Welcome Back!

Where has the year gone? It is certainly hard to believe it is term 4 already and your child’s final term of Prep.

**INQUIRY LEARNING**

This term our Inquiry is ‘Cultures’. We will be exploring different cultures around the world, developing an understanding of beliefs and celebrations of different cultures and backgrounds and identifying similarities and differences between these and our own lives.

We will be learning simple greetings and words in languages from around the world as well as celebrating the different cultures that are in our classrooms. This is a great way for you and your child to share your families cultural background with your child’s class.

We will introduce them to celebrations that are unfamiliar to them and explain when, where and how they are celebrated. We aim to increase acceptance, tolerance, understandings and celebrate our similarities and differences within our school community.

All prep students will participate in an in school cultural day on Wednesday October 23rd. The students will take part in a range of cultural experiences including dance, craft and music.

**LITERACY**

Reading groups will continue for the remainder of the year and we will focus on consolidating the skills the students have learnt and celebrate their learning achievements.

Children are involved in a range of shared and guided reading experiences each day, and we encourage you to continue to maintain a daily reading routine at home throughout the term. The sight word and spelling program will continue until the years end.

This term we will continue to explore a range of writing genres, such as descriptive texts, letter and card writing. We will also be focusing on a range of writing skills including letter and number formation, positioning on dotted thirds and punctuation. We would like you to encourage your child to write at home including letters to friends and family, shopping lists, invitations and cards.

Word Study will continue to explore the different sound combinations and, again, this will be undertaken in like-ability groups, with appropriate sounds being taught. We encourage you to discuss your child’s current sound focus each week and look for the digraph around your home in books, magazines, newspapers etc.

**NUMERACY**

Numeracy continues to be explored in both whole class and small group activities and will cover areas such as place value and informal addition. We will still be consolidating numbers to 20 and extending our counting to 100 from various starting points. We will continue to explore the measurement of time through connecting days of the week and times of the day to familiar activities. 2D and 3D shapes will be investigated in our environment and data explored through the use of graphs with students explaining their findings with yes/no answers.

Please continue to incorporate maths into your daily life through simple activities such as predicting and counting the steps to the car and letterbox, comparing the size of different objects around the home and discussing days, weeks and months that different events occur.
YOU CAN DO IT
This term our You Can Do It focus is “values”. We will focus on caring, doing our best, giving everyone a go, freedom, honesty, doing the right things, respect, being responsible and acceptance. We will continue to reinforce the rights and responsibilities of the classroom and the yard, promoting a safe and healthy school environment through the following messages.

*We all have the right to be safe and comfortable in the classroom and outside.*
*We all have the right to work and learn as much as possible.*

STAFF EMAIL
Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher through email, regarding absences, non urgent issues, concerns and positive feedback.

Please do not include discussion related to other students or personal or sensitive information related to your own child. This would be better handled through making an appointment to see the teacher or team leader.

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Best Wishes,
Prep Team

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**HOME LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**
At Killara Primary School we value the important role parents play in reinforcing their child’s learning in the home environment.

We continue to expect that your child’s book is read each night and returned to school every day.

To assist with language development, home sight word lists are for the children to practise each night. Learning sight vocabulary (words that can be read without sounding out in 2 seconds) is a critical part of reading in the first years of school.

Alternatively, those students who have progressed to spelling should continue to practise writing/spelling these words on a daily basis.

This term students will be given two Home Learning Tasks to complete with your assistance. These tasks will be linked to our ‘Culture’ Inquiry and we look forward to hearing about your family. Students will be given the opportunity to present their learning/finding to their peers during our Inquiry sessions as well as during our morning and afternoon community circles.

LEAVING KILLARA?
Please notify the school A.S.A.P. if your child will not be attending Killara next year. This way, we can help make the transition process easier on your child and planning for next year will be smoother.

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**Term 3 Highlights**

Home Learning

100 Days of School

CERES Excursion

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