

Year One Newsletter

Term 3: Week 5, August 14th, 2015



What's Coming Up Science Week next week

Family Bushdance: Thursday 17th September at Careforce in Mount Evelyn

Swimming Program Monbulk Aquatic Centre: Wednesday 4th November to Friday 13th November

Approx cost \$90.00 Final cost will be determined by number of participant. You will receive a note in the coming weeks with further details.

What we are Learning in Literacy

In Reading we have been concentrating on finding the heart of a story or a poem. We ask ourselves, "Why did the author write this book or poem? The children are given time every day to change their readers. Please ensure you are hearing your children read every night. During our Reader's Workshops, we are focusing on our comprehension strategies. We ask questions and make connections when we read and follow up with written work and reflection time to check that children are tracking their thinking as they read. We have been reading and writing poetry and the children have written some wonderful poems. We have focused on alliteration, adjectives and syllables and we are doing some Japanese Haiku poetry next week.

Spelling

We are working through the coloured spelling lists. Testing and practice happen on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and spelling lists come home weekly. Thankyou SOOOO much to those parents who are helping out with the spelling testing each week. We couldn't do it without you!

Numeracy

We have been busy exploring shape in our numeracy workshops. We need to know the names and properties of shapes in our world. Do you remember what a rhombus or a parallelogram are? Ask your children ...they know. This week we have looked at symmetry and the children have enjoyed looking for symmetry in their environment and in shapes. We enjoyed painting on one side of a piece of paper and printing it to make a perfectly symmetrical picture.

Donations

Thank-you to those of you who collect and donate, we really appreciate the effort you make.

We need magazines and catalogues...any magazines will be great... and we need lots of them so keep your eyes open. Remember to ask neighbours and relatives and get whatever you can.

We also need boxes and containers for box construction in Investigations. Small, interesting and different types of containers would be great. There is a big net basket outside Pauleen's door so you can leave them there. If the basket is full we have plenty.

In art we will be making rainmakers so any donations of dry beans, rice and alfoil would be greatly appreciated

We need prizes for the prize boxes please. The children enjoy their little prizes so much so please send a few for fun.

Tissues are also in high demand! If you would be happy to, we would greatly appreciate boxes of tissues for the classroom (still lots of sniffly noses!)

Just a note to remind everyone that you need to be on time for school.

The children should arrive at 8.50 am to unpack their bags and get organised for a 9.00 am start to work.

Thank-you ☺

A Note about Playtimes

It is wonderful to see the children playing outside every day despite the weather. We all benefit greatly from the fresh air and the break from the learning space. Thankyou for ensuring that the children now have appropriate outdoor clothing. They are making sensible choices to stay dry and clean most of the time.

In the case of extreme or dangerous winter weather, students will of course be kept safely inside.

Making Waves!

National Science Week 2015 15-23rd August

It's that time of the year again! Now entering its fourteenth year, National Science Week has well and truly cemented itself as Australia's largest festival, with last year's calendar offering over 1000 events throughout Australia, reaching an audience of over a million people.

This year's theme is 'making waves: the science of light.' We will be celebrating science week at The Patch by organising science lessons on light, holding light activities in the library during lunchtime, facilitating a free incursion on engineering and robotics for grade 5&6 students and running a GEOFIX toy model-building competition!

National Science Week 2015 will run from 15-23 August. Event details can be found at www.scienceweek.net.au.



Regards from the Year One Team ☺