



2 February 2024

Dear Parents and carers

## **Kindergarten Term 1 Overview 2024**

### **English**

Our English program is supported by the exploration of quality picture books. This term, we will be introducing a variety of reading strategies that encourage reading for understanding. Students will have the opportunity to write daily, and we will focus on using familiar words and images to convey ideas. We will provide students with explicit and systematic opportunities to hear, identify, isolate, blend, segment and manipulate sounds in words.

### **Oral Language**

Oral language is the foundation for the development of literacy skills. Much of what we do in kindergarten is providing opportunities that develop and extend listening and speaking skills with a strong focus on vocabulary development. Students will be encouraged to listen for new words during shared reading. Students will sing songs, chant rhymes and be involved in role play/drama. They will engage in pair, small and large group discussions.

### **Mathematics**

We will play a range of mathematical games. Skills will be developed in:

- Exploring numbers to 10 and beyond (grouping, matching, connecting, ordering)
- Counting forwards and backwards
- Time (language of time, ordering events)
- Copying, continuing and creating patterns

### **Inquiry 'All About Me'**

We look forward to getting to know our class groups and kindergarten families this term. We all have knowledge, skills and interests to share with each other. We will work together to make our school a place where a sense of belonging is felt by each student. Later in the term, students will have an opportunity to bring in a collection of special items and photos to share with peers. We will celebrate the unity and diversity in kindergarten. Class discussions will include varieties of kinship structure that may be represented in the cultural background of students. We will also enjoy finding out about the various events that students, their family and friends celebrate or commemorate.

### **MindUP**

The MindUP program teaches a set of social, emotional, and self-regulatory strategies and skills to cultivate wellbeing and emotional balance. Kindergarten teachers will work with our school psychologist Cheryl Makila to deliver MindUP lessons across the term.

### **Positive Behaviours for Learning**

Kindergarten students will learn about being safe, responsible and respectful learners in all areas of our school. They will explore these concepts through discussion, written responses and role play.

### **P.E.**

Kindergarten students will focus on performing the fundamental movement skills of walking, running, jumping, hopping, leaping & skipping. During each lesson, the students will warm-up through performing a range of motion and movement activities before practising specific skills through modified activities and games. Students will participate in games with and without equipment.

## **Music**

The specialist music program is already underway, with the children learning some simple rhymes and tunes to encourage singing in tune and pitching the voice. We will work towards singing more complex tunes and rounds. Plenty of activities to emphasise the concepts of 'beat' and 'rhythm' are enjoyed - from games to movement and dances. The children have had a try at reading basic percussion notation using untuned percussion instruments (tapping sticks, triangles, drums and tambourines). They will also have opportunities to play tuned percussion (glockenspiel, xylophone, chime bars and tuned bells). Musical appreciation is also covered, exposing the children to different types and styles of music.

## **Indonesian**

During term 1, students will be inquiring into how people greet each other in both Australia and Indonesia. They will use play and action related language to interact with their peers and teachers. Students will also learn about Indonesia as another place and Indonesian as another language.

## **Technology**

Kindergarten will be learning how to safely use iPads and Chromebooks at school. They will be learning about how we use devices at school and how this may be different from how they use them at home. Kindergarten students will be investigating early coding using Beebots, creating simple sequences to enable the robots to move.

## **Important dates for term 1**

- Week 2 – Wednesday 7 February - Parent Information Sessions 4:30pm-5:00pm
- Week 9 - Parent/Teacher Meetings
- Week 11 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April - Last day of term 1

## **Contacting Teachers**

If you wish to discuss your child's progress, please ring or email and arrange a time to talk about any matters that may concern you about your child's learning. Before school is an important preparation time for teachers, however we are happy to make appointments with you. Please note that email is always the most effective way to contact us and we will do our best to get back to you within three business days.

We look forward to a great term!

Belinda Bacon (Executive), Libby Emerson, Alicia Norris, Charlotte Miller and Tanya Duggan

**Email contact** - [firstname.lastname@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:firstname.lastname@ed.act.edu.au)