Dear Parents,

We have a busy and exciting term planned to start 2015. With new and familiar faces in the Prep Area this year, we are looking forward to getting to know and work closely with you and your children.

To ensure a smooth transition into school, your child will start each day with our Developmental Play program. This program develops and enhances pre-reading and writing abilities as well as fine motor skills through a range of activities that encourage independence.

Our Integrated Unit this term is “Me”. During this unit we will complete various activities based on our own identity. This will conclude with a student/parent presentation of a “Me” book at the end of term. This will provide parents with an opportunity to view their children’s work. During the last week of term we will look at the celebration of Easter.

In Term 1, each Prep child will be allocated a Senior School Buddy who will help assist in familiarising the children with the school.

In February, all Prep parents will be invited to attend a Barbeque Dinner and Information Session. This event will provide a wonderful opportunity to meet the teachers and other parents in the school community. This will take place on the 4th of March from 6:00pm – 8:00pm.

Our specialist programs include Physical Education, LOTE (French), Library and Music. Our Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) will enhance the children’s fine motor skills and gross motor co-ordination skills. Our Cooking program will run on Thursday mornings from 9:00am – 11.00am. It is important that we have parent volunteers in order for the PMP and Cooking programs to be successful. You will need a Working With Children’s Check and to complete the DPS Parent Helper Course running this term if you haven’t already done so.

We will be introducing the Early Years of Literacy program (one hour reading and one hour writing sessions) during Term 1. This program relies on parental support and classroom training for parents will be available during the term. Please remember that parent helpers are a welcome and essential part of our literacy program.

This term, we will cover:

**READING**
- Reading and retelling 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)
- Home reading routines

**WRITING**
- Developing fine motor co-ordination with activities such as tracing, peg boards, bead threading, finger exercises, tearing and cutting out
- Recognising, tracing and writing their own first name
- Using correct pencil grip
- Learning correct letter formations and directions as well as starting points for the letters
- 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
- Reading and discussing 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
- Daily 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)

Specialist timetable 2015

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<th>Music</th>
<th>Library</th>
<th>PMP</th>
<th>PE</th>
<th>LOTE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prep A (Mr. Seymour)</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Wednesday &amp; Friday</td>
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<td>Prep B (Mr. Wilkinson)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Wednesday &amp; Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep C (Miss Holt)</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Wednesday &amp; Friday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep D (Miss Fraser)</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Wednesday &amp; Friday</td>
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Term Events and Notes

Prep Parent BBQ and Information Session – March 4th. 6.00 – 8.00pm
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 11th of March
(Student-free day)
Disco - Late term 1– approx $4.00
End of Term – Friday 27th 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 put in the lunch order tub.
- Children are to bring their runners on PE days and change into them for the PE session. Black school shoes are to be worn at all other times. Black runners can be worn at all times if you please.
- 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.
- Please remember that hats are compulsory in Terms One and Four.

We look forward to a great year with you and your children,

Mr. Seymour, Miss Holt, Mr. Wilkinson, Miss Fraser and Mr. Steve Lynch (Prep Co-ordinator)