Week 7 - TERM 3

We can’t believe that we are nearly at the end of term! It is usually at this time of the year that we reflect back on the past six months and realise the progress all the children in Foundation have made in their first year at school. Promoting a positive attitude to school is integral to every child’s progress and you as parents have played and continue to play a huge role in this development. This week’s tip focuses on the importance in promoting curiosity in children. Please take the time to read the article attached in our ‘weekly tip’ section.

GO-FRESH

The children have been proud of their efforts to reduce rubbish in their lunch boxes. Thank you for your support and we do encourage that this support continues beyond ‘Enviroweek’.

HIGH FREQUENCY WORDS

These are words that readers just need to recognise instantly in order to enhance their fluency. Recognising these words in different contexts is necessary in order for long term memory retention. Your child will have brought home a set of laminated words. Please read the information provided on how you can use these words at home to help your child improve his/her reading vocabulary.

REMININDERS

ITALIAN DAY

This Friday children will be participating in a day that is all ‘Italian’. The activities will run all day and the children will not be in their regular classroom group. Instead they will be placed in a multi age group where there will be children from Foundation, Level 2, 4 and 6. Vita will endeavour to place each Foundation child in the same group as their buddy.

Italian Day will be on this Friday. To get into the spirit of the day, dress your child in the Italian colours - red, white and green. Also please send your child to school with a small recyclable bowl and fork (named). The children will be making and sampling lasagne.

MATERIALS NEEDED

We still require milk bottle lids so that the children can make castanets. If you have a small or large collection, it would be greatly appreciated.
CAMP NEWS

Camps are part of our whole school program and teachers from other levels are required to attend in order to meet the teacher-student ratios. Jennifer Drew will be attending the Level 4 camp next week. The forecast looks perfect! While Jen is away, Mary Rodder will be responsible for Class J from Wednesday until Friday.

WEEKLY TIP – CURIOSITY – IT’S NOT A DIRTY WORD

Encouraging a child to take risks, be curious and creative lead to positive gains in personal growth and wellbeing. The article states that ‘... children’s intelligence grows faster and more efficiently when they have unstructured – and sometimes unsupervised – playtime.’

Have a great week!

Curiosity – it’s not a dirty word

Chaos, laughter and a bit more freedom may be the key to boosting your child’s creativity, writes Sarah Berry.

Through his research into curiosity, he has learnt that children’s intelligence grows faster and more efficiently when they have unstructured – and sometimes unsupervised – playtime.

Children have to learn how to negotiate without a parent intervening.

...and Kaidsten woke from a nap last year to find his five-year-old daughter wielding a steak knife and wearing a white dress, now splattered red. “She screamed when she saw me,” he recalled in his TED Talk. When he entered the room she was in, which looked like the scene of a “bloody massacre”, his other daughter looked up at him and cautiously asked what they were in trouble. He locked around the room. There were shards of watermelon on the walls and floor and a “disembowelled watermelon” on the table with crazy stares yelled out of it.

He realised that he was supposed to get angry and start punishing someone, everyone... the fact is my authority has been usurped by a bunch of five-year-olds.

It was a black and white situation. But he sat down on the floor with his children and their friend. They were proud of their watermelon experiment and what they managed to do with a knife.

While they were exploring skills in “this safe, not really safe, pretty dangerous situation” without a parent around, they were developing strongwes, he says. “They’re re-examining what they’re capable of... initiative, courage, the ability to use a knife effectively... from the help and not get angry.”

It was by talking outside the black and white lines of how he was supposed to react that he learnt a valuable lesson — “fear is often an inhibitor to creative, innovative society.”

“You want inspirations and creativity, you give them a template, but really loose, and you give them rules of autonomy to explore through their own work, their own strengths, new things to explore,” he says. “We like stereotypes, we like categories and box things to make sense of them, but we judge too prematurely.”

...particularly purchasing, because now we are much more productive and efficient. Some of the best stuff is being done by the end of the year. It’s learning to approach instead of avoid, he says.

“The No.1 thing that works for people
Foundation Team
Pippa, Jen, Pauline and Connie