

Foundation Term 1 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to Kingsbury Primary School! I look forward to working with you to ensure your child has the best possible start to their school life.

Do not be surprised if your child tells you that all they do at school is play! Play Based Learning forms a big part of the Foundation Year. It is during this time that students get to know each other and explore their new environment. It is also the time for developing their skills of co-operation, negotiation and communication. At first, it may not seem very different to Kindergarten, but please keep in mind that the first few weeks of school are a transition period for the students and an opportunity for me to get to know their different personalities and assess their prior knowledge.

In February and March, Foundation students are not required to attend school on Wednesdays, unless they are having their Entry Assessment. This will take about an hour and your child will be assessed on their language and counting skills. Parents may wait in the Library while their child is undergoing the assessments. Letters will be sent out to inform you of the date and time of your interview. **First full day on a Wednesday will be March 16th.**

Students are required to be at school from 9:00am. The classroom doors will be open from 8:55am and students may come straight in to put away their bags. If your child will be arriving prior to 8:55am and you are unable to wait with them in the playground; students are supervised in the school grounds from 8:45am. If you require earlier supervision the school offers a before school care program.

Below is a general overview of this Term.

Mathematics:

Number & Algebra

- Counting forwards and backwards to 10 and beyond
- Ordering and comparing groups
- Connecting number names, numerals and quantities initially to ten



Measurement & Geometry

- Days of the week, understanding of terms like 'yesterday', 'today' and 'tomorrow'
- What is longer, what is heavier?

Shape

- Identifying common 2D shapes, sorting of objects according to shape

English:

Reading:

- Concepts of print: how do we read a book, where do we start, which way do we go, what is a word, a letter, a sentence
- Letter recognition and awareness of the relationship between sounds and letters
- Predictions about events in text from looking at the cover and illustration



Writing:



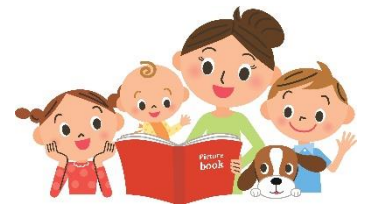
- Writing their own name
- Upper and lower case letter formation
- Copying modelled writing
- Copying/Writing simple sentences with a beginning focus on capital letters and full stops

Speaking and Listening:

Students will develop their speaking skills by actively participating in 'Play- Based Learning'. There will be a focus on speaking using complete sentences and correct tenses. They will participate in activities like 'Show and Tell', 'Listen and Draw' or 'Weekend Share'.

Berry Street Education Model

This term, our unit of work is about 'Learning to Learn' including *What happens at school? How can I be a good friend? What is a rule?* Students will be learning terms and participating in activities such as relaxation/mindfulness, community circles, brain breaks, belly breathing and distinguishing between good/poor choices. There will also be a strong focus on our School Values; Respect, Teamwork and Collaboration, Safety, Learning, Friendship.



Inquiry Learning: We Are the Same, We Are Different

Students will understand that we come from different cultures and different countries but that there are ways that we are similar. They will gain a better understanding of their own family culture and background as well as gaining insight of First Nations People (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people).

Junior School Home Learning Program

Some of the ways you can help your child at home are:

- Daily Home Reading (more information on this will be sent home later).
- Help your child to recognise and practise writing their name.
- Help your children to become more independent. This might involve teaching them how to put on and take off their jumper or pack their bags. **Most importantly they must be able to take care of their own personal hygiene especially when it comes to toileting.**

Indonesian Language Classes with Ms Jap



The Indonesian language program is aimed at teaching basic communicative language skills and Indonesian culture.

Students will learn to say greetings, objects, colours, and numbers throughout the year. Students will develop their language skills and understand Indonesian culture through a variety of activities such as language games, listening to stories, word games and sing songs.

- Send a **drink bottle** filled with water every day.
- **Label *all*** student belongings clearly by writing their full names using permanent marker.
- Please keep an extra pair of pants in your child's bag. Sometimes accidents will happen!
- **Hats are compulsory in Term 1.** Please send a Sun Smart hat every day and clearly label it.

I am looking forward to a happy and fun year!

Cathy Valkanis

