

Prep C Newsletter



Classroom Focus:

We have had a fantastic start to the year in Prep C. The children are all settling in well, learning the routines of school and making friends. They all enjoyed their first Drama Tool Box incursion last Tuesday and really enjoyed using their puppets to tell stories about getting along with others, and how to be persistent when things get hard. This week we start P.M.P (Perceptual Motor Program) where the children move through a variety of co-ordination and gross motor activities, with the wonderful assistance of Daphne our volunteer.

Our Investigation sessions have been a real success. We focus on a different group of students each session, observing the activities they choose and their interactions with others. This week we will move out into the large open space for our Investigation sessions, which will enable the children to develop and engage in more areas.

Thank you all for allowing your children to participate in the swimming program. The children may have been exhausted by the end of the week, however, they seemed to had a fabulous time and really developed in confidence.

Important Dates:

7th March	Drama Tool Box Incursion
13th March	Labour Day
14th March	Curriculum Day
15th March	Drama Tool Box/ Preps Full Time
17th March	Harmony Day/ National Day Against Bullying
21st March	Drama Tool Box Incursion
22nd March	Disco
27th March	Assembly
28th March	Drama Tool Box Incursion
31st March	Last Day of Term
17th April	Easter Monday
18th April	First Day of Term 2
24th April	Casey Excursion
25th April	ANZAC Day
4th May	School Photos
8th May	Assembly
15th May	Dinosaur Incursion

Learning Activities at Home:

- ▶ You will have noticed that your child has brought home their reader bags, with a book to record their reading practice along with their weekly reading book. Please record what your child reads each night. This is extremely important in your child's reading progress.
- ▶ The children have started on their Red Words and will progress through the colour words as they successfully learn to recognise each word in random order. The children will progress through learning to read and recognise these words at their own pace. Please note that these words are 'sight words' which children need to recognise automatically without having to sound them out.
- ▶ The children are also asked to bring something from home that begins with the weekly sound to put into Milo's box each Thursday.



Hats

As we are in Term One, students are required to wear their hat every recess and lunch time. Please ensure your child has their hat each day and it is clearly labelled so we can track it down if it goes missing. It is best if they leave their hats in their lockers or chair bags each day.

Brain Food

Each morning at around 10am we have a short break where children are encouraged to eat fruit, in order to keep their brain working well. Brain food can include either fruit or vegetables, so please try to include at least one healthy snack for them to have during this time.



Social Skills:

In Term One, Prep is all about classroom routines and managing the transition into school for children and parents. Our classroom focus is centred around children understanding and becoming familiar with their classroom routines and their school environments. Children quickly learn to be responsible for their own belongings and are also taught to respect the belongings of others. To support Mornington Park's social skills at the Prep level, please encourage your child to enter the classroom independently, bring in their own bag and unpack what they need.



Lateness:

Many children are late each day and this causes disruption to teachers and other children in the class. Being late increases anxiety levels and can cause major problems settling in for the day. We ask that your children are at school by 8.50am for **inside** instruction to begin promptly at 9.00am. The morning circle throughout the school is a critical component of the day....being late is very disrespectful to the class and the teacher. We will be monitoring lateness and contacting parents if necessary.



Attendance:

*There is no safe number of days for missing school. Every Day Counts.....*Attending school every day sets a child up for life as it teaches perseverance and responsibility. Children who attend each day are also more connected... Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future. We know from research that attendance and outcomes correlate. We cannot teach children who are not at school so please make sure they attend every day unless ill.

Uniform:

We would appreciate all families having a focus on sending children with correct school uniform please.

-Correct colours are: Short and long sleeved polo-shirt- maroon with navy collar and gold trim, gold printed logo.

-Makeup and nail polish are not permitted at school. In cases where a student presents with makeup or nail polish, it will be washed off or removed.

-Hair must be of natural colour and kept neat and tidy at all times. If hair is longer than shoulder length, it should be tied up for safety reasons.

-Track suit pants and long sleeved tops are not considered appropriate to be worn under summer dresses. Likewise, long sleeved tops are not considered appropriate to be worn under short sleeved polo tops or shirts.

-Leggings are not a substitute for track pants.

Should you require assistance with school uniform, please contact Val on 5975 4011. Our uniform shop is open from 2.45pm on a Monday afternoon. Val will follow up if your child is out of uniform.