



# Foundation Term One Newsletter

Welcome to Chelsea Primary School! We have many exciting activities planned for Term One.

This Newsletter aims to give you some information about what your child will be learning, across the curriculum.

Please visit the Dojo website frequently as we aim to be as environmentally aware as possible by providing you with information about key events electronically, rather than on paper.

## LITERACY

We will be learning about sounds that make up the English language. We will initially learn the sounds made by all individual letters of the alphabet. Please feel free to explore the Letterland characters in YouTube.

When reading, we are using decodable texts to learn how to segment words into their individual sounds and then blend them together. We are also exploring high frequency words that can be sounded out or that we just need to recall (tricky words). We will be reading information books about families, friends, animals, games, Art, travel and the human body.

In Writing we are covering the same topics as Reading and developing our ability to write recounts and narratives using the facts we have learnt. Initially we will use emergent writing and then will write strings of letters to record some of the sounds we can hear. We will learn about the importance of reading and writing from left to right and from the top to the bottom of the page.

## MATHS

In Number, we will be learning about place value, focusing initially on the value of each digit in 'teen' numbers. We will focus on recognising numbers as words and digits; order numbers and explore which number comes before and after a given number. This will then lead us on to exploring the concepts of addition and subtraction.



## Important Dates

- **6th March** Prep BBQ at 5 to 6 pm on the Turf
- **11th March** Labour Day
- **12th to 14th March** Dental Van visit
- **21st March** Harmony Day
- **26th March** School Photos
- **5th April** Prep assembly in Multi-Purpose Room at 3:00 pm
- **29th June** End of Term 2.00pm Assembly, 2.30 pm dismissal

**Information about Key dates will be sent home closer to the day.**



## INQUIRY -

The children will learn ways of expressing themselves and setting goals.

We will investigate:

- the identity of people in the class
- how to ask for help and who to ask for help
- the role of rules
- how to set goals

Essential questions we will ask are:

- What is my identity?
- What is the classroom identity?
- How should I ask for help?
- Who should I ask for help?
- How do I stay safe and healthy?

Students will strive to reach adventurous goals. They will be aware of how people are different and practise strategies to be safe and healthy at home and in the classroom.



### Take Home Books

During the Wednesday assessments we have been performing this month some of the questions we have asked have provided us with an understanding of the current reading skills of each child. Once we have completed the tests (at the end of February) we will start to send a book home with your child, each night. We will also send a Reading Diary home for you to fill in each night. We will send an information sheet home on the first night to let you know how to fill in the Diary and to offer some advice on how to support your child to read.

### Dojo

Thank you to all of the parents who have joined Dojo. If you haven't yet done so please join as soon as possible. It is a fantastic way for you to be able to see some of the activities that the children are doing and for us to communicate upcoming events. We endeavour to check the page and reply to any messages between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday.

### Labelling

At the end of each day we frequently find lost property, in the classroom. Please remember to label all objects your child brings to school so that they can be returned if they go wandering.

### Drink Bottles

Please send your child to school with a drink bottle each day. We are finding at the minute that some children aren't bringing one and frequently need to leave the classroom to get a drink from the water tap outside. This is interrupting their learning and is disruptive to the other children as they need to take a partner with them.

### Nessy

Each child in Grades Prep to 2 have now been given a subscription to Nessy, on the computer. Nessy programs are designed to help students of all abilities learn to read, write, spell and type. We are currently in the process of adding each child to the system and once this has been completed we will send your child's login details home so that you can use it at home, if you wish. This is not mandatory Homework. It is a tool that you may like to explore together whenever you like. We will work through the program at school at least once a week.

### Parent helpers

Once the Wednesday assessments/meetings are completed at the end of February, we will continue to monitor how settled each child is at school. Once all children are able to enter school with confidence, and remain settled, we will send a letter home asking for parent helpers in the classroom. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to see what happens during the school day and allows us to be able to work with focus groups and individual children. Prior to the lesson we ensure that all helpers understand how they can help. We also make it very clear to the children that helpers are another teacher in the class and also need to be treated with respect and manners. We ask that you don't work with the group that your child is in so that they can remain on task and fully focused.

### Wellbeing

Please remember that we operate an open door policy and are here to support you and your child to enjoy the school experience. Please come and speak to us if you have any questions or concerns. Remember that no question is a silly question and we always pride ourselves on being a school that cares about the wellbeing of all members of our community. There are many resources that we can help you access in regard to education and family welfare. We have an amazing Wellbeing Officer (Jenni Aldersea) and she has a wealth of knowledge regarding community groups and welfare agencies that can be used to support everyone in our community. If you would like to speak to Jenni, please have a chat with her at the school Office.

We hope you all have a wonderful first Term and look forward to getting to know each and everyone of you.

### Trudi Braysmith and Justine Gallo

