



Preston South *Press*

Grades 1 / 2 Newsletter

English

The English Program will continue to develop student skills and strategies in *Literacy, Language and Literature*. Development and progress will continue to be monitored through the use of the Fountas and Pinnell and the AusVELS assessments in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Spelling and Grammar skills are also incorporated in the Writing assessment.

Our Reading strategies for this Term are Summarising (remembering important information), Fluency (pausing, phrasing, stress, intonation, rate and integration) and Analysing (noticing aspects of the writer's craft and text structure). Students will continue to explore these strategies through Guided Reading, Shared and Independent Reading, Individual Conferences, Writing about Reading, Interactive Read Aloud sessions and Literature discussions.

Our Writing Genre for this Term is focusing on reinforcing Recounts, introducing Procedural text and Functional writing eg letters.

Students will continue to be provided with opportunities to write and apply their knowledge to the writing task. Word Study (high frequency words, high interest words and spelling patterns) and Grammar are also incorporated in our Writing Program.

Students will participate in oral discussions and various presentations (Drama, Share Time, and Circle). They will continue to develop their skills in being an active listener as well as presenting and sustaining a discussion.

Maths

This Term our Maths Program will focus on Measurement and Geometry. Students will explore Mathematical knowledge, skills and concepts of Time, 2D and 3D Shapes and Units of Measurement (Length, Area, Mass, Capacity and Location).

Students will continue to work in both whole class and small focus groups. They will practise and extend their Maths skills through engagement in problem solving and reasoning tasks.

Students will continue to use hands-on tasks, utilising concrete materials, working on the interactive white board, engaging in board games, using the ipads (arriving soon) and the Mathletics website during classroom activities.

Inquiry

Our Inquiry unit of work is based on Sustainability. Students will learn how we are personally responsible for helping to keep our world a place that is safe and beautiful for us to grow up in. Students will investigate into ways to sustain (look after) and improve our environment. They will look into the differences between environments and use scientific experiments to help us understand sustainable actions. Students will feel empowered to, and a responsibility to, have an impact on their own and other people's sustainable behaviours.

Visual Art

This semester the Grade 1/2 students expanded their Art experience and explored drawing and drawing techniques. Students created a variety of work and were able to see their progress by breaking down the drawing process. This included; line, shape, space, form, texture, colour and tone. Students will be developing their skills in sculpture, textiles and construction. Furthermore, students will be developing their sewing and weaving techniques, using a variety of materials and processes. Students will have the opportunity to create pieces using these interesting materials.

Performing Arts

This semester students will explore music, drama and physical movement. Students will use instruments to express their creativity and explore the ways in which drama can enhance an awareness of the world around them. Students will make connections between many different Art forms.

Physical Education

This semester students will focus and build on the skills of catching, throwing and hand-eye coordination. Students will begin learning how to strike a ball with a bat using a batting tee. There will be an emphasis on teamwork and fair play while playing games.

Homework

Every Monday students will receive their weekly spelling word list in their homework book. Students are encouraged to learn and practise their spelling pattern word list throughout the week.

Please continue to assist your child to use the 'Look/Cover/Say/Write/Check' strategy. Students will also be required to write a sentence (short story for some) for each of the spelling words in their homework book. Homework is due every Friday. Students will be tested on the spelling pattern word list each Friday.

Students are also encouraged to continue to read daily at home and change their reader when necessary.

Students are encouraged to continue to use the 'Mathletics' and 'Reading Eggs' programs to consolidate their Maths and English skills at home.

www.mathletics.com.au

www.readingeggs.com

The Grades 1 | 2 Team



Upcoming Events:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event:</i>
Thursday/Friday 5/6 May	Mother's Day Stall
Monday 16 May	Curriculum Day – Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 17 May	Tennis lessons commence for the next 5 weeks
Friday 17 June	Zoo Excursion
Monday 20 June	Reports sent home.
Wednesday 22 June	Parent Teacher Interviews