



Gum Valley Primary School  
29 Hope Street  
White Gum Valley WA 6162  
http://www.whitegumvalley.wa.edu.au/

Dear Parents,

This year has flown by, and it is hard to believe we are welcoming you back to our final term for 2023. 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 transition sessions to get the children ready for Year 1. In addition to that, the PP- Year 2 children will be going on an excursion to the zoo on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of December in week 8. We will need parent helpers to make our day run as smoothly as possible. Parents will need to get to and from the zoo themselves and pay for entry as bus numbers will be limited. Unfortunately, as a duty of care for the children, we are unable to have small siblings attend with parent helpers. More information will be sent out closer to the time.

### Events

Term 3 promises to be another busy term. Events planned so far are:

Weeks	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Event		Market Day Stall	Swimming Lessons	Swimming Lessons				Room 5 Assembly Zoo Excursion	Edu Dance Concert	

Please find attached our program/overview for Term 4:

### 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. Please note that we will not be running these sessions in Weeks 3 & 4 due to swimming.

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 *Australian Animals* from Weeks 1-6 (which allows us to integrate HASS and Technology) and then turn our focus to *Christmas* from Week 7 onwards.

### Market Day

In Week 2 the whole school will be partaking in a Market Day. This has involved children in the middle and upper years surveying the classes to work out market demand for craft items that they will make. They will be applying their financial literacy skills to work out profit and hopefully not too many losses. A lot of the learning is at a higher level than is required for the Early Years. However, it is a valuable and heavily-integrated learning experience which the Pre-Primary children will be a part of nonetheless. We are looking forward to selling our wares and sharing the sustainability-focused products we've produced.

### Literacy Focus

In *Pre-Primary*, our **Letters and Sounds** program will continue to operate on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 2:15-2:50pm.

Additionally, 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 4:

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

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. We also examine capital letters and full stops and introduce students to other punctuation during modelled writing and reading sessions.

The students have had some wonderful progress with their reading! It is intended that parents still engage in multiple readings of the decodable home readers with their child to support them to develop reading fluency. Please ensure to keep the home readers over a few nights to allow for multiple readings with your child.

Our Term 4, **Talk4Writing focus** will be looking at 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 we will look at describing position and movement.

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	<u>Consolidation:</u> Counting principles Rainbow facts to 10 <u>Explicitly teach:</u> Partitioning to 10	<u>Consolidation:</u> Turn arounds Count on <u>Explicitly teach:</u> Number line to 20	<u>Consolidation:</u> Subitising Count back <u>Explicitly teach:</u> Number line to 20	<u>Consolidation:</u> Rainbow facts to 10 Skip counting <u>Exposure:</u> Doubles Near doubles	<u>Consolidation:</u> Skip counting Rainbow facts to 10 Counting back Number line to 20

## Science

On Wednesdays, Brooke (Mrs Sputore), will focus on **Biological Sciences** with a specific focus on Science Inquiry skills. The children will be learning about the basic needs of living things to survive, including themselves, and some plants and animals. They will identify and compare living and non-living things. Where possible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' perspective relevant to this topic will be explored. The children will continue to develop their Science Inquiry Skills of observing, communicating, predicting, questioning, planning and conducting.

## Technology

Our focus in Technology is Engineering Principles. We will investigate ways in which objects move- pull, push, bounce, slide, fall, spin, float. Students will explore and select materials to demonstrate how different material properties are appropriate for designs. We will all work towards designing and constructing Australian animal puppets.

### **No Hat No Play**

In Term 4, students continue to require a hat to join in sport and outdoor play sessions. Our spare hat supply is scarce, as they very easily end up in bags after being borrowed. 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. Edu Dance lessons will be every Wednesday which is also our physical education day. Please ensure your child wears **appropriate footwear** (particularly on Wednesdays), such as **sneakers**.

### **Crunch and Sip**

During the two weeks of swimming lessons, we will be commencing Crunch and Sip in Room 5. Crunch and Sip is an initiative where children have a set time during the school day to eat fruits and/or vegetables and drink water in the classroom. We normally incorporate this into recess, but given that swimming lessons will be early on in the morning we anticipate that the children will be quite hungry after we return. We will be having our Crunch and Sip at around 10:30 as an opportunity to 're-fuel'. Please bring a labelled container with your child's Crunch and Sip food into the classroom in the mornings and place into the bucket by the door. That way it is easy for your child to access.

### **News**

We will be stopping News telling during Weeks 3 and 4 due to swimming lessons. We will recommence as per the normal News schedule starting back in Week 5.

### **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.

### **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 activities in readiness for next year.

We will organise opportunities for the PP students to spend time in the 'big' playground and practise eating recess and lunch in the Undercover Area. They will also have the opportunity to spend time with Year 1 students from Room 12 so that when they are moving around the school next year, they will know some familiar faces and see what their classroom may look like next year. We find this helps alleviate some of the anxiety about the move from PP to Year. 1; they are usually really excited but can also be a bit nervous. Some ways that you can support your children is to practise leaving as soon as the bell goes and asking them to bring in their own water bottles, 'crunch and sip' containers and reading book themselves, so that they begin to be a little more independent with their morning routines.

### **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 Friday. 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,

Nicole Wilkins [nicole.wilkins@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:nicole.wilkins@education.wa.edu.au)

Brooke Sputore [brooke.sputore@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:brooke.sputore@education.wa.edu.au)

22/10/2023