



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Reception Newsletter

Term 4 2020



Hello families and welcome to Term 4! We hope you all had a restful and relaxing break.

We have noticed so much growth amongst our Reception learning community. Growth that covers academic knowledge and understanding as well as social and emotional development. We are seeing independent risk takers blooming! The children have established a beautifully supportive and kind environment that is naturally promoting risk taking and acts of kindness. It brings us such joy witnessing their progress and it inspires us to be lead by their ways.

Term 4 is full of big events including Sports Day, Music Count Us in and Parafield On Parade (POP).

SPORTS DAY

How exciting, our first SPORTS DAY! The Health and PE team have been so busy organising a full day full of valuable experiences and fun. Your child has been allocated a team – **Eyre, Sturt, Flinders, Barker**. We encourage your child to wear team colours, however school uniform is ok too. Please ensure that appropriate shoes are worn on the day and that you apply a layer of sunscreen on your child before coming to school. We will reapply throughout the day. We have been learning the team chants as well as various events organised for the day. It is such a fun (and tiring) day. **Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions, our families are unable to attend, however we will ensure that we take lots of photos to put on our school website as well on class Dojo.**

POP Night-Parafield On Parade

For those of you who are new to the school community this year, POP is our end of year celebration. This year our theme is 'Disney'. All classes prepare an item to share with families, friends and our community. Each child will play a valuable part of our item. **Due to the current social distancing and COVID recommendations, details about this event are not finalised. Everyone will be provided with up to date information as the event gets closer.** A lot of planning and thought is going in to POP to ensure that we, first and foremost, continue to be safe and healthy as well as have a joyful and memorable event. The details of the evening will be given later in the term so please be patient.

ENGLISH

Book Making has promoted and supported the development of creative authors and illustrators. The children have used their own knowledge and ideas to create some fantastic books. We have seen information and expert books on being kind, crocodiles and colours. Children have been inspired by the things they love and wrote books about adventurous princesses, unicorns, cute dogs and cats as well as blood thirsty dinosaurs and dragons. This term we will be exploring procedural writing by experimenting with 'how to' texts. We will reading recipes and making food and hope that we can produce our own recipe book. We will be discussing ways to improve their writing and set some personal goals to work towards.

Throughout Book Making the children apply their Jolly Phonics knowledge. Our formal Jolly Phonics lessons will continue each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Each child has had



DIARY DATES

**THE REMAINING ASSEMBLIES WILL
BE HELD ON
THURSDAY OF WEEKS 4, 6, AND 9**

**Thursday 22nd October
SPORTS DAY**

**Friday 23rd October
STUDENT FREE DAY**

**Monday 26th October
Dental 4 Schools Program**

**Thursday 5th November
Music Count Us In**

**Wednesday 11th November
Remembrance Day Ceremony**

**Tuesday 10th November
No Pen Day**

**Tuesday 19th - Friday 22nd November
Flying Starters visit from kindy**

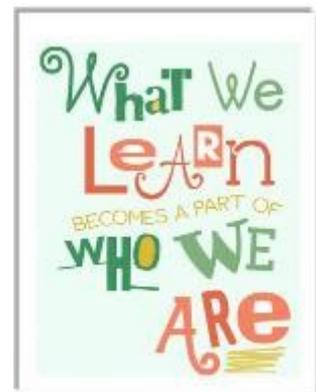
**Tuesday 1st December
Parafield On Parade - POP**

**Wednesday 9th December
Casual Day with gold coin donation**

**Thursday 10th December
Class visits for 2021
Reports go home**

**Friday 11th December
Last day for 2020
Early dismissal 2:00pm**

**The 2021 School Year
commences on
Wednesday 27th January**



an assessment of their knowledge and ability and has been placed with the teacher who best fits their specific needs to ensure growth. We will be meeting as a team to discuss the ways each teacher uses this time to support each child and their particular needs. If you would like to discuss this further with your child's Jolly Phonics teacher please do not hesitate to arrange a time to do so.

MATHS

Maths is a vital part of our every day lives and we try to make the teaching of maths relevant to the lives of the children. We look for opportunities to use every day, real problems in our lessons. Sometimes these lessons happen as we are walking towards the hall for assembly or while in the sandpit building a river. We pose questions to guide thinking towards the methods we teach and the language we use. We encourage you to look for these opportunities too. This highlights the importance of maths in our every day lives. We have, and will continue to explore Subitising, Rainbow Facts, Counting On and Doubles. You will find some great resources in your child's diary. Our Maths rotations have been developed to reinforce all aspects that have been taught. It is an opportunity to revisit particular maths concepts and embed foundational knowledge before starting Year 1. We will be revisiting shape, measurement, patterning and statistics and probability.

INVESTIGATIVE PLAY

Fingers crossed the sun keeps shining and we can get outside daily. During Investigative Play we will be designing provocations to inspire and consolidate learning through play and exploration.

We deliberately offer a range of learning

environments to provide spaces for creativity, messiness, taking risks, rough and loud, quiet and calm. We observe that children naturally gravitate towards the learning space that best suits their personal needs. These



observations are carefully considered during our planning process. We encourage the children to freely explore, however we also provide a gentle nudge to try something new or to play with someone new.

The children have loved developing our Native Garden. The children investigated pollinators and researched ways to encourage more to their Nature Garden. Through this

investigation the children designed and developed new garden beds featuring Indigenous plants and vibrant colourful flowers. The children believe that this is an invitation for more pollinators to call past and even build new homes. The children also introduced bird baths, nesting boxes and insect hotels. This term we will maintain the gardens and begin to observe if pollinators are using the updated environment at Parafield Gardens R-7 School.

OUR WORLD

The final part of our calendar year brings lots of things to celebrate. We will be focussing on a few of these

community celebrations and will be exploring how different families and cultures celebrate different things.

Did you know that cooking is Chemical Science? We will be (hopefully) making some treats while documenting scientific changes, language and terms. We will also be investigating why particular materials are used to make particular things.

As a United Nations Global Peace School, taking care of ourselves and others is a value that guides our everyday thinking and behaviour. Taking care of ourselves and others is vital no matter your age. We will be promoting self care and mindfulness through meditation and self reflection, encouraging random acts of kindness. We will discuss personal space and self protection.

MUSIC AND DRAMA

This term in music, students will continue learning the Music Count Us In song ready for our whole school celebration day in Week 4. They will use instruments, body percussion and their voices to explore different sounds and create sound stories. They will participate in folk dancing where they will practise making different shapes with their bodies.

In drama, students will participate in improvisation games and activities where they use the voice, movement and expression skills that they have been developing throughout the year.

Ms Georgia Yates and Ms Belinda Mentha
Specialist Music and Drama Teachers

HEALTH & PE

For Health and PE we will continue to work on ways to keep ourselves safe. We started to cover accidents and emergencies and 000 last term, and we will continue down that path by introducing some fire safety and water safety. They will also learn how to describe how their body responds to movement, identify settings where they can be active and demonstrate how to move and play safely.

The beginning of term 4 will see us preparing for and participating in Sports Day! We have been practising for these events for a few weeks now and are looking forward to a fun day. After that we will be focusing on dance! It will be another fun term in Health and PE!

Ms Kylie Neilson and Mr Josh Parsons
Specialist Health and PE Teachers

AUSLAN

As we move towards the end of the year we will be working on our individual Auslan goals. Some children have wanted to focus on the Auslan alphabet, others the colours or some have wanted to work on other areas. The students will be allowed some time to focus on achieving success in their own preferred areas. We will also be looking a little bit more at the Deaf culture and protocols as well as revising topics covered throughout the year.

We will be learning new songs in Auslan (which they have loved doing all year) and some new ways of recording student understanding. They will also be reviewing all the signed vocabulary taught to date through various activities as well as learning new signs associated with 'celebrations' and 'games'.

Ms Christine Khron and Ms Kylie Neilson
Specialist Auslan Teachers

Kind regards

Alana Papahristos, Tash Bright, Dani Tidswell and Cecilia Hector