



CLASSROOM BUZZ

Term 3 Newsletter – Foundation

SYNDAL SOUTH PRIMAR SCHOOL

Term 4 has started and we are so excited for the fun and learning we have in store for our students!

We have introduced a new lesson – Friday Fun which includes rotations through three activities. Dramatic play – to develop language and social skills, STEAM (Maker Space) – to develop critical thinking, problem solving and creativity and Coding.

This Term there will be lots of additional activities to keep us busy including the school fete, school swimming and an excursion to Chesterfield Farm.

Important Dates

- 26/10** School Fete
- 4/11** Cup Day – no school
- 5/11** Curriculum Day – no students
- 14/11** Chesterfield Farm excursion
- 19/11** School swimming starts
- 29/11** Camp Out
- 2/12** Dessert Night
- 21/12** Last Day of Term

Classroom Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science	Art Music	Japanese	Library PMP	Sport



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2020 Classes

Student placement decisions are not made lightly, as we recognise the importance of creating an optimum learning environment. It is an extremely complex process to ensure that we have a balance and appropriate spread of ability, gender and social dynamics to promote learning and support all our students.

Classroom teachers and specialist teachers are very well-aware of friendship groups and the dynamics within the classes which either enhance or impede the classroom climate. Teachers will use their extensive knowledge of how students interact and relate to each other when placing students.

We want to reassure all families that the teachers will be ensuring each student is placed in a class with other students with whom they are familiar (but perhaps not best friends with) and are able to build positive relationships to assist with their continued learning. All students are given the opportunity to nominate a selection of friends that they would be happy to be with next year. This process reinforces our values of building relationships and resilience in our students.

We also wish to remind families that in the lead up to the end of the year, through our transition sessions and Meet the Teacher session, students will have opportunities to mix and interact with other students in their year level, but in a different class.

School Swimming Lessons

School swimming is a very exciting time for everyone! It is also a very tiring time for our little learners. Each swimming day we will bring our small swimming bag and walk to Huntingtower pool. Each student is expected to undress, dry, dress and pack their own bags independently. To help prepare for swimming you can:

- Practise changing out of your bathers and putting on your school clothes - how fast can you do this?
- Practise putting on your socks and shoes after a shower or bath - does it feel funny when your feet are still a bit damp?
- Practise putting your socks, shoes and all your clothes into a bag, with the towel on top and carry it from one part of the house to another without dropping anything.
- Practise putting your towel, bathers and goggles into a bag and carrying them from one part of the house to another without dropping anything!



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Reading

This term in Reading we will be focusing on all the integral comprehension and decoding skills to progress in reading. These include the following:

- **Making connections** when reading. This helps to develop understanding when reading, engages their prior knowledge.
- **Making inferences** when reading students need to be a detective and use the clues to deepen their understanding.
- **Recalling Events**

Phonics

After Term 1, 2 and 3 were jam packed with new phonics concepts and knowledge, Term 4 sees us entering Phase 4 of the Letters and Sounds program. This gives our learners time to consolidate sounds and skills from Phase 2 and 3 as well as learn some new letter blends.

Inquiry

Special Places is our Inquiry topic this term. Our learners inquire about what makes a place special, identifies the features of special or familiar places and uses maps to find and design their own special place.

Writing

Our writing has come so far! This term we are looking at procedural texts, letter writing and narratives. Within our text types we are particularly teaching students how to:

- Use punctuation effectively including spaces, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks
- Vary our sentences using a range of openers, connectives and vocabulary.
- Format their writing based on text types.

A particular highlight this term includes our procedural experiences (making fairy bread, planting seeds and more) and our Syndal Postbox which will be set up in the lead up to Christmas.

Mathematics

Throughout the year, our students have worked extremely hard to develop a sound number sense and knowledge of place value in order to master more complex mathematical concepts in the future. This term will see our students using this knowledge to solve addition and subtraction problems. We will also be learning about shape, sharing and position and location.



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Sport

In Term 4 our Fundamental Motor Skills focus will be on striking, along with running & jumping as we turn our attention to summer sports and athletics. We are planning to hold a F-2 Athletics Twilight Sports later in the term. The students will also practise skills associated with cricket, tennis and T-ball. This month we are participating in the Mascot Challenge which is providing our kids with daily practise in throwing & catching a ball as a brain break during class. We are also encouraging students to walk to school as part of Walktober. The Intensive Swimming Programme, run at Huntingtower Swim School, will take place in late November. This is part of the PE Curriculum and it is expected that all students will participate. Learning to swim is a vital skill for all children living in Australia.

PMP continues and the children will experience a range of activities designed to complement the PE programme and further develop their coordination.

Many thanks to all the parents who have been helping out with PMP - your support is much appreciated. If you want to come along and help, please do - it is a great way to meet other parents and the kids love to see you there!

Joggers Club and Ride/Walk 2 School continue as usual, with points being tallied to see which class is the most active. Pick up a passport before school at the Hall steps, or see Mr Kenez to register.

Art

In Term Four Foundation students are exploring form with clay modelling. They have investigated the different shapes they can make, made pinch pots and used tools to add patterns. Once they're familiar with how clay can be manipulated students will use air dry clay to create a piece of work, painting it and taking it home. Students will also be painting this Term. We will look at primary colours, mixing colours, warm and cool colours, link colours to emotions and have fun with marble rolling.

Music

This Term in Music Foundation students are practising their songs for the fete performance. They will critically listen to contemporary and classical music and identify different instruments they hear in the music. They are going to sing more challenging songs that use a wider range of notes. They will explore simple rhythmic notation, and work in small groups to devise and present a "Rhythm Cake" where they get to invent their own rhythms and vocal chants. They will play games that build teamwork skills, and support musical concepts.

Science

This term in science, Foundation students are studying Biology and 'Growth, Change and Adaptation'. Students will be looking at the differences between living and non-living things and grouping things accordingly. We will look at the life cycles and features of plants and animals and what they need to survive. We will compare the features of various living things and how they adapt to their habitats.

Japanese

Revision of greetings, me, classroom instructions, colours, numbers, animals and hiragana (Japanese alphabet). Sea creatures

Students describe sea creatures in Japanese, using adjectives to indicate colour, shape and size. They create a variety of craft work, using Origami or cutting and pasting skills. Students enjoy the Japanese folktale 'Urashima the Fisherman', displayed by a table theatre. Self introduction, counting from 1~10, basic greetings, classroom instructions and First 10 Hiragana words continue to be practiced every week. Making a hiragana mini book.