

Prep Bulletin

Term 4, Week 5



Our Enduring Understanding:

'The seasons affect how our world works'

Thank you to those children who have brought texts in to share with the class. If you would like to bring in a book to do with the seasons, we would love to share it in class. We are continuing to explore the seasons through all aspects of learning and looking at the changes that occur in our world.

Some things we are learning about:

- Recognising upper-case and lower-case letters and the most common sound that each letter represents.
- Medial (middle) /i/ sound, e.g. *bin, lip, pig, sit, ship, trip*. Blending sounds associated with letters when reading.
- Exploring texts with familiar structures and features. Some of the features of a non-fiction text are: Contents Page, Glossary, Index, captions and sub-headings.
- Understanding that when we write we are writing for a purpose and often, for an audience. Beginning to explore the idea of punctuation marks and how we can use these to help our audience to understand and make connections to what we have written.
- Exploring how numbers can be represented in many different ways, either through numerals, quantities of objects or by their position on a number line.
- Looking at the changes that occur as the seasons change and exploring what this might look like in our own homes, in our own gardens and the local environment, e.g. urban gardens, bushland, parkland and the Yarra Trail.
- Posing wonder questions about the seasons and considering how we might obtain the answer.

What you could do at home to support this learning:

- Have a conversation with your child about different ways letters can be written, have a look at newspapers or cereal boxes or things around the house that display different fonts. Notice if there are any confusing letters or letters that look very different to what we expect, e.g. 'g'. Cut out letters in different fonts from magazines and newspapers and sort them.
- Go outside and explore the garden and perhaps draw or take some photos and have conversations around what you notice.
- When sharing in reading, have conversations about how the author is communicating an idea or story to you, the audience, and what different features the text has.
- Have a look at different representations of numbers around your home and out and about. Have a look at numbers on signs and posters, on a keyboard, on ticket prices and train/tram timetables for example.

Transition Program and Change:

Tomorrow, **Friday 10th of November** we will welcome the kindergarten children who will be commencing at Armadale Primary next year. To enable us to spend time with these children all the Prep students will be spending tomorrow and the following three Friday mornings with their 5/6 Buddies during this time. As the academic year draws to a close it also a good time to stop and think about how much your child has changed since starting school. As teachers we see the huge growth all the children have made. It is very rewarding to see how the children have connected to the school, made friends and are learning to manage their feelings and emotions. They are more independent, confident and

supportive of each other. Each school year brings many changes - new teachers, new classrooms, different procedures, new students. Sometimes it takes time for students to adjust and this can vary between students.

To support your child for next year take time to think about how your child faced other changes in their life, e.g. moving house, welcoming the addition of a new brother or sister or starting Prep. How have you supported them in the process? What conversations could you have to alleviate any anxiety?

For those of you who have a child commencing next year, as a reminder, the dates for the next Transition sessions are:

Session 2: **Friday 17 November – 9:45am-10:45am**

Session 3: **Friday 24 November – 9:45am-10:45am**

Session 4: **Friday 8 December: *Meet the Teacher* – 9:45am-10:15am**

Scienceworks:

The Scienceworks excursion is on **Tuesday 14th of November** and the children are starting to get excited. We need **three parent helpers** for each class. **Prep S** and **Prep N** still require parent helpers. If you would like to come along and help out, please email your class teacher as soon as possible. You are required to have a current **Working With Children Check** in order to accompany us to Scienceworks. Go to the following website if you need to apply for one:

www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au

Please ensure that you have made payment and given consent via Compass by **Monday 13th of November**.

Sousaphonics:

The Sousaphonics Performance (an Australian quartet who play a range of music, including a combination of Nigerian Afro-beat, Mardi Gras and Carnivale marches, circus music and Balkan folk music) will be held on **Friday 17th of November** from **2:30-3:30pm** in the **MPC**. Parents are welcome to attend.

Spare Uniforms:

It is important that your child has a spare change of clothes in their bag in case an accident happens or they fall over and get wet. If your child does get wet we give them a spare change of clothes however, at the moment we are running very low. If you have any items of clothing that have been lent to your child still at home, could you please wash them and return them to school as soon as possible. If you have any old school uniforms that you no longer need and would like to donate them to us that would be greatly appreciated.

Yoga:

Yoga is held each **Friday** in the MPC. We recommend that your child wears **shorts** or **leggings** on this day. There is a 'make up' session on **Wednesday 15th of November**. On **Friday 17th of November**, **parents are invited to attend the session**. The times are:

Prep N – 12:50-1:30

Prep E – 2:00-2:40

Prep S – 2:40-3:20

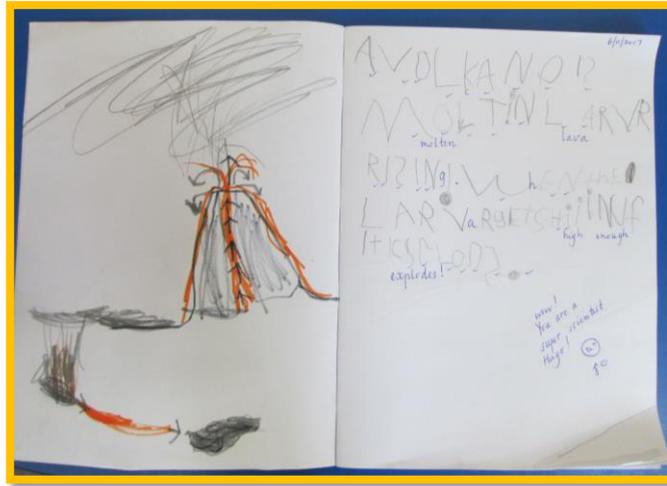
Garden Beds:

The garden beds outside the Infant Hall are looking a little bit sad. It would be wonderful if any parents who have some time before or after school could give them a little spruce, especially as we are coming into warmer weather. You will need to collect the tap mechanism from us in order to use the hose.

Parent Helper Roster:

The Parent Helper Rosters are displayed on the cupboards in the Infant Hall. Kindly write your name on a suitable day/s. Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered their help.

Writer's Corner:



**Hugo K.
Prep S**

"A volcano is molten lava rising. When the lava gets high enough it explodes!"

One of the characteristics of a great writer is to explore, express and record their ideas clearly and inform their audience. In Hugo's piece (above), he has put himself in the shoes of a Scientist and given an explanation of how a volcano erupts. Hugo drew his picture first which is an important step in the writing process in order for students to plan their ideas, consider their audience and, fuel their imagination and creativity.

Have a great week!
Angela, Steph and Nikita

