



Prep Community Newsletter

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the very first Community Newsletter for 2018. It has been a fantastic start to the year and we are extremely proud of our Prep children for settling into school so well.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and encouragement in preparing your child for school. It is great to see so many of our students being independent by carrying their own school bags and preparing for their day at school with smiles on their faces. We hope you have enjoyed the beginning of their education as much as the children and teachers have.

We look forward to working with you throughout the year as we continue to build this amazing community of learners.

The purpose of the termly community newsletter is to keep you informed with important dates, student learning and curriculum overviews.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to speak with a community teacher.

From the Kirrip Community Teachers.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Preps start full time school Monday 5th of March

Labour Day Public Holiday Monday 12th of March (Student Free Day)

Harmony Day (wear something orange) Wednesday 21st of March

Community BBQ 3.30pm - 5:30pm Tuesday 27th of March

Easter Egg Hunt Thursday 29th of March

Last day of Term 1 - 29th March at 2.30pm.

LETS HEAR IT FROM THE KIDS



Jada

"I like having different teachers"

"at school I have learnt numbers and letters and how to be nice to my friends and teachers"

Hafsa

"I like painting outside at lunch and snack on the slide"

"at school I learnt about how to keep my hands to myself"

Klein

"I like drawing and cutting and pasting and learning about numbers"

"at school I learn how to be respectful"

Aiden

"I like drawing, that's my favourite"

Amol

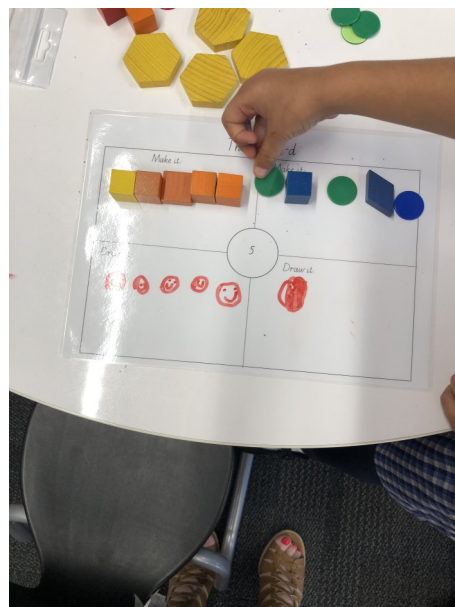
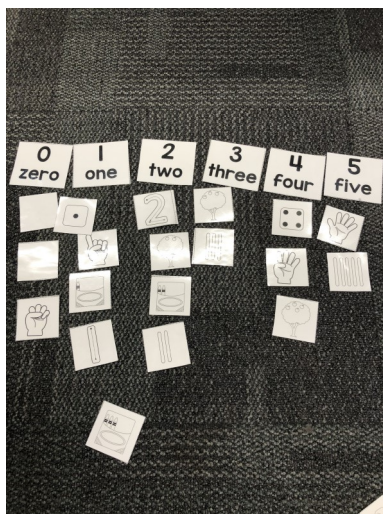
"I like playing outside with my friends and with the toys and cars in the classroom"

Dhanvi

"I like doing art, I like making colours and drawing pictures"

Mikaela

"I like listening to stories at school"



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME ...

During Numeracy we are learning to make, name and record numbers to 10 and beyond. Below are some quick activities that are easy to make and will help develop your child's number understanding.

- use pipe cleaners to thread beads of a specific number
- flash a number card to your child, your child is to then peg the correct amount of pegs to the number shown
- roll a dice (6 or 10 sided) and your child is to make that the number rolled using multiple different objects
- play snap using a deck of cards (looking for numbers that are the same)
- use a 100's counting chart to practice counting to 100. Look for number patterns- counting by 5's, 10's or 2's. You can also cover numbers and see if your child can solve which number is hidden. It is important that you practice counting on from different starting points not always starting at 0 or 1.

www.alrcya.com Fantastic website for all curriculum areas

During Literacy we are learning the alphabet and some OWL words. Through Jolly Phonics, students are learning associations between letters and their sounds as they are introduced in a clearly defined, incremental sequence. Students are beginning to learn the highly important skills of blending (putting sounds together to make words) and segmenting (sounding out words). Jolly Phonics is a multi-sensory method with actions for each of the 42 sounds.

To access this you can go onto youtube and type in 'Jolly Phonics letter...' The sounds that we have taught so far are S, A, T, P, I, N, C, K, E, H, R, M and D. Below are some other activities you can create at home.

- identifying owl words in books
- use paint and ear buds to dot paint around owl words or your child's name
- it is important to read with your child every night and ask some questions about the book they read
- model how to read with your child, where to start reading from, how to glide your finger under the words
- explore the initial sounds or words in books e.g. sat starts with the 's' sound
- use the subscriptions of Wushka, Reading Eggs and Mathletics

Reminders:

- Please ensure that all drink bottles, hats, jumpers and other belongings of your children are clearly labelled with their name, this way we can easily find anything they have lost at school!
- Every morning the doors to the community will be opened at 8.50am, so please drop off your children on time so they don't miss out on valuable learning
- Your children are busy learning and doing activities at school all day so they need plenty of rest when they're at home, please make sure they are getting to bed early each night
- We love to hear about what the students have done on the weekend, but please ensure that they are watching TV shows and playing games that are appropriate for their age.
- If your child is bringing money for the canteen please consider the amount of money you are sending. Students do not need large amounts of money at school.
- If you would like your child to receive a lunch order, please prepare the order in a brown paper bag with money inside.



SWPBS

The Prep students have been busy learning all about our School Wide Positive Behaviours at Harvest Home Primary School. They have been participating in activities and lessons that allow them to have a go at Being their Best, Being Respectful and Being Safe. They have also been able to receive hero stamps for showing these behaviours within the community as well as hero cards outside of the community. We have been so proud with the amount of stamps and hero cards our preps have received already.

Being your best: The prep students have been learning about how we can be our best at within the community and in the playground. They have been practising being their best during learning time where they have been showing 5 star listening and trying their best to produce amazing work.

Being Safe: We are so very proud of the way that our preps have been working on being safe. Some of the ways they have shown this is by holding equipment safely, walking within the community safely and pushing in chairs at the end of sessions.

Being Respectful: Our preps have had the opportunity to practise being respectful and using respectful words when talking to others. They learnt all about being a bucket filler and using kind words to help fill each other's buckets. Ask your child about a way that they can fill your bucket or someone else's.

We are so happy with how well the preps have shown the behaviours in the past few weeks and look forward to seeing them continue to show them.

HANDWRITING

This term students have been working hard on developing their handwriting skills. We have been focusing on using correct pencil grip when writing down letters and words. We have even learnt a song to help us remember to use our correct pencil grip! Our song reminds us that our thumb is on the side of the pencil, our pointer is at the top and our long finger is on the bottom. We have also been practicing tracing the letters we have learnt during reading, these letters are s, a, t, p, i, n, c, k, e, h, r, m, d. We will continue to practice using correct pencil grip and tracing letters throughout the term.



NUMERACY

This term the children have been focusing on number sense and knowing all there is to know about numbers 1-10. At Harvest Home Primary School in Prep, we have been using the Back to Front numeracy design where each week we focus on a new number. E.g. This week we have been looking at the number 5. Teachers model different ways to show the number, and help children to understand that no matter what objects we use, the colour/size of materials and the location (some objects are hidden, placed in different positions) the number remains the same. Children work in small groups and rotate through hands on activities each day. Some activities include: A teacher led group, making the

number using different objects, drawing the number, matching pictures and numerals, making the number by threading beads onto a pipe cleaner, dice activities, cutting and pasting and many more. The children have shown a real enjoyment and love of numeracy through these engaging activities and we have seen a growth in student's confidence. For the remainder of the term we will continue to follow this structure and introduce a new number each week, building a solid understanding of numbers 1-10 before beginning Term 2.

