



Dear Parents,

KINDERGARTEN TERM 4 OVERVIEW

ENGLISH

This term we aim to build our students' confidence in their writing. Individual writing goals will be displayed on students' desks to motivate their learning. Students will be supported to develop their writing skills including spelling unfamiliar words, correct use of upper- and lower-case letters, and full stops at the end of sentences. In reading, we will revise and consolidate a range of reading strategies to assist independent reading. We will continue to build comprehension skills and discuss texts before, during and after reading. Students reading and writing will be celebrated in all subject areas. They will share their work with their peers across kindergarten.

We use a whole school Word Reading and Spelling program called *PhOrMeS*. This is an evidence-informed kindergarten to year 6 decoding and spelling program which can be taught at the whole classroom or intervention level. *PhOrMeS* stands for **Ph**onology, **O**rthography, **M**orphology, **E**tymology and **S**emantics.

HOME READING PROGRAM

Each Friday we will continue to return and borrow:

- a quality text from the kindergarten library,
- 1-2 readers that may or may not be independently read by your child, and
- a text of personal choice from the school library.

We encourage weekly borrowing. If your child misses borrowing day, they are welcome to bring their pouch in on another day. School library books can only be exchanged on Fridays during our allocated time slot. We support the continued use of Reading Eggs.

ORAL LANGUAGE

We will continue to enhance and strengthen our oral language skills in kindergarten. Students will have an opportunity to take home the class pet for news time. Students will also be able to take home the 'My Special Place' book where they can write and draw about a place that is special to them and their family. Students will be encouraged to speak audibly and clearly in front of their own class.

MATHEMATICS

In mathematics, we will continue to explore numbers between 1-20 and beyond. Students will continue to apply their knowledge and understanding of addition and subtraction. We will use our skill in counting forwards and backwards to help solve sums. Students will compare objects using mass, length and capacity. We will continue to support students to expand their mathematical vocabulary. Students participate in differentiated mathematic groups to target individual needs. We support the use of Mathletics, number card and dice games at home.

INQUIRY - CARING FOR SPECIAL PLACES

The focus of our inquiry unit is to develop our students' understanding and appreciation for special places in the local community. Students will reflect on and share why places are special to them and other people. They will learn practical ways for how to look after the environment that surrounds them. Each kindergarten class will take on a role to look after a certain area of the school. We will encourage students to observe, pose questions, suggest ideas, collaborate and problem solve. We have been writing and communicating with pen pals at Condor Primary School. Soon we will meet our pen pals face to face at the special township of Tharwa. Later this term we will invite parents to join us on a local walk around Chapman and Stirling.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS FOR LEARNING

Kindergarten students will continue to talk about being safe, responsible and respectful in all areas of our school. They will explore these concepts through discussion, written responses and role play. We will encourage students to be responsible for their own and school property (school bag, clothing, equipment etc). We kindly ask personal toys to remain at home. Students are welcome to bring their own ball or book to enjoy during breaks.

MUSIC (Nicky Dears)

During Term 4, Kindergarten will begin to accompany dances and songs we know with percussion instruments and tuned chime bars, xylophones and Boomwhackers (tuned plastic thumping tubes.) We will continue learning about beat and rhythm, melody, pitch and singing in rounds. Basic musical notation will be reinforced through percussion work, and we will also work on creating a 4-bar rhythm! Listening to different styles of music forms a part of this term's program, as does learning and singing Christmas songs.

PE (Dean Howell)

Kindergarten students will undertake a five-week cricket block. These sessions will focus on the skills of hitting and throwing, as well as familiarising students with cricket equipment and the rules. Students will continue to refine throwing and catching skills using a range of unfamiliar equipment such as frisbees, hand scoops, and a range of different-sized and shaped balls.

INDONESIAN (Damian Bolton)

Students will be learning to name parts of the body through learning the Indonesian version of "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes". They will interact with peers and teachers using actions. They show comprehension and create simple texts by matching pictures and captions.

STEM (Kat Tirzins)

Students will explore basic coding by creating interactive stories and games using Scratch Jnr, an introductory coding program designed for young learners. This activity develops early computational thinking and digital literacy through fun, hands-on programming. Students will also review their computer skills in Google Docs, typing simple sentences and formatting fonts to personalise their work.

CONTACTING TEACHERS

If you wish to discuss your child's progress, please ring or email and arrange a time to talk about any matters that may concern you about your child's learning. Before school is an important preparation time for teachers but we are happy to make appointments with you. Please note that email is always the most effective way to contact us, and we will do our best to get back to you within two business days.

We look forward to a wonderful term,

Libby Emerson, Tanya Duggan, Charlotte Miller, Alicia Norris & Belinda Bacon

Email contact - firstname.lastname@ed.act.edu.au