SCHOOL IS ABOUT LEARNING TO LEARN

Children are most likely to learn:
* when they really want to know something
* when they feel safe
* when they feel confident because they have experienced success
* when they are mature enough to master the task
* when the task is interesting and makes sense
* when they are challenged
* when they can observe others and learn by imitating them
* when they have room to move, to try new ideas, to make mistakes
* when they are active and involved - making discoveries, solving problems, explaining to others what they are doing
* when practising
* when their parents and teachers expect them to succeed.

In the classroom I will provide:
* a stimulating environment which excites curiosity and challenges children to learn
* a welcoming and caring community where children learn with and from people of different ages
* learning experiences that cater for children at whatever stage of development they might be.

Our SIX KEY LEARNING AREAS are:

**ENGLISH** - Speaking & Listening, Writing & Representing, Handwriting & Using Digital Technologies, Reading & Viewing and Spelling.

* L3 - Language Learning and Literacy: (small group learning)
L3 or Literacy will occur four mornings per week and consists of guided reading, familiar reading, guided writing and sight word/letter recognition. We will be focussing closely on correct pencil grip, correct lower case letter formation, use of capital letters, spacing between words and ending a sentence with a full stop. We will also be learning about useful comprehension strategies that assist reading.
* Formal handwriting lessons using the textbook.
* Speaking & Listening: each child will have their own news day where they will have the opportunity to share some special news or show us something special they have brought in from home. There will also times where news will be more structured and they have to present something on a particular topic.

**MATHEMATICS** - Strands include: Number, Patterns and Algebra, Data, Measurement, Space and Geometry. Included in all strands is the notion of ‘Working Mathematically’.
* Hands-on group based activities based on the children’s abilities. (Count Me In Too)
* Technology: Computer Room with Mrs Byrne every Thursday. Computers in the classroom.

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**
Children develop knowledge and understanding of:
* the processes of Working Scientifically
* the processes of Working Technologically
* the Natural Environment through the understanding about the Physical World, Earth and Space and the Living World
* the Natural Environment and the Made Environment through the Material World
* the Made Environment through Built Environments, Information and Products.

**HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT**
HSIE is linked to other key learning areas and the basic skill developed is *inquiry*. It is organised around a theme where children are led to identify and investigate key questions and problems and learn to make
observations, organise information, draw conclusions and develop a variety of other thinking skills. Our unit of work for Term 1 is Me/Coming to School.

CREATIVE AND PRACTICAL ARTS
* Includes art, craft, music, dance and drama.
* Development of fine motor skills.
* Enjoyment and appreciation.
* Linked to other key learning areas.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION
The aim of PD H PE is to develop:
- self-esteem, well-being and social responsibility
- movement skills and personal fitness
- the ability to make informed health and lifestyle decisions.
* Morals/Behaviour, Life Education, Nutrition, Road Safety, Child Protection and Anti-Bullying lessons-Term 1
* Swimming - Terms 1 & 4
* PBS lessons (Positive Behaviour for Success) to explicitly teach our school values: RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL, SAFE LEARNERS.
* WOWW awards - given to reward students who are following our school values. WOWW awards are placed in house boxes and each week a WOWW ticket is drawn out and the winner chooses a small prize. The WOWW tickets are also counted and a reward is given to whole school when our target is reached.

FURTHER EXPECTATIONS
* Please provide your child with a Home Reading wallet/large pencil case so that they can take home a reader each night. Parent helpers are most welcome to assist at school. Please see me.
* Crunch & Sip - every day. Please provide your child with some cut up fruit or vegetables and a water bottle for the classroom.
* School Uniform - should be worn every day, along with a school hat. (No hat-Play in the shade)
* Notes - for being absent, excursions etc. Please remember it is important to send these back to school promptly.

IMPORTANT DAYS TO REMEMBER
Tuesday - Library
Wednesday - Whole School Assembly (Week 2,4,6,8 & 10)
Thursday - Swimming and Computer
Friday - Sport

Please provide the following items if you have not done so already:
* 2 large glue sticks - these will also need to be replaced half way through the year.
* Paint shirt - just an old t-shirt of Mum or Dads (preferably, no buttons)
* Small pencil case with textas and wind-up crayons
* Box of tissues

Looking forward to a rewarding year with your children.