Term Two is going to be another busy term for our Preps. This term our Integrated unit of work is titled ‘Sharing Our Environment’. To help develop our knowledge of the environment and the creatures we share it with will be going on an excursion to Chesterfield Farm in week three.

We also look forward to spending time with our lovely Mum’s on our ‘Mother’s Day’ morning on the 9th of May and enjoying all the great activities planned for Education Week 21st to 24th of May.

This term we will continue to work hard developing our reading and writing skills and will enjoy having parents helpers in the classroom during our literacy block.

Remember your child’s teacher is always available to discuss any concerns or questions you have about your child at school. You can organise a time to meet with your child’s teacher directly or through the red communication diary or by email.

We hope you and your child have a great another great term.

Reading hints . . .
When settling down to read with your child, spend some time getting to know the book first:

- Talk about the cover and the title
- Say the authors and illustrator names
- Look through the pictures and discuss what the book may be about

Share books in a variety of ways: reading to the child, reading with the child and reading done by the child. Depending on the kind of book being read and its degree of difficulty, you will need to decide whether it will be read to the child, with the child or by the child.

Remember to use the 3 P’s when listening to your child read - Pause, Prompt and Praise. PAUSE when your child is unsure or hesitates on a word. Give them a clue or hint to PROMPT them and PRAISE their efforts. Be careful not to draw the Pause, Prompt, Praise process out so long as to take away from the enjoyment, meaning and understanding of the book.

MOTHER’S DAY
On Thursday the 9th of May we will be holding a special Mother Day’s Morning. We are inviting you to come into the Prep classrooms with your child on this morning to complete a Mother’s Day activity and spend an hour working with your child in their classroom. If you are unable to attend but your child has a Grandma or Auntie or even a special friend that they could invite we would be more than happy for them to come along. We ask however if possible that only one adult comes with a child as the room gets rather squishy. We hope to see you there!

WRITING
In our writing sessions we are encouraging the students to ‘have a go’ and to try their best. When beginning to write it is important for students to listen to the dominant sounds in words and record these.

If your child wants to write at home and is asking how to spell words it doesn’t always matter if it is not exactly right. Encourage your child to sound the word out, or you sound it out for them and get them to write down the sounds they can hear. Also remind them to leave a space between each word, include capital letters and a full stop at the end of the sentence.
**MATHS**

In Maths this term we will be covering the following topics:

- Numbers to 20
- Addition - counting on and counting collections
- Doubles
- Patterns
- Measurement - informal and formal
- 2D & 3D shapes

**INDEPENDENCE 🎯**

We have been very pleased with the way students have adapted to school life. They confidently leave the room at the end of each day. During Term Two we encourage you to allow your child to enter the Prep building by themselves (if they are ready) and take responsibility for putting their schoolbag away and getting out their green book bag and communication diary.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Thursday 25th April - Anzac Day - Public holiday

Wednesday 1st May - Excursion to Chesterfield Farm

Thursday 9th May - Prep Mother’s Day morning

Monday 20th May - Friday 24th May - Education Week. More details to follow

Monday 20th May - Curriculum Day - student free day

Thursday 30th May - Prep Incursion - Responsible Pet Program

Monday 10th June - Queen’s Birthday Holiday

Friday 26th June - End of Term Two

**Class 'Mascot' Home Visit**

This term the students will take it in turn to bring home the class 'mascot' over the weekend. We ask that you read the instructions carefully and help your child complete the accompanying diary. We hope you enjoy the visit!

**Sharing Our Planet**

This term we are studying the topic 'Sharing Our Planet'. During this unit of work the students will learn about what living things are and what they need to survive. Later in the term we will look at the different types of living things in the ocean, in the air and on the land.

On Wednesday 1st May we are going on an excursion to Chesterfield Farm. This will be the Preps first excursion and a notice will be sent home shortly explaining more about this excursion.

**BLPS NEWSLETTER IS ONLINE**

Have you signed up online to receive a notification for the BLPS weekly Newsletter? The Newsletter comes out on a Thursday afternoon and is a great source of news and information on what’s happening around our school including 'Student of the Week'.
**SPECIALISTS:** At Blackburn Lake Primary School, your child has the opportunity to participate in a variety of specialist classes.

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<th><strong>This term our Preps will be working on fitness and fundamental motor skills. Initially we will be working on distance running to prepare for the cross country. The fundamental motor skills we will be focussing are the catch, throw, kick (soccer) and ball bounce.</strong></th>
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<td><strong>In Music the Preps will be exploring Nursery Rhymes. They will be singing, dancing and playing instruments. They will develop skills in rhyme, patterns, coordination, using their singing voices, using their their talking voices and using puppets. They will be exploring basic informal music notation including the use of ta and ti-ti.</strong></td>
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| **In term 2 the level 1 students will examine the natural and man-made environments of animals in Italy and Australia. They will study farms, forests, national parks, and lakes and why it is important to respect these environments.** |
| **In Art this term our learning focus is making and creating fabulous art for our MASSIVE Art Show! There will be painting, textiles, construction, collage, drawing and modelling out of clay and plasticine. This will be a must see exhibition of art works from every student at Blackburn Lake Primary School.** |

| **REMINDERS:** |
| ✓ Art Smock |
| ✓ Tissues |

See you there,

Pia Chadwick ☺