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Principal: Linda Heath

## **Kindergarten Overview - Term 3 2017**

### **Jessica Pickering and Les Longford**

Welcome to Term 3! We have been thrilled with the enthusiasm that the Kindergarten students have brought with them into this exciting and busy new term! We are looking forward to our first excursion and are excited to be learning more about animals at the zoo with some exciting hands on experiences. It will be on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> of August (Week 7).

Our aim in Kindergarten is to provide a positive, caring, student centred and educationally stimulating learning environment. Our students will continue to have a range of opportunities to build on and develop positive social skills, and will be encouraged to take risks to become independent learners and thinkers.

Please ensure all items are labelled with your child's name and class, particularly with the weather set to warm up later this term. We are starting to see more misplaced items around Ellyard and Kindergarten and it is easier to locate the owners of items when they are labelled.

### **English**

This term we are continuing to work on reading strategies and comprehension. The children will participate in guided reading sessions (where they will be reading at a more challenging level), the home reading program to practise reading easier books with fluency and expression, and a variety of reading activities during our literacy sessions each day. Within our literacy sessions we are also revising all the sounds that have been introduced this year, in particular the digraphs, to enhance spelling strategies.

The children have all come so far in their writing so this term we will be practising writing in many different ways. We will be introducing the children to the different letter combinations to make the long vowel sounds eg. The children have already learnt the digraph 'ai' as in rain, so they will then be exposed to – 'ay' as in play; 'a' as in baby; 'a\_e', as in bake. The children will NOT be expected to use these combinations correctly in their spelling. At this stage of their development children are encouraged to recognise them in words for decoding when reading.

Term 3 provides many opportunities for authentic literacy learning. Students will be able to purchase new books from our Book Fair in week 4. We celebrate Bookweek in week 6 with Book Week Rotations and Dress-Up Day on the Wednesday! More information will be sent home closer to the date.

### **Mathematics**

During term 3 Kindergarten students will continue to be participating in Maths rotations across Kindergarten. This will provide students with the opportunity to participate in a range of activities that will target the specific mathematical needs of each student.

Our mathematics program will continue to support students in developing and applying a range of strategies to solve problems. Students will be learning efficient mental strategies for quick mental recall of numbers to 10 and 20, such as counting on. We will continue to use real-life learning experiences and hands-on activities to further engage our learners. Students will continue to build and develop their addition and multiplication skills (including equal groups) and will be exposed to a variety of different strategies they can use to solve problems. Students will learn about ordinal numbers this term and will have opportunities to further explore patterning and size/area. We will also be developing our positioning concepts, in particular we will be learning about left and right.

## **Geography**

We will be exploring and describing familiar places and why some places are special to some people. We will be looking at how homes are different around the world and why and exploring and recognising where places are on globes and maps.

## **Digital Technologies**

Our students in Kindergarten will be continuing to develop their foundational skills in computational thinking. Students will begin to develop their understanding of a range of information systems, their purposes and the needs they meet. They will begin to understand that an algorithm is a sequence of steps and explore and follow a range of algorithms. Coding was introduced to students last term and we will continue to explore the world of coding with the use of BEE BOTS. Students will continue to learn about appropriate online behaviour protect themselves and others as they interact online for learning and communicating. We are looking forward to another fun filled term with lots of new learning in the world of Digital Technologies.

**Kate Banwell**

## **Science and Environment Centre**

The Kindergarten classes will be involved in learning about the physics of movement for the last two terms this year. They will be introduced to scientific language surrounding energy and force and will learn that push and pull forces are used to move objects in a variety of ways. The Kindergarten students will investigate how factors, including size and shape, can affect how an object moves. All classes will also be participating in preparation for our Spring planting in our Environment Centre gardens.

**Kate Elliot**

## **Integrated Curriculum**

Throughout the term students will be looking at survival needs across the curriculum in our unit of inquiry. This will include exploring the needs of a variety of Australian animals. Students will investigate and compare the needs of different living things. There will be a focus on classifying Australian animals and their unique characteristics and needs. Students will investigate animal habitats, how they meet animals' needs and how they can be protected. Students will also explore Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's connections to animals and the land. They will learn about food gathering and conservation methods.

Focus Questions include:

- What are the needs of living things?
- Why do different living things have different needs?
- In what ways does environment affect needs?
- What animals are native to Australia?
- What are their habitats?
- How can we help to take care of them?

## **Japanese**

The classic story "Hungry Caterpillar" plays the central role in this term's Japanese learning. Kindergarten will learn lots of new vocabulary including fruit, days of the week and different counting numbers. We will expand our sentence structures to include more adjectives and the simplest way to use verbs. Kindergarten's Japanese will grow bigger just like the caterpillar!

**Aby Sensei**

## **Arts**

This term, students will continue to explore and further develop their understanding of various art elements such as colour, line, shape and be working on adding finer detail to their work. We will look at traditional indigenous artworks and experiment with different techniques used to create similar artworks.

## **Homework**

The children will continue to practise reading words and spelling through the set word packs that they are doing for homework each day. Our Home Reading program will continue as normal, please continue to read to your child regularly and ensure that your child is accessing a range of books and reading materials. Our aim is to use homework tasks to reinforce work that is covered at school. It should never generate family angst so please feel free to contact us if you or your child have any concerns.

### **Communication**

If concerns or queries arise during the term, please call in and arrange a time to meet and chat. Please note our staff weekly meetings are on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday afternoons.

We look forward to further developing a partnership with you and hope to see you at our Learning Journeys towards the end of term.

Looking forward to another great term of learning with your children,  
Jessica Pickering and Les Longford