

Kindergarten Term 1 Curriculum Letter

February 2021

Welcome to Term 1 2021!

Welcome to Kindy everyone. We have had a wonderful first week and all of the children are settling in well. At Kindy this term our main focus will be establishing solid routines. This includes the morning routine at school. It would be greatly appreciated if you could assist us with this by encouraging the children to independently put their belongings in their cubby holes and water bottles on the shelf outside the classroom.

Our first theme this term is 'All About Me'. This helps us to get to know all of the children in the class as well as their families. We will then continue learning about Families, Colour, Shape and Numbers. We will conclude the term with an 'Easter' theme. As part of our Easter theme we will have an Easter Hat Parade towards the end of the Term. Dates can be found on the end of this newsletter under 'Dates for your Diary.'

The Kindergarten Team

L7A & L7B– Emma Nolan, Sandy Thornett (Wednesday)

Candice Thompson

L8A & L8B– Debbie Padley Leanne Rogerson (Wednesday),

Michelle Jenkins, Bronwyn Hicks, Leanne Smith



LITERACY

This term we will begin to develop a strong oral foundation for literacy, by immersing the children in a literacy rich environment that provides many opportunities for speaking and listening. All areas of our Kindergarten centre are part of this literacy rich environment.

- Mat area for discussions, stories, songs, rhymes and music.
- Outdoor play area for gross motor skills needed to develop fine motor skills.
- Art and craft area for developing fine motor coordination needed to hold a pencil.
- Writing and drawing area to develop fine motor skills and experiment with writing.
- Block area for language activities.
- Book corner and library visits to develop concepts about print e.g. A book has a title, words, pictures, front and back.
- Labels and charts to show the function of literacy.
- Literacy rich play areas such as the home corner with shopping lists.

Every moment is a learning opportunity and as the children play, we engage in extended conversations with the children in which they hear appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure. In addition to this we organise planned activities which include:

Shared Writing – the child dictates a story about a personal experience or their favourite part of a story. The teacher scribes it, while articulating the words very clearly then reads it back to the child. This demonstrates the relationship between oral and written language. This activity is particularly motivating if the children are talking about a fun experience we have done together such as cooking or an excursion.

Songs, Rhymes and Word Play – These are important literacy learning activities as they help students focus on and play with words and sounds.

Tuning in to sounds in the environment - Children take part in activities that help them listen to sounds in the environment, identify particular sounds and talk about them.

NUMERACY

In Numeracy this term, we will be focusing on the following concepts:

- Recognising numerals 0-5
- Counting up to 5 objects
- Sorting and comparing groups of up to 5 objects
- Counting from 0-10
- Simple Shapes
- Colours



GROSS MOTOR & FINE MOTOR SKILLS

Soon we will begin our Physical Activity Program, "Animal Fun". This has been developed and released by Curtin University. It is a program aimed to improve the gross and fine motor skills in children aged 3-6.



LIBRARY

Your child will have the opportunity to visit our school library each Wednesday that they attend school. It is essential for them to bring a library bag so that they can borrow a book in these library sessions.



FAMILY TREE

Please bring a 4x6 inch family photo into Kindy. We will be discussing our families and use these photos for an art project.



SCIENCE

Our themes link to the Science outcomes of the Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines. We will be learning about the five senses and developing inquiry and communication skills.

Children will be given the opportunity to describe what they see, hear, touch, feel and taste. They will participate in a wealth of activities including our sensory obstacle course.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL PROGRAM – 'KIMOCHIS'

We use a social skills program called Kimochis. This means 'feelings' in Japanese.

The program is designed to give children the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to

- recognise and manage their emotions
- demonstrate care and concern for others
- establish positive relationships
- make responsible decisions
- handle challenging situations constructively

You will see and hear about the Kimochi characters/toys that will be introduced throughout the year.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 3

Parent Information Evening (In the Lower Hall)

Wednesday 17 February @ 5.00pm

Week 5

Labour Day Public Holiday

Monday 1 March

Week 7

Harmony Day Activities

L7A & L8A Tuesday 16 March

L7B & L8B Friday 19 March

Week 8 and 9

Parent Interviews

Week 9

Easter Hat Parade and last day of term

L7A & L8A Tuesday 30 March @ 9.15am

L7B & L8B Thursday 1 April @ 9.15am



REMINDERS

Please put your child's name on all of their belongings.

Hats & Drink Bottles

Please ensure that your child brings their hat and drink bottle to school each day.

Fruit

Please place your child's cut up fruit in a separate container each day - not in their main lunch box.

Spare Clothing

Please ensure your child has a spare set of clothing in their school bag in case of toileting accidents and messy play.

Nut Aware School

We are a 'Nut Aware School'. Please **do not** pack **anything** containing nuts in your child's lunch box.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Thank you for being punctual at drop off and pick up time and ensuring that your child is handed over to the teacher or Education Assistant. When exiting and entering the Kindy gate please ensure it closes behind you.

Parent Roster

We like to have one parent/guardian help us in the classroom each morning until 10.30am. Tasks include cutting, laminating and helping small groups of children. Parent rosters have been placed on the notice boards in the Kindy corridor. Please put your name down if you are available to help. Thank you for your support.

Washing & Playdough Rosters

We require families to volunteer each week to do the washing and make new playdough for the following week. The rosters are on the notice boards in the Kindy corridor.



Digital users at Subiaco Primary School

Safe and ethical digital use is a priority at Subiaco Primary School. On a daily basis, we show our students how to utilise technology in a safe and ethical way. Parent partnership in this journey is crucial.

Online safety advice for parents from e-Safety Commission can be found here:

https://www.esafety.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/aus-global-parent-online-safety-advice_1.pdf

The Telethon Institute have developed Beacon – a cyber-safety educational app to keep parents up to date with trusted information to keep kids safe online.

<https://beacon.telethonkids.org.au/>

Seesaw

Throughout the year, will be showcasing student work via Seesaw. When the photos/videos/voice recordings are shared, use it as an opportunity to have a discussion with your child. Here are some suggestions about conversation starters:

- What is happening in this picture?
- Which friends were you playing with when this photo was taken?
- Did anybody else make one of these?
- What other songs were you dancing to?
- What was your favourite thing you did today?

We remind all families that any media shared via Seesaw is not to be shared or uploaded onto any other social media. Not all children have permission for their photos to be shared (for a variety of reasons) and we ask that you respect these families' privacy.

Teacher Contact Details

Emma Nolan: emma.nolan@education.wa.edu.au

Debbie Padley: debbie.padley@education.wa.edu.au

Leanne Rogerson: leanne.rogerson@education.wa.edu.au

Sandy Thornett: sandra.thornett@education.wa.edu.au