Welcome to term 2. The following provides information of our teaching and learning programs for the term.

**English**
Our text focus for this term will be poetry and writing to persuade. The children will look at samples of these texts with the aim to learn about the features used to construct effective texts. They will work towards innovating and creating their own texts. The children will learn to communicate a point of view through our history and geography inquiry this term. Students will develop ICT skills to publish work using Chromebooks.

**Handwriting** will be incorporated into daily writing experiences. The aim is to consolidate correct letter formation and writing with fluency.

**Daily 5** forms part of our reading and writing program. Children will spend time reading to self, reading to someone, working on words, listening to reading or working on writing. Children will work on specific learning goals with the teacher during small group sessions or during one-on-one conferencing.

**Oral language** is a focus across all learning areas. Children will be supported to further develop vocabulary, talk about their work, give and receive instructions, explain their ideas and respectfully interact with others.

**Mathematics**
Our areas of focus in mathematics this term are:

- **Number**
  - investigate number sequences and patterns (counting by 2, 3, 5, 10)
  - recognising, modelling and representing numbers within a greater range
  - place value
  - exploring the connection between addition and subtraction
  - solving addition and subtraction problems using mental and written strategies
  - represent multiplication as repeated addition, groups and arrays
  - solving word problems

- **Measurement and Geometry**
  - comparing and ordering objects based on volume and capacity using informal units
  - naming and ordering months and seasons, using a calendar
  - interpreting simple maps
  - investigating flips, slides and turns of 2D shapes

Mathematics lessons are structured to incorporate explicit teaching and give opportunities to implement new learning. During lessons, the children work independently as well as in small groups using a range of different materials in order to build an understanding of a range of concepts. Children will be encouraged to make connections between their learning and reflect on their work.

**Humanities and Social Sciences**
This term the focus of our work in history and geography will be based on the concept of place and the inquiry question ‘How are people connected to their place and other places, past or present?’

During the term the children will explore the history of place names and the connections Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have with places. They will have opportunities to learn about culturally significant places in the local area and discuss why such places should be preserved. This inquiry will support the development of the children’s research, analysis and communication skills. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) will be available for the children to conduct their research.
Science
The children will complete the rich task commenced at the end of term 1. This aspect of the program aims to offer children the opportunity to communicate their learning with others. Children will use their science knowledge of conservation to propose and explain actions that can be taken to conserve Earth's resources.

Leading on from this, we will commence working towards CSIRO’s Crest Awards program. Our focus will be ‘Food, glorious food’. In this unit students will investigate food, preservatives and packaging through in depth science and technology tasks. As part of this experience, the children will pose questions, make predictions and take part in guided explorations to find answers to their questions. There will be a continued focus on recording observations in a range of ways and sharing these with others.

Health and Physical Education
The children will learn about ways to communicate and interact with others for health and wellbeing. Storybooks will be used to initiate discussions. The fundamental movement skills we will focus on this term will be kicking and leaping. The children will be working on developing their skills through whole class and small group games and at the same time engaging with one another in a fair and safe manner.

The Arts
Music Engagement Program – Dr Susan West will work with the children weekly to develop their music making skills through singing. The children will share their skills at community singing and at outreach singing events throughout the year.
Music - During investigations the children will be able to play a descant recorder. Every fortnight they will have a whole class recorder lesson to learn how to play music.
Drama – the children will learn how their ideas can be expressed through roles and stories.

Daily Reading at Home
It is important that children have opportunities to read regularly by:
- reading with someone (shared reading)
- doing the reading themselves
- being read to
Books for home reading can be changed at any time from the baskets near the bag area. Please encourage your child to fill in their reading log and bring it to school each Friday for collection. The children can borrow additional books to read at home from our library every Thursday. Please remember to bring a library bag.

Dates to remember
Week 2:
- 5 May – Poetry reading with Fiona McLLory
- 6 May – Cross Country at Turner Primary School
Week 3:
- 10 May – Rob Vingerhoets mathematics consultant (in-class session)
- TBC – Excursion to Black Mountain with Thunderstone Aboriginal Cultural & Land Management Services
Week 6:
- 31 May – Excursion to Corroboree park with Kindergarten
- 1 June – Year 2 assembly
Week 7:
- 10 June – ‘Hippo Hippo’ performance at the Canberra Theatre
Week 10:
- Parent/teacher interviews

During the term we will be introducing Chromebooks (small laptop computers) and seeking permission for your child to have individual access. Further information will be sent home in a separate note.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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