



LEVEL 1 NEWSLETTER

Kilsyth Primary School

Term 4, 2009

Welcome back everyone! We hope that you all had a great break away from school and the daily routines. Term 3 was a busy one with Literacy Week, Bedtime Stories, Father's Day morning tea, Firemen and road safety visits and Footy Day, just to mention a few. Term 4 will be just as busy with two excursions, local walks and the kinder transition program adding considerably to the activities in our area. Christmas will be upon us before we know it!

~ Units Of Study This Term ~ 'Our Planet Earth' & 'Celebrations and Summer'

Our first integrated topic this term looks at living and non-living things, growth, life cycles, different environments on Earth and in our local area. We will be walking around the school grounds and through the reserve next to the school to study local plant life. We also have our fabulous frog bog – an ever-changing environment to watch!

Later in the term we will be learning about Celebrations as well as the wonderful season of Summer.

BEING

SUNSMART

Children must wear their hat for any outside activities this term, including physical education lessons and before/after school. Please make sure your child has a clearly named, approved school hat. You may also like to put a tube of sunscreen in your child's bag for reapplication.

If students forget their hat, then they will need to stay under shelter. We have a "no hat - no play" policy. Our popular "Spot The Hat" competition operates again this term.

We have a great excursion to Toolangi State Forest planned for Friday 30th October. It will be fantastic for the Preps to see the size of the trees, the logging areas and feel the coolness of the rainforest. They will come back with some great ideas and new knowledge about forests, plants and animals. The cost is \$22.

Excursions

Permission forms have been handed out with this newsletter.

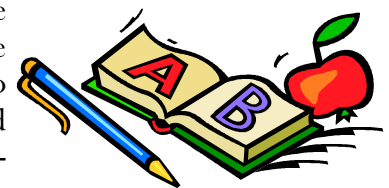
On the day of the excursion, children will need to be at school by 8.45am in school uniform.

As part of the 'Celebrations and Summer' unit, we will be visiting a Gingerbread Factory in Mornington to see how

gingerbread is made. We'll have a go at decorating some gingerbread ourselves, and then after lunch we will go down to Mother's Beach for a paddle! The excursion is planned for Friday 11th December and will cost \$20. Notes will be sent home soon with more details.

Summer is a great time of year because there are so many fruits and vegetables available. We have seen some great healthy snacks coming to school for Munch and Crunch (usually around 10am each day). Now that the weather is warming up you may even like to freeze some foods like oranges or bananas.

Remember to send Munch and Crunch even when your child has ordered snack and lunch from the canteen on a Friday.



Brain Food

Healthy snacks
help us learn!



English & Maths Focus - Term 4

We are getting closer to our Preps being ready to move on to Level 2 (Year 1). They will be expected to work more independently in Level 2, using their own initiative to solve problems, finish work, manage their time and so on. During this final term of Prep, we will continue to develop these skills in the Preps so that they are equipped to deal with the next step in their education. Here are some ways in which you can help at home:

English:

- ◆ At school, we expect the Preps to write by themselves. We rarely tell them how to write an unknown word, rather encouraging them to listen to the sounds they can hear and write those. If they miss a few, it's ok – that's the level of their ability and understanding for now. Say the word in its syllables – hearing the smaller chunks makes it easier to hear the sounds.
- ◆ We have a large bank of words in the room that the Preps are encouraged to go to if they need a word (especially the high frequency words). Because the word is there, we encourage them to find it and copy it, just as an adult would go to a dictionary to copy the correct spelling. In their 'take home' recording books, they have a list of 100 high frequency words – encourage your child to find words they know, use that list if they are writing at home or even practice spelling some of them.
- ◆ Give your child LOTS of praise for having a go by themselves, just as we all did when they were babies and took their first wobbly steps towards walking. The word may not be 100% correct, but it is in 'their writing' and as we often tell them, "you're only a Prep, it's ok if you don't know how to spell every word yet!"
- ◆ When reading, try to avoid 'sounding out' the unknown words – their take-home books are supposed to be quite easy to build their confidence. If you are reading a more difficult book, suggest they look at the first letter of the tricky word (but not sound out the whole word), look at the picture for some clues – if that doesn't help, just tell them and continue on. Reading should not become a drawn out chore.

Maths:

- ◆ We are looking for the Preps to really know the numbers to 20 – not just say the numbers in order (a 3 yr old could manage that!) but understand them – to know that 6 is 1 more than 5, to have a picture in their head that 8 is much bigger than 2, that before 10 is 9.... They should have these sort of understandings at their fingertips to be able to work with larger numbers as they progress into the next level. And the best way to achieve this? Lots of talking, counting, games, playing with numbers, cards, dice etc.
- ◆ Other areas of Maths are easily reinforced as you talk to your child and involve them in everyday things – talking about what items are heavy as you unpack the shopping, which is the heaviest? Tallest? Longest? Using lots of 'Maths' words correctly... sharing lollies for a lolly bag or biscuits between visitors, naming shapes around you, looking at numbers at the supermarket & money while you're shopping. Our Maths Box, which comes home with lots of games to share, will give you a good starting point for lots of great activities.

Please come in to speak to your class teacher if you have any questions about how you can help your child at home in any area.

House-Keeping

Head Lice are back with a vengeance and we need your help! Please continue to check your child's hair regularly so that we can prevent further cases. Lots of information about treating and managing head lice can be found at www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice/

Illness - The best place for sick (or recovering) children is home – they don't have the stamina (mentally or physically) for a school day and shouldn't be sharing their illness with the class. Much better to have a day at home to fully recover and come back to school ready for the day.

Uniform - Now that the days are getting warmer, some children have begun wearing their summer uniform. Please make sure that your child's uniform is consistent with our Uniform Policy. Shoes, socks and hair ties also need to be in **school colours**, and no jewellery is permitted other than studs/sleepers and watches.

Lost Property - Please help us by naming all clothing. Please ensure all new clothing and hats are clearly named, preferably on the bands. If you purchase clothing that has the name of another child, make sure you change the name to that of the new owner. This saves much confusion.

It's Not OK to be Away

IT'S NOT GREAT TO BE LATE

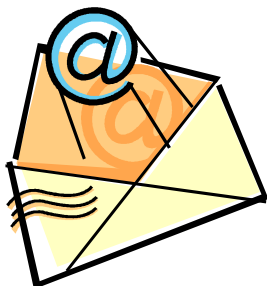
Expensive Toys At School

Sometimes your child may wish to bring an expensive toy to school. Many of these toys are not suited to use in a playground. We are quite happy for special toys to be brought to school for News but to avoid having heart-broken Preps, we will keep the toys in our office and not let them out at recess times. Please explain to your child that these precious items will only be at school for News and will not be taken outside.

Kinder / School Transition Program

We have lots of activities planned for our Kinder Transition program this term. During these sessions our Preps will work with their big buddies in a variety of activities – Phys. Ed., Language, Art/Craft – or have a replacement teacher, while our 2010 Preps are visiting the school. In some sessions, our Preps will be the 'big buddies' for the kinder children as they join in our everyday lessons, just as your child did last year.

If you know of any Preps intending to come to KPS next year who do not attend our local kinders, please let them know about these sessions or give their address to Sabrina George so they can be sent information directly.



NEED TO GET IN TOUCH?

We understand that everyone is getting very busy at this time of year, so if you need to communicate with us, feel free to send us an email.

george.sabrina.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
hansen.rebecca.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

DEA Update

The Level 1's have been working very hard all year on their ICT skills and are now looking forward to achieving their last two badges - Technology and Software. A notice has been sent home with the badges which your child has or will be earning highlighted. Badges are \$2 each and will be put on their pennants in the classroom. These pennants move on with your child from year to year where more badges are added as they develop their skills. Please return all money and forms to your child's classroom teacher.



You can find our
newsletters on the website:
www.kilsythps.vic.gov.au

Be the BEST you can be!



Kilsyth Primary School

Durham Rd
Kilsyth VIC 3137

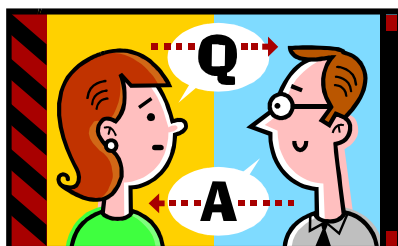
Phone: 03 9725 4320
Fax: 03 9725 4865

E-mail: kilsyth.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

REMEMBER...

*You can always drop us an email
if this is easier for you*

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hansen.rebecca.r@edumail.vic.gov.au



NEED SOME INFORMATION???

Lots of details and helpful suggestions
can be found at these websites...

www.education.vic.gov.au
www.cyh.com.au
www.raisingchildren.net.au
www.kidscount.com.au

Calendar

TERM 4

October

30th Level 1 (Prep) Excursion to
Toolangi State Forest

November

3rd Cup Day (no school)
4th Kinder Visit 9.30—11am
6th Kinder Visit 9.30—11am
7th Kinder Visit 9.30—11am
12th Ready Set Go 1.45 - 3.15pm
19th Ready Set Go 1.45 - 3.15pm
25th Prep 2010 Info Night 7pm
26th Ready Set Go 1.45 - 3.15pm

December

8th Prep 2010 Orientation Day
9.30-12pm
10th Carols Night
11th Excursion to
Gingerbread Factory/Beach
14th Prep/Yr6 Buddy Activities at
Elizabeth Bridge
Reserve 9—11.30
19th Last day of school
Early Finish 1.30pm

TERM 1 2010

*Students begin school on
1st February 2010*