November 2016

Dates to remember:

Monday 7th November
Walkathon and Fun Food Day

Friday 11th November
2017 Foundation students transition

10th, 17th, 24th November
Whole School Transition Sessions

Saturday 3rd December
CHPS Christmas Market Day

Tuesday 6th December
Statewide Transition Day

Friday 16th December
Christmas Carols Night

CAFÉ Focus Strategy: Blend Sounds, Stretch and Reread (Stretchy Snake)
It often requires a lot of patience to listen to beginning readers as they learn to decode and sound out words. Beginning readers usually learn their sounds in isolation and as a result sound choppy when they try to put these sounds together to make words. Taking the individual letter sounds and blending them together can be a first step to becoming a reader for many children. As with any other task, to improve in reading a person must have increased exposure and practise, practise, practise. Your child is working on the accuracy strategy of blending sounds. The following ideas provide you with suggestions on how you can assist your child in becoming a better reader.

How can you help your child with this strategy at home?

1. When reading and blending sounds together, encourage your child to listen for a familiar word.

2. Give your child a rubber band and have them take it between two hands. Write down a simple word for your child to read (3 letter words such as bat, dog, and cap). Have your child pull the band apart a bit with each sound in the word. This will have your child stretching out both the band and the word. When finished with all of the sounds, say the word together while bringing hands together.

3. When reading, tell your child, “Say each letter as you stretch them out, then put them together and say it fast.” Demonstrate what this sounds like for your child.

4. If your child is having difficulty blending sounds and still sounds choppy, encourage your child to sing as they sound out the word. It is almost impossible to make a word sound choppy when you are singing.

Nikita and Morgan building their knowledge of graphs, digraphs and trigraphs with the THRASS tiles. This will help them to blend sounds as they read.
Big Write and Talk Homework
This term the students have started to take home a writing stimulus to prepare for their weekly Big Write session—this is called ‘talk homework’. Please simply discuss the stimulus with the students, relating back to their own personal experiences (if possible), so that they have an idea of what they will write about the following day.

Below are some photos of Foundation B doing their Big Write...

Numeracy Focus: Addition and Subtraction Strategies
We are commencing our unit on Addition and Subtraction strategies. Strategies we are focusing on are ‘counting on’ from the largest number for addition and ‘counting back’ for subtraction. We will also be encouraging the automatic recall of addition/subtraction number facts, such as the ‘friends of ten’ (i.e. 6+4=10 and 10-8=2) and doubles (i.e. 4+4=8 or 8-4=4).

Science
This term our Science unit is called 'What's it Made Of?' We will be investigating different materials and how they are used. So far, we have investigated lots of things in our school playground and have discovered that there are lots of different materials used in our school. In the Foundation Playground we discovered that the pirate ship used timber, plastic and metal and that there was also asphalt rubber, sand and organic materials (plants, grass etc.). We had lots of fun looking at what everything was made of and making maps to show where each material was used.
Foundation Sub School Newsletter

November 2016

Foundation Swimming Program

Thank you to all the parents who supported us during the two week Foundation Swimming Program at the Toby Haenan Centre. It was a fun two weeks and the students should be so proud of their behaviour and effort. Whilst they were tired, they continued to ‘be their own boss’ and represented the Chelsea Heights PS values of Respect, Responsibility and Cooperation.

Swimming recounts by Max, Annie and Jordan in FB

The Foundation Team