



Dear Parents,

This Term Overview provides you with a brief outline of the curriculum the students will be focussing on this term in classroom programs.

## INQUIRY

### **Big Idea:**

What is a family?

### **Key Understandings:**

Families are similar and different.  
Families have their own history.  
Families have their own traditions.

### **Key Questions:**

Are all families the same?  
How does a family change over time?  
How do families celebrate in different ways?

### **Concepts:**

Form  
Function  
Connection  
Diversity

## LITERACY

### **Reading**

This term in reading we will be looking at the text structures and features of both narrative and information books. Students will develop a more detailed understanding of narrative structure that includes identifying characters, setting, problem and solution. Students will also learn to recognise and name features of texts including pictures/photographs, captions, graphs, headings, sub-headings, contents page and glossary. Based on the text features, students will begin to recognise the text as non-fiction or fiction. Students will also be developing their ability to make connections with the texts that they are reading. This will include; relating books to their personal lives, to other books or movies and to their current knowledge of the world.

The reading program will continue to focus on developing students as thoughtful and independent readers by teaching decoding (working out words) and comprehension strategies. To assist your child with decoding skills when reading, rather than telling your child the word straight away, assist them with questions such as: What strategy could you use to work this word out? Is there any picture clues? Can you see any chunks you know? Before, during and after reading ask questions to check your child's understanding and deepen their thinking. For example: Why do you think they did that? Who do you think is telling the story? How do you think the characters feel? Have you done something like that before?

### **Writing**

This term in writing we will continue to work on the narrative structure, encouraging students to improve their writing stamina by adding more detail to their stories.

To assist students in preparing for the transition into grade 1, students will continue to practise their handwriting on the dotted thirds encouraging correct letter height and formation. The prep spelling program will include revision of the trickier spelling patterns, with a focus on learning how to spell the rainbow words.

### **Speaking & Listening**

Students will develop their oral presentation, questioning and listening skills through weekly artefact (Show and Tell) reports on objects from home, that relate to the Inquiry focus, *What is a Family?* During classroom discussions and lessons, the use of open questioning will require students to deepen their understanding and verbally express their thoughts whilst listening and engaging with others.

## NUMERACY

### **Number and Algebra**

This term's numeracy will include; a continued focus on counting and place value and an introduction to fractions, money, and division. The concept of division is linked to multiplication and repetitive addition, though the focus is more on understanding "share between" and making "groups of" rather than rote learning 'times table' algorithms. Targeted teaching at students' point of need will continue within the class and also in our shared prep math group time.

### **Measurement and Geometry**

This term we will also explore the concept of time - o'clock, days of the week, sequencing time events, etc. It is developmentally appropriate for prep students to be learning through hands on tasks and using real objects. This is something that is easily practised at home by involving your child in activities such as cooking and shopping.

## OTHER

(Eg Homework, Excursions, Cooking, Camp, Sporting Events)

### **Swimming Program**

2-week Intensive swimming program  
28th November till 9th December

### **Plantmania (Cooking, Gardening and Transition activities)**

Prep D – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
Prep L – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October  
Prep E – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
Prep H – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November

### **New Friends Friday**

A transition experience that helps your child get ready for grade 1. Children are supported to meet and make new friends. This will take place towards the end of the term- keep an eye out in the newsletter for dates.