

# PrepNews

TERM 4 2024



## Dear Parents,

Can you believe our Prep students are almost at the finishing line of their first year of school? What an incredible journey it has been for them ... and for you as well! It's truly a bittersweet moment watching them grow, thrive, and now prepare to take that exciting step up into Year One. We're so proud of all they've achieved and are confident that each of them will continue to shine brightly in the next chapter of their learning journey.

Term 3 was packed with so many 'firsts' for our Preps! We celebrated their 100 Days of School, experienced their first Balance Gym sessions, and enjoyed their first Book Week and Footy Day. They also had their first opportunity to present at assembly, we held our first parent-student-teacher interviews, and, to top it all off, they went on their very first whole school excursion to the zoo!

There is no doubt that it has been a busy and wonderful year for our Preps. Please turn the page for an overview of all the fun and learning we have in store for Term 4.



## What's On?

### Term 4

RPS Term 4 Date:

#### Week 1

**Thurs 10 Oct-** Assembly

**Fri 11 Oct** —Swimming

#### Week 2

**Mon– Thurs** - Swimming

**Fri 18 Oct** – Theatre excursion to 'Pevan and Sarah '

#### Week 3

**Thurs 24 Oct** – Assembly

#### Week 5

**Mon 4 Nov** - Curriculum Day

**Tue 5 Nov** - Melbourne Cup

**Thurs 7 Nov**– Assembly

#### Week 6

**Mon 11 Nov**– Remembrance Day

#### Week 7

**Thurs 21 Nov** – Assembly

#### Week 8

**Wed 27 Nov**– Keyboard Concert

**Fri 29 Nov**– Japanese Drumming Incursion / Japanese Day

#### Week 9

**Thurs 5 Dec** – Assembly

#### Week 10

**Tues 10 Dec** – Step Up Day (meet their 2025 class and teacher)

#### Week 11

**Friday 13th Dec** - Curriculum day

**Tues 17 Dec**– Preps Class Party

**Fri 20 Dec** - Christmas Carols & Last Day of Term 1:30pm Finish

## Guinea Pigs

Don't forget that our very cute and particularly adorable guinea pigs still have a few spots available for weekend visits. Please add your name to the list inside the classroom if you would like to 'host' them. (They are absolutely no trouble!)

# Prep News

## Term 4 Curriculum Overview

### English

In **Reading**, we will continue to practice our 'magic' words. Now that the students are becoming more confident with each new coloured list, we recommend revisiting earlier words to ensure that those learned at the beginning of the year are fully mastered. In **Phonics**, we have nearly completed all the letter sounds in the alphabet, and we will soon be moving on to digraphs such as *th*, *sh*, *ch*, *ing*, and *st*. We'll also be focusing on reading fluency, encouraging students to develop a 'smooth' reading voice by adjusting their tone as they read. To enhance their reading **comprehension**, we will revisit familiar strategies while introducing new ones to help students better understand, interpret, and connect with texts. Thank you to all families for your ongoing support with reading at home. We strongly encourage reading a text each night and logging it in your child's Home Reading Journal, where we will also include notes for you to review.

In **Writing**, we will continue focusing on essential handwriting skills, including letter formation, spacing, and pincer grip. We will also continue with weekly "diary" entries, where the students recount their weekend adventures. This familiar activity fosters creativity and self-expression while helping them practice using familiar words and constructing simple sentences. This term, we will also introduce **narrative writing**, where the Preps will learn to write a very simple story by exploring key elements of storytelling. In **spelling**, the Preps will practice CVC and CVCC words to build their repertoire of words for independent writing.

### Numeracy

In **Number**, We will be focusing on foundational **addition and subtraction** strategies such as counting on, doubles, and friends of ten. To deepen their understanding of these concepts, we will continue to use concrete, hands-on materials to make learning engaging and meaningful. Later in the term, we will introduce the concepts of **sharing and groups of** as an entry point into division and multiplication.

In **Statistics and Probability**, we will begin by exploring how to collect and interpret data. We will learn to create and understand pictographs, and have the opportunity to gather data and represent it in a simple graph. This will help them develop skills in organising and presenting information in a visual and meaningful way.

### Integrated Studies

In Integrated Studies this term we will explore the topic of 'Safety First'. We will discuss how we can all be safe at home, at school, in the car, walking along the roads and in particular how to stay safe near water. We will also discuss 'Cultural Celebrations' especially the significance and traditions of Christmas as well as, (by popular demand) Halloween.

### Specialist

In **PE**, we will focus on developing fundamental motor skills such as throwing, catching, dodging, and running. As part of our PE program, students will enjoy four coach-led basketball sessions. Through our PE sessions, we aim to promote fitness, fun, teamwork, good sportsmanship and fair play.

In **Science & Technology** this term, we will begin with learning about Forces and Motion by exploring how different strengths of pushes and pulls affect the movement of objects. We will also be building our knowledge about Space by taking a closer look at why we have seasonal changes.

This term during **Library** sessions we will be doing Author Studies to compare and contrast the settings, characters and plot of stories written by the same author. Just a friendly reminder to return any overdue library books. If library books are lost, please contact the school.

In Term 4 **Art**, the Preps will continue to learn about the Australian artist Howard Arkley. In the second half of the term, they will create some Christmas themed artwork. The Preps will continue to learn about the Art Elements of colour and shape throughout the term.

### Step Up Day: 10<sup>th</sup> December

This is a very exciting day where the Preps will meet their new classroom teacher and classmates for 2025. Although it is a very exciting time for the school some of the Preps might find the unknown a bit overwhelming and need extra time to get used to the idea. We strongly encourage you to have positive conversations around this massive milestone of moving up to Year 1. Please take the time to reassure your child that even though they might be in a different class to some of their friends, they will still be able to play with them every day.

Looking forward to a wonderful term,