

O'Connor Cooperative School

Term 3 Learning Overview

Kindergarten



Rose Patrick

-Kindergarten routines-

Fruit – Please sign up on the Kindergarten fruit roster if you are able to volunteer to cut the children's fruit. Your help is greatly appreciated ☺

Parent helpers – All volunteers are required to sign in on the Kindergarten Volunteers book. Regular parent volunteers need to be registered for a Working with Vulnerable People card. The school can provide the relevant forms for you to complete and take to an ACT shopfront.

Parents/ carers are welcome to join us for the first hour of the day during investigations. During this time you can assist with a variety of learning experiences.

Reading in the classroom – This term I would like to invite parents/ carers to join us in the classroom to read with children during Investigations (Mon, Tues, Thurs 9:00am – 10:00am). This experience would involve listening to individuals or small groups of children read, sharing the reading and reading to children. If you are interested in joining us for this time please sign up on the page outside the classroom.

Late arrivals – If your child arrives at school after 9.00am it is required that they be signed in at the front office.

Absences – If your child will not be attending school please let us know by phoning the school, emailing Judy or completing a blue absence slip at the front office.

Assembly – Assemblies are held every fortnight. This term Kindergarten will co-host our book week assembly with Preschool in week 6.

Library – Kindergarten children will continue to visit the Co-op library every Friday. Please ensure your child has a sturdy library bag.

Home reading bags (red bags) – Books for home reading are available in the classroom, these can be identified by a purple home reading sticker. Children are welcome to change over home reading books as often as they like.

Co-op reading log – These will continue to be collected every Friday.

Community Singing – Families and carers are invited to join us for community singing in Redgum from 2:30pm on Friday afternoons. During this time Dr Susan West (or other members) of the Music Engagement Program team join us to share in singing, and learning new songs.

-Investigations-

Investigations run as a core part of the Kindergarten program where children engage in open-ended play experiences that support the development of social, emotional, fine motor, creative and cognitive skills. The children's interests in areas such as Science, History and the Arts are used to guide the experiences offered. English and Mathematics skills are also drawn upon during this time. We aim to focus on social skills, problem solving, creative thinking, negotiation, accountability and self-regulation. Over the course of the term each child will have several opportunities to take on the role of reporter and focus child.

-English-

This term children will explore poetry and rhyme to develop an understanding of sound and letter knowledge and a range of language features. The children will create a rhyming verse and recite it to their peers. They will listen while others present their rhyme and show knowledge of rhyme by identifying the rhyming words that they have used.

Over the terms children will:

- the use of sound patterns and rhythm in rhymes and songs
- how to predict unknown words using knowledge about rhyme, context and phonics
- knowledge about letter patterns used to read and write

Reading - A weekly focus text is selected for shared viewing and reading. The text is used to explicitly teach print, grammar and reading concepts, as well as provide a meaningful a context for writing. High frequency words and letter sounds are introduced through the use of the focus text and used during reading and writing sessions.

Small group reading will take place on a daily basis. During this time the teacher works to target the specific needs of each child. At this early stage, areas of focus include; letter and sound knowledge, high frequency word recognition, reading the pictures and maintaining one to one correspondence between words printed on the page and spoken word.

Writing - Children are provided opportunities to write for a range of purposes across the curriculum. The children's writing will be related to their own experiences and interests. Writing will be integrated with the teaching of Science, History and Geography.

Handwriting skills will be taught explicitly on a weekly basis. During this time we will focus on letters explored in weekly focus texts and work to achieve accurate formation.

Oral language - is a focus throughout the Kindergarten program. Children are supported to share ideas during classroom discussions, reflections of learning and within cooperative learning groups. Focus skills include turn taking, using active listening behaviours and speaking clearly using appropriate announcement volume and pace.

-Mathematics-

Mathematics sessions 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 through their learning and reflect on their work. This term we will focus on the following:

Number and Algebra

- Recognise, name and model numbers 0- 20
- Compare and order numbers
- Counting forwards and backwards
- Subitise small collections of objects
- Sort and classify familiar objects
- Copy, continue and create patterns
- Model addition and sharing through the use of concrete materials and visual displays

Measurement and Geometry

- Name and order days of the week
- Connect days of the week to familiar events and actions
- Measure the mass of everyday objects using direct and indirect comparison
- Sort and describe 3D shapes and objects

-Humanities and Social Sciences-

This term we will continue our investigation into the places we live and belong. Our learning will focus on inquiry questions 'What makes a place special?' and 'How can we look after the places we live in?'. Over the term, children will:

- draw on studies at the personal scale, including places in which they live or other places that are familiar to them
- understand that what makes a 'place' special is dependent on how people view the place or use the place
- pose questions about the meaning places have for people
- listen to stories about the ways Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples describe their connection with a 'place' or 'places', particularly the visible elements or features of a place
- use sources to identify ways that people care for special places
- describe special places and the reasons they are special to people
- reflect on learning to suggest ways they could contribute to the caring of a special place.

-Science-

This term Kindergarten will be exploring the physical sciences through the unit 'On the Move'. We will be investigating why and how things move, linking our findings to the concepts of energy and force. Through investigating and experimenting the children will discover the way objects move depends on a variety of factors, including their size and shape. Children will be predicting, observing, testing, recording and reporting back their findings.

-Health and Physical Education-

P.E Sessions – Development of fundamental movement skills is achieved through whole class and small group games and activities. Children will be encouraged to play fairly, accept game consequences, cooperate and persist with challenging experiences. This term we will focus on activities to support development of catching and throwing. We will also welcome Odonia (Joshua Z's mum) into kindergarten to help us practice yoga and mindfulness.

Social / Emotional Literacy

Social awareness, relationship skills and social decision making will be the focus of this term's Circle Time sessions. Through Circle Time, children share ideas and feelings while listening to the ideas, and learning about the needs of their peers.

-Information Communication Technologies (ICT)-

Children engage in learning through the use of iPads to find out, record and present findings. Open ended applications such as Picollage, Book creator and iMovie provide tools for leaning across all curriculum areas. Children will use the interactive plasma to engage with online learning experiences.

-The Arts-

Drama, Music and Singing – Singing is a part of our everyday program in kindergarten. We will continue our shared singing sessions with the preschool children. This term children will explore drama through mime, games, songs, movement and simple props.

The work carried out in this area will lead the children towards participating in our whole school performance which will take place at Llewellyn Hall. This project links to the work the whole school has been doing with Dr Susan West from the Music Engagement Program.