



**Woodlea Campus – Prep**  
**Term 1 Newsletter**




**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

Welcome to your child's Prep year. We look forward to sharing your child's learning journey with you. This year the Prep team consists of Miss Jaclyn Gloury (PWA), Mrs Elle Pelly (Year Level Coordinator and classroom teacher of PWB), Mrs Tania Godfrey (PWC) and Mr Warwick Grinter (PWD). As your child begins their school life, one of our primary aims is for them to feel settled, safe, and secure. In Term One, we focus on establishing routines and independence in personal organisation and learning tasks. We aim to develop their social skills and ability to work and play cooperatively and have the confidence to communicate effectively with their teachers and peers.

**School Diary**

The school diary is used by all students and is each student's main organisational tool and mode of communication between home and school. Each day the diaries are checked and initialled by the teacher to ensure that any notes or messages you want to convey to us are read. Students need to be encouraged to notify teachers if parents have used the diary to communicate with the teacher. Similarly, we expect that parents check and initial the diary daily, so we know you are not missing out on correspondence. Teachers will write notes in diaries and attach letters and important notes.

Here is a brief overview of some of the key concepts being covered this term:

<b>Maths</b> 	<b>Reading</b> 	<b>Writing</b> 
<b><u>Sorting and Classifying:</u></b> The Sorting and Classifying unit will give students the knowledge of how to sort and classify a collection of objects. Students will begin sorting objects into two clear groups i.e. big/small, red/blue. They will then need to identify which group has more objects and which has less. Students begin to sort a collection of objects into 3+ groups by size, colour, shape or their own criteria.	<b><u>Concepts of Print:</u></b> Students will explore the way texts work. They will learn the difference between letters, words and sentences. They will investigate the ways text structures and features help build a text including, directionality, font, pictures and blurbs.	<b><u>Recount:</u></b> Students will explore the genre of a recount- where they will learn the way in which authors explain an event that has occurred. They will share events from their lives such as family trips and weekend adventures.
<b><u>Shape:</u></b> Students will explore a range of 2D and 3D shapes. They will learn about their attributes and features and use this knowledge to classify and sort them correctly.	<b><u>Libraries:</u></b> Students will be introduced to our classrooms libraries, where they will be taught the skills required to select books that are just right for them. We will explore a range of texts over the term and discuss the way authors entertain and inform us.	<b><u>Sentence Structure:</u></b> Students will explore the way in which sentences are constructed. They will orally say sentences and write these using their growing knowledge of letter- sound relationships.
<b><u>Counting and Patterns:</u></b> Students will explore a range of patterns, including shapes, colours and counting. They will learn about how patterns are formed with rules and how to identify and articulate these.	<b><u>Guided Reading</u></b> Students will be a part of a weekly guided reading group, where they will work collaboratively with their peers and teacher to explore both decoding and comprehension concepts. This will allow them to be effectively scaffolded to achieve their personal reading goals.	



### **Sound Waves**

The Prep students will take part in the Sound Waves spelling program daily. In Term 1, the students are introduced to the 43 sounds of spoken English. Each day, they are taught one new sound. They participate in a whole-class lesson on the sound, followed by lots of fun sound-based games and activities throughout the day. This phase focuses on establishing children's ability to work with the sounds of language; they are not introduced to matching letters to sounds. Dedicating this time to teaching purely sounds is crucial for students' later spelling and reading success. Below is the breakdown of each sound they do each day. You are encouraged to discuss with your child the sound they learnt that day and brainstorm words that have that sound in them. For example /b/ as in balloon, ball, bounce, book etc..

The breakdown below is how you say the sound. For example, /b/ as in balloon – you pronounce the /b/ as you say the initial sound in balloon. If you feel like you would like a bit more practise in saying the sounds correctly, please use the Sound Waves student login sticker that is in the diary. You click the focus sound you want to practise and then select the option that says "chants and actions" and looks like the image below.



Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	/b/ as in balloon	/k/ as in kite	/d/ as in duck	/f/ as in fish	/g/ as in girl
4	/h/ as in house	/j/ as in jellyfish	/l/ as in lizard	/m/ as in moon	/n/ as in net
5	/ng/ as in ring	/p/ as in pig	/r/ as in rocket	/s/ as in seal	/t/ as in tiger
6	/v/ as in vase	/w/ as in web	/y/ as in yoyo	/z/ as in zebra	/s/ as in treasure
7	/ch/ as in chicken	/sh/ as in shell	/th/ as in thong	/th/ as in feather	/a/ as in apple
8	/e/ as in egg	/i/ as in igloo	/o/ as in orange	/u/ as in umbrella	/ai/ as in snail
9	/ee/ as in bee	/i_e/ as in ice-cream	/oa/ as in boat	/ar/ as in star	/ir/ as in bird
10	/or/ as in horse	/oo/ as in book	/oo/ as in boot	/ou/ as in cloud	/oy/ as in boy
11	/eer/ as in deer	/air/ as in chair	/er/ as in ladder		

Students will also engage in the specialist subjects:

### **Global Studies**

This term our Global Studies Unit will be 'All About Me'. During the topic, We Belong, we will be investigating who we are as individuals and how we belong to, and are connected to, our families, school and local community.

### **Art**

This term in Art, students will explore drawing, printing and collage techniques. They will create artworks based on the illustrations by Eric Carle and study the use of printing and texture in his work. Students will also create a series of artworks about themselves using a variety of materials.

### **Physical Education**

At the start of 2021, Prep students will be participating in a range of activities and games in Physical Education, which will aim to improve their Fundamental Motor Skills. Term One will focus on developing student's knowledge and understanding of class rules and expectations, as well as improving their ability to catch different shaped balls from varying distances.

