts @ 12.30		Art @ 11:30 Performing Arts @ 12.30	Library @ 2.20
Prep H	Art @ 2.20	Performing Arts @ 11.30 PE @ 12.30		Performing Arts @ 2.20	Library @ 12.30
Prep C	Performing Arts @ 2.20		Library @ 2.20	Performing Arts @ 11.30 Art @ 12:30	P.E @ 2.20

DEVELOPMENTAL PLAY

Our prep programs include “Developmental Play” for two mornings a week. All classrooms will run morning reading along with the 2 hour literacy block and numeracy blocks daily. The “Developmental Play” program will be used as a way of exploring and further strengthening literacy and numeracy concepts.

“Developmental play” is a structured play program that engages children through hands on meaningful experiences such as

- Dramatic Play – Role Plays, Dressing Up
- Sensory Activities – Sand, Water, Clay, Mud, Play Dough
- Collage – Natural Materials
- Construction & Manipulative Materials
- Writing Centres
- Reading Centres
- Computers
- Individual exploration



These activities are designed to ensure children are engaged and developed across a variety of curriculum areas including Social, Emotional, Cognitive, Physical, Language and Mathematical.

The program assists teachers in meeting the individual needs of every child by providing children with the opportunity to practice essential skills through active investigation. All prep teachers continue to plan together weekly ensuring they provide opportunities for children to develop across all curriculum areas. Teachers use the children’s interests as a basis for their planning, teaching, learning and explicit instruction.

We also ensure that embedded in the “Investigating Play” program are our school values. We believe that the program will assist in nurturing and empowering children to reach their potential and develop a habit of life-long learning, through an engaging and balanced education in an inclusive and supportive environment.

If you would require any more information about Developmental Play please feel free to contact the school or discuss the program with your child’s teacher.

“We don’t stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing”

Regards

Breanna Hawken-Eddy, Patti Harrison & Robyn Curnow