



FOUNDATION NEWS

Term 1, 2020

Dear Parents,

This is a newsletter distributed at the beginning of each term to keep you up to date with the current events, activities and reminders in the Foundation classrooms.

First term has started and everyone is busy! The new Foundation children are settling in well and are becoming familiar with school routines.

Foundation children will have a 'rest day' every Wednesday for first term.

FOUNDATION CLASSROOMS FOR 2020

There are 4 Foundation classrooms.

Room C1: Mark Hyland & Naomi Foster

Room C2: Georgia Johnston

Room C3: Jo Pangrazio & Naomi Foster

Room C4: Tegan McDonald

Learning leader: Jo Pangrazio.



The classroom doors are open at 8:40 a.m. each morning. Children wait outside the classroom if they arrive before 8:40 am. All students enter the school using the outside doors. Students are expected to carry their own School bag. This encourages them to be organized and independent learners.

SPECIALIST CLASSES FOR 2020:

The schedule for these classes for 2020 is as follows:

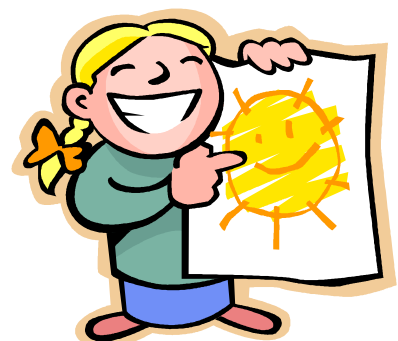
Room C1: Art/LRC: Monday LOTE/Thursday ICT:Friday

Room C2: Art/LOTE/LRC: Monday ICT: Tuesday

Room C3: LRC: Tuesday ART/ICT:Wednesday LOTE: Thursday

Room C4: LOTE/LRC: Monday ART/Tuesday ICT: Tuesday

Children can borrow four books from the library each week. Books are returned to the Library box in the classroom. The library is open for the first half of every lunchtime for children. The school navy Book Bag is used for Library books as well as Home reading. **This Book Bag needs to come to school everyday.**



Birthdays and celebrations at school.

We celebrate birthdays at school with birthday awards at Assembly. Children have opportunities to share about their special day in the classroom.

We do not have food brought into school for birthdays or other celebrations.



Sport

Students wear their sports uniform every school day.

PMP - Perceptual Motor Program:

The Perceptual Motor Program runs **Tuesday Thursday & Friday.**

PMP is a great way to support and develop skills in Foundation students.



CLASSROOM SUPPLIES:

You will need to supply your child with an **Art smock** (an old large shirt is fine). **clearly named.**

Each child is also asked to bring in a family size box of tissues **each** term for the whole class. This keeps our classrooms in supply of tissues for the year. Thank you to the families who have all ready supplied a box of tissues.



HEALTHY SNACKS & LUNCHES:

Your child will require a **fruit or vegetable snack** in the classroom which they can manage independently. The fruit snack will be eaten at 10 am. **(the fruit snack would be easier to manage if it was separate to the lunch box)** The children eat at 11:30 am and 1:35 pm Lunch orders are eaten at 1:35 pm. School lunches are a great opportunity to promote healthy eating habits! **Lollies, chips & chocolate treats etc., are not for school.** Great ideas for snacks include: fresh fruit, dried fruit, cheese & dry biscuits, rice crackers, celery/carrot sticks, small cakes & muffins. Please be aware that some classes are designated 'nut free'. A note has been sent home to those classrooms. It is also important that the children have a drink bottle of water. **Remember to name ALL containers and bottles!**



W.I.T.s

We can try to problem solve by using our wits:

W: walk away

i: ignore it

t: talk it out

S: seek help



Don't try to talk it out if you are feeling angry— walk away first to calm down and talk it out later.

Settling into School

Starting school is a significant life event for you and your child. Children will be very tired as they adapt to the routines of starting school.

Have a goodbye routine and a hello routine.

TIPS

- ~ Greet your child with a smile and give them a hug at the end of the day.
- ~ Allow time for your child to rest and have some quiet time after school.
- ~ Keep after school activities to a minimum.
- ~ Ask questions like "Tell me something good about your day?"
- ~ What was the best thing that happened?
- ~ "What are you looking forward to about tomorrow?"

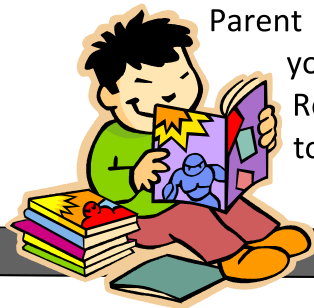
LITERACY NEWS:

Foundation students participate in a two hour Literacy block each day. It is important that children are **ready to start each day at 8:55 am**. Students are expected to independently organise and unpack their own school bag. Classroom doors open at 8:40 am.

Parent Helpers in the classroom:

Monica Currer will run a '**Parent Helper Program**' early in Term 2. If you wish to help in the literacy block you need to attend this program. It is also a great way to learn how to support your child with learning to read and write at home as well.

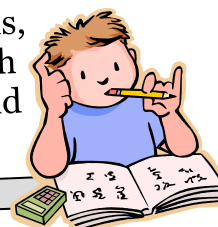
Parent Helpers in the classroom starts in Term 2. As a classroom helper you will be working with a group of students please no toddlers. Reminder all parents need a current "**Working with Children Check**" to help anywhere in the school or on excursions.



NUMERACY NEWS:

The Numeracy testing in December 2019 allowed teachers to gain an understanding of the needs of your child in numeracy. We thank parents for their support and cooperation with this process.

This term the Foundation students will focus on Counting, Patterns, Place Value, and Time. We encourage you to play counting games with your children at home, such as Snakes & Ladders, card games, and counting aloud together in everyday situations.



Spelling in Term 1

- ~ I can write my name
- ~ I know the letters in my name
- ~ I know the letters of the alphabet and the sound each letter makes.
- ~ I can write the first letter of a word.

Focus Letters~

m a s t i

f d r o g

I can read and write these words:

I, a, to, the, Mum, Dad

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

This term we will explore a unit on 'belonging' which helps children identify their own strengths and gifts that makes them special. Children learn that they can experience God's love through the world around them.



HOMEWORK:

The school homework policy states that in Foundation reading is the only required homework. This should take 10-15 minutes and become a regular routine. Home reading needs to be at an **EASY** level. The books your child brings home need to be easy and enjoyable at both decoding and comprehension level.

In the beginning Parents will need to read the home reading book to their child. This reading should be enjoyable for you and your child and recorded in the reading diary provided.

Please do not forget the **benefits of reading to your child.**

This is the **only** homework required

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1:

Our school calendar is available on the SZApp and our website.

It contains dates for the upcoming Family picnic night, school photos, Parents Teacher Interviews, School Closure and Public Holidays, School Sports and Cross Country days and many other whole school dates. We encourage parents to check this calendar regularly.

St. Joseph's FAIR:

On **Sunday March 22nd** the school will be holding its major fund raiser for the year.

Each Foundation class will be contributing the Lucky dips.

More information to follow.

Tell and Show: to encourage oral language we have a **tell and show time** when students have the opportunity to speak to the class about a topic or object.

- C1: see classroom timetable,**
- C2: Mondays for all students,**
- C3: Mondays for all students,**
- C4: Mondays for all students,**

