



# Creswick Primary School

## Parent Planner Term 2 – Prep S

Welcome back to Term 2! It was wonderful to see how well Prep students settled into Term 1 as they transitioned to full time school. I hope you all managed to have a relaxing Easter, and I have enjoyed hearing about what your child did in the school holidays. This term will be very busy again, and please note that at the end of this term your child's semester 1 report will be available via Compass. Please check the school newsletter and Compass for further information about reports over the coming weeks. Once again, if you have any questions and/or concerns about your child please let me know. Please see below an outline of what we will be learning this term and some general information.

### **English**

#### **Language Arts**

This term we will be learning a few more nursery rhymes and then continue with our work on fables. The children have really enjoyed learning, singing and acting-out the nursery rhymes at school. Thank you for your support by reading them at home with your child.

#### **Reading and Writing**

Students will continue to participate in the daily phonics program (Sounds-Write). We will be building on the letter sounds and words learnt in term 1 and we will be learning the remaining single sounds (d, e, f, v, k, l, r, u, j, z, x, y). We will also begin learning about the concept that a sound can be represented by two letters. For example, <ss> in the word 'hiss' or <ff> in the word 'puff'. Using all previously taught sounds/letters, we will begin to learn longer words such as 'best', 'help' and 'list'.



This term our shared reading of rich texts/literature will be linked to our science unit, where students will be taught new vocabulary to expand their word knowledge. We will be exploring and reading a range of non-fiction books about living things whilst learning the structure of information texts.

Students will continue to participate in daily writing practise within the Sounds-Write phonics program, and handwriting practise using the Peggy-Lego method for the remaining sounds/letters we will be learning during our phonics lessons (as listed above). Students will also have the opportunity to participate in fine motor activities to build strength in their arms, hands and fingers to support handwriting.

In writing, students will continue to develop their understanding about the concept of a sentence. We will be learning to write a simple decodable (using sounds/words we have already learnt) sentence that includes a 'who?' and 'what doing?'. For example, 'Tim can sit.' Students will then be learning to expand their simple sentence by adding further detail such as 'where?' and 'when?'. For example, 'Yesterday, Tim sat on a pin'. Students will also be learning about adjectives and matching them to common nouns. We will then learn to expand a simple sentence by adding an adjective. For example, 'Yesterday, Tim sat on a big pin.' When writing sentences, will also be learning about when to use capital letters and a full stop.

### **Speaking and Listening**

Students have thoroughly enjoyed participating in the 'All About Me' show and tell in term 1. It has been a lovely way for the whole class to get to know each other. Students have shown great confidence and resilience standing up in front of the class to present, and the audience (other students) have been working very hard on being respectful listeners.

This term we will be learning more about asking open questions, rather than closed questions (yes/no answer) to ascertain further information from the student presenting. The focus will be asking questions using 'who? what? why? where? and how?' stems.

In such a short term 1, we ran out of time for our 'class pet' (Sid the Sloth) to make it home with students. Starting this week, students will have a turn to take Sid home for a couple of nights, and then bring him back to share their adventures with the rest of the class throughout the term. This will result in making a class book that we can continue to share and read in our class throughout the year – it is usually the favourite book in our Reading Corner!

### **Home Reading Program**

Thank you for your support with the Home Reading Program. It is wonderful to see that many students have already exceeded 25+ nights of reading. Repeated reading of words, and the readers, builds fluency and confidence for our beginning readers. 😊

It is great to have a regular routine for reading at home:

- Nightly reading for *at least 10 minutes* is expected on school nights with Reading Diaries signed. New reader books will be sent home on a **Wednesday**.
- Practise alphabet sounds, Sounds-Write unit words and/or high frequency words (words in yellow on word list).

***It is expected that students bring their diary to school daily in their Reader Bag.***

### **Mathematics**

#### **Number and Algebra**

This term students will continue to develop their number sense and fluency with a focus on teen numbers. This will include counting forwards and backwards (0-20) with fluency, identifying numbers before and after any given number and adding/subtracting one more/one less. We will learn about the part-part-whole model to explore the relationship between the whole number and its component parts, and to help make connections between addition and subtraction. Students will continue to learn how to write numbers using the correct formation.

## Geometry

Students will be learning about common two-dimensional shapes such as circles, triangles, rectangles, and squares. This unit will cover identifying, naming, making and sorting shapes by their features.

## Statistics

Students will be creating their own surveys by asking yes/no questions and representing their data using pictographs. They will learn to interpret their results and make simple true/false statements about their data.

## Integrated Studies

### Wellbeing

We have recently undertaken a review of the processes and documentation of the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework. Further information will be sent home to families soon.

Over the coming weeks we will be teaching students these updated expectations and reminding them of our expected behaviours using the school matrix. We will continue to explore how the four school values link to the behaviour expectations.



Students will continue to take part in the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships program. This term our focus will be on personal strengths, positive coping and problem-solving.

### Science

This term we will be undertaking a Biological Science unit – *Watch it grow!* In this unit, through hands-on activities and investigations, students will explore the life cycle of living things and compare the growth of living things under different conditions. We are fortunate to have an ecologist from Melbourne University (Creswick Campus) coming to school to talk to us about living things in the Creswick area (flora and fauna). We also have someone from Seedings Victoria who will be talking to us about native flora. They will be bringing some seeds with them for us to plant in our school grounds.

## Specialist lessons

Students participate in specialist lessons each week on the following days:

<b>Monday</b>	Indonesian
<b>Tuesday</b>	Digital Technologies and PE
<b>Wednesday</b>	Library & Home Readers changed
<b>Friday</b>	Visual Arts

Please see below an outline of what students will be learning this term in specialist lessons:

### **Indonesian** – Mrs Egan

In Indonesian this term we will be:

- Continuing to learn how to ask, 'What is your name?' and answering with 'My name is...'
- Continuing to learn how to use personal pronouns such as I, me, my, you, he, she, his, hers
- Learning how to ask, 'How are you?' and learning responses to how you are feeling
- Learning greetings such as Good Morning, Good Afternoon, hello and goodbye
- Continuing to learn about Indonesia as a country; including its people, culture and traditions

### **Library/Wellbeing** – Mrs Humm

Throughout term 2, Grade Prep will continue to learn about the features of a book, such as front cover, spine and blurb, as well as the title and the role of author and illustrator. Students will be encouraged to reflect on texts read to them by explaining the main characters and what they enjoyed. Library will be on Wednesdays and students are encouraged to return and borrow books each week.

During the Wellbeing sessions, students will use 'Circle Time' to express how they are feeling or to reflect on their thoughts. Smiling Mind, Zones of Regulation and breathing strategies will be taught to help students maintain a positive mindset.

### **Digital Technologies** – Mr Whitear

During term 2, students will be using the program 'Scratch Jr' to explore the use of programming blocks to control characters. Students will also have the opportunity to practice following instructions accurately to achieve a desired result when using Colby (a robotic mouse). We will also learn about 'debugging' when we encounter issues with our instructions.

### **Physical Education (PE)** – Mr Whitear

This term students will be working on activities both individually and in small groups that build on their fundamental motor skills (catch, throw, bounce, kick) and locomotor skills (hop, jump, skip, run, crawl) through a series of games and activities. Students will also have the opportunity to experience the school sports day where they can showcase some of the track and field events that they learnt last term.

### **Visual Arts** – Miss Strong

This term in Visual Arts, students will be learning about primary and secondary colours. We will have the opportunity to explore colouring mixing with paint and use a range of materials to paint with and create artworks. Students will also learn about warm and cool colours and use different materials to explore printing with paint.

## General reminders

### **Belongings**

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly named. Sunhats are not required in terms 2 and 3.

### **Change of clothes**

Can a change of clothes be placed in your child's bag just in case. We have limited clothing at school to supply if accidents happen. Thank you!

### **Toys**

If possible, please discourage your child from bringing toys to school from home, unless it is something to support their wellbeing and/or to provide comfort at school. Toys from home can be a distraction or cause upset if they are lost at school. Thank you for your understanding about this.

### **Absences**

If your child is absent, could you please use the Compass app to notify the school as soon as possible. Through the app, you will be able to advise the school of the reason your child is absent.

### **Before school drop off**

Students should not arrive at school before 8:45am, unless they are attending Breakfast Club on Tuesday and Friday mornings. You are more than welcome to come with your child into the classroom when the first bell goes.

### **School Nursing Program**

The nurse from the School Nursing Program will commence assessments next week (Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April) for those students who have consent via the online (or paper) registration, and a completed Health Questionnaire. If you have any questions about the School Nursing Program, please let me know.

### **Key Dates in Term 2**

**23<sup>rd</sup> April – School Nurse assessments commence**

**24<sup>th</sup> April – Athletics Day (Llanberris)**

**25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day Public Holiday**

**9<sup>th</sup> May – Open Morning** (*Mother's Day/Special Person*)

**13<sup>th</sup> May – Curriculum Day** (No students at school)

**10<sup>th</sup> June – King's Birthday Public Holiday**

**28<sup>th</sup> June – Last day of term 2**

**15<sup>th</sup> July – Term 3 commences**