

Room 3 Term 2 Newsletter

Welcome back after 2 wonderful weeks of holidays where I hope you and your family had a chance to relax together and enjoy each others company. Thank you to all the parents and care givers who came in to discuss their child's progress towards the end of last term. These meetings are very important so that you have a clear understanding of where your child is heading. If you were unable to attend these interviews and would like to catch up now please do not hesitate to get in touch with me so a time can be arranged.

This term we warmly welcome two new children into the class, Taylor and Vy, and look forward to them settling in and making new friends. We are also farewelling Lilliana and Xavier as they move to Hamley Bridge.

Thank you to the parents who are encouraging their children to be more independent by ensuring the children carry their own bags to and from class and encouraging them to get their desk ready each morning. These skills are important life lessons that the children need to develop.

I have attached a term overview outlining the areas of learning for the term along with some reminders and term dates.

Belinda

Pre-service Teacher

This term Jacinta continues in our classroom 1 day a week and we have also been lucky enough to have 3 other pre- service teachers come into the room to work with the children on the Arts. The children have been involved in making puppets and acting out a story. When the video is finished we would love to invite you into the class to view the finished product. We will keep you updated.



Jump Rope for Heart

This term IFEPS is taking part in Jump Rope for Heart. This is designed to raise funds for important research into heart disease as well as some money for the school. The children will be practicing their skipping in preparation for our "jump off" which will be held in Week 9. We will let you know closer to the day so you can come and join in with your child as they skip.



Reading

It is great listening to the children read their phonograms and is obvious that many practice each night. Thanks for your support in this area. Most children now have words at the back of their book to practice reading. These words are generally referred to as 'sight words'. This means they are words that are used commonly and it helps your child if they can read them automatically. To do this they can start by sounding them out and using their phonogram knowledge to help in this area. If you are unsure about this I am happy to run an after school session for parents to step you through the process. Please let me know if you are interested so I can arrange a suitable time.

I would dearly love all parents/caregivers to fill in their child's reading diary each time they read, aiming for at least 3x a week.

Drink bottles: although the weather is cooler it is still a good idea for the children to have a water bottle at school. Easy access during the day minimises disruptions to work time. It is also handy when the children have tickly throats so they can sip on water if necessary – sipping water is better for sore throats than cough lollies, as these can cause damage.

Tissues: With the cooler weather and winter approaching I am sure we will have many runny noses in the class. If you have not done so already we would appreciate the donation of a box of tissues. Thank you to those families who have already sent a box in.

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Northern Block Learning Zone

We are kindly asking for your assistance with helping us to keep the northern block a 'learning zone' between the hours of 8.55am and 3.05pm. This includes the length of the corridor and the small room to the right as you enter the northern block, which is used for our MiniLit program during literacy block. Please do not congregate in the building as it can be quite distracting to our students when they can hear parents and younger siblings. Thank you for your support.

Breakfast Club

A quick reminder that Breakfast Club closes when the 1st bell rings in the morning and students are expected to be in class then. This area is also a teaching space so we would appreciate it if parents/caregivers keep the area clear for staff to access from 9am, particularly on a Friday when the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen program takes place.



Morning Routine

This term we have begun our morning Literacy groups. These include guided reading groups, phonograms and spelling work, writing and changing readers. As soon as the bell goes in the morning the children need to pack any activity gear away so we can start at 9am. This means that all children need to be at school by 8.55am at the latest so that their learning time is not impacted.

It is amazing how much learning a child can miss by being late. See the table below, you'll be amazed!

Minutes late per day	Equivalent of missing
5 Minutes	3.4 school days a year
10 Minutes	6.9 school days a year
15 Minutes	10.3 school days a year
20 Minutes	13.8 school days a year
30 Minutes	20.7 school days a year

Term Dates to Remember

Week 3:

Tuesday 15th May - Governing council

Week 4:

Friday 25th May - Sorry Day

Room 3 Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden

Week 5:

28th May - 1st June

Reconciliation Week

Week 6:

8th June - Pupil Free Day

Week 7:

Monday 11th June - Queen's Birthday public holiday

Week 8:

Tuesday 19th June - Governing council

Week 9:

26th June - 29th June - Jump Rope for Heart 'jump off

Friday 29th June - Room 3 Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden

Week 10:

2nd July - 6th July - NAIDOC Week

Thursday 5th July - Reports go home

Friday 6th July - Last day of term; 2.05pm dismissal