



Warranwood P.S Prep Newsletter



Term 2

April 2021

WELCOME BACK!

We hope you have all had a refreshing two weeks as well as a safe and happy Easter break.

We have another fun term ahead which has all the teachers and students excited. We are still encouraging all students to become independent in managing their daily routines: to hang up their bags and proceed with their morning class routine.

Inquiry this term is around Our Special Community.

Our focus questions are:

1. What is a community?
2. Who and What makes up our school community?
3. Who and what places make up our wider community?
4. How can I care for my school community?
5. What makes a place special?
6. Who helps us in our community?
7. What is the Aboriginal connection to our school community?

WOWSERS! WHAT A FANTASTIC TERM!!



Term ONE OVER AND OUT

What a busy term! We started off with the Prep BBQ, where it was wonderful to see our Warranwood families interacting with our new community members. Preps met their Year 5 buddies, had their first school photos taken and parents got to chat with teachers at G.T.K.Y interviews. Preps had fun meeting other students from Year 1 and Year 2 in their ongoing Connect groups. We celebrated our first full week at school and Grandparents Day, followed by the Slime Run. In the final week we had a visit from the Easter Bunny and an Easter egg hunt with our buddies!

Dates for your Diary:

Tues 27th April	School Cross Country
Mon 3rd May	Prep Community Day
Wed 5th May	Mothers Day stall (please bring coins - notes get lost easily)
Mon 10th May Tues 11th May Wed 12th May Thurs 13th May	Prep F Special Afternoon Prep W Special Afternoon Prep R Special Afternoon Prep D Special Afternoon
Tues 18th May	Open Night
Thurs 20th May	Prep 2022 Info Night
Thurs 20th May Fri 21st May	Book fair opens Book fair ends
Wed 26th May	National Sorry Day
Thurs 27th May - Sun 6th June	National Reconciliation week
Sat 29th May	Prep Tours
Fri 4th June	Curriculum Day
Mon 14th June	Queens Birthday (Public Holiday - no school)
Fri 18th June	School Reports go live on Compass for parents
Mon 21st June Tues 22nd June	Parent/Teacher interviews
Fri 25th June	2:30pm Early finish for the end of Term 2
* Please note Compass will always have the most up-to-date information as dates and times are subject to change.	

KEEPING UP WITH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Don't forget to check out the Connect Newsletter each week to see weekly information. Reminders can be found on Compass and the school Facebook page. Parents have been enjoying the digital portfolios on Seesaw too.

ASSEMBLY

We are currently running assemblies with the Junior school - Prep/Year 1/Year 2 on Friday afternoons. All sorts of things take place at assembly like Principals Awards and performances. Hopefully in the very near future we can have parents back in joining us for whole school assemblies.

PREP COMMUNITY MORNING

We are looking for community workers to visit us in Prep. If you or someone you know works within the community we want you! Potters, social workers, emergency services, local elders, artists, tradespeople, vet etc.

We would love if some community minded people could come and chat with us to share the equipment, uniforms etc in a 10-20 min hands on workshop for each prep class.

Please email if you or someone you know is interested: liz.fragiacomo@education.vic.gov.au

THRASS HOT WORDS TAKE HOME BOOK

In term one your child brought home a take home book that contained Hot letters/words. By now we would expect most children to know their letters and sounds. Once the teachers have checked off the letters and sounds your child will be bringing Hot Word lists home. Please help them to learn these Hot Words at home.



SPENDING MONEY

Several of our students at Warranwood have food allergies. We ask that you talk to your child about **not buying snacks from the canteen for other students**. Buying food for others can also cause distress for the students who are not selected by their friends to share the money. Please also discuss the importance of **not sharing food from their lunch boxes** too.

PARENT HELPERS

We love parent helpers. If you can help in the classroom or by doing tasks at home please let your class teacher know. A timetable will be put together and posted outside each classroom window. If you are unable to make a regular commitment that's okay, still let us know if you are keen to help. Please see the compass post for more information and a great video to watch.

***Please note that parent helpers are required to have a volunteer check or working with children check on file at the office - they are free to obtain from the post office.**



TAKE HOME BOOKS

The students have been given their take home books to read to you and with you each night. This practice is establishing good routines of reading each night and changing their books each day. Continued testing of your child's reading ability will occur throughout the term and good fit books will be allocated according to their reading and comprehension skills.

If you find that the book is easy, use the time to ask your child about the story, create a different ending, discuss interesting words, etc. If the book is too hard, read it to your child and discuss aspects of the story. Ask them to read the more predictable words. Inside your book cover there is a diary. After your child has read their book, please fill out the diary on the day you read it. This will help to ensure your child gets a variety of books and also lets us know how they felt about the book. If you do not get to read the book it still needs to come back to school, but we won't change it over. **Please make sure their reading diary and THRASS letters/words come each day in their communication pouch too.**

This term parent helpers will be asked to sit and read with the students which is why it is necessary for them to bring their readers back each day.

CAFÉ READING

Our school uses very successfully, the CAFÉ reading framework which is a direct teaching approach that uses explicit and direct instruction to give meaning to what we do in our literacy blocks.

Café Reading stands for:

C - Comprehension, **A** - Accuracy, **F** - Fluency, **E** - Expanding Vocabulary.

In Prep we are focusing on the concept of reading for understanding (comprehension) and choosing a book to read that is a 'Good Fit' book. As we model reading using big books and other literature we ask as we read, "Do I understand what I am reading?" We are also discussing the use of pictures and how they help us understand the text and match keywords. Throughout the year we will be introducing many strategies that will assist with the development of the above four essential reading skills. These strategies are displayed in our classrooms.



MATHLETICS & READING EGGS

Mathletics and Reading Eggs are both fabulous tools which provide fun activities and games for the students to do in the comfort of their homes. In Mathletics they can even play anonymously against children around the world.

The students are able to access Mathletics and Reading Eggs both at home and school. They can access them both via iPad app or internet browser on a computer.

Your child's log on details were sent home last term, please see your class teacher if they have been misplaced.



RUBBISH FREE LUNCHBOXES

Our Greenologist team love us to encourage rubbish free lunch boxes to help keep our school grounds clean of rubbish.

Our constant aim is to reduce the amount of rubbish we bring to school by enjoying our snack and lunches wrapper free.

We do a great job already in Prep but here are some great ideas to help us along:



Reusable sandwich & snack bags



Eco friendly, refillable, reusable, food pouch containers



Reusable Wraps



Reusable containers.

Lots of great ideas at sites like:

<https://www.biome.com.au/429-kids-lunch-box>

ATTENDANCE

Warranwood Primary School uses the Compass School Manager software program which supports a number of administrative functions of the school. There are many fantastic features that will save both time and money and allow you to access reports and interviews, online. One feature is the marking of attendance. It is very important that if your child is going to be absent or late that you record your child's absence, late arrival or early departure using the Compass system. The roll will be marked in the classroom at around 9:05 am each day. Any arrivals after that time will be marked as late and you will need to check in at the office.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Please advise your class teacher if your child has food allergies or there are foods such as chocolate you prefer they do not eat. Several of the students in our school can have anaphylactic reactions to certain foods. Parents are requested not to include any nut products in any food. Please be aware of this when packing lunches and we ask that you reinforce the message with your children that students are not to share food.



Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia

Your trusted charity for allergy support

HATS AT SCHOOL

Our students need their hats until the end of April. No hats are needed from May to September.

Stay hydrated!



Please remember to bring your water bottle to school.

MORNING DROP OFFS

We are encouraging all students to become independent and morning routines are a really important part of this. We ask that your child is at school by 8:45 am so that when the classroom door is open they can come in and get ready for their day. Some students arriving late are struggling to get prepared in time (bag on hook, book swapped, and saying goodbye to their parents.) Could all parents say their goodbyes and be out of the classroom by the time the morning bell sounds at 8.55am.

Healthy snacks!



Please remember to bring along some fresh fruit or raw vegetables to munch on after recess.

SPECIALISTS

Visual Arts - Tanya Barlow & Jeenah Metcalfe

This term Preps will continue exploring a range of art styles including drawing, collage and painting. They will experiment with a wide variety of materials and techniques to develop their fine motor skills and their Visual Arts experience. This term we will discuss and practise using the following Elements of Art: *Shape, Colour, Pattern, Texture, and Line*. The Preps will continue to learn how to use a colour wheel, distinguishing and drawing regular and irregular 2-dimensional shapes and practise drawing a variety of patterns, bringing them all together in visually appealing art works! All activities are designed to build confidence in self-expression, encourage imagination and give students the chance to experience the joy of making and creating. Some artworks will be brought home whilst others (as in term 1) will be stored at school in preparation for display in our upcoming Term 4 Art Show.

Performing Arts - Jacinta O'Leary - Unit: Media - Film Making

WOW! What a successful Term 1... In their Performing Arts sessions, the Preps created dance routines, role-played characters, re-enacted picture story books, participated in dance off, yoga and studied basic script work. Your Preps have made a wonderful start to their first School Year.

During Term 2 the students will be involved in a Media Unit of work and your preps will become Film- makers, Editors, Actors and Directors. Each Prep class will act out the picture story book 'Where the Wild Things Are' and convert this into as a short film. Each class will rehearse the basic script using TV style acting skills and when ready and confident, they will be involved in the filming process of each scene. The Preps will then edit their movies by using iMovie. They will add sound effects, visual effects, background music and titles. Each Prep classes film version of the book will be shared on the Apple TV in the Performing Arts room for self-assessment and reviews. Then any changes deemed necessary by the Prep students will be made to their films until the final copy is decided upon. Each Prep classes film will then be shared with the Parents and school community (so could you please make sure you get onto Compass and APPROVE permission for your students to be filmed and photographed. If you don't wish for your child to be in the final shared film, please contact me at school, Thank You). I am so excited about collaborating with the Preps to create these Short Films for you to enjoy!

Japanese - Tanya Barlow - Topic: Colours & Classroom Items

This term the Preps will learn the names of various colours and classroom items in Japanese. They will continue to sing songs and learn actions to help them with this new vocabulary. Role play activities will take place to showcase the students' ability to make simple sentences about themselves using their name and age. The Preps can now recognize their own name written in Japanese and will continue to trace and copy them. Please encourage your child to practice writing their Katakana name at home and enjoy learning the Term 2 list words together.

ありがとう ! *Japanese Day is a dress up day and will be held in Term 3

Physical Education - Dylan Sendekyj

Make sure your shoelaces are done up as we run into Term 2. We start this term with our House Cross Country competition on the 27th of April. Prep students will be running in their first whole school sport competition representing their house. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours on the day. (Eden - Green, Wellington - Yellow, Wonga - Red and Yarra - Blue) Prep athletes will be completing the 500m running course with their buddies. Parents and spectators are welcome to attend and anyone that could help out in the morning please let your child's teacher or Dylan (PE teacher) know. In term 2 students will begin exploring the football codes and complete athletic assessments to compare their results from the beginning of the year. Another bumper term in PE and sport at Warranwood.