Dear Parents

Hello and welcome to Term 4 in MacKillop. This term’s newsletter is designed to keep you updated with activities and events in our classroom.

Thank you for your continued support in Term 3. The attendance has improved and this is reflected in the progress the children are making in literacy and numeracy levels as well as developing their social and creative skills.

**CURRICULUM**

**Literacy:** Reading, writing and oral language continue each morning. The Speech-Sound Program we are using is supporting the children in reading and spelling, and now, for many of the class, their writing. We are making a big push this term with our duck level words and support with this at home will really benefit the children’s progress.

**Mathematics:** The children are growing in confidence with their mathematics activities. This term we will consolidate their skills and relate them to practical activities. You can help at home by checking their use of days, months, seasons and telling the time.

**Science:** The children will be looking at Physical and Chemical Science (What things are made of). Our visiting teacher, Mrs Bassett and Mr Hamer will be taking this area of learning.

**Physical Education:** Mr Hamer will take the class for regular PE and games sessions. These sessions will take place on Wednesdays so please provide appropriate footwear for active children.

**Arts:** This term we are very lucky to have a special guest helping us with a term long art project. Mrs Christine Watts, an experienced teacher will be helping on Wednesday afternoons with art and craft.

**Religious Education:** The children are learning some of the stories from the Bible and at present are looking at “Loving God and others” followed on by “Our Journey to Christmas”. The children are all very keen to take an active role in Mass and will have further opportunities this term. Please come and support them.
Music will include singing, instrumental performance and rhythm activities. We are also including dance this term.

**Theme for term 4**

We have selected a theme of ‘Water’ for this term. We will be looking at how and where we source water, how we use it and different types of water.

LOTE: Our weekly mandarin classes are an engaging time for our students. Sun Yu is teaching body parts, Chinese greetings and farewells. The children are learning a dance which uses colourful fans.

We hope to be able to perform this later in the term. We are also singing some Chinese songs in class.

**OTHER ITEMS**

Uniform: It is important to label all items of clothing and personal possessions. This includes shoes. Hats are compulsory for this term. A written note is expected on any occasions your child is unable to wear correct uniform.

Homework: Children will have readers to be changed weekly. Please encourage re-reading of books in order to become familiar with them. There will also be ‘duck level’ words sent home each week for the children to learn. Please help them to read and write these words.

Maths homework is optional, with new work being set when each page is completed.

Swimming: MacKillop class will be swimming at Lakes Entrance each Friday this term.

Parent helpers are always welcome in the classroom and for breakfast club. Please let us know in advance if you would like to join in as this helps us to best utilise your time.

Regards
Peter May & Tammy Nicholas