Welcome to Term Four, 2015. We would like to thank you all for your continued support during Term 3. We are looking forward to our final term in Prep!! Here is some useful information about what we have planned for Term Four:

**Key Points**

**Religious Education:**
During Term Four, the students will be:
- Reading Gospel stories and discussing their meaning
- Exploring the theme of waiting and make connections between their own experiences of waiting with Advent
- Exploring how Mary and Joseph were chosen by God to be Jesus’ family
- Introduced to the story of the Nativity
- Learning about Christmas being centred around the event of Christ’s birth

**Literacy:**
During Term Four, the students will be:

Writing
- Refine and practise handwriting skills
- Continue to use dotted thirds lines, focusing on upper case and lower case letter placement
- Continue to use punctuation such as capital letters, full stops, commas and exclamation marks
- Consolidate various spelling strategies including sounding out and recording high-frequency words
- Extend their writing by composing a series of sentences
- Explore different genres of writing such as procedural text and report writing

Reading
- Continue to explore various beginning, middle and final letter blends
- Continue to consolidate their use of early reading strategies such as sounding out the whole word, blending sounds, reading high frequency words and using picture cues to assist reading
- Develop their comprehension skills through strategies such as visualising, inferring and making connections with the text
- Consolidate independent reading routines

**Maths:**
During Term Four, the students will be:
- Making groups and sharing objects using materials
- Continue looking at numbers beyond 100 and place value
- Consolidate counting strategies with particular focus on bridging numbers
- Consolidate adding, subtracting strategies such as counting on and counting back.
- Compare common objects in length, mass and capacity using related language e.g. longer, wider, heavier, lighter, holds more or less
Investigation Time Skills:
- Make links between their Literacy and Numeracy knowledge and their Investigations
- Stay on task for an extended period of time
- Manage their resources appropriately
- Perform various duties (e.g. Reporter and Photographer) by following directions and sharing their discoveries
- Articulate their learning and challenges when sharing as a Focus Child

Physical Education
- Continue to develop basic motor skills and movement patterns through bat and ball activities and athletics
- Develop the ability to describe the different activities they are doing and how they feeling when participating in these activities
- Understand the need to follow rules and procedures, and share equipment and space safely

Visual Arts
- Share and discuss their art and the art of others
- Complete a reflection sheet on the art show.
- Create a story character using a paper cylinder.
- Respond to the story 'The Emperors New Clothes' using collage and paint.
- Use a variety of materials to create Christmas art.

Performing Arts
In developing the performance disciplines of dance, drama, media and music, the students will:
- identify classroom percussion instruments and perform simple percussion scores
- explore simple dance routines and styles
- develop improvisation skills through a range of drama games
- prepare for Christmas with a range of carols, songs, instrument scores and and Nativity plays

IMPORTANT DATES:
- Prep Assembly- Friday 30th of October 2:30-3:15pm
- Melbourne Cup closure days-Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd of November
- SVDP school sports day-Friday 6th of November
- School closure day-Wednesday 2nd December
- School Picnic- 16th of December
- End of Year Mass- 17th of December
- End of Term 4 - Thursday 17th of December

Additional Information
For additional information please contact Mrs Chadwick, Mrs Caruana or Miss Kodaih after school. Also, a friendly reminder to keep reading with your child EVERY NIGHT and continue to practise their sounds and high-frequency words. Practising to spell these words would also be beneficial and greatly assist your child's writing.

Many Thanks
Prep Teachers ☺
Below is a range of comprehension questions you might like to ask your child before, during and after reading the text. We are teaching students that understanding our reading is just as important as being able to read the words themselves.

### Fiction

- What is the problem in the story? What prediction can you make about the outcome?
- What similar experiences do you have?
- What evidence can you use to see if your prediction was correct?
- What evidence does the author give to tell you about the character?
- What do you think the character will do based on his personality?
- What connections can you make to other books?
- How does the character feel? Find evidence.
- How did _______ change how the character felt?
- Why did the character make that choice?
- What did the author want you to learn?
- What caused the problem?
- Why did that happen?
- How can you tell this book is fiction?
- Why is this illustration included?
- Tell me about this author's style.
- Find a simile or metaphor. Why is it used?
- Could this story have happened in another setting?
- Find the part in the story where the problem is resolved.
- What might have changed the character's behavior?
- Judge this text. Explain your judgment.
- What would you say to someone who disagreed with you about that?
- Why was that event so significant in this story?

### Non Fiction

- What do you already know about this topic?
- What new ideas have you learned?
- How did what you learned add to your knowledge?
- What connections can you make to other books?
- Have you changed your mind after reading this book?
- What did the author want you to learn?
- What caused the problem?
- Why did that happen?
- How can you tell this book is nonfiction?
- How did the author organize the book?
- Why did the author organize the book this way?
- How well do you think the author used illustrations and graphics? How did they help you as a reader?
- What else would you have included if you were the author?
- What does the illustration mean?
- Find facts and opinions.
- Do you agree with the author's point of view? Support your answer.
- Judge this text. Explain your judgment.