Welcome to Term 4

Welcome to Term 4. Can you believe we are into the last term for the 2011 school year? As this is a 9 week term we will again be very busy. The term is sure to fly by quickly.

Thank you so much to those of you who were able to respond to our Blog Questionnaire. If you haven’t responded it’s not too late but we want to finalise our results by the end of Week 2. Please visit the blog to complete the questionnaire online or ask us for another paper copy if you’ve misplaced yours.

ONE VERY IMPORTANT way you can keep up to date with our classroom happenings and your child’s learning would be to set aside a time each week to visit the Blog. The children love to receive comments about their learning and so if you could also take some time to send us a sentence or two this will really keep our Blogs ALIVE!

Shortly you will notice QR (Quick Response) Codes displayed in our courtyard. If you have a smart phone you can download a QR Code reader app and access our blog via the code. If you are waiting to pick up your child this would be a great time to visit the blog, catch up with our learning and even leave us a comment. Stay tuned for more information about QR Codes.

Following is an overview of this term’s plans. Keep in mind that changes may occur as the term progresses. Further to our Term 3 Inquiry we are about to hear the final presentations from Mrs Langham’s working groups. The groups have used an Ipad program - Reel Director for their presentations. (We hope to upload these to our blogs if technology will allow us to.)
At the completion of the presentations we will have the all important Unit vote and we hope we will have time to go on the chosen excursion - this will be a TOP PRIORITY for the term so we apologise in advance for short notice/timelines.

SMART GOALS:
Literacy - We are concentrating on questioning. All children will know the difference between a statement and a question. This work will be closely linked to Show and Tell.
Maths - We are concentrating on the Topic of Time. All children will be able to tell the time to the hour and half hour using digital and analogue clocks.

INQUIRY: Playing With Time
Central idea - Toys have changed over time. We are looking at the way toys have evolved due to the use of technology. You will have noticed that many of our Show and Tell topics this term are linked to this Inquiry.

ENGLISH:
- spelling - continued word lists concentrating on blends and diagraphs including class tasks and tests
- genre writing - toy descriptions - narratives/adventure stories
- letter writing (to Father Christmas)
- Show and Tell
  Good reading practices at home and school. Daily 5 tasks
  - Reading and interpreting tasks.

MATHS:
- Time reading to half hour on digital and analog clocks
- Money - recognize, describe and order Australian coins
- Simple addition/subtraction
- Mathletics
- Whiteboard activities
- Recognition of numerals to 100

THE ARTS:
- Music with Mrs. Rayner
- Visual Art activities in the classroom.
- Music is Fun Performance
- Celebration Night preparations and performance

HEALTH AND P.E.
- Weekly lessons with Mrs. Pettman.
- Child Protection using “Bravehearts”. We will discuss a range of issues relating to children’s wellbeing.

SCIENCE:
Related to the Term 4 Inquiry
- investigate materials used in toy making past, present, future
- design, make and appraise a new toy
- Hopping Mice: Research, life cycles, human impacts

GERMAN:
Children will be focusing on a farm life unit this term with Carly Smith. The reception/Year 1 students will be focusing on the vocabulary associated with farms and naming animals and places around a farm. The term will finish with a focus on how German Christmas celebrations are both similar and different to Australian Christmas traditions.

PLEASE NOTE- a copy of this overview will be on our Blogs under Class Information if you need to refer to it.

Take care, Jackie and Leanne

UPCOMING EVENTS:
R-1 Cricket Clinic Wed week 2
School Photos Wed week 3
Gala Day Friday week 4
Music Is Fun Thursday week 5
Disco Friday week 6
Sports Expo R-2 Wednesday week 7
Celebration Night Monday week 9