



Gum Valley Primary School
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Dear Parents,

This year has flown by and it is hard to believe we are welcoming you back to our final term for 2020. How quickly this year has gone!

Term 3 was exceptionally busy and the children were well and truly ready for the holidays! We hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing break.

Term 4 contains **Swimming and Edu-dance lessons and NAIDOC Week celebrations.**

Please find attached our program/overview for Term 4:

Staff

This term, we are thrilled to welcome Aislinn Van Dongen, from *Curtin University* and Rosalyn Fuller, from *TAFE*, to our classroom from Weeks 3-8. Aislinn is studying Teaching and Rosalyn is studying to become an Education Assistant.

Parent Helpers

We will continue Guided Reading on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9-9:20am and require two parent helpers to effectively run these sessions please.

Even though we will at times have four adults in our classroom, we warmly welcome parent assistance to work with a group and/or listen to children read and complete their sounds.

Our laundry roster will be at the door, which we would appreciate you adding your name to.

Term Four Themes/Topics and HASS

As explained in last Term's overview, our *HASS Geography* theme, is a 15 week program and will continue from Term 3 into Term 4. Within our big question, *What does our World look like?* We will have a focus on *Farms* from Weeks 1-6 (which allows us to integrate HASS and Technology) and then turn our focus to *Christmas* from Week 7 onwards.

A Water Safety incursion has been organised for Week 3 and a visit by a local author in Week 2.

A big part of our HASS program will be NAIDOC Week (Week 3) activities and examining indigenous texts. As a school, we will be creating/making modifications to a text, which we look forward to sharing with you.

Literacy Focus

In **Pre-primary**, our **Letters and Sounds** program, will continue to operate from Mondays to Thursdays from 12:45-1:15pm. Within these sessions, we have tested and re-tested students to teach all students at their individual point of need.

Additionally, within Pre-primary, we will have a specific sound and letter focus each week. This allows us to focus on letter formations and create an art piece around the reviewed sound. This weekly focus looks like this in Term 3:

	Wk 1	Wk. 2	Wk. 3	Wk. 4	Wk. 5	Wk. 6	Wk. 7	Wk. 8	Wk. 9	Wk. 10
Letter/sound focus:	ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	ar	or	ur/er/ure	ow	oi

In a recent letters and sounds assessment, we found the students know the taught sounds but were having difficulty applying their knowledge. The online  Oxford- decodable readers support the *Letters and Sounds* program and allow the students to apply their kn when decoding/reading texts. This is such a wonderful, free program to access at home. Most of our Pre-primary students are on Phase 3 and some have just moved to Phase 4.

All students will continue to have opportunities to use their sound knowledge to attempt to write and decode words. We continue to encourage students to write and have a go by completing daily modelled writing and reading sessions; where they listen to, comprehend and identify rhyme, letter patterns and sounds in words. We also examine capital letters and full stops and introduce students to other punctuation during modelled writing and reading sessions.

Our Term 4, **Talk4Writing focus**, will be on report writing, allowing us to integrate writing into other subject areas. We will continue to revise and expose students to other genres, such as *procedural texts, retells, rhyming verse, descriptions and narratives*.

Maths

This term in Mathematics the curriculum focus is on **Number, Measurement, Location and Transformation, and Statistics and Probability**.

Our **Number** focus in **Pre-primary** will continue to be on:

- Establishing understanding of the language and processes of counting by naming numbers in sequences, initially to and from 20, moving from any starting point.
- Connecting number names, numerals and quantities, including zero, initially up to 10 and then beyond.
- Number recognition 0 to 20 and how we can partition these numbers.
- Represent practical situations to model addition and sharing

Our **Measurement** focus in PP will be capacity.

In **Location and Transformation**, PPs will look at describing position and movement and Yr.

In **Statistics and Probability**, PPs will continue to look at yes/no questions.

You can assist your child's counting fluency at home by listening to them practise their counting, both forwards and backwards and practising their skip counting. Remember you do not always have to start from one.

Our daily **problem-solving** focus will continue. Within this forum, we will examine different calculate strategies we could use.

Our **Calculate** focuses within Term 4 will be:

Weeks	1 and 2	3 and 4	5 and 6	7 and 8	9 and 10
PP	<p><u>Consolidation:</u> Counting principles Rainbow facts to 5</p> <p><u>Explicitly teach:</u> Partitioning to 5</p>	<p><u>Consolidation:</u> Turn arounds Count on</p> <p><u>Explicitly teach:</u> Number line to 20</p>	<p><u>Consolidation:</u> Subitising Count back</p> <p><u>Explicitly teach:</u> Number line to 20</p>	<p><u>Consolidation:</u> Rainbow facts to 5 Skip counting</p> <p><u>Exposure:</u> Rainbow facts to 10 Doubles Near doubles</p>	<p><u>Consolidation:</u> Skip counting Rainbow facts to 5 Counting back</p> <p>Number line to 20</p>

Science

On Wednesdays, Rose (Mrs Hewison), will focus on **Chemical Sciences**, with a specific focus on Science Inquiry skills.

In **PP** students will look at:

- sorting and grouping materials on the basis of observable properties such as colour, texture and flexibility
- thinking about how the materials used in buildings and shelters are suited to the local environment
- comparing the traditional materials used for clothing from around the world
- investigating different forms of clothing used for different activities

Technology

Within Technology, we look at **Farms** as a topic of study, which we will integrate with HASS. In **PP** our focus will be on how farms have distinctive features and identify some stages of the production process.

No Hat No Play

In Term 4, students continue to require a hat to join in sport and outdoor play sessions. We do not have any spare hats, as they have all gone missing. We would appreciate you checking at home to see if any of our spare hats may have accidentally been taken home.

Physical Education

This term we have both Edu-dance and Swimming lessons. We also want to get children out for their regular sport session. Our Physical Education focus will be on catching and throwing skills and simple games. Our physical education day will continue to be on Mondays. However, we may have to vary depending on weather.

Please note children require closed in shoes for the Edu-dance lesson, which will take place on Friday afternoons.

Health

Our Health focus in Term 4, will be on *Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds*. Within this topic we will continue to use the *Zones of Regulation* to help develop our emotional and behavioural awareness and response/s. We will also look at Water Safety, prior to our swimming lessons. We have an incursion on Water Safety booked for Week 3. A note detailing information on this incursion will be sent out shortly.

Music

In Term 4, the children's Music program will continue to consist of enjoyment of music, musical games, singing, how to use their voice, playing instruments and moving to music.

Transitions

This term, our PP students will complete transition mornings, where the students will spend a few morning sessions in the Yr. 1 classrooms. This will allow them to spend time with the Yr. 1 teachers and see what their new classroom may look like next year.

We will also organise opportunities for the PP students to spend time in the 'big' playground and practice eating recess and lunch in the Undercover Area. We find this helps alleviate some of the anxiety about the move from PP to Yr. 1; they are usually really excited, but can also be a bit nervous.

Change of Clothes

Please ensure that you do have a change of clothes for your child in their bag as accidents do occur. We also bring out the hose for water play in Term 4 and sometimes we accidentally get wet.

Unwell

We thank you for your vigilance in keeping your child/children home if they are unwell. We really appreciate it and ask you continue to do so, when required this term.

Library

Our Library Day continues to be on Monday. However, if your child forgets his/her book, we are happy to change it for them on other days of the week.

Please see me with any queries.

Kind regards

Karen

13/10/2020