



# *Welcome to 2018 at Exford PS!*

At the start of each term, our teaching teams prepare an outline of the term ahead, so that our families have insights into their child's classroom work to come.

As always, please contact your child's teacher to discuss your child's learning and for any queries or issues you may have.

The Specialist team's newsletter will be out early next week.

Enjoy the read!

Ms Campo

# Welcome to Prep!

## Prep M

Amy McFarlane  
& Joanne Comer (ES)

## Prep J

Justine Ciantar  
& Michelle Cassar (ES)

## Prep G

Elisse Christensen  
& Rachel MacLeod (ES)

## Prep Team Vision *[The beginning of each child's journey as a lifelong learner.]*

*The Prep team are creative, inspired teachers, who share a strong passion for teaching and learning. We are innovative in our teaching practice and provide meaningful, engaging learning experiences for our students. We are committed to supporting one another to be the best teachers we can be. We learn together and build upon one another's strengths, so that we can grow collectively and individually. Our team inspires a love of learning, engagement and curiosity in every child. We set high expectations for all children in Prep and we are each accountable for every child – we are all in this together!*

*Our Preps buzz with excitement to come to school each day to learn! They achieve growth in all areas and take pride in their learning. Prep students are happy and helpful; they build strong, respectful friendships, take risks in their learning and embrace challenges, they lead with kind hearts and minds. Prep students LOVE to learn!*

## Share Time

Beginning Week 4 (next week), each Prep class will commence 'Share Time'. Share Time supports the development of oral language and builds confidence when speaking in front of others. Each week there will be a different theme.

The Share Time rosters for each class were sent home this week! If you are unsure of which day is your child's day for sharing, please contact your child's teacher ☺

## Munch & Crunch

We encourage all students to bring a piece of fruit or vegetables in their lunchbox to eat during our Munch & Crunch Time every morning.

## Note Folders

Each child has a clear plastic note folder. The note folder will come home when there are notes for parents and must be returned the following day. All money and forms must be returned to the *Office*, unless otherwise stated.

## Take Home Reading & Homework

Take Home Reading will begin on Wednesday February 21 (Week 4). Each student will have a designated day in which they will borrow/return a collection of Take Home reading books.

Homework will also commence on Wednesday February 21 (Week 4).

Further information about 'Take Home Reading' and Homework will be provided at the Parent Information Night on Tuesday February 20.

Our classes will have a session in the Library where the children can borrow a book for the week. Please check with your child's teacher as they have their Library session on different days.



# This Term, we are ... ..learning...

## Reading...

In Reading, students will learn about the concepts of print, including where to begin reading and which way to read on the page. They will investigate the difference between a letter, a word and a sentence. Students will also develop an understanding of the relationship between letters and sounds. This involves students singing the Sound Waves chant and locating the sounds on the Sound Waves charts in the classroom.

Students will begin to establish reading strategies, such as one to one tracking with their finger, using picture clues and recognising some high frequency words within the text. We will also be focusing on retelling events that have happened in the text and predicting, in order to support their comprehension of the text.

## Project Based Learning... Who am I?

In PBL, students will explore and develop an awareness of who they are, their likes and dislikes and recognising emotions. They will develop skills to problem solve, work as a team and explain wanted vs unwanted behaviour. Students will investigate who they are as a part of their family, a member of the class and member of the school.

We look forward to getting to know your children further as they develop an understanding and appreciation of their own identity!

## Speaking & Listening...

Our Speaking and Listening focus this term will be centred around Share Time as a part of our afternoon routine. It will provide students with the opportunity to deliver oral presentations, focusing on the appropriate pace, volume, body language and eye contact when speaking in front of an audience.

We suggest your child has the opportunity to practise at home before presenting at school.

## Writing...

In Writing, students will learn the *Think, Say, Sketch, Write* writing process, using ideas from their morning investigations. They will practise writing their name and will begin to write some common letters. Students will begin using punctuation, such as capital letters and full stops, as well as using spaces between words in their writing. We will be using the strategy of saying the word, listening for the sounds and writing what we hear when we are writing.

## Maths...

Each Prep class has begun their '100 Days of School' counting! We will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> days of school together!

### Number & Algebra

Students will use a range of manipulatives to support the development of their counting. They will model, read, write and draw numbers to 10. Students will also investigate and create patterns.

### Measurement & Geometry

Students will learn to describe position and movement by interpreting everyday language, such as 'between', 'near', 'next to', 'forwards' 'towards'.

### Statistics & Probability

Students will answer yes/no questions and visually organise the responses of the class in order to create simple data displays.

## Play Based Learning...

On four mornings per week, students will engage in Play Based Learning. The investigations will be centred around relevant topics and will encompass different styles of play to appeal to a range of interests and the developmental growth of our students. The investigations will make direct links with Literacy, Mathematics and Project Based Learning. This will enable students to generate ideas for their writing based on real experiences.



## *Year 1/2 - Term 1 Overview 2018*

*Welcome to all the students in Year 1/2 and their families. Term 1 looks like being a very busy and exciting one.*

<b><i>Maths</i></b>	The students will continue to learn all about numbers, with a focus on Counting and Place Value. The students will investigate number sequences and skip counting. They will learn to recognise, model, read, write and order numbers to at least 100 (Year 1) and to 1000 (Year 2). They will learn to partition numbers into hundreds, tens and ones to facilitate more efficient counting. In Measurement, they will learn to tell the time on an analogue and digital clock.
<b><i>Literacy</i></b>	Our Reading and Writing in Term 1 will look at Personal Recounts and Transactional Texts. All students will commence their take home reading on Monday 12 February. The students need to read every night with an adult, building up to 15 minutes per night. We ask all students to have their reading diaries signed by their parents and returned to school every day so they can be checked off by the teacher. Spelling, using the Sound Waves program, will commence in Term 1 with a focus on a different sound each week.
<b><i>ICT</i></b>	All Year 1/2 students will have access to Reading Eggs/Reading Eggspress for the year. The programs will be used both in class and tasks set for students to complete as part of their homework. The program can be accessed on a computer, laptop or iPad. Passwords will be pasted inside the cover of your child's Reading Diary. All Year 1/2 students have access to iPads in the classroom and use this technology throughout each day as part of their learning.
<b><i>PBL</i></b>	Our Science and Humanities will be taught through Project Based Learning (PBL). Our topic is 'Our Identity- Keeping Happy, Healthy and Safe'. The students will gain knowledge and skills by working to investigate the question, 'How can we make healthy and safe choices?'
<b><i>PE</i></b>	Ms Kappler, our PE teacher, will work with all the Year 1/2 classes and teach skills through games and activities. Our additional PE hour in Term 1 involves all students participating in the Gymnastics Program over an 8 week period. The children enjoy the program and like the challenge of the specialised equipment, such as the parallel bars and balance beam.
<b><i>Art &amp; Library</i></b>	All students require an Art Smock for their weekly Art class and a Library bag to borrow books from the library each week.
<b><i>Homework</i></b>	Year 1/2 Homework tasks will comprise of Reading, Writing and Maths activities, plus Reading Eggs. A detailed sheet will be pasted in the front of the students' Homework book outlining the specific tasks for each week. Homework tasks will be assigned on a Wednesday and should be completed by the following Monday.
<b><i>Mascots</i></b>	All Year 1/2 classes will have two class mascots which will be named by the students. Each week a student will take the mascot home on a Monday and let the mascot stay with them during the week and join in with all their family activities. Each student is required to write about their experiences with the mascot in the class diary and draw a picture or include some photographs. The student will return the diary and mascot on Friday and share their writing and photographs with the class. Each student's presentation will be filmed as part of our Speaking and Listening assessment and uploaded onto 'Seesaw' as part of our reporting process.  (When your child takes home the mascot and completes a page of the diary, this will be counted as their Homework for the week.) It is important that the classroom mascot is returned on time as all students will be scheduled to have a turn throughout the semester.

*We look forward to a great Term 1 with lots of learning to be done.  
From Mrs Ambrose, Mrs Elliott, Ms Monagle, Mrs Roe and Mr Wurf  
Year 1/2 Teachers.*



## Our Vision:

As a collaborative team of educators we bring our individual strengths, experiences and knowledge to inspire and drive each other to enhance student motivation and passion for learning. We have a shared understanding and are supportive of each other and our students. We encourage them to take risks, promote resilience, build independence and our school values, taking into account their social and emotional wellbeing.

Year 3/4

## Homework:

Will be handed out on **Wednesday** and due on **Monday**. Please provide your child's teacher with a note if there is any reason why your child has not completed their homework.

**P.B.L./Literacy task:** students will take home a P.B.L./Literacy task/question each week linked to what they are learning in the classroom.

**Maths task:** students will take home a Maths task/question each week linked to what they are learning in the classroom.

## Reading & Student Diaries:

Students use their student diary to record their nightly reading and key events. The diaries are replacing the 'Take Home Reading' log. It is required the diary comes to school on a daily basis. Please sign your child's diary at the end of each week.

**Literacy:** To start the year off, students will be looking at the behaviours and strategies that help us to become good readers and writers. This will involve looking at how to choose 'Just Right' books', solving words, predicting, questioning and visualising, as well as learning to write narratives and persuasive texts. We will be focusing on using Sound

Waves strategies to assist with students spelling and vocabulary.

## Numeracy:

In Maths, students will be introduced to the notion of having a 'Growth Mindset' in Maths through seven simple messages:

1. Everyone can learn Maths to the highest level.
2. Mistakes are valuable.
3. Questions are really important.
4. Maths is about creativity and making sense.
5. Maths is about connections and communicating
6. Maths class is about learning not performing.
7. Depth is more important than speed.

During Term 1, students will also be learning about Place Value, Fractions and Mass and Capacity.

**P.B.L:** This year students will be involved in Project Based Learning (P.B.L). This will incorporate a range of curriculum areas, including Personal and Social Capability, Intercultural Capability and Civics and Citizenship, just to name a few. In Term 1, students will be exploring 'Identity' through a range of classroom activities.

**Gymnastics:** During Term 1, students in Year 3/4 will be involved in our Gymnastics program. We ask that students wear runners to school on this day and to wear appropriate clothing that you can move around in.



## Persuasive Texts & Creative Writing

In Literacy, students will be writing and reading persuasive texts, including reviews, advertising and arguments. They will be developing their skills in using and identifying persuasive techniques, such as emotive language, opinion, anecdotes, evidence, reason and logic and tone.

Students will also be using their Writer's Notebook as a place to generate ideas using artefacts and will be introduced to a variety of interesting ways to write to inspire a love of writing.

## Four Operations, Place Value & Time

In our Four operations studies, students will be revising and consolidating their place value knowledge, while practising solving problems involving using a range of efficient addition, subtraction, multiplication and division strategies, including mental, written and appropriate digital technologies. They will investigate what a problem is asking of them and use a variety of problem solving strategies to solve it.

In our Time unit, students will consolidate their time telling skills, compare and convert between 12 and 24 hour time systems, and interpret and use timetables.

## Project Based Learning (PBL)

Students will investigate the driving question 'How can we, as mindful citizens, create a school culture free from discrimination and prejudice?'

They will develop awareness of discrimination, prejudice and what it means to be a mindful citizen, while working towards creating a final product, which showcases their learning and understandings.

## Homework, Reading & Spelling

Homework starts in Week 4 and at this stage will consist of 5 spelling words a week linked with our class work and Sound Waves program, nightly reading, a Maths task and a Project Based Learning task.

All tasks allocated will be an extension of and/or support for what we have/will be learning in class to further their understanding of the topics covered.

We would love to hear your thoughts around Homework in Year 5 and 6, please complete our parent survey regarding our Homework program if you wish to have input.

SURVEY: <https://docs.google.com/forms/u/2/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-0PRnhN4cLlVprBWba9dEXx-pPb3DLfq5afpcOFjIdK-V2w/viewform>

## Gymnastics

Gymnastics is an exciting extracurricular activity offered this term, with each class participating in Gymnastics once a week.

Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothes on their timetabled day.

*Please note: Year 5 and 6 students will be timetabled an extra session in the week following camp to make up for the missed sessions.*

## Interschool Sports

In Year 5 & 6, students will have the opportunity to participate in Interschool sports.

There are three sports offered in the summer round; Cricket, Volleyball and Hot Shots Tennis and Three sports offered in the Winter round; Football (AFL), Netball and T-Ball (TBC). Students will participate in trials at school and the teams will then be created.

The representative teams will then practise their skills in these sports each week at school, before competing in the Lightning Premiership round robin competition against other Melton schools at various Melton locations.

If your child is selected to be part of an Exford sporting team a note will be sent home outlining the competition details and any bus costs associated.

We are looking forward to another successful year of sporting achievements.

## Camp & Parent Info Night

Our students have had an amazing time challenging themselves at Camp this week and will be putting together a presentation to showcase this for our Parent Information Night on Tuesday. We invite you along to check out their fabulous work, meet your child's teacher and have your Year 5/6 specific questions answered, this will be an interactive and informal session based on the feedback received from your survey responses. Thank you to all who took the time to complete it, we value your input into your child's learning.

*This year will be about challenging our kids to be the best version of themselves and we know that it is going to be lots of fun!*

*Ms Graham (Y6 & PLT Leader), Mr Gundry (Y6), Ms Pengelly (Y5), Ms Anderson (Y5) & Ms Tucker (Y5)*