Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back and we hope you were able to have a wonderful break and enjoy some of the beautiful weather we had over Easter.

We have a few exciting things to look forward to this Term – Education week and our Swimming Program, just to name a few. Again we will be busy in Foundation at BUPS.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the parents who helped out in Term 1 whether it was for reading, PMP or Pancake Day our program wouldn’t have been as successful without you.

We would also like to congratulate all the Foundation students on everything they have achieved so far this year. It is incredible to see so many of our students beginning to read and write. Throughout Term 1 we did notice that some students were getting tired by the end of the day. Please make sure your child has a good sleep routines- to bed between 7:00-7:30 is a good guide for Foundation students.

IMPORTANT DATES

Week 1
Monday 21st April- Easter Monday
Tuesday 22nd April- Term 2 begins
Friday 25th April- ANZAC DAY (Public Holiday)

Week 2
Tuesday 29th April- CRE Easter Service
Grade Sculpture using recycled products

Week 3
9th- Mother’s Day stall
Mother’s Day Afternoon tea 3:00-3:30

Week 4
15th – 21st May- Book fair
Saturday 17th May- Open Day10:00-12:00

Week 5
Monday 19th May- Book parade
Tuesday 20th May- Mini Beasts Incursion
Cost approx. $5
Wednesday 21st May- P.F.A Hot Dog Day
Thursday 22nd May- Open morning
Friday 23rd May- D.E.A.R time

Week 6

Week 7

Week 8
Monday 9th June- Queen’s Birthday (Public Holiday)
Tuesday 10th June- Curriculum Day
Thursday 12th June- Film festival

Week 9
16th-20th Swimming Program

Week 10
23rd-27th- Swimming Program

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START TO DAY ROUTINES

Friendly reminder about dropping off your child in the morning and leaving promptly. Our day starts at 9.00am (doors open at 8:45am) and we would like out students to begin their school day with independence.

The music will start at 8:55am so children are encouraged to come inside the classroom and get their things organised before the bell.

EARLY DISMISSAL OR LATE ARRIVAL

Please remember that if you need to pick your child up early or if they arrive late (even if it is at 9:05am), you must sign them in or out at the Office, before going to their classroom.

READER POUCHES

As you will all now be aware our notices and home reading items come home in a reader pouch. They will continue to be sent home each day so please ensure that you check this daily, empty and share contents, and have your child pack their pouch back in their school bag ready for the next day. It is important to tell your child when you put a note in their reader pouch so they know to pass it on to their teacher first thing in the morning. Please also ensure that your child’s Work Book remains in their reader pouch as we use these during school times as well as at home.

NUDE FOOD LUNCHES

As part of our schools strong environmental focus, please don’t send your child with rubbish to school. This includes glad wrap, zip lock bags and anything which comes packaged in non recyclable materials.

On this note please ensure all containers are named as they can tend to disappear throughout the day and they are much easier to return to you if they are named.

UNIFORMS

Throughout first term we came across lots of jumpers which weren’t named. Please ensure that all items of clothing a clearly named. Unnamed items of clothing will be placed in lost property and can be very hard to find.

HEAD LICE

Please check your child’s hair regularly as we have had many cases of Head Lice in Term 1. If your child has long hair it needs to be tied back.

COMPUTER PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT LEARNING

At BUPS we use a variety of ICT programs to support student learning. This is a fun and interactive way for your child to learn. Here are a few programs/apps that we would highly recommend if you are looking for something you can do at home.

Computer programs:

Mathletics- Student passwords are in their Word Book
Counting Caterpillar-
http://www.ictgames.com/caterpillar_slider.html
Reading and writing- http://www.starfall.com/

Apps for your I pad:

Red Writing
Reading eggs

PMP

Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) aims to develop the children’s perceptions and understandings of themselves and their world through movement. It aims to develop the child rather than the skill. It is not purely a ‘motor’ program, it is a PERCEPTUAL motor program where LANGUAGE is the key factor. The program has its roots in the development of language, the gaining of problem solving skills and general readiness for learning. PMP works towards developing the motor skills of balance, locomotion, eye/hand and eye/foot co-ordination. In the area of perception, it develops body image, body control, laterality and directionality, space awareness and body rhythm. It assists in the development of skills such as language, memory, Physical Education skills, problem solving and confidence. Thank you to all of the parent helpers who have contributed their time and energy towards supporting our children through the PMP sessions we have already completed. We look forward to having continued support to continue the program into Term 2.

CURRICULUM

ENGLISH

During Term 2, students will continue to learn the letters of the alphabet during our Language Experience sessions, working towards knowing all of the letters of the alphabet. It was terrific to see their enthusiasm for our Language Experience sessions, such as Pyjama Day, Crazy Hair or Hat Day, bubbles, fruit fingers, apple slinkies, Teddy Bear Picnic, etc. Thank you to the parents for supporting and contributing to the success of these activities. We will continue to develop our writing skills by using our Writing Burst Books and starting Handwriting Books. Once students have learnt the letters of the alphabet and their sounds, they will be given a yellow word list in their Word Book to begin practising to read and write. Children will continue to bring home Take-Home Books to read each night. It is wonderful to see so many children earn their first few certificates already by reading at home every night. The children will continue to recognise and practise good listening skills. They have gained much confidence in speaking in front of the grade to share their ideas, especially while enjoying their turn as the focus child or the reporter during Investigation sessions.
MATHS

In mathematics, students will be learning about time. They will begin to sequence familiar events in their day and the days of the week. They will demonstrate an understanding of whether familiar events occur during the morning, afternoon or night. The children will begin to discuss the months of the year and seasons. They will continue to practise writing the numbers to ten, using correct starting points and with no reversals of numbers. They will demonstrate their understanding of number, count objects and automatically recognise small collections of objects (such as 5 on a dice).

SCIENCE

Term 2 will see a focus on science within our Investigations. The children will look at the needs of living things, starting with familiar topics such as pets. Children will be invited to share information about their pet and even bring them in for a visit! You will also see various new areas appear at different times throughout the term within the prep classrooms, including a mini-beast table, water sensory space and a planting table.

INVESTIGATIONS

In Term 1 Foundation students were introduced to Investigations and were learning about routines and expectations.

Each day children take it in turns at being a Focus Child and a Reporter. It has been great to see students take on these roles with such enthusiasm. At the beginning of the session the Focus Child and the Reporter are interviewed by the class teacher and asked questions such as ‘Can you tell us what day it is today?’ ‘Do you know of anything important that is happening today?’ During this time students are taught to speak loudly and clearly to an audience whilst the other children must demonstrate their ability to be a good listener. At the conclusion of the session the Focus Child will share with the grade what they have achieved during the session and the Reporter will share the information they have gathered.

Throughout term 2 students will be introduced to our Learning Intention Board where they will learn to plan and reflect. Our reporters will undertake tasks such as creating tallies, interviewing other students and writing reflections.
ENGLISH

During Term 1 we focused on recognising the letters of the alphabet and knowing that there are lower and upper case letters. Our Language Experience program meant that students were able to participate in hands on and meaningful experiences which has assisted them to learn the letters and sounds of the alphabet. For students who already have this knowledge they focused on learning how to use their understanding of letters and sounds to form words and basic sentences. Our writing focus for Term 1 was recount and all Foundation students wrote a recount of our Teddy Bear Picnic. This piece of writing will be kept in your child’s writing folder which we will continue to add to each Term. At the end of Grade 6 your child will be given their writing folder with a collection of writing created throughout their primary school years. These folders are on display in our classroom and we encourage you to come and take a look!

We are so proud of how far our Foundation students have come in such a short time and we can’t wait to see how much they progress during Term 2.

A is for Apple

B is for Bubbles

C is for Cross Country

D is for Dog

E is for Easter

F is for Fruit Finger

G is for Gnome

H is for Crazy Hair/Hat

J is for Jelly

K is for Kite

L is for Lizards and Lions

M is for Mess Monster

N is for numbers in newspapers

P is for Pyjamas

S is for straws

T is for Teddies

And last but not least, a sneak peak at some of our awesome writing!! (Come and visit our classroom to see more)