Welcome back to another exciting and busy term, we hope the children are well rested and ready for all the excitement term two promises!

**Fire Education**

The children will be visited by several fire fighters from the Malvern Fire Brigade who will speak about fire safety. Inviting speakers into our school provides the opportunity to have some great discussions with the children and for them to learn practical life skills. We encourage you to continue these important discussions at home.

**Tri-Skills Gymnastics Program**

Our Tri-Skills gymnastic program also commences this term, which provides the children with the opportunity to further develop their gross motor skills, increase strength, flexibility and develop their confidence.

Appropriate Tri-Skills attire includes:

- No jewellery or watches
- Long hair to be tied back
- Shorts, bike shorts, tracksuits pants-no skirts or tights please!

**Excursions and Incursions**

We have our first excursion this term. Foundation students will be visiting the Royal Botanic Gardens and exploring the Ian Potter Children’s Garden. We know that the children are very excited and fingers crossed the weather will be fine! A separate note will be distributed to each child reminding them what to bring at a later date.

Students will also enjoy an incursion with visitors from the RSPCA coming to talk about being a responsible pet owner.

**Levy/Excursion Form**

Please ensure that your child’s form has been signed and returned to school so that they can attend this term’s excursion and incursions.

**Reading at Home**

Please ensure your child’s take home reading bag is returned to school on your child’s library day (**0J and 0P-Tuesdays and 0C-Mondays**) so that they can borrow their take-home books this term. As was discussed at our Information night, you can record the take home books which are read to you by your child, together with any books that are read with your child or to your child on the record sheet that will be attached to their folder.

**English: (Language, Literature, Literacy)**

In class and during library time, we will explore a range of texts, including fiction and non-fiction books. We will continue to look at print concepts, including sentence structure-such as capital letters and full stops. Students will continue to make connections between letters and sounds through classroom activities, as well as learning words that are commonly found in books we read. E.g. the, like, can, see, and, but, etc. Making connections to their own lives and predicting storylines are important reading skills which are also introduced during reading sessions.

Foundation students will continue to be immersed in various genres of writing in order to understand the messages that writing communicates. Children will have a go at making lists, recounting special personal events and finding
ways to present information to an audience. As students become more aware of letter/sound relationships, they will become more confident at writing independently.

Children will continue to enjoy literature; through engaging and relevant texts, exploring various authors, as well as multi-modal texts (book and film comparisons.)

**Investigations**

Our focus children roster starts next week. (Your child’s roster was distributed to them today.) This term we will be learning about different animals and their habitats. We would like to encourage the children to share information related to our leaning focus. Perhaps your child has a keen interest in an animal and would like to share this information or has a photo of their garden that includes some insects or bugs. Our excursion to the Botanical Gardens may also encourage your child to learn about an animal they saw or prompt discussions about where they live. There are some great local habitats you might be able to visit e.g. the Glen Iris Park wetlands or Malvern Urban Forest. Visit the Stonnington council website for more details: [www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/explore-stonnington/parks-and-gardens](http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/explore-stonnington/parks-and-gardens)

**Mathematics:** *(Number and Algebra, Mesurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability)*

Students will explore numbers, including making models of numbers, counting and number patterns and recognising numbers in words e.g. 1-one, 2-two etc. They will look at 2D and 3D shapes in the everyday environment, days of the week and characteristics of each season as well as creating and manipulating objects to make interesting patterns. Collecting data through surveys and using this data to create picture graphs is an area children will continue working on. Students will use words such as long/short, empty/full, heavy/light when learning about the length, capacity and mass of various objects.

**Social/Emotional Skills**

Through the You Can Do It program we will be focusing on the Resilience key this term. Students will discuss, explore and role-play scenarios that involve keeping calm when things do not go to plan. They will meet the puppet, Ricky Resilience, and discover ways to keep calm, such as; taking three deep breaths, getting a drink, having some quiet time, reading a book etc.

**Parent Helpers**

The reading and Investigation rosters will be up and ready to fill in tomorrow morning! They will be on display on our Communication Board in the Infant Hall. Parent helpers will commence next week. If you did not undertake the Parent Training Program last term and would like to help within the classroom please contact Pauline Eldredge via the school’s website ASAP.

**Student Teachers**

Class J welcomes Jade to Armadale P.S. as a pre-service teacher from The University of Melbourne. You may also see other student teachers around throughout the term, so do not hesitate to introduce yourself.

**Upcoming Dates and Reminders**

- Please return term 2 excursion levy as soon as possible
- Specialist and Investigation Rosters will be distributed today, please keep them in a place where they can be easily referred to.
- Mathletics and Reading Eggs login details will be distributed next week
- Monday 22nd April-Fire Education incursion
- Tuesday 30th April – R.S.P.C.A. incursion
- Friday 3rd May – Pupil Free Day
- Monday 13th May – Responsible Pet Ownership incursion
- Wednesday 22nd May – Botanical Gardens Excursion
- Monday 10th June – Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday

**Materials Required:** Small boxes, shoe boxes, collage material, sticks/branches and wool.

If any workbooks/scrapbooks have been accidentally taken home by children, could they please be returned to school as soon as possible.

Thank you to Poppy Morrison’s mum, Emma, for assisting to cut up scraps of material. Thank you also to Poppy Holden’s mum, Kelly, for helping children to ice cupcakes on the last day of term one. A final thank you to Lucie’s mum in Class P for providing lots of useful resources.

We look forward to a productive and exciting term two!

*Foundation Team: Pippa, Connie, Pauline and Jen*