

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

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Reading

It is great to see our class reading decodable books independently with a little support to blend sounds in unfamiliar words. Children benefit from having lots of practice reading aloud to adults. By making time to listen attentively to your child read regularly you are providing a strong foundation for them as they build their reading skills. Comprehension is also an important part of their reading journey. After they have read the book, please remember to refer to the parent page at the beginning of the book and go through the activities in section four.

If you would like to support our class by coming in to listen to us read, please let me know either through a diary note or an email. Thank you to Tania Williams and Amanda Schaefer who are listening to our class read on Monday mornings. If you wish to volunteer at school or accompany us on excursions through the year you are required to have a police check. This is to protect you and the students in our school. Police checks for volunteers are free and can be downloaded from the SAPOL website. You will need our Volunteer Organisation Authorisation Number which can be obtained from Fi or Sonya at the Front Office.

Sight Words

Building a bank of common words is important. Please spend a little time each night going through the sight words in your child's book which is now kept inside their reading folder. Reviewing letter sounds is also important and should be done regularly. Individual student's sight words are checked fortnightly at school.

Tricky Words

Tricky words are not written exactly as they sound. To remember how to read and spell these words we have been learning to remember the tricky bits. As well as our previously learnt tricky words we are now learning 'you' and 'your'. 'Your' is the same as 'you' with an <r> at the end. Please look for these words as you read with your child and discuss them.

Alternate Spelling

This term we have learnt that the letter <y> only says /y/ when it comes at the beginning of a word, as in yummy, yellow and yoghurt, and sometimes in the middle as in beyond. When a <y> comes at the end of a word it makes an /ee/ sound, as in Harry, Marty and in Kennedy.



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Double Letters

This term we have also learnt that consonant letters are often doubled after a short vowel sound. When two letters that say the same sound are next to each other, the sound is only said once as in holly, teddy, daddy, puppy, funny, muddy and spotty.

Mathematics

This term we have been using two useful strategies to help us with addition problems. We have been using the 'Think big, count small' idea by saying the greater number and then counting on the smaller number, regardless of the order of the numbers in the number fact. Our other strategy is the 'Turnaround' idea in which we understand that the order in which we add numbers does not matter. This is called the commutative principle, the word "commutative" comes from "commute" or "move around", so the commutative property is the one that refers to moving numbers around. For addition this means $2 + 3 = 3 + 2$. Please take the opportunities that arise at home to practise these strategies.

Book Week

Each year, across Australia, Children's Book Week is celebrated. During this time Schools, Libraries, Booksellers, Authors, Illustrators and children celebrate Australian Children's Literature. This year Book Week will be celebrated in our school on Friday 25 August with a whole school assembly. The students are asked to come dressed as book characters which fit the Book Week theme of 'Escape to Everywhere' or as a favourite book character. At the assembly the students will parade in their costumes and it would be good if they could also bring along the book from which their character has been chosen.

Concert

Our school is becoming a hive of activity as we prepare to present the musical "Pirates of the Curry Bean" in Week Ten of this term. The Foundation Class will be singing the song, "Pot of God" and will require black track pants or leggings and a plain bright coloured top (no print please) for their costume. They will also be wearing hair ties on their wrists with ribbon attached which will be supplied. Concert costumes will need to be at school during the week starting Monday 4 September.

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If you are able to assist with any of the following props, please send them to school as soon as possible.

- An adult sized gorilla mask - to fit Mr Blasche's head!
- Small model ships (two required)
- Free standing clothes racks (five to six required)
- Small wooden chest (30cm x 30cm)
- Toy telescopes (two required)
- One banana (plastic play variety)
- Pewter tankards/mugs (two required) - maybe not ones with sentimental value though!
- 50-60L plastic storage boxes - lids optional - (eight required)
- Length of rope - approximately 5m long
- Toy chainsaw
- A hessian sack in good condition

Important Dates FOR Term Three

Monday 21—Friday 25 August Book Week—"Escape to Everywhere"

Friday 25 August Book Week Assembly

Monday 28 August Chapel in St John's Lutheran Church at 8.50am with Pastor Joshua

Thursday 31 August Fathers' Day Stall

Friday 1 September Fathers' Day Stall

Monday 4 September Chapel in St John's Lutheran Church at 8.50am with Pastor Joshua

Monday 4 September Eudunda Area School PUPIL FREE DAY—NO AREA SCHOOL BUSES

Thursday 7 September School Photos

Friday 8 September SRC Casual Day

Monday 11 September NO CHAPEL

Friday 15 September Foundation Assembly

Monday 18 September Chapel in St John's Lutheran Church at 8.50am with Pastor Joshua

Wednesday 27 September Concert for Grandparents at 10.30am, Grandies' Day

Thursday 28 September Evening Concert for Families

Friday 29 September Pupil Free Day

Yours in Christ,

Sue Denholm