June 2015

**Numeracy**
Foundation students have been very busy investigating ‘partitioning’, exploring ‘whole-part-whole’, number concepts leading to basic addition stories. We used a range of concrete materials including counters, small counting teddies and drawings. Students were also challenged by writing simple addition equations, (i.e. 6 and 5 makes 11) or (10 is the same as 3 and 7)

This week we are focusing on ‘estimating’, exploring important strategies to compare groups of objects. Learning the associated vocabulary, such as less, more, least, most, in-between, etc.

**Literacy**
Phonemes recently covered; ‘e’ as in bed , ‘h’ as in hand, and ‘r’ as in rain. Ask your child to show you the matching cued-articulation sign.

Our writing genre this week is ‘exposition’. Students are being introduced to emotive language. There are high levels of excitement in the classroom as students are very keen to share their reasons why they may prefer cats to dogs.

**Assessment**
Teachers have been extremely busy and have now completed writing student mid year reports. Parent Teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June.

**Notices**
Please check your child’s red reader bag for any notices every Thursday.

**Wilson McCaskill**
We recently have been revisiting resilience at school and have created and utilised a class ‘catastrophe scale’. This gives your child the appropriate tools to evaluate how bad a situation really is. The scale is from 0-10, 0-1 meaning only very small issues that may occur in the class or yard and 10 meaning the very worst thing that could happen in the world. During our brainstorming sessions, students generated plenty of examples and we decided as a class on how to rate them.

You can help your child build their resilience at school by:
- allowing your child to enter the classroom independently each morning and follow class processes. This will help prepare your child for a smooth transition to Level 1
- allowing your child to pack their own belongings into their schoolbag at home
- reassuring your child if they are worried about something and asking, what number would they rate their problem on the catastrophe scale? Children very quickly learn to implement the scale allowing them to see a new perspective.

**Dates to remember:**
- Mon 8th June - Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday—No School
- Thurs 18th June - Footsteps Dance Incursion
- Thurs 18th June—Mid-year Reports sent home
- Mon 22nd June - Performing Arts Incursion (no school assembly)
- Tues 23rd—Wed 24th June - Parent Teacher Interviews 4pm—7pm
- Fri 26th June—Fun Food Day
- Fri 26th June - Last day of Term 2 2:30pm dismissal
- Mon 13th July - First day of Term 3