



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. In addition to that, the PP- Year 2 children will be going on an excursion to the zoo on Friday, 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.

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 we 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, in Year 1 we have been looking at money and Australian coins which the Pre-primary children have also been exposed to. We will be joining the Market Day and selling our wares; we are looking forward to looking at the money we may make and classifying and adding it up!

Literacy Focus

In **Pre-primary and Yr 1**, our **Letters and Sounds** program will continue to operate from Mondays to Thursdays from 9:15-10.00am. 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 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.

In **Year 1**, student's spelling focus will continue to be on words they are misspelling in their everyday writing and their sight word knowledge. Our **grammar** focus will be on nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. In **Yr. 1 reading** our focus will be on text processing strategies to work out what a text says. They include predicting, recognising words and working out unknown words, monitoring the reading, identifying and correcting errors, reading on and rereading. In **writing**, we will look at editing skills such as adding an adjective to a noun, checking for grammatical correctness, including capital letters and full stops and identifying words that may be spelt incorrectly.

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 **Number** focus in **Year 1** will continue to be on:

- Number sequencing to and from 100 from any starting point.
- Recognising, modelling, reading, writing and ordering numbers to 100 and locating where these numbers occur on a number line.
- Counting collections to 100 by partitioning numbers using place value.
- Count collections to 100 by partitioning numbers using place value.
- Represent and solve simple addition and subtraction problems using a range of strategies including counting on, partitioning and rearranging parts.

Our **Measurement** focus for PP and Yr. 1 will be capacity.

In **Yr. 1** for the first few weeks of Term 4 we will revisit **Money and Financial Maths**. The whole school is partaking in our Market Day on Thursday 19th October, (Week 2), which is a wonderful opportunity to integrate this topic. Please give your child opportunities to work with money at home. For example, sorting coins and working out amounts and different ways of creating the amounts.

In **Location and Transformation**, **PPs** will look at describing position and movement and **Yr. 1s**, giving and following directions to familiar locations.

In **Statistics and Probability**, **PPs** will continue to look at yes/no questions and **Yr. 1** students will collect data by asking questions, describing and drawing simple data displays.

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.

On **Wednesdays**, with Ms Hewison, the **Yr. 1 students** will continue with place value and the explicit language required in measurement. The children were able to demonstrate their skills in Term 3 but found articulating it more difficult.

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
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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
Yr. 1	<u>Consolidation:</u> Repeated addition links to sharing Turn arounds <u>Explicitly teach:</u> Halves and wholes relate to time/money/fractions	<u>Consolidation:</u> Partitioning to 20 Skip counting Rainbow facts to 10 <u>Explicitly teach:</u> Change the order	<u>Consolidation:</u> Bridge through 10 Change the order <u>Explicitly teach:</u> Adding 10	<u>Consolidation:</u> Doubles/Near doubles Repeated addition links to sharing Number splitting	<u>Consolidation:</u> Skip counting Number line to 100 Count back

Science

On Wednesdays, Rose (Ms Hewison), will focus on **Biological Sciences** for the PP's 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.

In **Year 1, Biological Sciences**, the students will be exploring the features of living things (minibeasts and plants) and the different habitats in the local environment that they live in. Where possible they will investigate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' perspective within this topic. Science Inquiry Skills of planning, conducting, observing, communicating, questioning, predicting and evaluating will continued to be developed.

Technology

Our focus in Technology is Engineering Principles. In PP, we will investigate ways in which objects move- pull, push, bounce, slide, fall, spin, float. In **Yr. 1**, we will explore how technologies use forces to create movement in products. 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. 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. Please ensure your child wears **appropriate footwear, like sneakers**. Our physical education day will continue to be on **Wednesdays**, however, we may have to vary depending on weather. Please note children also require closed in shoes for the Edu-dance lesson, which also takes place on Wednesdays.

Crunch and Sip

Thank you for your support with this program, the children love it.

Just a reminder that **Crunch & Sip is a set time during the school day for students to eat vegetables and fruit and drink water in the classroom; we usually stop at 10am but it does sometimes fluctuate**. Students bring vegetables and/or fruit and a clear water bottle to school each day for the Crunch & Sip break.

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 Yr 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 Yr. 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 'crunch and sip' containers and reading book themselves, so that they begin to be a little more independent. After swimming, we will be asking them to get the chairs out in the morning, as the Year ones do.

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 Colkin karen.colkin@education.wa.edu.au

12/10/2023