

# PRESCHOOL TERM 3 OVERVIEW



Dear Preschool Families

Welcome to term 3 2019! The children have been happy to come back and have settled in well.

This term we will continue to explore the children's interest. The Joeys have a new dramatic play area based on castles and fairy tales. The Possums and Echidnas are busy exploring space. These focuses have been initiated by preschoolers in each of the groups.

This term preschoolers are looking forward to a visit from Kenny Koala and more Walks on Country. Reminders for dates will be on SeeSaw. Please make sure for the walk that your preschooler has suitable clothing (ie drink bottle, jackets and footwear) and lunch in a paper bag. Book week will be celebrated at preschool this term and follows the theme set by the Childrens' Book Council of Australia (CBCA), 'Reading is my Secret Power'. We encourage all preschoolers to come dressed up on this special day as their favourite book character. Keep an eye out on the school newsletter and SeeSaw for more information.

## Planned Intentional Teaching

### Literacy

All preschoolers, using space, castles and fairy tales as vehicles, will continue to be exposed to a wide range of activities through art and craft, songs, finger plays, rhymes and a variety of text. Oral language maybe enhanced by preschoolers sharing their 'Mystery Boxes' this term. Mystery Boxes will be sent home with instructions in the lid. We look forward to your child/ren's innovative choice of item to be placed in the box (we are discouraging toys). Preschoolers have been exploring text from other countries with many opportunities to record (write) their responses. The co construction of writing in preschool is fundamental in the development of writing in later years. At Monash we work with the preschoolers' interests to co construct text which, a lot of the time is spontaneous because it's meaningful and relevant and helps our children make connection.

### Numeracy

We are continuing our hands on approach to numeracy, again using the interests of pre-schoolers as a springboard into 'numeracy moments'. Opportunities for numeracy happen every day. For example on our 'Walk on Country' rich conversations were had around letterbox numbers, the height of trees and the number of ants in a nest! These sorts of conversation are wonderful to have in the home too. So many opportunities occur that you can involve your pre-schooler in. So far this term preschoolers have been investigating the

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weight of objects, length, height and different shapes. A small group of preschoolers have even shown interest in magnets (STEM). This was followed up with some intention teaching to take their understanding further.

## ELLA and ELSA

Preschoolers will continue with their access to ELLA (Early Learning Languages Australia) and ELSA (Early Learning STEM Australia) this term. In ELSA preschoolers will move on from the concept of locations to the new topic of 'representations'. Representations is a valuable topic for preschoolers to explore as it provides a way for them to understand their world (or imaginary world) and express this understanding using language, pictures and symbols. Preschoolers are continuing to be exposed to Japanese language (every day words) through the ELLA app.

## Reminders

- \* We strongly encourage our preschoolers **not to bring toys** to preschool. Please talk to us if this is a problem.
- \* Please pack a pillowcase for rest time.
- \* Label all clothing and lunch items
- \* Keep an eye on SeeSaw for hat reminders as the weather (hopefully) starts to warm up again.
- \* Spare clothes – please double check that you have pack your child/ren a set of spare clothes, seasonally appropriate and of the right size. Any donations of underwear or socks would be gratefully appreciated.

Thank you to families who contributed their ideas to our preschool philosophy. We are grateful for your feedback. Please keep an eye out in the coming weeks as we seek further feedback through our annual parent survey.

We look forward to another exciting term of learning at preschool. Please drop in and see us anytime – we have an open-door policy (Mondays and Tuesday afternoons we run to meetings). If your concern requires more than 5 minutes it is better to make an appointment.

Shay, Ronnie, Clare, Emma and Vanessa

