What’s happening in the Classroom?

English:
We will continue to teach the alphabet names and sounds this term, as well as commonly used words and a range of letter blends appropriate to students level of understanding and academic development. Parents who have completed the Classroom Helpers Program will continue working with the teachers and children in the Prep area during Reading and Writing sessions. The children will continue to be grouped according to their needs across the Level 1 classes for Literacy each morning. This enables us to cater very successfully for the wide range of Reading and Writing levels and so better meet the children’s changing needs. The children will work in small teacher led groups in the classroom for formal reading instruction and will bring home ‘readers’ and library books to share and enjoy with their families. We strongly recommend that you set aside a little time each day to engage in the reading experience with your child. Students will continue to bring along our focus letter/sound items for Show and Tell according to classroom rosters.

Mathematics:
This term we will focus on: asking questions and collecting data to make graphs, describing the information presented on graphs, writing numerals, recording addition facts, doubling, recording subtraction facts, money and coin recognition, investigating time, the probability of certain events occurring and comparing mass and volume. We will continue to group the children across Level 1 according to their specific needs. This enables us to cater very successfully for the wide range of Numeracy levels and so better meet the children’s changing needs and abilities. We also look forward to having our parent helpers who have completed the Classroom Helpers Program to help the teachers and children during our Numeracy sessions.

Integrated Studies:
This term’s Units of Study are ‘Pets’ and ‘Weather’ The children will learn about the nature and needs of various pets. To further enhance students understanding of Pets we will be visited by Jenny from the Responsible Pet Ownership Organisation. Also we will go on an excursion to the RSPCA in Burwood. For our Weather Unit we have planned many interesting activities to develop our students understanding of basic weather concepts. We look forward to the incursion we have planned “Cloudia Raindrop” where the students are informed of the water cycle in a highly entertaining and educational way.

Art:
The students will continue to experience making art works with the wide variety of materials and equipment available in the Art Room. They will practise basic drawing, painting, construction, collage and modeling skills to create their own ideas about a topic. Activities will complement the work the students are doing in their Integrated Unit in the classroom.

Physical Education:
Term 2 will continue with PMP sessions on Tuesday afternoons run by the Class teacher and Parent helpers. PE classes will continue to develop the basic movement skills of running, jumping, hopping in different directions and speeds. Fine motor skills of catching and throwing with bean bags, koosh balls and other balls of different shapes and sizes will begin. These skills will then be transferred and practiced in different mini games, relays and situations for the skills to be consolidated.
Music:
Preps will build on their introduction to Music in term one. They will play aural games to develop their sense of pitch and rhythm. They will learn the note values of taa and ti ti and learn to read and interpret the notated symbols for each note. They will continue to sing and move to music, reinforcing their feel for tempo and beat. They will play un tuned percussion instruments.

Information Technology:
The children will use the graphics program ‘KidPix’ and begin to do simple word processing with an emphasis on using Word Art and Auto Shapes on the classroom computers. Students will be introduced to the use of the digital camera and students will take photos of classroom activities.

Dates to Remember:
Thursday 17th April   School Photos
Friday 18th April    School Disco
Friday 18th April    Prep Incursion – Responsible Pet Ownership
Wednesday 23rd April Cartoon Workshop Incursion
Friday 25th April    ANZAC Day – no school
Monday 5th May      Curriculum Day
Saturday 3rd May    Working Bee – Prep C and Prep D
Thursday 8th May    Mother’s Day Stall
Friday 16th May     Prep Excursion RSPCA- Burwood
Monday 19th May     Education Week begins
Tuesday 20th May    Open Night
Wednesday 21st May Grandparents and Special Friends visit
Monday 26th May    Prep S Assembly
Monday 9th June     Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
Friday 13th June    Prep Incursion – ‘Cloudia Raindrop’
Friday 20th June    Reports and Portfolios go home
Tuesday 24th June   Parent Teacher Interviews – from 3:45 pm
Wednesday 25th June Parent Teacher Interviews – from 3:45 pm
Friday 27th June    End of Term 2. Dismissal 2.30

Prep Staff:
Mr Andrew Cassidy, Mrs Rebecca Cornall, Mrs Tracey Dring and Mrs. Michelle Stone