Prep Newsletter
Term 3, 2011

Start of Term 3 Reminders

Here we are at the end of Term 2. Isn’t the year going quickly! Once again we have a jam packed term ahead of us, so this newsletter contains the initial reminders for Term 3. Please continue to read the school newsletter and lookout for any follow up notices and reminders in your child’s blue (Prep B) or purple (Prep N) folder.

General Reminders
Thank you to all the parents who have taken on and encouraged your children to follow some of our school values and rules. Here are some reminders:

- Please refrain from using the front office door when collecting or dropping off your children. Please use the Prep entry located next to the staff room.
- Please remember that library books can not be borrowed unless the students have their library bag and have returned their previous book.
- If your child is away please remember to send a note with them the following day or send us an email.
- Please ensure that your child is inside their classroom before the bell in the morning to ensure they don’t miss any important announcements or changes to routine. This also prevents disruptions to the class routine at the start of the day.
- Please wait outside in the morning and afternoon before the bell and avoid waiting in the corridor when collecting your child.
- Place a spare pair of pants and underwear in their bag incase of an accident. Please return any spare pants to school, ensuring they are washed.
- Please ensure that you name and label all your child’s containers and cutlery with a permanent marker. We also ask that you check and re-label your child’s clothing including jumpers and hats to ensure that they will be returned to the correct person if lost.
- We kindly ask that parents refrain from using the office as a meeting area with other parents unless talking to your classroom teacher. Please respect that there may be confidential material on tables.

Thank you!

Reports and Portfolios

As you are aware, reports and portfolios have been sent home and you have now had the opportunity to discuss these with your child’s classroom teacher. As a friendly reminder, if you have not already done so, may you please return your child’s portfolio during the first week of Term 3. This is an ongoing portfolio, displaying pieces of work that are assessed, showing your child’s understanding and learning in a range of topic areas. We will be adding to this during the school year and therefore will require that, it is back as soon as possible. You may recall reading about the Ultranet on the information page of your child’s portfolio. You have not yet received passwords to access this but you will in the Terms to come. If you have any questions or need assistance accessing this, when the time comes, please come to see us.
Term 3 Excursions and Incursions

In Term 3 our integrated unit will be focusing around the production of food from farms. We will be focusing on the production of wheat, eggs and milk. We are very excited for the activities we have planned in relation to the topic and we hope to go to Tintern Farm for a half day excursion so that the children have the opportunity to experience milking a cow and collecting eggs. This will be on Wednesday 24th of August. We will be sending out permission forms and envelopes for payments early next term. We will also be putting a call out for some parent helpers.

In previous years, children in Prep to Grade 2 have participated in a 5 week program called Triskills—a program teaching the basics of gymnastics. Our Prep—Grade 2 will be participating again and at this stage it will be the last 5 weeks of Term 3. You will be advised on cost and dates early next Term. This program will be part of their regular Physical Education lesson with Aaron Palmer and therefore is highly recommended for all students.

As you may be aware swimming will be happening in Term 4 for a two week block. We will be handing out permission forms and payment envelopes for it to paid late Term 3.

Head Lice: A must read for all

During the Term, we have been alerted to a number of cases of head lice within the prep area. If your child has ever had head lice, you can understand how difficult and time consuming it can be to get rid of. We ask that during the holidays you carefully check your child’s hair and treat them if necessary. If you identify hair lice in your child’s hair we ask that they do not return to school until they have been treated appropriately. Please send us a note when you have treated them. Our school policy states that we are committed to help reduce the stigma and maintain confidentiality if a child is ever found to have head lice. Here are some helpful tips on getting rid and avoiding head lice:

- Don’t just rely on whether or not your child is scratching as an indication. In some cases, they may not even scratch at all so regular head lice checks are your best means of determining if they have them or not.
- We ask that all children with long hair, tie their hair up to school. By this we are referring to all up, not half up.
- After their hair is up, give it a good spray of hair spray.
- There is no need to treat the whole family if your child has head lice. You will not prevent other members of the family by treating them unless they already have the eggs or the lice.
- In order to remove them appropriately and to avoid your child catching them again at home, ensure that you wash all their bedding, blankets, teddy bears etc. Ensure that hot or warm water is used (at least 60°C) or a clothes dryer on a hot or warm setting.

Treating head lice
The two preferred treatment options available for treating head lice are the ‘conditioner and comb’ method and the use of an insecticide. These are available at the local chemist or consult your doctor if any concerns about what reactions your child may have to the treatment. Please note that the conditioner only stunnets’ the lice to make it easier to trap them on the comb. However, any eggs on the hair will hatch resulting in more head lice. The best way to remove eggs is with the chemicals and removal with your fingers.

For more information consult a health care professional or alternatively there are some reliable resources on the internet.

References:
www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

PMP for Term 3

Our PMP program will be starting again in Term 3. This is a perceptual motor program that takes place in the hall on Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 2.15pm—3.15pm. Each class has a half hour session. The class is divided into 5 groups each week. Each group completes a circuit of 5 activities e.g. ball throwing, balancing, kicking.

Parent helpers are required again for the roster. No experience is necessary and toddlers are most welcome. If you are available to help again or would like to help for the first time, please complete and return the form on the opposite page, in your child’s plastic envelope. Please note parents are required for both sessions. You will need to be punctual and please inform your child’s class teacher if you are unavailable so arrangements can be made.

Teachers’ email addresses
Anne Neame (Prep N)
neame.anne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Kylie Brennan (Prep B)
brennan.kylie.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Please feel free to email us or come and see us directly if you have any concerns and queries. Thanks!
Wrapper Free Lunch Boxes

Thank you to all those parents who have been taking the time to provide a wrapper free lunch for your child. Unfortunately we were not successful at winning the most wrapper free lunches competition this term but we strongly encourage all families to support the cause. It has made a huge difference to the amount of rubbish within our school environment. We greatly appreciate the ongoing support.

FARM EXCURSION—Parent Interest

Student's Name: _______________________________________

Your Name: ____________________________________________

☐ I am able to assist with the excursion on Wednesday 24th of August to Tintern Farm
   (Parents will be notified closer to the date if their assistance is required. Sorry no siblings)

PMP HELPERS

Students Name: _____________________________

Helpers Name: ________________________________

Please indicated with a tick when you are available to help:

Wednesday: Weekly    Fortnightly    Monthly

Friday: Weekly    Fortnightly    Monthly