

Foundation News

30th July, 2018

In Literacy

It has been a very exciting start to term 3. We have now passed the halfway point of our students' Foundation year and we can see that they are starting to prepare themselves for Year 1.

This past fortnight, in Reading, we have focused on using the "chunking" strategy to decode unfamiliar words. Instead of looking at individual letters in the words, the students are now trying to break words into "chunks", looking at familiar blends and words-within-words.

We have also worked on our strategies in summarising texts that we have read. The students have worked on identifying the important parts of a story and retelling to a partner using the language from the book and keeping events in sequence. We would like to encourage parents to have their child practise summarising after reading their reader books at home.

In Writing, we have started to familiarise ourselves with a new text type: Information Reports. Last week, the students worked on a collaborative task in small groups to create information reports about different types of animals, making sure to include information about its appearance, diet and habitat. We then used these information sheets as plans for writing our Information Reports the following day. The children are making sure to begin their writing with a title, followed by a topic sentence and facts about their animal.

We have practised our anti-clockwise letters in Handwriting: a, c, o, d, g and q. The students have made sure to remember that when forming these letters, C or "Clever Cat" hides inside.

In Maths

So far this term, our learning focus in Maths focus has been exploring the concept of Place Value.

Our students have looked at two-digit numbers, by identifying the correct amount of "tens" and "ones" in a number. We discovered that the first digit represents the "tens" and the second digit represents the "ones".

Using unifix, we made two-digit numbers by creating sticks of tens and ones. For example, to make the number 42, I would need to make four sticks of ten unifix and then get two extra blocks. We also coloured tens frames to represent tens and ones. To make 42 again, I would need four fully coloured tens-frames and one tens-frame with only two spaces coloured.

We have continued our daily Maths by looking at counting patterns such as counting by 1s, 10s, 2s and backwards as well as discussing numbers that are "before" or "after" a given number.

Coming Up

August 8th - Twilight Working Bee 3:45 – 5:30pm

August 13th – First Aid sessions

August 28th – Father's Day/Special Person's BBQ – 5:30pm to 7:00pm.

August 29th – September 7th BOOK FAIR

September 5th – BOOK PARADE

Specialist Timetable

Monday – LRC (Digital Technologies) (FA, FB, FC), Science (all classes)

Tuesday – Cooking, LOTE, Performing Arts, P.E (all classes)

Thursday – LRC (Digital Technologies) (FD)

Reminder

Just a friendly reminder that students should not be arriving at school any earlier than 8:45am. The time prior to this is vital for teachers to be able to prepare and set up their daily learning programs to ensure quality education.

P . M . P

We continue to require parents to support our PMP program on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. It is important to have parent support to run this program. If you are available from 2.30 to 3.30 on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, we would absolutely love to see you there! Please make sure that the office has a copy of your 'Working With Children Check'.

100 Days at School

On Friday, we celebrated our 100 Days at School. We started the day by inviting our parents to the hall to see the children receive a special certificate from Mrs. Coppa.

We then returned to the classroom where our parents helped us to complete our 100 Days at School Newspaper worksheet as well as sharing photos from when they were at school. It was very exciting to hear about what has changed (and what is the same) since our parents attended school.

Our parents and special people then joined us for a picnic morning tea in our Foundation courtyard. It was a very enjoyable morning for our students and a great way to celebrate everything they have accomplished at school so far this year!