**Level 1 Newsletter**

**iPads**

This Term the Level 1 area have been very fortunate to have 30 iPads distributed amongst the 3 grades. They support many fundamental skills including reading, handwriting, creativity, numeracy, speaking and listening. If you would like a list of some of the apps we are using then just let your child’s teacher know and we can send a photocopy home or email one to you.

**Swimming**

We are currently in the middle of the school swimming program and the preps have thoroughly enjoyed these sessions. Swimming can be very daunting for preps and first time swimmers, but we couldn’t be prouder of our super swimmers! They have all been so persistent, listening attentively and super organised. Well done to everyone and we look forward to the last remaining sessions.

**Inquiry**

For Inquiry we are looking at shapes, patterns and lines in buildings and in nature. You can support this at home by playing shape “I Spy” with your child. For example, “I spy something that looks like a circle.” As children guess you can confirm their guess, “Yes, that is a circle, but it’s not what I am thinking of”, or you can help them look for the correct shape by saying, “No, that’s not a circle that’s a square/rectangle/triangle (or whatever shape it is).” Then give them an example of the shape you are looking for – “A circle is the same as the clock over there. It has no straight lines.”

When we are talking about 2D shapes the common features we talk about are: Sides – e.g. a square and rectangle both have four sides; Corners – e.g. a circle has no corners but a triangle has 3; Curvy lines and straight lines. You can also play the game using 3D shapes. The 3 D shapes we have introduced are cone, cylinder, cube and sphere. Some children may also recognise pyramids and rectangular prisms!

**Dates to remember:**

- Friday 23rd November
  Transition Program (2:30-3:30)
- Friday 30th November
  Transition Program (2:30-3:30)
- Friday 7th December
  Transition Program (2:30-3:30)
- Tuesday 11th December
  State Wide Transition Day
- Friday 21st December
  Last Day Term 2:30pm Dismissal

**Literacy and Numeracy Report**

Once upon a time there were three little Prep grades. One day they decided to learn all about how to tell a good story. They started by reading lots and lots of well-known fairy tales. Then they took turns re-telling them to each other and even filming themselves acting them out, on a mysterious and magical machine called an ipad. Finally they thought it would be a jolly wonderful idea to make up their own stories, by changing one or two of the characters a teensy weensy bit. And then they all lived happily ever-after (once swimming was over). The End.

In Numeracy the Preps have been getting **2 for the price of 1**. Each week they have been consolidating number concepts and investigating different areas of shapes and measurements. In number work we have looked at before and after, different ways of making 10 with two, three and more numbers, and using numbers in games and patterns. We have also investigated 3-D shapes, comparing capacity and measuring lengths and distances. Once again the ipads have been proved an excellent resource in developing their understanding in these areas.

Thank you for all your help and support,

The Prep Team

Ms Bernadette Pepper, Miss Pia Licciardo and Mr Luke Aldred