Dear Parents,
We have a busy and exciting term planned for the children in Prep. With many fresh faces in the prep staff department, we are looking forward to getting to know you and working closely with your child.

To ensure your child’s smooth transition into school life, a Developmental Play Program will start their school day. This program develops and enhances pre-reading and writing abilities through various activities that are innovative and encourage independence.

Our first Integrated Unit this year is SOSE (Social Studies) based on – Health and Safety. During our study of the unit on Health & Safety, we will be looking at being safe in the sun and on our roads. We will also discuss and make a list of classroom and playground rules and procedures.

Our second Integrated Unit this term is also SOSE (Social Studies) based on – Me! During the last week, we will focus on the cultural celebration, Easter. During our study of the unit on ‘Me’, we will complete various activities based on ourselves. This will conclude with a children/parent show and tell morning providing parents with the opportunity to view their child’s work.

In term 1 each Prep child will also be allocated a Senior School Buddy to assist with familiarising themselves with our school and its surroundings.

During the month of February all Prep parents will be invited to attend a BBQ Dinner and Information Session. The dates for the BBQ dinner (6:00pm – 8:00pm under the canteen area / Prep rooms) will be held on Wednesday 27th of February. These events will provide wonderful opportunities to meet the teachers and other parents within the school community.
Our Specialist Programs include Physical Education, LOTE (French), Library and Music. Our Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) enhances your child’s fine and gross motor co-ordination skills. It is essential that we have parental support in order for this valuable program to be successful. If you are able to support our program please let us know. Cooking has commenced and will be every Friday from 9:00am – 11:00am.

We will be introducing the Early Years of Literacy program (one hour reading and one hour writing sessions where the children work in ability assessed groups) during Term 1. This program relies on parental support and classroom training will be available during the term. Keep your eyes peeled for a notice that will register you for the ‘Classroom Helpers Program’ with Mr Garwood. Please remember that parent helpers are a welcome and essential part of our literacy program:

Here is an outline of what we will be covering in our Literacy and Maths this term.

**READING**
- Read and retell stories
- Matching pictures to initial sounds
- Matching pictures to words
- Make and read language experience books made by the students themselves
- Shared reading of Big Books and poems for enjoyment, reading skills and comprehension.
- Cued articulation (signing as we learn the letter sounds)
- Make word charts of common words to develop sight vocabulary
- Concepts about print (words, letters, sentences, direction, punctuation)

**WRITING**
- Developing fine motor co-ordination with activities such as tracing, peg boards, bead threading, finger exercises, tearing and cutting out
- Recognise, trace and write own First name
- Using correct pencil grip
- Learning correct letter formations and directions
- Daily modelled teacher writing
- Daily diary writing with teacher assistance every day or every second day
• Developing word charts of labels around the room, days of the week, students’ names, common words used daily (developing their sight vocabulary)

SPEAKING AND LISTENING
• Show and Tell / Sharing time
• Read and discuss stories
• Following simple instructions and giving directions
• Hearing rhyme and syllables in words
• Poems and songs

MATHS
• Make and name numbers up to 10
• Write and say numerals 0 to 10 and beyond
• Rote counting back from 10-0
• Oral counting by 1’s
• Ordinal number- 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc.
• Recognise colour and shape
• Recognise, match, and name shapes, eg circle, triangle, square.
• Positional language (up, down, in, out, beside)
• Link months and days to special events (birthdays, PMP days)

If you have any concerns please don’t hesitate to speak to us. Parent participation is always greatly appreciated so please let us know if you can assist in the classroom or PMP in any way.

Also please remember hats are compulsory in term one and four.
Specialist timetable 2013 –
(This timetable begins on Mon 11\textsuperscript{th} February)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Library</th>
<th>PMP</th>
<th>PE</th>
<th>LOTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mr Garwood)</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Friday (afternoons)</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Miss Paterson)</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Friday (afternoons)</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Miss Fraser)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Friday (afternoons)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep D</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Blakeman</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monday &amp; Friday (afternoons)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Term Events and Notes

- Prep Parent BBQ and Information Session – Wed 27\textsuperscript{th} of Feb
- Cooking Money – Term 1\&2 combined – $15
- Parent Helpers in the Classroom Program – Late term 1
- ‘Me’ Book presentation – Late term 1
- Labour Day Holiday – Monday 11\textsuperscript{th} of March
  (Student-free day)
- Disco - Late term 1– approx $4.00
- End of Term –Thursday 28\textsuperscript{th} of March
Please note

* On library days children need to bring their library bags and any books that have been borrowed.

* The canteen is open only on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. For term 1 only, it is best to not send money with your child unless it is in an envelope and is put in the lunch order tub.

* Children are to wear their runners on PE days.

* There are two sessions of PMP a week. Runners are not needed. The children remove their socks and shoes for the PMP sessions. Parental assistance is required to ensure the sessions are successful.

* The District Nurse will be visiting during the year. Could you please fill in the forms and return to us ASAP when you receive them.

* Fruit Time is at 10:00am. Please send a piece of fruit or vegetable with your child for them to eat at this time.

Yours faithfully,

Paul, Elizabeth, Sarah, and Marnie.