

**Foundation Newsletter**

**Term 4, 2022**

**Welcome Back Everyone!**

It was so pleasing to hear about stories of family holidays and special outings over the term break. This term is going to be a busy but exciting term with lots of learning and fun school events. We hope you all had a great break and are ready for the last term of 2022!

**Arrival and Dismissal Times**

Just a reminder that students should be at their classroom’s external door, ready to start their school day with their morning routine at **8:50am** every morning. Students finish their day at **3:10pm,** and leave via the external classroom doors. Please make sure you do not pick up or drop off your child using the internal corridor to ensure consistency with all students. We thank you for your cooperation.

**Attendance**

Please note some specialist lessons and school activities begin at 9am so please make sure your child begins school on time so they don’t miss out. Regular attendance is important for your child’s learning and to help with routines and expectations. If your child is absent please contact the school or classroom teacher or go straight onto Compass so a reason can be documented.

**Student Planners and Take Home Books**

Teachers will check the Student Planner every day. It can also be used to communicate with teachers and to explain an absence from school. This is an important part of our morning routine.

Students are encouraged to read a different book each night and record it in their student planner. We have a range of suitable Take Home Books in each classroom for students to take home with them in their blue reader bag. Accidents happen, so please let us know as soon as possible if you notice that any of the take home books have been damaged or lost so that we can organise a replacement.

**Spelling**

Spelling will also continue this semester. The number of words your child is required to spell may differ from other students. Children will practice their list at school each morning and will have a copy of the same list to practice for homework each night - this is what is included in the red folder all students have been sent home with. They are required to write their word in the column for the corresponding day.

To complete the spelling words for the week, students will use the LOOK, SAY, SPELL, COVER, WRITE, CHECK program for each word. For example, if the word “said” is on the spelling list, your child will:

**LOOK** at the word first;

**SAY** the word aloud;

**SPELL** the word out loud using the letter names (not the sounds they hear), e.g., s-a-i-d;

**COVER** the word with their hand;

**WRITE** the word in the space provided for that day;

**CHECK** the word for accuracy.

Discuss with your child whether they spelled the word correctly. If they were incorrect, praise them for their effort and attempt, re-assuring them that it’s ok to make mistakes- it’s the way we learn.

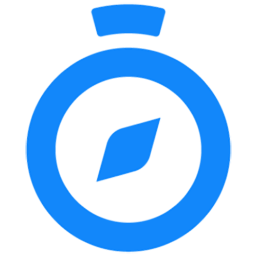
Each Friday students will complete a spelling assessment and on the following Monday, new words will be sent home with your child for the new week. **We ask that red spelling folders are returned to school each Friday to ensure new words can be placed in the folder for the new week.**

**Homework**

Homework will be sent home in a separate workbook fortnightly. The work will relate with what is being taught at school or has been taught. Students use this workbook to complete the homework tasks. Please encourage neatness and for your child to have a go. We understand that adults may need to assist and to write in their child’s workbook to model the learning. Homework books are to be returned to school for your child’s teacher to check and correct, ready for the next homework sheet to be pasted in.

**Water Bottles**

As the weather is warming up, we encourage students to bring water bottles (filled with water) to stay hydrated during the day. Student’s are able to access their water bottles during class time and can take them to specialist classes such as P.E. Other drinks such as cordial, juice, milk etc. can be had during recess and lunch time.



**COMPASS**

Have you signed up to COMPASS? **COMPASS** is our main platform for

communicating school related information. Information on how to sign

up for COMPASS was included as part of your child’s Transition Bag,

received during their transition session at the end of 2021. Teachers

report on an aspect of student learning approx. every 2 weeks and this is sent via

COMPASS for parents to access. Please see our office staff for your login details.

**Mathletics and Sunshine Online** 

Students receive a subscription to the apps **Mathletics** and **Sunshine Online** which they use as part of fortnightly homework. Usernames and passwords have been provided to families, however if you need another copy of your child’s logins please contact your child’s classroom teacher.

**Seesaw**

Classroom teachers in Foundation use Seesaw to provide a glimpse of your child’s learning in the classroom via photos and work samples. Seesaw is also the platform that students have the option of using for homework. Log in details have been provided to families for student logins, and family logins. Please make sure that once you receive your login details, you set up Seesaw on your device as soon as possible to ensure that you are not missing any important updates. Please let us know if you require a new QR code to sign in. Your QR code can be used multiple times, so feel free to sign up any family members that may be interested. 

**Learning Focus for Term 4**

In **Reading** students will explore a range of reading and comprehension strategies. We will be learning skills such as questioning, summarising, making connections, visualising, inferring and critiquing.

In **Writing,** students will focus on learning how to write information reports. They will learn about the structure of information reports and will write about topics they are interested in.

In **Maths**, students will explore a range of different skills for counting, operations, money, time, place value and location.

In **Inquiry**, students will continue to explore our inquiry topic of Living Things. After such a successful term last term, we will continue to follow the Inquiry process of tuning in, finding out, sorting out, going further, reflection and action.

**Specialist classes**

Please be advised of the Term 4 Specialist timetable. Students require a library bag to borrow and must return library books at their next session. You are able to use the red **Prep Bag** as a library bag (this is separate from the blue Homework Bag). Please ensure that appropriate footwear is worn on PE days and you have provided us with an art smock for Visual Arts. Please bring along an art smock and library bag to school as soon as possible. If you have already done so, thank you.

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| **Class** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **Foundation**  **Potts** |  | Library | Performing Arts | P.E  Auslan | Art |
| **Foundation**  **Lisa** | Performing Arts  Auslan | Library | P.E |  | Art |
| **Foundation**  **Amy** | Performing Arts | PE | Visual Art  Auslan |  | Library |
| **Foundation**  **Ryan** |  | Performing Arts | Auslan | PE | Visual Art  Library |

In **Visual Arts**, students will continue to explore and consolidate painting techniques using watercolours and will explore clay modelling using a range of techniques to form varied models.

In **Physical Education (PE**), students will continue to prepare for the F-2 Modified Athletics Carnival concentrating on the fundamental motor skills of an overhand throw, underarm throw and the fundamental movement skills of leaping, jumping and running. They will begin to explore catching small objects with their hands and striking a ball. Participating in minor games throughout the term will continue so students can learn the importance of following rules and procedures and sharing the equipment and space safely.

In **Performing Arts**, students will be learning to dance and sing to many songs. They will also be introduced to and taught the basics of how to use several instruments.

**Upcoming Events**

**Student Free Day** Friday 28th October

**Student Free Day** Monday 31st October

**Melbourne Cup Day** Tuesday 1st November

**Colour Run** Friday 4th November

**Melbourne Zoo Excursion**  Friday 25th November

**Swimming** Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th December

**F-2 Athletics Carnival**  Thursday 8th December

**F-2 Christmas Concert**  Wednesday 14th December

**Last day of Term 4:** Monday 19th December - finish at 12:30pm

**Communication with Teachers**

If you need to speak to your child’s teacher, please make an appointment to meet with them at a suitable time to ensure your discussion can be in-depth and avoid interruptions. Alternatively, you can phone the school on 9743-0633 and leave a message for the staff member to call you when they are available or email through Compass. We are also available for a quick chat after dismissal at 3:10pm before meeting commitments.

Please feel free to contact your child’s teacher to arrange a meeting outside of these times as we are more than willing to discuss any issues or concerns.

We look forward to ***learning together*** in Term 4.

The Foundation Team

Edison Potts (Team Leader), Lisa Emin, Amy Butler and Lyndal Ryan.